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Primary Contact **James Grant (Former Executive Director)**
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Notes

Preparatory & Reference Documentation on the World Summit for Children: this reference book contains background & preparation material for the World Summit in Five Chapters: 1-The Planning Committee; 2-Schedule & Program of the World Summit for Children; 3-draft Declaration of the World Summit for Children and draft Plan of Action; 4-Report of Meetings; 5-UNICEF Executive Board

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John Manfredi

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Programme of the World Summit for Children

1. This paper assumes that at least 50 Heads of State or Government will participate in the World Summit for Children. The Initiators have invited the Secretary-General of the United Nations to participate as a Head of State.
2. All public meetings of the participating Heads of State/Government will be held in the General Assembly Hall. Private meetings, if any, could be held in the General Assembly Hall or another appropriate chamber.
3. "Official Delegations" for the World Summit are defined as a participating Head of State or Government accompanied by not more than 5 other persons. Due to security considerations and seating limitations, only members of the Delegation will have access to the main floor of the chamber.
4. A voluntary programme for interested "First Spouses", related to the purposes of the Summit, will be organized.

Thursday, 27 September 1990

Pre-Summit meeting

5. A final pre-Summit meeting of Personal Representatives of the attending Heads of State or Government may be held on Thursday, 27 September, if necessary.

Friday, 28 September 1990

Summit-related events

6. Various authorities and organizations, including UNICEF and the Host City of New York, anticipate programmes and activities on Friday, 28 September, for interested government officials, leading children-related authorities, members of the media, the public and children. Heads of State or Government may, if they wish, also be involved in these programmes.

Saturday, 29 September 1990

Saturday evening dinner

7. The Summit programme will begin with a private dinner for the attending Heads of State/Government only, hosted by the co-chairs and the Initiators.
8. The Secretariat will recommend possibilities for seating configurations, interpretation services, etc., which would appropriately facilitate informal discussion. A formal discussion programme is not anticipated.
9. General media coverage of the Saturday evening programme will not be allowed.

Sunday, 30 September 1990

10. An informal buffet breakfast will be available for arriving participants, in a setting which facilitates small group and bilateral discussions.

Opening Session

11. The formal meeting of the World Summit will begin on Sunday morning with an opening session with an invited audience and general media coverage.
 - a. The programme will include introductory statements by the co-chairs, the Secretary-General, some previously agreed upon additional Heads of State/Government, and the Executive Director of UNICEF.
 - b. A video presentation dramatizing the situation of the world's children and the opportunities which the Summit will address will also be part of the programme.
12. Full media coverage will be available for the opening session.

13. The invited audience for the opening session could include First Spouses; Special Envoys or Permanent Representatives of Member States; executive heads of relevant international institutions and agencies and senior United Nations officials; selected additional dignitaries and representatives of leading non-governmental organizations; etc. Audience capacity will be limited.

Discussion Session

14. Following the opening session there will be a discussion session of all participating Heads of State/Government. Decision has not yet been made as to whether this session will be public or private.
 - a. An "orchestrated free exchange" discussion is proposed. Some economically, culturally and geographically representative Heads would be previously agreed upon to present brief (5 minute) introductions to the several main substantive themes of the Declaration/Plan of Action, thus stimulating discussion.

- b. All attending Heads would be encouraged to participate in the ensuing discussion. Heads would be asked to avoid lengthy statements or prepared texts. Heads might pre-indicate their interest in speaking on particular themes, thus enabling the Co-Chair to orchestrate and encourage an engaging discussion.
- c. Every State is encouraged to submit, in advance or at the time of the Summit, a "National Paper" which overviews the situation of children in the country and summarizes actions-in-progress and new or anticipated initiatives. These National Papers could be circulated directly by Governments to other Governments; 1-2 page executive summaries, prepared by Governments, would be published in a post-Summit collection by the Secretariat.

Private Working Luncheon

15. A private working luncheon for Heads of State or Government will be given in the North Lounge. Luncheon for other members of Delegations will be available in the Delegates' Dining Room, and for other members of Accompanying Parties and support personnel in the Staff Cafeteria.

16. The time period for the working luncheon may include a continuing discussion session, or the Heads of State/Government may return to a meeting room to resume their collective discussion.

Concluding Session

17. The World Summit will formally end with a concluding session with the invited audience [same as for the opening session] and general media coverage. The following programme is proposed for the concluding session:

- a. The Heads will return to the chamber, with children present, and copies of the Declaration in place at each Head's seat.
- b. Introductory remarks by the presiding Co-Chair.
- c. Summary statement(s) on the proceedings and results of the Summit by the other Co-Chair and two additional Heads of State/Government.
- d. The presiding Co-Chair will announce that the Declaration is open for signature by any Head of State or Government, and will invite those present to sign, witnessed by children of the world.
- e. The Heads will symbolically present the Declarations to children.
- f. Reading of the Declaration.
- g. The Co-Chairs, inviting "all sectors of society" to join implementing the Declaration and Plan of Action, declare the World Summit for Children adjourned.

Reception

18. A reception for all participants in the Summit and the invited audience will follow immediately after the concluding session. It is understood that some Heads of State/Government may not attend this reception.

Monday, 1 October 1990

Presentation to the General Assembly

19. With the agreement of the General Committee, a special item would be included on the agenda of the United Nations General Assembly for Monday morning, to receive a report on the results of the World Summit. The President of the General Assembly and/or the Secretary-General would be presented the signed Declaration and Plan of Action. The General Assembly ceremony would last less than 30 minutes.

Press Conference

20. The Co-Chairs and any other interested Heads will conduct an official Summit press conference.

"First Spouses" Programme

21. On the assumption that many "First Spouses" will accompany the Heads of State or Government to New York, and that most of those will be interested in some association with the World Summit and children, two possible voluntary programmes for interested "First Spouses" could be organized on Saturday evening and Sunday:

- a. On Saturday evening, a reception, dinner, or cultural programme could be held at an appropriate location.
- b. On Sunday morning, a private roundtable discussion among "First Spouses" would begin immediately following the public opening session of the World Summit. The format could be similar to that of the Summit meeting, with an orchestrated free exchange on the role of "First Spouses" and other non-official leaders in supporting implementation of the Plan of Action. The "First Spouses" discussion would not be open to media coverage or an audience. The discussion session could be followed by a luncheon for the Spouses.

22. All "First Spouses" will be invited to witness the public sessions of the World Summit from a special seating section.