

APPENDIX : 'First Call for Children'
Chronology of significant events and milestones¹

1978

- ◆ **Alma Ata Conference on Health for All** (WHO/UNICEF), promotes holistic concept of primary health care with prioritization of community-based approaches.
- ◆ **Working group established by GA within the Human Rights Commission to draft *Convention on the Rights of the Child*** UNICEF helps facilitate NGO input and influences inclusion of survival and development rights in addition to protection rights.

1979

- ◆ **International Year of the Child** generates greatly expanded concern for children, with UNICEF designated as the lead agency for follow-up. Later Executive Board decision (1980) promotes integration of IYC follow-up into UNICEF's ongoing work, promoting a wider global perspective regarding all children and involving more extensive co-operation in developing countries in policies and services for child development, complementing those directed to the physical well-being of children²
- ◆ **UNICEF appointed lead agency in Kampuchea relief operations**

1980

- ◆ **Jim Grant succeeds Henry Labouisse as Executive Director of UNICEF** (Richard Jolly appointed deputy executive director for programmes, bringing expertise as development economist with anti-poverty focus)

1981

- ◆ **International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes** adopted by World Health Assembly, the fruit of joint WHO/UNICEF efforts to support and protect breastfeeding
- ◆ **UNICEF increases assistance to nine African countries stricken by drought and civil strife**

1982

- ◆ **Launch of Child Survival and Development (CSD) Revolution** (in SOWC, endorsed by Executive Board in 1983) to accelerate actions to promote child health and survival by concentrating on effective, low-cost health measures based on GOBI-FFF (growth monitoring, oral rehydration; breastfeeding; immunization; family planning; food supplementation; female education. Immunization and oral rehydration become the 'twin engines' of the revolution.
- ◆ **UNICEF adopts a broad-base integrated approach to the problem of urban children** through community participation
- ◆ **Xavier Perez de Cuellar** takes office as Secretary General of UN, serving until December 1991

1984

- ◆ **UNICEF responds to growing crisis of African drought and famine** by launching an international appeal for assistance to 21 affected countries, strengthening field office capacity, and publishing (in 1985) *Within human reach: a future for Africa's children*
- ◆ **UNICEF Executive Board endorses a comprehensive approach to early childhood development** to buttress the 'leading edge' interventions of CSD
- ◆ **First 'Bellagio Conference'** brings together Rockefeller Foundation, UNICEF, WHO, World Bank, and UNDP to discuss major expansion of immunization, fostering the creation of an influential Task Force for Child Survival and Development meeting periodically thereafter to discuss policy and programmes. The Task Force is a key example of successful alliance-building and partnerships for children which periodically brought together health ministers, senior officials from developing countries, and leaders of major bilateral and other multilateral aid organizations.
- ◆ **Grant reappointed to a second five-year term as head of UNICEF beginning in 1985**

1985

- ◆ **Launch of drive for universal child immunization (UCI) 1990, with highest endorsement by UN Secretary General**
- ◆ **Cease fire in El Salvador's civil war** based on UNICEF-supported promotion of the concept of 'children as a zone of peace' and 'periods of tranquility' for humanitarian assistance. This approach was later applied successfully in Lebanon (1987); Sudan (1989); Iraq (1991) and elsewhere, with increasing frequency in the 1990s.
- ◆ **Executive Board reviews UNICEF's response to women's concerns**, reaffirming UNICEF's commitment to strengthening the social, health and economic conditions of women living in poverty

1986

- ◆ UNICEF policy review on children in especially difficult circumstances – opening up child protection issues

¹ With a focus on the period from the World Summit (1990) to the Special Session (2002)

² from *DOC Milestones document, 1986*

1987

- ◆ **Adjustment with a human face (UNICEF, Cornia and Stewart)** published as a landmark study and prime example of UNICEF's knowledge-based advocacy prompting global debate on how to protect children and women from the adverse affects of economic adjustment and reform.
- ◆ **Call for 'global alliance for children' issued in *The State of the World's Children 1988*** mobilizing support from all segments of society for child survival and development initiatives
- ◆ **First publication of *Children on the Front Line***– Successive reports thereafter help bring war-affected children to the attention of the world

1988

- ◆ **Bamako Initiative launched by WHO and UNICEF**
- ◆ **ICDC established in Florence, Italy** for policy analysis and applied research and as a forum for international professional exchange of experience; dissemination of research findings (with a focus on child rights, child protection, economic policy and impact of socio-economic policies on women, children and other vulnerable groups).
- ◆ **Talloires Declaration on "Protecting the world's children: an agenda for the 1990's"** issued by the Task Force for Child Survival (see above) at its third meeting in March. The *Talloires Declaration* is the basis for the initial list of WHO/UNICEF common goals for the health development of women and children by the year 2000 endorsed in 1989 by the UNICEF/WHO Joint Committee on Health Policy as well as by the Executive Boards of both UNICEF and WHO. The goals were later refined and expanded (with the addition of goals for child protection and education) in the *Talloires Affirmation* emanating from the forth Task Force meeting in Bangkok (March 1990) and endorsed by the WSC (September 1990).
- ◆ **Proposal for a children's summit set forth in *The State of the World's Children 1989***

1989

- ◆ **Convention on the Rights of the Child adopted by the GA** on 20 November 1989, entering into force on 2 September 1990 – representing the most rapid entry-into-force of any human rights treaty.
- ◆ **Fall of Berlin Wall** marks the end of the Cold War and opens up new perspectives for development based on a hoped for 'peace dividend' and leading to the eventual collapse of the Soviet Union (1991). This ushers in a period of transition in countries of the CEE/CIS and Baltic states, opening up new perspectives for UNICEF programmes in the region.
- ◆ **Strategies for Children in the 1990s (E/ICEF/1989/L.5, 7 February 1989)** discussed at the April 1989 Executive Board meeting – the product of more than a year of consultations within UNICEF and with UN partners – primarily WHO and others in the international public health community. Quantifiable goals as centrepiece of the document and of an attempt to apply 'management by objective' ideas to the international agenda
- ◆ **Summit formally proposed; given green light and preparations get underway:** Proposal put forward by heads of state of the 6 'initiating' countries (Canada, Egypt, Mali, Mexico, Pakistan, Sweden) in November; SG Perez de Cuellar gives permission for Summit to be held at UN HQ NY; and a Special meeting of the UNICEF Executive Board is held (December) to discuss the summit
- ◆ **Strategizing within UNICEF moves ahead, as reflected in key documents - *Report from Mohonk '89: Children and development in the 1990s. Programme goals and operational strategies for UNICEF* (22-25 October 1989), Planning Office, UNICEF, NY, December 1989**
- ◆ **Formulation of strategies for 4th development decade** underway within the wider UN community, formally adopted by GA on 21 December 1990 (Res 45/199). UNICEF's perspectives for children and development were articulated within this wider framework, and conceptualized as a clear contribution to the overall development strategy.

1990

- ◆ **Development goals and strategies for children in the 1990s** articulated by UNICEF in *A UNICEF Policy Review* (also E/ICEF/1990/L.5, 13 February 1990)
- ◆ **World Conference on Education for All**, held in Jomtien, Thailand in March 5-9, 1990, organized by UNICEF, UNDP, UNESCO and the World Bank. The resulting *World Declaration on Education for All and Framework for Action to Meet Basic Learning Needs* sets out concrete goals and targets for education – elements of which were incorporated into the WSC Plan of Action. UNICEF previous programme cooperation in basic education had been mostly catalytic (with emphasis on education for girls and women; early childhood development, and non-formal education for those who cannot go to school); but after World Conference and Summit, activities in many countries have facilitated some reordering of priorities in country programmes for the next cycle. Establishment of education for development posts in NY and Geneva. Collaboration among sponsoring agencies of EFA Conference strengthened, with all 4 agencies agreeing to increase financial support for the principal Conference objectives.
- ◆ **"Bangkok Affirmation"** issued by Child Survival Task Force at its March 1-3 meeting in Thailand, recommends modification and expansion of initial set of goals beyond the health sector in order to include child rights and protection of children in especially difficult circumstances, as well as the goals for education, literacy and early child development endorsed by the World Conference on Education for All.³

³ Source: *Proceedings: Protecting the World's Children: A Call for Action*. The fourth international child survival conference, Bangkok, Thailand, March 1-3, 1990. Child Survival Task Force

- ◆ **Consultative group on child rights** appointed by UNICEF ExDir in 1990 to review and advise on policy matters, and to facilitate ratification and implementation of convention (made up of RDs, Executive staff, divisional directors, ICDC, special advisors and child rights section)⁴
- ◆ **UNICEF Nutrition Strategy** approved by the Executive Board in April (*Strategy for Improved Nutrition of Children and Women in Developing Countries*" E/ICEF/1990/L.6, March 1990). A dual focus on the control of PEM and micronutrient deficiencies (iron, Iodine, and Vitamin A) to be achieved through a strategy to empower households, communities and managers at both district and national level to implement improved nutrition through the Triple A method of assessment, analysis and action. This in turn was based on a conceptual framework of multiple causal levels of malnutrition, and a recognition of the importance three elements of care, food and health for improved nutrition.
- ◆ **Children's Vaccine Initiative** launched jointly by UNICEF and WHO in September, as broad-based coalition of organizations and scientists committed to improving children's health through development and sustainable delivery of existing and new vaccines. The initiative was backed by CSD Task Force members Rockefeller Foundation, UNDP, and the World Bank and the declaration of NY strongly endorsed at the Summit⁵.
- ◆ **World Summit for Children, UN, NY, Sept.29-30** Galvanized world leaders around the cause of children. Adopted *World Declaration on Survival, Protection, Development of Children* and a *Plan of Action for Implementing the Declaration*, with 27 measurable goals. Together these documents set forth a vision of a 'first call' for children. The Summit has been described as 'the high point of a four-decade effort by UNICEF to place children's needs at the top of the world's agenda'.⁶
- ◆ **GA res 45.217 of 21 December 1990** welcomed adoption of *World Declaration* and *Plan of Action* and urged all states and international community to work for achievement of goals and objectives endorsed therein
- ◆ **Greenwich Consultation, December:** A UNICEF HQ consultation convened directly after the Summit to consider how UNICEF could take fullest advantage of the unprecedented leverage on behalf of children and – particularly – how UNICEF could provide both leadership and support in helping partners, allies and constituents work together to keep the promises of the Summit.
- ◆ **Innocenti Declaration** on the protection, promotion and support of breastfeeding issued – becomes basis for UNICEF policy and action in 1991⁷ - also adopted by WHO as operational policy and strategy to support programmes for attainment of goals.
- ◆ **Board approves a priority focus on the girl child in all country programmes** UNICEF publications include: *The girl child – an investment for the future*, calling for equal rights, opportunities and treatment and proposing an agenda for the girl child in the 1990s; MENA report on *Sex differences in Child Survival and development*; *The girl child in Bangladesh – a situation analysis*.
- ◆ **Decade of the Girl Child declared by SAARC (1990s)** Many national plans of action (NPAs) for children in the region focus on gender-specific data collection and analysis.
- ◆ **African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child adopted by the OAU**, coming into force on 29 November 1999.
- ◆ **Global consultation on CDD** held in NY in April to discuss trends and propose strategies as part of a larger effort to improve and expand assistance to CDD⁸
- ◆ **UNICEF study of AIDS-related mortality among children** in 10 seriously affected African countries concludes that between 1.4 and 2.7 million children will die from AIDS during the 1990s and estimated there could be 3-5 million AIDS orphans in central and east Africa alone by the year 2000. UNICEF AIDS prevention programme working closely with WHO Global Programme on AIDS, focusing on education and awareness studies of impact, and care for AIDS orphans⁹
- ◆ **4 celebrated UNICEF Goodwill ambassadors received special honours:** Liv Ullmann received UNICEF Distinguished service award after 19 years of service; Audrey Hepburn awarded Golden Globe Award in Hollywood; Harry Belafonte received Nelson Mandela Courage Award; and Sir Peter Ustinov became Knight of the British Empire.
- ◆ **Appointment of UN Special Rapporteur on the sale of children** (Viti Muntarhorn)
- ◆ **UNDP issues first Human Development Report** – under Mahbub ul Haq: Marks move towards greater integration of social concerns into international development efforts, with such social concerns highlighted in the strategy developed for the 4th UN Development decade.....
- ◆ **Strategies for 4th UN development decade** adopted by GA on 21 December 1990 (Res 45/199)
- ◆ **World Bank's World Development Report** takes poverty as its central theme

1991

- ◆ **Need to galvanize follow-up to WSC spurs a year of unprecedented mobilization for children.** Announcement of UCI generates extensive media coverage; ICDC publication on *Children and the Transition to the Market Economy: Safety Nets and Social Policies in Central and Eastern Europe* draws attention to the needs of children in this region, as UNICEF begins operations in Romania¹⁰; BFHI is launched, along with intensified action on micronutrients; and the build-up to Earth Summit generates environmental activity. Grant's challenge to media representatives is part of an effort to broaden the support base for UNICEF in the broadcast industry and sparked a move to hold an annual international day of broadcasting for children. UNICEF also joined multi-million dollar project to strengthen TV programming for children. Global Communication Support Fund, approved by 1990

⁴ from UNICEF 1995 Corporate Annual Report

⁵ Sources: Black 1996:61, 1994 Corporate annual report

⁶ in UNICEF 1991 Corporate Annual report

⁷ ICEF.91/CRP.22)

⁸ 1991 Corporate AnnRep

⁹ cited in 1991 Corporate AnnRep

¹⁰ "As with structural adjustment in Africa, UNICEF in post-communist world took upon itself the measuring and publicizing of the impact of macro-economic policies on children" (Black 1996:174)

ExBoard, started activities in 1991. New emphasis on use of public opinion polls to monitor and evaluate UNICEF advocacy and education efforts. Major new publication '*First Call for Children*' launched as a forum for UNICEF experience and advocacy. An increasingly important aspect of UNICEF advocacy is collaboration with political leaders and inter-governmental organizations and other partners:

- ◆ **UNICEF formulates plans and directives for WSC follow-up** including guidelines for the preparation of National Programmes of Action (NPAs); instructions on the intended relationship between UNICEF country programmes and NPAs; encouragement of inter-agency cooperation in WSC follow-up; information on development of strategies field-level monitoring of progress towards the goals; and guidelines for the preparation of progress reports on WSC implementation.
- ◆ **Role of UNICEF in implementation of the CRC is set out**, with Board decision that UNICEF should continue to support CRC as an integral part of its ongoing country programmes and global advocacy.
- ◆ **10-member Committee on the Rights of the Child is established** to monitor implementation of the Convention
- ◆ ***The State of the World's Children 1991*** tackles situation of children in industrialized world for the first time¹¹
- ◆ **BFHI**: Hospitals and maternity centres around the world adopt "Ten Steps to Successful breastfeeding" advocated by UNICEF and WHO. The 10 steps underpin the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative to promote breastfeeding. By 2000, more than 15,000 hospitals and maternity centres in 136 countries had joined the initiative and received certification as 'baby-friendly'.¹² The **World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA)**, created to mobilize technical and human resources for implementation of the Innocenti Declaration, becomes the focal point for NGO support of BFHI.
- ◆ **UNICEF's first experiments (in Sudan) with debt swapping for children**¹³ By late 1995 UNICEF had carried out a number of such debt conversions –mostly in Africa, Latin America, and one in Philippines¹⁴
- ◆ **UCI goal announcement** ; UNICEF and WHO official advise UN Secretary General de Cuellar in October that the UCI goal of 80% immunization coverage reached. The success of the global immunization programme gave new impetus to set new targets in WSC. UCI+: Many nations are now using the infrastructure developed to immunize their children for add-on services including vitamin A supplements, iron supplementation and other prenatal services. UNICEF launched vaccine independence initiative aimed at improving national vaccine procurement capacity by using high quality, low-cost vaccines through UNIPAC (reimbursable procurement)
- ◆ **First International Consultation on the Control of ARI** co-sponsored by UNICEF, UNDP and WHO.
- ◆ **International policy conference on 'Ending Hidden Hunger'** in Montreal organized by the Child Survival and Development Task Force, initiated by UNICEF and WHO, with co-sponsorship of FAO, UNDP, WB, CIDA, and USAID. Laid groundwork for broad alliance of governments, agencies, institutions and industries to accelerate action on micronutrient goals.
- ◆ **Water and Sanitation Collaborative Council established** (in response to UN res 45/181 of 3 December 1990) to provide global coordination and a forum for discussion of sector issues and advance the retargeted goals of the International Drinking Water and sanitation decade. First meeting is held in September in Oslo and a UNICEF/WHO joint monitoring programme was established to track progress. Within UNICEF, the focus in Watsan is shifting from hardware to 'software'; from vertical to intersectoral programmes; and from technical to social concerns – with emphasis on people behaviours, motivations, and management capacities.
- ◆ **Conference on humanitarian cease-fires; peacebuilding for children held in Ottawa**¹⁵
- ◆ **Follow-up to EFA**: UNICEF Education cluster created in 1990, with 5 senior advisers; 4-phase action framework developed to promote EFA goals over the decade; with capacity-building within UNICEF. Heads of the sponsoring Jomtien agencies – UNDP, UNESCO, UNICEF and WB met on the first anniversary of the conference. UNICEF and UNESCO signed a formal agreement for the development of indicators to monitor EFA and the analysis and dissemination of innovations in basic education. UNICEF also involved in African Education Task Force.
- ◆ **UN Task Force on Disabled Children and Women established** under the direct auspices of UNICEF (at close of UN decade of disabled persons – 1983-1992); reaffirms UNICEF commitments to prevention; early detection/intervention; and community/family-based rehabilitation. Task Force to be a sustainable implementing mechanism for the remainder of the decade – to function on the model of the task Force for Child Survival
- ◆ **Dramatic jump in UNICEF emergency assistance** from 26 countries in 1990 to over 40 in 1991 (Africa, Asia, Latin America, Middle east and CEE). Main focus the Persian Gulf crisis; but other high profile natural and man-made emergencies. Also participated in inter-agency and inter-governmental discussions on improved coordination and response. In aftermath of Gulf War, UNICEF designated, under the UN relief plan for Iraq, to be the lead agency for humanitarian assistance in 3 northern governorates.
- ◆ **OAU Summit adopted landmark resolution** on implementation of the African Decade for Child Survival, Protection and Development and confirmed 16 June as the Day of the African child
- ◆ **An expanding 'grand alliance'**:
 - ◆ 85th Interparliamentary Union conference adopted resolution for ratification of CRC and adoption of WSC goals; Religious leaders participating in pre-summit support conference-'The World's religions for the World's Children' in July 1990 - reaffirmed commitment in 1991 at the World Conference on religion and Peace, in Italy in June.
 - ◆ Mayors becoming active partners in Grand Alliance for survival, protection and development – with global launch being prepared for Dakar in January 1992 (honorary committee included mayors of Dakar, Mexico City, New York, Paris, Riyadh, Rome and the governor of Tokyo).

¹¹ Black 1996: 282

¹² Source: UNICEF Corporate Annual report 2001, DOC) (see CF/EXD-IC/1991-028 on guidelines for implementation of BFHI)

¹³ cited in Black 1996:168-69)

¹⁴ "UNICEF Debt-for-Child Development", paper by Eva Jespersen, UNICEF NY 1995

¹⁵ from WSC follow-up report

- ◆ NGO forum in Kadoma, Zimbabwe one of several major meetings in 1991 focusing on Summit goals and priority support for Africa – resulting Kadoma Declaration affirmed NGO commitment to WSC, CRC, and OAU Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the African Child. Major humanitarian and development NGOs – with final report of meeting to be distributed as a mobilization booklet (‘World Summit for Children: Moving from Words to Actions’) to 600 NGOs that signed the joint NGO Summit statement in 1990. See also write-up on NatComs (pg. 50)
- ◆ **International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC)** launched by ILO (with backing from Germany) as direct follow-up to Summit

1992

- ◆ **Multi-donor evaluation of UNICEF**¹⁶ Identifies four key strategic thrusts of UNICEF programmes : service delivery, capacity-building, social mobilization and empowerment, noting the importance of a strategic mix for the most effective programmes.
- ◆ **Launch of first International Children’s Day of Broadcasting**, created by UNICEF and partners in broadcasting to promote high-quality radio and television programming both for and with children. By 2000, more than 2,000 media organizations were participating in this annual event, which helps maintain a high profile for children’s issues¹⁷.
- ◆ **UN Conference on Environment and Development (The Earth Summit)** held in Rio de Janeiro, from 3-14 June, 20 years after the first Global environment conference, as the climax of a process begun in December 1989 of negotiations leading to adoption of Agenda 21 as a wide-ranging blueprint for action to achieve sustainable development.¹⁸The Rio conference endorsed the Summit goals, affirming their validity within Agenda 21. Children’s interests were to be taken into account – in participatory processes for sustainable development and environmental improvement¹⁹. Report on *Children and the Environment* issued jointly with UNEP in preparation for the Earth Summit. In preparations for the Earth Summit and with WSC emphasis on environment, UNICEF had reviewed its environment strategy and prepared studies for advocacy and policy guidance. Emphasis was to be placed on linkages between child-related concerns, sustainable development and the environment, promoting the concept of primary environmental care (PEC) – an approach that already informed many of UNICEF community initiatives. PEC emphasized the need for basic services (including urban basic services); a healthy physical environment; community participation and the empowerment of communities with knowledge and information. It also promoted the environmental components of CSD; environmental education; and integrated approach to water and sanitation.
- ◆ **BFHI:** UNICEF and WHO launch a major drive on BFHI as a means of attaining the objectives of the Innocenti Declaration of 1990 on the protection, promotion and support of breastfeeding and the WSC goal. Involves appointment of national coordinators; hospital based initiatives; application of the Code; and enactment on laws to protect breastfeeding rights of working women. First World Forum on Breastfeeding held in Bangkok by the World Alliance, and *Cracking the Code* published.
- ◆ **Launch of UNICEF’s International Child Development Centre (ICDC) MONEE project** to monitor the effects of transition in the CEE/CIS and Baltic states region on women, children and youths and vulnerable groups, with regular reports beginning in 1993. At same time, UNICEF starts to strengthen and expand presence in countries in the region.
- ◆ **International Conference on Assistance to African Children**, co-sponsored by UNICEF and OAU in Dakar, Senegal to solicit new international resources and energize national political will behind policy reorientation towards children and women – also as a spur to development of NPAs with hoped-for funding of activities by donors. Adopted Consensus of Dakar, recommitting to year 2000 global goals, and agreeing to a number of intermediate health and nutritional goals by mid-decade. Helped catalyze NPA development²⁰. Part and parcel of UNICEF’s approach to the needs of children in developing countries has been advocacy for substantial debt relief – forgiveness where possible and innovative debt swaps for CSD activities (estimated cost of meeting the 27 goals an additional \$20 billion per year over the decade²¹.. Other regional conferences organized by: SAARC; League of Arab States; Mexico (for Latin American NPA review)
- ◆ **International Conference on Nutrition** (December, Rome): Annexed to its conference declaration the list of goals endorsed at the WSC, adding a new goal on the elimination of famine, and committing governments to preparation of national plans of action coordinated, as appropriate, with WSC follow-up²²
- ◆ **Data collection, analysis and use further strengthened:** New method of estimating IMR and U5MR developed; UNICEF for first time publishes a regional SOWC (in Latin America)
- ◆ **Boutros Boutros-Ghali replaces de Cuellar as SG of UN**, serving through December 1996

¹⁶ Resulting in 1992, in reports on: *Strategic Choices for UNICEF – Service Delivery, capacity Building, Empowerment - Evaluation of UNICEF, Synthesis Report*; four sectoral reports on *Women in development and community participation*; *Emergency response*; *Water and environmental sanitation*; *Health and Nutrition*; and 6 country studies (Bangladesh, Indonesia, Mali, Mozambique, Bolivia, Nicaragua). (Evaluation undertaken by Australian International development Assistance Bureau; the Canadian International Development Agency; the Danish International Development Assistance; and the Swiss Development Cooperation in order “to review the uniqueness of UNICEF as an aid channel, to review its performance, and to contribute to improved planning and implementation”.

¹⁷ From UNICEF 2001 Annual report, DOC

¹⁸ Source: UN briefing papers on the World Conferences; UNICEF ExBoard decided in 1989 that environmental considerations were essential to the sustainability of UNICEF activities

¹⁹ 1993 WSC follow-up paper to Board; see also UNICEF response to Agenda 21 in E/ICEF/1993/L.2; WSC as model; the PPE spiral

²⁰ cited by Black 1996:177; see *Africa’s Children, Africa’s Future: Human investment priorities for the 1990s*. OAU and UNICEF NY, 1992; and *Ensuring Child Survival, Protection and Development in Africa* (E/ICEF/1993/L.4, 19 March 1993) *Africa’s Recovery in the 1990s: From Stagnation and Adjustment to Human Development*, ICDC.

²¹ UNICEF Corp. Ann Rep 1992

²² WSC 1993 follow-up to the Board

- ◆ **Joint UNICEF WHO consultative group** – focus on strengthening integrated primary health care services– particularly at district level – building on success of EPI, multiplying contacts with health services; and Bamako Initiative. Evaluation of BI by London School of Hygiene and Tropical medicine.
- ◆ **‘Mayors Defenders of Children’ Initiative** launched by International Colloquium of Mayors in Dakar, with participating mayors adopting summit goals
- ◆ **International Conference on Water and Environment** (Ireland) adopts guiding principles for advance of water and sanitation goals.

1993

- ◆ **Mid-decade goals**, emerging from a series of regional meetings including those organized by OAU, SAARC, League of Arab States, E. Asia and Pacific Ministerial Consultation, adopted at round table meeting in NY, endorsed by UNICEF ExBoard in 1993²³. **Round-table meeting on ‘Keeping the Promise to Children’** held in NY in September on the 3rd anniversary of the Summit (heads of state or governments, ministers and representatives of 77 countries and many UN agencies reiterated commitment to goals and adopted 10 mid-decade goals selected as stepping-stones towards achievement of the year 2000 goals. Funding strategy seen to be 20/20 idea (brainchild of Grant, Jolly and Mahbub ul Haq), and endorsed at WSSD.UNSG Boutros Ghali, opening the round-table: “*Of all the subjects of development, none has the acceptance, or the power to mobilize, as does the cause of children*”²⁴.
- ◆ **First issue of UNICEF flagship publication *The Progress of Nations*** intended as a global annual “report card” on achievement of the goals.
- ◆ **World Bank annual *World Development Report*** focuses on health/education/human resources
- ◆ **World Conference on Human Rights**, held in Vienna from 14-15 June, the first global review of human rights and the work of the UN in this area since 1968, represents the culmination of nearly 2 years of preparatory meetings, with adoption of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action²⁵. The Vienna Conference endorsed the WSC mid-decade goal of universal ratification by 1995 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, as well as its founding principle that economic, social and cultural rights are inseparable from civil and political rights. UNICEF Executive Director Jim Grant ’s address highlighted the importance of children’s rights, noting: “*The Convention is at the cutting edge of human rights and UNICEF efforts to guarantee child survival and development*”²⁶
- ◆ **Issues related to children and armed conflict receive growing attention**
 - ◆ UNICEF-supported studies on sanctions in Haiti and Iraq in 1993
 - ◆ UNICEF emergency handbook revised, with a view to integrating emergency preparedness more fully into country programming.
 - ◆ GA calls on SG to prepare report on children in armed conflict; Machel study started in 1994; resulting in 1996 report.
 - ◆ Tarzie Vittachi, UNICEF publishes “*Between the Guns: Children as a Zone of Peace*”
- ◆ **On the occasion of Human Rights day**, GA awarded ones of the annual human rights prizes to Grant for his work in child survival, development and rights over the past two decades²⁷; issue of *Child Neglect in Right Nations* addressed for the first time; internal UNICEF consultative group on rights identifies need to link CRC/CEDAW; intensify advocacy against sexual exploitation,with UNICEF to become more vocal in situations of flagrant violations²⁸)
- ◆ **UNICEF revises its urban policy** to emphasize mid-decade goals and public participation – focuses on poverty reduction, PEC, rehabilitation and prevention approaches for urban cedc; advocacy and technical plans. Mayors an important part, with municipal plans promoted.
- ◆ **Education for all Summit**, hosted in India (UNICEF/UNESCO/UNFPA) to rally political commitment of leaders from 9 high population countries.
- ◆ **UNICEF ECD policy** is reviewed and strengthened
- ◆ **Women’s empowerment and equality (WEEF) framework** developed by UNICEF for gender training

1994

- ◆ **UNICEF Management Study**, Booz-Allen-&Hamilton Inc. (New York, NY, Dec. 30, 1994). (requested by Executive Board in 1993) Four final documents include: *UNICEF Management Study; Executive Summary; Management Study Workshops Report; Delphi Panel Report*: constituting the report of a management review requested by UNICEF’s Executive Board in March 1994. On the basis of its findings, UNICEF follow-up takes the form of the management excellence programme²⁹
- ◆ **International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD)**, Cairo, September 1994 adopts a programme of action that builds on the outcome of other global conferences, including the WSC, underscoring the linkages between development and population, focusing on reproductive rights and people-centred services. It recognizes that efforts to slow population growth,

²³E/ICEF/1993/14.

²⁴ cited in Black 1996:179, 181 and WSC follow-up report of 1994

²⁵ Source: UN briefing papers, World Conferences.

²⁶ UNICEF 1994 Annual Report

²⁷ UNICEF 1994 corporate annual report;

²⁸ UNICEF 1994 corporate annual report;

²⁹ “*Management review: Issues concerning the UNICEF mission*” (E/ICEF/1995/AB/L.11, 25 April 1995) Good overview – in light of the findings of the management review - of UNICEF’s mandate and its evolution, with reference to issues meriting broader discussion, including the stance of UNICEF vis-avis the Convention

eliminate gender inequality, reduce poverty, achieve economic progress and protect the environment are mutually reinforcing.³⁰ Prevention of maternal mortality and morbidity has been a primary focus of UNICEF-supported activities related to ICPD follow-up, focusing on increasing the age of marriage or first pregnancy among adolescent and young women; improving health and nutrition of girls and women; and improving the care and services available to pregnant women. UNICEF follow-up on Safe Motherhood included support for inter-agency working groups tracking child and maternal mortality; women's empowerment; reproductive health and education; elaboration of programme guidelines for elimination of FGM³¹. UNICEF follow-up on Safe Motherhood includes support for inter-agency working groups tracking child and maternal mortality; women's empowerment; reproductive health and education; and the elaboration of programme guidelines for the elimination of FGM.³²

- ◆ **Support to war-affected youth programme (SWAY)** begins in 7 West African countries, with funding from UNICEF and USAID.
- ◆ **Separate item on children's rights** included for the first time on the agenda of the Third Committee (Social, Humanitarian, Cultural), with resolutions on the CRC, children affected by armed conflict (CAC), street children, and the sale of children, child prostitution and pornography. Res. Asked UNICEF to be more active in providing information and reports. In his final public speech, Grant spoke on need for special protection issues – child labour, trafficking, sexual exploitation, within CEDC and called on universal ratification of the CRC by 1995? – followed by a telephone call to Clinton seeking US signature. With universal ratification close at hand, the consultative group on child rights established at UNICEF HQ in 1990 shifted focus from promotion of ratification towards specific protection issues, including revisions of policy and programme guidelines to address child labour, prostitution and other flagrant child rights violations. CRC a rallying point for programmes addressing the needs of children in especially difficult circumstances (CEDC).
- ◆ **Intensive follow-up on WSC continues:** Between 1990 and the end of 1994, Grant and his country representatives held over 100 meetings with presidents and prime ministers to promote summit goals³³.
- ◆ **UN Girls' Education Initiative in Africa** launched, led by UNICEF and implemented with partners in more than 60 countries as a major step forward toward achieving the goal of education for all³⁴
- ◆ **Joint UNICEF/WHO strategy to combat VAD** endorsed by joint UNICEF/WHO committee on health policy
- ◆ **US becomes last of 178 of World Health Assembly to endorse 1981 International Code on the Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes**, ending 13 years of opposition.
- ◆ **Global consultation on water and environmental sanitation**, Bangalore, India, agrees that more emphasis is to be placed on the health and development aspects and to be linked to environmental protection. Focus on empowerment of communities (particularly women); capacity-building; intersectoral linkages; hygiene education. Primary environmental care programmes aim to reduce household work and exploit alternative energy sources.
- ◆ **1994 Year of the Family** preparations: UNICEF considers the family "*the smallest democracy at the heart of society*" which needs sustained support³⁵

1995

- ◆ **Death of UNICEF Executive Director Jim Grant, January 1995;** Richard Jolly appointed by Boutros-Ghali as Acting Executive Director; appointment of Carol Bellamy in May.
- ◆ **Launch of Management Excellence Programme** (in response to Management Review). The programme was designed to clarify UNICEF's mission; enhance its capacity for renewal to ensure future effectiveness in response to rapid external changes; strengthen accountability at all levels of the organization; institutionalize the best management practices and standards of behavior for all UNICEF staff; make systems improvements to support oversight and control³⁶.
- ◆ **Preparations for mid-decade review underway:**
 - ◆ *1995 Mid-Decade Goals reader*, issued by UNICEF, 5 August 1994 (as collaborative efforts by PD, DOP, with specific involvement of the advisory clusters and training and staff development section, Child rights section, DPA and publications section (DOI);
 - ◆ Development of indicators, preparation and implementation of MICS; support for national reviews and production of national mid-decade reports;
 - ◆ A number of global assessments/reports/study papers, including on: NPAs; sustainability of the goals and links between CRC and NPAs³⁷

³⁰ Source: *UN Briefing Papers on World Conferences*

³¹ UNICEF annual report 1994

³² UNICEF annual report 1994. (See also UNICEF position paper and follow-up actions to ICPD (E/ICEF/1995/12/Rev.1 and family planning policy (E/ICEF/1993/5)

³³ Black 1996:276, citing SOWC 1995

³⁴ Source, UNICEF Annual Report 2001, DOC and others

³⁵ UNICEF 1994 Corporate Annual Report, DOC

³⁶ See: "Management review: Issues concerning the UNICEF mission" (E/ICEF/1995/AB/L.11, 25 April 1995) Good overview – in light of the findings of the management review - of UNICEF's mandate and its evolution, with reference to issues meriting broader discussion, including the stance of UNICEF vis-avis the Convention

³⁷ UNICEF-Harvard workshop in 1995; "World Summit Goals for Children: The Challenge for Sustainability", Workshop proceedings, ICDC, Florence, Italy, June 1-2, 1995; EPP working paper EVL-97-004, Sustainability of the World Summit for Children Goals: Concepts and Strategies (Lincoln Chen and Sagari Singh, Harvard; and Cesar Victora, EPP); Policy document addressed sustainability of EPI – vaccine independence initiative (from 1995 Corporate Ann rep); Implementing the Convention on the Rights of the Child:

- ◆ **Consultation on UNICEF programme priorities to year 2000 and beyond** helps establish corporate priorities for the future. A process of programme policy review and revision underway³⁸
- ◆ **Revision of UNICEF health strategy:** continued emphasis on the reduction of child illness and death (through immunization, breastfeeding, nutrition, and sound illness management); greater stress on protection of children in the 2nd decade of life and on reproductive health; a sharpened focus on the needs of adolescents aligns UNICEF health policy more closely with the Convention and recognizes that the health, attitudes and behaviours of teenagers profoundly affects their capacities as adults. New emphasis on maternal mortality.
- ◆ **World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, March 1995** representing a landmark shift by governments to support policies that promote a people-centred framework for social development and justice, with a focus on the eradication of poverty, expansion of productive employment, and promotion of social integration, resulting in Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and Programme of Action endorsed by over 180 leaders. Among the 10 key commitments endorsed at the summit, a number are directly related to UNICEF's concerns, including promotion of gender equality and promotion of universal and equitable access to quality education and health care, rectifying inequities affecting women, children and vulnerable social groups. Other commitments were also central to UNICEF's advocacy efforts at the time, such as commitment for greater and more efficient allocation of resources to social development; a focus on social dimensions of structural adjustment programmes; and heightened international cooperation³⁹. ECOSOC underscores strong linkages and common themes among programmes of action emanating from global conferences and stresses need for coordinated/integrated follow-up. For WSSD, ACC established 4 task forces in basic services; creation of enabling environment for development; advancement of women; sustainable livelihoods, with UNICEF participation in the basic social services task force. A key aspect of UNICEF support for follow-up to the WSSD is the 20/20 initiative, for which UNICEF is the lead agency within the UN system. 20/20 initiative, developed under the auspices of UNDP was strongly promoted during the Summit by UNICEF, UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, WHO and a number of NGOs. UNICEF issued Profiles in Success, detailing social progress achieved by countries through appropriately-targeted human development priorities⁴⁰.
- ◆ **Fourth World Conference on Women, in Beijing, 4-15 September 1995**, renews global commitment to uphold the rights of women, focusing on cross-cutting concerns for equality, development and peace, and resulting in a Platform of Action specific actions and targets aimed at enhancing the social, economic and political empowerment of women, improving their health and access to relevant education, and promoting reproductive rights. Twelve critical areas for action served as the basis for the Platform of action, including women in relation to; poverty; education; health; violence; conflict; economic participation; power and decision-making; institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women; awareness of and commitment to women's human rights; mass media; environment; and the girl child. Advances include insistence on women's rights as human rights; call to review laws on illegal abortion; key focus on the family; closer look at culture and religion as means of realizing potential of both men and women, and recognition of rape as a war crime. ACC Inter-agency Committee on women and gender equality was thereafter established. UNICEF lobbied successfully for inclusion of girl child on the broader agenda, and articulated 3 priority areas endorsed by the Executive Board for its own programmatic follow-up in implementation of the Platform of Action. These included: girls' education, the health of girls, adolescent girls and women; and children and women's rights, with action in the field often complementing follow-up to other conferences (ICPD; WSSD). A renewed emphasis within UNICEF on gender mainstreaming in programme processes was built around lifecycle perspective, with heightened advocacy for CEDAW based on the complementarity between children's rights and women's rights Gender training within UNICEF continues as a priority⁴¹.
- ◆ **New approach to estimating maternal mortality** developed by Johns Hopkins/WHO/UNICEF and published in the 1996 PON, in a powerful and hard-hitting focus on maternal mortality and morbidity. The new estimates provoke wide debate and discussion on the issue of maternal mortality, leading increased awareness and renewed efforts.
- ◆ **Joint WHO/UNICEF document on "Action for children affected by AIDS: Programming profiles and lessons learned"**
- ◆ **Facts for Life: Lessons from experience:** Documents experiences with FFL around the world, with enthusiastic suggestions to extend scope to attain a wider and younger readership and to strengthen link between knowledge transmission and positive behavioural change.⁷
- ◆ **Initiation of Innocenti Lecture series**, with Amartya Sen speaking on "Mortality as and Indication of Economic Success and failure"
- ◆ **Animation for Development consortium**
- ◆ **Beginning of extensive review of collaboration with NGOs** – to be completed in 1996. Recommendations from a series of joint UNICEF/NGO workshops as a basis for new cooperation strategies to better reflect the growing strength of NGOs over the last 10 years (growing in numbers and influence and power – becoming articulate voice for promoting child rights, particularly in ratifying and implementing CRC and achieving goals.⁴²
- ◆ **Child Rights Information network (CRIN) launched**, linking UN agencies, academic institutions, NGOs to gather and other information on child rights activities globally. UNICEF worked with the NGO group for CRC which published the guide and helped identify agencies for the CRIN network.

Resource Mobilization in Low-Income Countries, ed. James R. Himes, UNICEF ICDC, Florence, Italy. Martinus Nijhoff Publishers, the Hague, London, Boston, 1995

³⁸ CF/EXD/IC/1995-011)

³⁹ Source: UN briefing papers on world conferences

⁴⁰ Profiles in Success: People's Progress in Africa, Asia and Latin America, UNICEF NY 1995.)

⁴¹ E/ICEF/1996/3.

⁴² see also NGO Board paper at time

- ◆ **UNICEF supported GA** in development and adoption of omnibus resolution on the rights of the child – also a resolution on the girl child for Beijing follow-up; 1995 session of GA requests SG, in cooperation with ILO, UNICEF and others to report on child labour issues and initiatives.
- ◆ **World Conference on Religions and Peace**, supported by UNICEF, established two committees in support of children: Inter-religious leadership council for children (advocacy); and Children’s Action committee (relief and development programmes)
- ◆ **Narino Accord**, signed by 28 governments of the Americas, reaffirming WSC commitments and MDGs and identifying new areas of concern, including early pregnancy, disabilities and civil rights. Convention now regarded in the region as the basic framework for developing social policies concerning women.

1996

- ◆ **Mid-decade Review:**⁴³ Extensive efforts were made to review progress towards the WSC goals at mid-decade and to draw lessons learned. UNICEF, in collaboration with others, developed the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) and supported training for its application in the field, leading to a significant improvement in data collection and analysis (60 countries implemented stand-alone MICS; 40 others used DHS or MICS modules in other surveys). National mid-decade reviews were carried out in some 98 countries. The UNICEF-WHO Joint Committee on Health Policy Special Session, Geneva, May 1996 makes a joint review of progress on health-related goals at mid-decade and preparation for the year 2000⁴⁴. The SG reports to 51st session of GA on progress towards mid-decade and end-decade goals (A/51/256). The review at mid-decade, para 299, stressed that the Assembly should consider holding a special session to examine how far the world’s nations have managed to fulfil their promises to children and implement the Declaration and Plan of Action of the World Summit. GA welcomes report and decides (in res 51/186, 16 December 1996) to convene a Special Session in 2001 to review achievements at end-decade.
 - ◆ UNICEF issues *Promise and progress: achieving goals for children*. UNICEF, DOC, 30 September 1996.
 - ◆ Regional publications include: *Review of Progress of the Mid-Decade Goals*, the Middle East and North Africa. UNICEF, UNESCO, WHO, League of Arab States, 1996; *Progress toward the goals for children and development in East Asia and the Pacific. Building Capacity for Sustainability*. Third East Asia and Pacific Ministerial Consultation on the Goals for Children and Development to the Year 2000. 13-16 November 1995, Hanoi; others
- ◆ **Children’s participation:** UNICEF supported 1st mini summit of children during OAU summit – with 100 children from 10 countries in conflict submitting suggestions; Youth/Children Opinion Polls later pioneered in Latin America. Also, a referendum in Colombia with 2 million children voting on rights and peace, organized by UNICEF, the NGO network for peace, and other organizations. UNICEF launches “Voices of Youth” website (www.unicef.org/voy) as interactive site where young people from around the world can exchange views on a variety of topics⁴⁵
- ◆ **Adoption of UNICEF Mission Statement** (issued as part of management reform process – also as a means of taking stock after 50 years of what has been accomplished, where we are today, and what we must do, with “development of mission statement to remind the world what we stand for”⁴⁶, adopted by Executive Board in January 1996. UNICEF, redefining its mission after 50 years of operation and drawing on lessons learned. Confirms the centrality of the CRC. Point is⁴⁷ “CRC holds perhaps the greatest potential for positive changes for children, reflecting a watershed in the way the world looks at children – from objects to subjects of law”. Now that the Convention ratified by almost all countries in the world, UNICEF can turn towards its application as the ‘spearhead’ (fer de lance) of programmes Adopting a rights based approach considerably transforms programming strategies. “With the satisfaction of basic needs considered as a fundamental right for each child, UNICEF has adopted a more integrated approach to satisfy these needs, taking into consideration the full range of rights guaranteed by the Convention”⁴⁸. The goals and objectives covering the basic sectors – improving access to basic social services – represents the most tangible and effective strategy to break the vicious circle of poverty, over-population and environmental degradation. The MDR showed the need to redouble efforts to achieve the goals. Quote from Maggie Black: “Children disadvantaged because their basic needs are not respected and children disadvantaged because their basic rights are not respected are – at the end of the day – the same disadvantaged children.” UNICEF ExBoard adopts CRC as programmatic framework for all UNICEF actions.
- ◆ **50th anniversary of UNICEF:** occasion for numerous activities to promote children’s cause, around the world, under slogan ‘Children First’
- ◆ **World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children**, the first-ever international gathering dedicated to combating this problem, held in Stockholm from 27 to 31 August 1996, hosted by the Government of Sweden and co-sponsored by the End Child Prostitution in Asian Tourism (ECPAT) and the NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child, raised awareness and resulted in a number of initiatives, including establishment of a global NGO support group and enhanced cooperation with the UN, including through the Special Rapporteur and the Committee on the Rights of the Child. A total of 1,880 participants attended the Congress, comprising 718 government representatives from 120 countries, 100 delegates from UN and other intergovernmental agencies, 470 NGO representatives, 47 delegates from youth organizations and the organizing bodies, and 540 journalists from all over the world. As UNICEF Executive Director reported to Board in 1996 (E/ICEF/1996/12/Rev.1) this mix of people reflected not only the wide reach of the problem of commercial exploitation of children, but also the dynamics of the solutions. Public awareness-raising, mobilization, networking and international cooperation will underpin the future of the work in this area. Many UNICEF programmes were already part of the gamut of activities necessary to reduce vulnerability in this area.

⁴³ CF/EXD/1996-003) (instructions to field offices, following letter from SG

⁴⁴ JCHPSS/96.3, 19 April 1996)

⁴⁵ Source: UNICEF Annual Report 2001, DOC)

⁴⁶ in MTP; E/ICEF/1996/AB/L.2 and 1996 corporate annual report

⁴⁷ as explained in 1996 Corporate Annual Report)

⁴⁸ 1997 Corporate Annrep

Board members saw UNICEF support in this area as a key component of activities related to child protection measures specified in the CRC and they endorsed UNICEF focus on prevention, including a special emphasis on girls' education.

- ◆ **Launch and presentation to the GA of ground-breaking Graca Machel study on 'The Impact of Armed Conflict on Children'**, with UNICEF support, after an unprecedented survey of over 2 years involving an international team, traveling to 8 conflict zones, with regional consultations and consultations with child victims. GA adopts resolution A/RES/51/77 on respect for child rights, demobilization of child soldiers, elimination of land mines, halt to sexual violence and exploitation, physical and psychological healing and reintegration. Also foresaw the creation of the post of Special Representative for children and armed conflict, asking UNICEF, along with the Centre for Human Rights and UNHCR, to support his work. Also called on UNICEF to use the report as a framework for future action.
- ◆ **UNICEF announces its 'anti-war agenda'** in *The State of the World's Children 1996*, setting out a set of concrete measures to alleviate the impact of warfare on children, in line with the recommendations of the Machel study. SOWC traces shift in UNICEF focus from emergency relief to long-term development and charted the ongoing struggle to place children at top of the agenda: "To an organization born among the detritus of war, it sometimes seems as if the historical wheel has come full circle."⁴⁹
- ◆ **Creation of Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)**, of which UNICEF is a part, and expansion of UNICEF programmes in AIDS awareness and prevention. UNICEF had started to address AIDS in the mid-80s, with a focus on prevention and care, as well as behavioural causes. UNICEF priorities in participation in UNAIDS focus on limiting transmission; fostering responsible behaviour based on precise information; improving health and reproductive health services; protecting children against sexual exploitation; MTCT; support to orphans and families. Joint UNICEF/UNAIDS publication "*Children and families affected by AIDS: Guidelines for action*". UNICEF concern for AIDS back in late 80s; most consistent programme development since 1992 (youth health and development; sexual and reproductive health; family and community care; school-based interventions; mass communications/mobilization)⁵⁰
- ◆ **DAC publication:** "*Shaping the 21st century: the contribution of development assistance*" sets international development targets to 2015.
- ◆ **Habitat II – the Second UN Conference on Human Settlements** was held in Istanbul from 3-14 June 1996, with a focus on problems of urbanization resulting in the *Habitat Agenda* concerning environment, human rights, social development, women and population in the specific context of urbanization. Recognition of the right to adequate housing as a universal human right was one of the most contentious issues, with some delegates seeing it as rather subsumed under the more general right to adequate standard of living, and final consensus reached on its 'progressive realization'. Children incorporated into 45 of the 241 articles of the programme, thanks to the efforts of UNICEF and NGOs. UNICEF helped ensure inclusion of relevant CRC principles. The *Mayors Defenders of Children Initiative* took on new members. Support for disaggregated data on urban/rural differences important
- ◆ **World Food Summit**, in Rome, 13-17 November 1996 adopted by consensus the *Rome Declaration on World Food Security* and the *World Food Summit Plan of Action* (earlier 1974 World Food Conference had proclaimed that every man, woman and child has inalienable right to be free from hunger and malnutrition in order to develop their physical and mental facilities; and in December 1992 the FAO/WHO International Conference on Nutrition also recognized "that access to nutritionally adequate and safe food is a right of each individual"
- ◆ **1996/97 UNICEF and the Government of Iraq** worked with WFP to carry out major surveys to assess the impact on children of both the 1991 Gulf War and international sanctions. Results showed U5 underweight rose from 9% to 26% since 1991. Nearly 1/3 of U5s were chronically malnourished or stunted and more than 1/10 acutely malnourished – an increase of almost 300% since 1991. Results of the surveys spurred international media attention and focused greater attention in the UN and elsewhere on the negative impact of sanctions on children⁵¹.
- ◆ **Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Initiative** launched by World Bank and IMF designed to assist poor countries to achieve sustainable levels of debt based on an established track record of implementing social and economic reform and on the condition that additional resources are channeled to basic social services/
- ◆ **Meeting of UNICEF and Save, International** to plan common action for child rights⁵²
- ◆ **Expansion of programme assistance in CEE/CIS and Baltic States:** UNICEF assistance for 1st time supports needs of children throughout CEE/CIS/Baltic States region
- ◆ **Growing attention to poverty:** Designation of 1996 as *Year of Poverty Alleviation* and announcement of the *First UN Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2001)*
- ◆ **Launch of Colombian Children's Movement for Peace (October)** – two-time Nobel peace prize nominee

1997

- ◆ **Renewing the UN:** UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan issues his proposals for "*Renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform*". The proposals, aimed at strengthening the role, capacity, effectiveness and efficiency of the United Nations, are adopted in GA resolution A/RES/52/12 (14 November 1997) and are characterized by a reaffirmation of the centrality of human rights in all aspects of the work of the world body. The reform also calls for greater coordination and harmonization among agencies of the UN, with the creation of a UN Development Group promising greater coordination and integration of operational activities for development. UNICEF participates actively in this group, which includes the establishment at country level of the UN Development Assistance framework (UNDAF) and the introduction of processes for Common Country Assessments (CCA).

⁴⁹ SOWC 1996

⁵⁰ see also recent policy analysis evaluation of UNICEF response to AIDS in the 1990s

⁵¹ [Check this – 1995 Corporate annual report mentions study in 1994](#)

⁵² reported in UNICEF Corporate annual report 1997

- ◆ **Programme processes within UNICEF: 1997-2000** described⁵³ as a time of transformation for UNICEF which saw the need to push hard for the fullest possible achievement of the year 2000 goals and to go even further, working towards a new global agenda for children in the 21st century, based solidly in child rights. Major preoccupations: include: Management Excellence, UN reform, and drawing up a far-reaching agenda for the next millennium which will “*incorporate the lessons learned over the last five decades. It will also devise ways to benefit from unparalleled advances in communications, science and technology. Addressing the main obstacles for children and women, such as poverty, gender discrimination, exploitation and violence, it will amount to nothing less than a global plan of action to kick-start progress for children and women in the 21st century*”. Preparations of medium term plan underway (1997-98), along with consultations for development of new agenda (beginning with Tarrytown process December 1997-September 1998).
- ◆ **International Conference on Child Labour** :UNICEF joins other participants at the conference sponsored by the Government of Norway in Oslo in adopting a global agenda for eliminating the worst forms of hazardous and exploitative employment of children. UNICEF collaborated with ILO on advocacy campaign in preparation. UNICEF follow-up includes development of multi-country projects based on education as a preventive strategy against child labour.⁵⁴
- ◆ **Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction**, signed by 123 nations in Ottawa. UNICEF helped draft the convention and strongly promoted its ratification and implementation. In 1992, UNICEF had joined the call for an all-out ban on landmines, and in 1995 it announced it would refrain from procuring goods or services from any company involved in landmine production for sale. It cooperated with and supported the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, a coalition of more than 1,000 NGOs whose coordinator, Jody Williams, won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1997, and also used its representatives as ‘ambassadors’ or envoys to lobby governments for ratification. It is the lead agency for landmine awareness education and in 1997 produced ‘The Silent Shout’ – a 10-minute sensitization video for children⁵⁵.
- ◆ **Safe Motherhood Follow-up Conference** co-sponsored by UNICEF in Colombo, Sri Lanka. *Guidelines for monitoring the availability and use of obstetric services* published jointly with UNFPA and WHO.
- ◆ **Renewing the UN:** Kofi Annan takes over from Boutros Ghali as SG of UN in January. Launch of SG’s UN reform with adoption by GA on 20 June of the SG’s *Agenda for Development*. Building on agreements reached in the international conferences of the 1990s, it represents a major step in articulating an international consensus concerning the goals and requirements for socio-economic development and provides a comprehensive framework for international development cooperation, recognizing the importance not only of economic growth, but of democracy, human rights, popular participation, good governance and the empowerment of women as well. In response to the agenda, UNICEF worked together with sister organizations of UNDG (UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, WFP) to create a common development assistance framework (UNDAF) and chaired sub-group on programme policy development for UNDAF. UNICEF saw its participation in UN reform strengthened by its own internal reform processes in Management Excellence, which was seen to help streamline operations and devolve more management functions to regional and field offices.
- ◆ **Appointment of Olara Otunnu as Special Representative of the UN Secretary General for Children and Armed Conflict** (September) with a mandate to promote the protection, rights and welfare of children at every phase of conflict: preventively before conflict erupts, in the midst of conflict, and in post-conflict situations.
- ◆ **Ted Turner establishes UN Foundation** with a \$1 billion grant to the UN
- ◆ **Key UNICEF publications:** *Development with a human face* produced, tracing 10 developing countries over the past 3-4 decades, showing how they achieved significant social development despite uneven economic progress; *Innocenti Digest* launched by ICDC as a new series of publications designed to provide accessible information on critical child rights issues; *Children Just like me* produced; *Child Poverty and Deprivation in the Industrialized countries* (**check date**)
- ◆ **Cartoons for Children’s rights** campaign launched in December 1997, as an animation consortium producing 30-second spots on articles of the CRC and donating to UNICEF for broadcasters free of charge.

1998

- ◆ **Follow up to the World Summit:** At 53rd session of GA, SG reports on progress made in follow-up to WSC, recalling decision to hold the Special Session, and referring to possible ‘additional’ event, with particular attention to the participation of civil society and children themselves. SG also calls upon UNICEF to coordinate a global review of progress in implementation of WSC, drawing on subnational, national and regional reviews and specific thematic debates including those held in connection with the 10th anniversary of the CRC. Review to provide an overall assessment of progress achieved, including lessons learned, analysis of main factors inhibiting progress and overview of remaining challenges and key issues, followed by specific recommendations for the future.⁵⁶
- ◆ **UNICEF Programme guidelines aim at accelerated progress on the goals**⁵⁷. Targeted key WSC goals including increased immunization coverage and improved access to education in countries where progress was most needed. The 4 over-arching goals aim to 1) reduce death and illness among young children and prevent childhood disability; 2) reduce maternal deaths, disabilities and illness; 3) improve children’s access to education and enhance educational quality; 4) reduce exploitation, abuse and harm of children. Other priorities identified for early child care; adolescent health and development; improved data on children and women. At the same time, progress made on developing a new agenda for the beginning of the next century to ensure that collaborative work

⁵³ in UNICEF Corp AnnRep 1998

⁵⁴ Source, UNICEF Annual Report 2001, DOC)

⁵⁵ Source, UNICEF Annual Report 2001, DOC and others

⁵⁶ *Regional Reports on Progress towards the year 2000 Goals* (compiled from regional offices in 1998) Additional regional publications include, for example *What are the hopes for children in West and Central Africa? A Progress report on the goals set at the 1990 World Summit for Children*, UNICEF WCARO1998 – mostly based on mid-decade reviews...

⁵⁷ 1998-2000 *Programme Priorities* (CF/PRO/98-003, 30 April 1998)

with colleagues and partners has a profound and lasting results: “As the new millennium dawns, we will play a greater part in addressing the causes of poverty as well as the symptoms, to help break the persistent patterns that underlie inequality, violence and wasted human potential. UNICEF programmes will increasingly aim to support children and women in critical periods of the life cycle – early childhood, primary school years, adolescence, and the reproductive years – when interventions can truly make a lasting difference”

- ◆ **UNICEF adopts a human rights-based programming approach** with significant implications for all aspects of programming⁵⁸
- ◆ **UNICEF Medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001 (E/ICEF/1998/13)**, approved by the Executive Board, covering the critical transition bridging the last years of the 20th century and the first years of the 21st. Informed by lessons learned in the process of implementing the WSC plan of action and through the near universal ratification of the CRC, the plan is organized around 4 major organizational priorities: *Enhancing partnerships and promoting advocacy on children’s rights; Programme priorities; Improving the availability and use of data in critical areas; and Strengthening management and operations*. Key programme priorities include: reducing young child mortality and morbidity; improving early childhood care for child growth and development; preventing child disability; improving access to and quality of basic education; improving adolescent health and development; protection from exploitation, violence and abuse; prevention of gender discrimination and promotion of gender equality; and reducing maternal mortality and morbidity.
- ◆ **UNICEF proceeds with consultative processes of ‘visioning’ the future beyond 2000: Towards a Global Agenda for Children Beyond the Year 2000: A Vision, Key Transformations, and the Strategic Role of UNICEF**. The UNICEF “Tarrytown” Futures Group, October 1998.⁵⁹ and “*The Focus of UNICEF’s Work Beyond 2000*”. Development of a life-cycle approach and framework for programming and policy.
- ◆ **Implementation Handbook for the Convention on the Rights of the Child** prepared for UNICEF by Rachel Hodgkin and Peter Newell, with support from UNICEF Geneva, Committee, other UN organizations, NGOs, and academics.
- ◆ **Martigny Consultation**, September 1998 – Global Consultation of UNICEF Representatives to formulate a set of recommendations to improve its response to the needs of children and women in unstable situations, within the context of a mainstreamed programme approach and greater predictability. Leads to development of UNICEF’s Core Corporate Commitments in emergencies approved by the Executive Board in 2000.⁶⁰
- ◆ **Roll Back Malaria Campaign** launched, with UNICEF joining WHO, UNDP and WB in aims to strengthen health services, make effective and affordable anti-malarial drugs available to communities in need; explore research into a malaria vaccine, support development of even more effective drugs; and promote the use of mosquito nets treated with insecticide.
- ◆ **Global Polio Initiative, launched** with WHO, UNICEF, Rotary International, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and other partners to redouble global efforts to wipe out the crippling disease.⁶¹
- ◆ **Indicators for global monitoring of child rights**: International meeting sponsored by UNICEF, 9-12 February 1998, Geneva Switzerland, with the aim of developing additional indicators to monitor progress on the realization of child rights. Results in the incorporation of key questions on child work, birth registration, orphanhood and disabilities in the Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS II) data collection efforts at end-decade⁶²
- ◆ **Global March against Child Labour**: Massive NGO-driven event designed to raise awareness of the issue – supported by UNICEF through its National Committees
- ◆ **Youth Leadership Forum in July**, sponsored by UNICEF and Time Warner, brought 36 young people to UN NY as part of Summer of Goodwill/1998 Goodwill Games
- ◆ **UN Foundation approves \$18 million for UNICEF**. Money to be used for child health and nutrition and women’s health and education
- ◆ **Agreement on participation in EFA assessment** (UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNESCO, and World Bank) to review achievements made in education since the Jomtien Conference in 1990.
- ◆ **Joint UNICEF/WHO Committee on Health Policy (JCHP) expanded to include UNFPA**, and thereafter known as the Coordinating Committee on Health.
- ◆ **Adoption of Rome Statute for International Criminal Court**, which include crimes against humanity and war crimes against children and women (July)
- ◆ **UN Security Council debates children and armed conflict for the first time**, reflecting the magnitude of international concern for the impact of wars on children

1999

- ◆ **Global Compact**: UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan (in an address to the World Economic Forum on 31 January 1999) challenges world business leaders to join in a ‘global compact’ to help build the social and environmental pillars required to sustain the new global economy and make globalization work for all the world’s people. His proposal is followed by a series of preparatory meetings of key partners, prior to the launch of the Compact’s operational phase at a high-level event at UN Headquarters on 26 July 2000.

⁵⁸ Executive directive to UNICEF offices on “*Guidelines for Human-Rights-Based Programming Approach*” (CF/EXD/1998-04, 21 April 1998)

⁵⁹ See also Steve Esrey paper ; Tarrytown working paper series issued Toward a new global agenda for children in the 21st century (May 2000): No 1. Gender equality and the rights of women and girls; No. 2: Child development; No. 3; Learning; No. 4: Child protection

⁶⁰ See Martigny Chronology, July 2001.doc

⁶¹ Source: UNICEF Annual Report 2001, DOC

⁶² See UNICEF’s *Summary report and Background papers* (EPP, November 1998)

- ◆ **UNICEF sharpening definition of programme focus and global agenda beyond 2000:** (“*The Focus of UNICEF’s Work Beyond 2000*”, CF/EXD/IC/1999-02 and “*The future global agenda for children- imperatives for the 21st century*” (E/ICEF/1999/10, 13 April 1999), presented to UNICEF ExBoard at June 1999 annual session. Presents preliminary recommendations on future action for children and the focus of UNICEF work beyond 2000. Recommendations include a call for concerted global action to address the main challenges facing children and women, including: gender discrimination; HIV/AIDS; declining ODA and debt relief; growing disparities, instability and conflict
- ◆ **GA resolution 54/93 on the end-decade review and Special Session for Children:** reiterates previous call (in resolution 51/186, 1996) for end-decade review of WSC achievements; schedules the Special Session for September 2001 and sets out its scope; establishes an open-ended preparatory committee, and calls for broad participation of preparatory processes. The resolution also requests the Secretary-General, with the support of UNICEF, to assist in providing substantive input to the preparatory process and at the Special Session.
- ◆ **End decade review processes begin to get underway,** with development of MICS II and guidance notes to field offices.
- ◆ **Leadership Initiative for Children** launched by UNICEF (CF/EXD/1999-002, 3/25/1999) as stimulus for renewed commitment to children at all levels. UNICEF regional offices begin events and activities.
- ◆ **The Progress of Nations 1999** documents major challenges, widening disparities; while **the State of the World’s Children 2000** seeks to fan the flame of commitment that burned so brightly in 1989/90, calling for a focus on early child care, quality education and youth.
- ◆ **GAVI (Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization) established,** with UNICEF a key partner, along with WHO, WB, major foundations, pharmaceutical vaccine industry, national governments and others. GAVI is a ground-breaking partnership to help countries strengthen their immunization services and introduce new and underused vaccines for children to ensure that all children are vaccinated with every effective vaccine. UNICEF, now the major supplier of vaccines to developing countries, serves as GAVI’s secretariat⁶³
- ◆ **UNICEF joined 9 major commercial airlines** to launch the ‘One World Alliance for UNICEF’ – the first airline alliance to adopt a charitable cause, with participating airlines pledging to raise money, including through ‘Change for Good’, the collection of unused foreign currency from passengers aboard international flights.
- ◆ **Peace and Security Agenda launched by UNICEF at the Security Council** in February, building on UNICEF’s ongoing Anti-War Agenda, with a set of goals and principals to help guide international efforts on behalf of children and women in armed conflict, including measures such as ending the use of child soldiers, enforcing the Ottawa treaty, protecting children from sanctions, reducing the availability of small arms/light weapons, and improving safety for humanitarian workers.
- ◆ **10th anniversary of the adoption of CRC** serves as an occasion for UNICEF-supported special events, particularly at the GA Special Commemoration session. Activities include a panel discussion, exhibit, support for children’s views and the launch of ‘*Making Children Count*’, an experimental web-based data base providing information on CRC implementation measures.
- ◆ **International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) +5 event** takes place in New York (30 June – 2 July), to assess progress since the 1994 Cairo conference and renew commitments for the future. The review provided growing evidence that the ICPD agenda is practical and realistic, and that despite all obstacles, it is being put into practice. The review included reports on national implementation efforts, global expert meetings and an international forum at the Hague, organized by UNFA, culminating in a special session of the United Nations General Assembly, which identified key actions needed for further implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action and new benchmarks for measuring progress towards the ICPD goals
- ◆ **Entry into force of the Ottawa Convention** on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines, and on their destruction (March)
- ◆ **Adoption of ILO Convention No 182** on the Immediate Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour (June)
- ◆ **Entry into force of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child** (November), providing African states with the first regional treaty on the rights of children and setting important standards for protection
- ◆ **SC resolution 1261 on children and armed conflict** (August 25) an illustration of the growing visibility of children in international peace and security issues
- ◆ **UNAIDS launches International Partnership against AIDS in Africa.** Joint UNICEF/UNAIDS report published to draw attention to the magnitude and plight of AIDS orphans worldwide, particularly in SSA; Joint policy statement on HIV/AIDS and infant feeding issued by WHO, UNICEF and UNAIDS
- ◆ **UNICEF prepares report on 20/20 initiative,** in preparation for WSSD+5, with recommendations to strengthen future actions, including enhanced partnerships, continued monitoring and implementation, ODA reporting and support, capacity-building and dissemination of best practices.

2000

- ◆ **Security Council discussed AIDS** at its meeting in January, reflecting expansion of concern for the global impact of the epidemic.
- ◆ **1st organizational session of the preparatory committee (precom) for the Special Session on Children** (February) elects five-member bureau and decides to invite expanded NGO participation in the Special Session and its preparatory processes.
- ◆ **1st Global level consultation between UNICEF and CSOs on global movement for children,** including concept of a New Global Agenda (in February 2000), following which Human Rights Watch convened a ‘Child Rights Caucus’ of CSOs/NGOs interested in contributing to the substance of the new global agenda. In May, the Caucus met with UNICEF to outline key issues they wished to see addressed. They also undertook to continue the process of dialogue with CSOs/NGOs, including convening meetings of the Caucus in June at the first substantive precom session.

⁶³ Source: UNICEF Annual Report 2001, DOC

- ◆ **1st Substantive session of the prepcom** (May 30 – 2 June 2000) discusses *Emerging issues for children* paper, drawing on previous UNICEF ExBoard report on the *Future Global agenda* and extensive technical consultation with a range of experts in government, UN, NGO and academic community. Three panel discussions at prepcom with experts discuss progress and constraints in implementation of the WSC goals; emerging issues for children; and future actions to address critical needs at each stage of the life cycle. Significant participation by NGOs and children.
- ◆ **Consultative processes underway on key elements of a ‘global agenda’ for children – merging into drafting processes for the Special Session Outcome document (“We the children”)**
 - ◆ Initial exchange of views on new global agenda at meeting between UNICEF and Child Rights Caucus, 29 August, at which Caucus shared paper on ‘*A Child Rights Agenda for the coming decade*’ emerging from Caucus’s consultations and summarizing major issues of concern for members. Following this, UNICEF also received the Caucus’ consolidated written comments on the draft text of the new global agenda, along with specific comments from Human Rights Watch, the National Education Association, and the International Women’s Health Coalition
 - ◆ NGO Consultation on New Global Agenda, with Child Rights Caucus at UNICEF Visitors’ centre, with updated (18 September) version of document which takes into account the views of the NGOs (September 19)
 - ◆ Atlanta technical consultation on the New Global Agenda in Atlanta (2-4 October)
 - ◆ UN consultation on New Global Agenda – UNICEF House, NY (27 October)
 - ◆ UNICEF and prepcom bureau begin drafting process for Special Session Outcome document (*A world fit for children*) with successive drafts produced and widely circulated for comments and inputs.
- ◆ **End-decade review processes:** Data-collection activities get underway, with MICs II conducted in 66 countries as the largest single data collection effort in history to monitor children’s rights and well-being. (Demographic and Health surveys conducted in another 35 countries). Extensive national review processes receive high-level political commitment; involve a variety of participants, and draw on a wide range of information sources to assess progress for children and establish priorities for the future. By the time of the Special Session in May 2002, 158 national end-decade reports had been received from governments from all regions of the world, including industrialized countries, along with 15 reports by UN agencies and others. UNICEF regional offices and country offices provide their own assessments, all of which are incorporated into a ‘lessons learned’ exercise led by UNICEF and feed into the SG’s report on progress and achievements at end-decade “*We the children*” (see 2001).
- ◆ **World Education Forum**, jointly organized by UNESCO, UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, and World Bank in Dakar in April to review the findings of the EFA 2000 assessment. The forum confirmed the expanded vision of education outlined at the 1990 World Conference on Education for All held in Jomtien, Thailand, and proposed a new set of time-bound goals and strategies in basic education for the new decade and beyond. It recommends giving priority to countries in sub-saharan Africa and South Asia; to other LDCs; and to countries in crisis.
- ◆ **UN Girls’ Education Initiative launched by SG in April 2000** as a sustained campaign to improve the quality and availability of girls’ education through a collaborative partnership of different entities within and outside the UN, with UNICEF as lead agency.
- ◆ **South Summit** convened by the Group of 77 in Havana, with 133 developing countries adopting a Declaration which includes specific consideration of children’s rights and needs and addresses such issues as women and children in poverty; HIV/AIDS; children in armed conflict; and the trafficking of women and children. The Declaration welcomed the decision to convene a special session on children and expressed full commitment to its preparation.
- ◆ **The 13th International Conference on HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Diseases held in Durban, South Africa in July**, with the theme of breaking the silence on AIDS, viewing the epidemic as a challenge to all sectors of society.
- ◆ **G-8 Summit in Okinawa, Japan in July** gave special impetus to promoting the well-being of children through a special initiative to combat infectious diseases.
- ◆ **United Nations Millennium Summit**, held at UN HQ in New York (September 6-8) gathers together 185 world leaders and results in a Summit *Millennium Declaration* with specific Millennium Development Goals and commitments regarding children, youth and women on issues related to U5MR; MMR; HIV-AIDS and AIDS orphans; malaria and other major diseases; education; young people’s livelihood; and humanitarian assistance. The Secretary-General’s vision for a renewed UN role and concrete proposals for action as outlined in his report “*We the peoples*” was a central focus of the Millennium Summit. The spouses of 70 heads of state and government attending the Summit gathered at the Forum on Girls’ Education focusing on the gender gap in education.
- ◆ **The International Conference on War-Affected Children, held in Winnipeg, Canada in September**, convened representatives of Governments, NGOs, experts and young people around the world to discuss issues of children affected by armed conflict, with presentation preliminary recommendations from the Graca Machel update study on the effects of the Impact of War on Children (full report published by UNICEF in 2001). The conference aimed at galvanizing international efforts to strengthen preventive mechanisms and to end impunity for those who abuse children in wartime.
- ◆ **Two Optional protocols to the CRC adopted by the GA** (May) on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, (entering into force in January 2002) and on the involvement of children in armed conflict (entering into force in February 2002)
- ◆ **UN Convention against Transnational Crime** adopted by Millennium Assembly, along with optional protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons, especially women and children.
- ◆ **4 Security Council resolutions on children and women in armed conflict**
- ◆ **Beijing +5 takes place** at UN HQ in New York (5-9 June 2000) to review and assess progress made in the implementation of the Platform of Action of the Fourth World Conference for Women (Beijing 1995). UNICEF takes an active part in review and preparations and promotes 4 key themes for advocacy: gender equality starts early; interdependence of women’s rights and girl’s rights; children’s rights cannot be achieved without girls’ rights; community partnerships for gender equality are needed to end violence and prevent HIV-AIDS

- ◆ **Social Summit (Copenhagen + 5)** takes place in Geneva (26 June – 1 July) to assess achievements since Copenhagen and to discuss new initiatives. Participants include close to 2,000 members of delegations from 178 countries; 1,200 partners from 500 NGOs; 420 media members, representatives of 56 inter-governmental organizations and staff of UN system and related bodies. After intensive debates, UN member countries made new commitments to eradicate poverty, address unemployment and promote social integration, adopted a final document on ‘further initiatives for social development’. The meeting included some 150 side events.
- ◆ **Child-Friendly Cities Secretariat established** at the UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre in Florence to support creation of a world-wide network of cities committed to fulfil a rights-based agenda for children. This is in direct follow-up to the launch by UNICEF of the *Child friendly Cities Initiative* (at Habitat II in 1996) as a movement which places the rights of children at the centre of municipal planning.
- ◆ **SAARC declares the decade 2000-2010 the decade of Children’s rights**

2001

- ◆ **Kofi Annan reappointed to a second five year term as UN SG**, and joint recipient with the UN of the Nobel Peace Prize for 2001
- ◆ **Second substantive session of the Preparatory Committee** (29 January –5 February). Discussion of draft provisional outcome document and presentation of data update
- ◆ **Conference on Child Poverty convened in London**, 26 February, by UK Chancellor, Gordon Brown, and UK Secretary of State for International Development, Clare Short, marking growing trend to integrate development and finance policy. Participants include the World Bank, IMF, UNICEF and UNDP as well as NGOs, faith groups and national governments.
- ◆ **Birth of African Union and New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD):** African Union established (March 2001) to replace OAU, becoming operational in July 2002. NEPAD launched as a commitment by African leaders to rid the continent of poverty and place Africa on a path of lasting growth and development. Key founding elements include the practice of good governance, democracy and human rights, and efforts to prevent and resolve situations of conflict and instability on the continent.
- ◆ **Say Yes for Children campaign launched (April 2001) as part of the Global Movement for Children (GMC)**, with participation by Nelson Mandela and Graca Machel. One year later, by the time of the Special Session for Children in May 2002, it had collected nearly 95 million pledges from people around the world, making it the largest campaign of its kind, as confirmed by the Guinness Book of World Records. In submitting their pledges, individuals of all ages, from all walks of life, and from over 170 countries affirmed their solidarity with the Global Movement for Children and their commitment to the 10 critical imperatives identified as necessary to ensure a better future for children. The campaign stimulated extensive mobilization around children’s rights at local, national and regional levels. Founding members of the GMC include the Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC); Netaid.org Foundation; PLAN International; Save the Children; UNICEF and World Vision – later expanded to include Care International.
- ◆ **Regional preparatory processes for the Special Session** mobilize a wide variety of stakeholders around priority concerns for children and result in a series of regional commitments including: *the Kingston Consensus* (October 2000) and the *Panama Declaration on Children and Adolescents* in Latin America and the Caribbean (December 2000); the *Beijing Declaration on Commitments for Children* in East Asia and the Pacific (May 2001); the *Berlin Commitment* for children of Europe and Central Asia (May 2001); the *Kathmandu Understanding on Investing in Children* in South Asia (May 2001) followed by the 11th SAARC Summit Declaration (January 2002); the *African Common Position* (May 2001); and the *Arab Framework for the Rights of the Child* (March 2001) and the *Arab World Fit for Children* (April 2001).
- ◆ **Third substantive session of the Preparatory Committee** (11-15 June). Discussion of SG’s report “*We the children: End-decade review of the follow-up to the World Summit for Children*” (A/S/27/3, 4 May 2001). Continued discussion of draft outcome document, “*A World Fit for Children*” and beginning of process of negotiation of text, through August/September.
- ◆ **‘Road Map’ towards implementation of the Millennium Declaration** developed in response to GA Res 55/162 of 14 December 2001 on Follow-up to the Millennium Summit.
- ◆ **United Nations Special Session on HIV/AIDS** in NY, 25-27 June brings together an unprecedented level of global leadership, awareness and support for HIV/AIDS. The 3-day session assembled governments, civil society, donors and the UN system in a discussion elevating the HIV/AIDS pandemic from a narrow focus on health to a much broader development concern. The Special Session underscored the devastation wreaked by HIV/AIDS around the world; and the role poverty, gender inequality and discrimination have played in its rapid spread. A declaration of Commitment, adopted by acclamation, sets out specific time-bound goals and targets to guide efforts in the future.
- ◆ **World Conference against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance** held in Durban, South Africa (31 August – 7 September) adopts the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action .
- ◆ **September 11 Bombing of World Trade Centre** leads to postponement of Special Session to 8-10 May 2001
- ◆ **2nd World Congress Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children**, in Yokohoma, Japan (17-20 December) convened as a follow-up to the 1996 World Congress, adopting the Yokomama Global Commitment 2001. UNICEF is active in organizing a series of regional meetings, in collaboration with the co-organizers of the Conference (Government of Japan; ECPAT International; and the NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- ◆ **UNICEF Medium Term Strategic Plan (MTSP) for the period 2002-2005** approved by the Executive Board. The plan combines a results-based approach to management with a human rights based approach to programming, and outlines five organizational priorities: girls’ education’ integrated early childhood development’ immunization “plus”; fighting HIV/AIDS; and improved protection of children from violence, exploitation, abuse and discrimination.

2002

- ◆ **Entry into force of the Optional Protocols** to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography; and on children affected by armed conflict.
- ◆ **International Conference on Financing for Development** held in Monterrey, Mexico (18-22 March) brings together 50 heads of State/Government, over 200 ministers, and leaders from the private sector and civil society, as well as senior officials of all the major inter-governmental, financial, trade, economic and monetary organizations, in an unprecedented exchange of views among key stakeholders on global economic issues. The *Monterrey Consensus* embodies commitments for a new global approach to financing for development.
- ◆ **Special Session on Children** held at UN headquarters in New York (8-10 May) draws unprecedented participation, particularly of children and young people, who present a message to the General Assembly from the Historic Children's Forum. Participants at the Special Session and its supporting events include broad representation from civil society organizations, the private sector; religious groups; UN and international agencies; and governmental delegations, 69 at summit level. The Session represents a milestone in the burgeoning Global Movement for Children which emphasizes partnerships and leadership at all levels, and resulted in a renewal of commitments to children as articulated in *A World Fit for Children*.
- ◆ **World Food Summit +5**, held in Rome (10-13 June) to track achievements since 1996 and to consider ways to accelerate progress, adopting a *Declaration on an International Alliance against Hunger*.
- ◆ **XIV International AIDS Conference**, held in Barcelona (July) on the theme of 'Knowledge and Commitment for Action. It represents the latest in a series of annual conferences bringing together scientists, activists, world leaders and others to discuss the ravages of HIV/AIDS around the world. Particular themes explore how to work together to improve support systems, access to medication, education, and other interventions to reduce the impact of this epidemic.
- ◆ **World Summit on Sustainable Development (Rio +10)**, held in Johannesburg, South Africa (26 August – 4 September) to track progress and to reconfirm global commitment to the sustainable development agenda at all levels – from world leaders to NGOs and individuals.