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Memo from Janet Nelson to Richard Jolly 'Your Participation in the World NGO Forum on IYF, 17 June 93. Attachments include Intro, Programme Overview, Content, Workshops, Author's Forum, Reg. Meetings, Exhibition, Social Events, Info for Participants

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Uyasha Young

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United Nations Children's Fund
Fonds des Nations Unies pour l'enfance
Fondo de las Naciones Unidas para la Infancia

DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
PROGRAMMES

JUN 18 1993

ACTION: RL
CC: _____

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INTER OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO : Richard Jolly 17 June 1993
FROM : Janet Nelson *Janet Nelson* NGO/219/93/jn
SUBJECT : Your participation in the World NGO Forum on IYF

On 11 June, I met with Dennis Callagy, Chairperson of the Vienna NGO Committee on the Family, to discuss UNICEF's participation in the World NGO Forum to be held in Malta on 28 November - 2 December.

Dennis mentioned that he had discussed with you the possibility of your addressing one of the plenaries, and that you had reacted favourably. In examining the provisional programme (see p. 3 of the attached document), we felt that the most appropriate theme for UNICEF would be the "Rights and Responsibilities of Families", scheduled for Wednesday, 1 December. It would allow you to address such issues as an improved distribution of rights and responsibilities within families, the Convention, etc. Dennis confirmed that, if you accepted, this plenary would take the same form as the others - that is, consist of a keynote speaker, followed by a respondent and a question and answer period.

The organizing committee very much hopes that you will accept to speak, and is willing to discuss other "slots" for you if you prefer another theme. They need an urgent answer in order to be able to complete their roster of speakers.

For your information, UNICEF will be supporting at least two workshops - one on non-institutional approaches to orphaned and abandoned children, and the other on women, child care and work. Shri Gururaja, UNICEF's focal point for IYF, and I are working together on plans for the Forum, and both feel that it is important for UNICEF to take advantage of this occasion to address the entire plenary. We very much hope that you will be able to fit it into your schedule.

Assuming IYF can't go, I would like to go and to speak.

I could speak in the 'Rights and Responsibilities' section - but I would like to be sure that RR was happy if I do this, since I will draw heavily on ~~the~~ CEC Network. Alternatively I could do Families + Legal Networks - though Rights would be better. Pl. advise DC 21.18

WORLD NGO FORUM

LAUNCHING THE
INTERNATIONAL YEAR
OF THE FAMILY 1994

Sponsored by Young & Rubicam



"PROMOTING FAMILIES
FOR THE WELL-BEING
OF INDIVIDUALS AND SOCIETIES"
MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE CENTRE,
MALTA 28 NOVEMBER - 2 DECEMBER 1993



organized by the
Vienna NGO Com-
mittee on the Family



in cooperation with
the United Nations-
IYF Secretariat



and the Govern-
ment of Malta

in collaboration with other NGO Committees on the Family

INTRODUCTION

The theme of the **International Year of the Family** is: "Family: resources and responsibilities in a changing world". All along, the focus of IYF has been - not on defining the family - but rather on promoting action and awareness towards sustaining and supporting families in carrying out their irreplaceable functions. Building on this, the theme of the Forum, "**Promoting Families for the Well-being of Individuals and Societies**" reflects the view that the International Year of the Family should be an opportunity to integrate the successes for its members of previous UN years and to take a realistic, but global approach to the family as "the basic unit of society" and natural environment for the healthy development and functioning of any society, giving attention to strengthening families in ways that increase equality between men and women, caring, mutual respect and solidarity, while respecting the diversity of family structures worldwide.

The World NGO Forum is being organized by the Vienna NGO Committee on the Family in collaboration with the other NGO Family Committees to the UN in New York and Paris, and in cooperation with the United Nations IYF Secretariat. Special recognition has to be given to the Government of Malta which has generally agreed to host the World NGO Forum.

WELCOME

are all persons, organizations and institutions interested in the role of the family, in new perceptions and a creative assessment of its functions, in the promotion of its vital status in the society of the future - in the observance of the International Year of the Family.

Invited are representatives from non-governmental organizations, operating at international, regional, national, local and grassroot level; specialized in family matters or multi-purpose social development organizations....

Invited are members of family and parent organizations, of women's, youth and children's associations, of professional groupings, of religious organizations, of social service sections of political organizations, trade unions, industries....

Invited are policy makers and administrators from specialized governmental agencies (focal points) and intergovernmental organizations with social objectives.

Invited are experts from training and research institutions, family service and counselling agencies, community based movements and organizations....

Invited are concerned opinion leaders and media experts, writers and journalists, persons responsible for family journals and magazines....

PROGRAMME

The World NGO Forum offers a wide range of topics. The Forum is a place where participants from all sectors and levels of social organization can share, learn, communicate, where they can build networks and coalitions with colleagues sharing similar interests and concerns. The programme will enable participants to use the unique and challenging opportunity of the International Year of the Family to develop creative work plans in support of families and together with families - in 1994 and beyond.

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
9:30 -11:00		<u>PLENARY S. II</u> "Family: Source of the Future" Speaker & Respondent	<u>PLENARY S. III</u> "Families Relating to Larger Networks" Speaker & Respondent	<u>PLENARY S. IV</u> "Rights and Responsibilities of Families" Panel & Discussion	<u>PLENARY S. V</u> Final Addresses *"IYF - Action for 1994 and beyond" *"Building a Family-Friendly Society"
11:30 -13:30 14:30 -17:30	Registration of Participants	Concurrent Workshop Sessions	Concurrent Workshop Sessions	Concurrent Sessions Author's Forum 16:30 - 18:00 Regional and Sub-Regional Meetings	*Presentation of "Malta Statement" *Closing Ceremony
E V E N I N G	<u>PLENARY S. I</u> Opening Ceremony *Official Addresses *Reception			RECEPTION	

PROGRAMME CONTENT

PLENARY SESSION

These sessions will provide participants with global perspectives and special aspects of the theme of the World NGO Forum. They will motivate participants to become active at the local and grassroots levels and encourage them to involve families in the diversity of IYF events.

The Plenary Sessions will be chaired by representatives of the different NGO Committees on the Family, important and competent personalities are invited as speakers and respondents. The Plenary Sessions will have simultaneous interpretation into English, French and Spanish.

Themes of the major presentations

"Family: Source of the Future"

Family is continuously evolving and changes occur within family structure as its members pass through different stages of their life cycle. Regardless of form and organization family is universally recognized as essential element for future development.

"Families Relating to Larger Networks"

The family as support system strongly relates to and interacts with the whole range of developmental systems of society, like economy, culture, education, health, environment,

"Rights and Responsibilities of Families"

Over the years United Nations policies have been formulated which support and strengthen the family unit and it might be interesting to embody all these references to the family in a coherent and detailed declaration on the rights and responsibilities of families in the context of the objectives for IYF 1994.

"IYF - Action for 1994 and beyond"

Ideas, incentives, suggestions and plans for action for 1994 must contribute to securing the vital status of families in modern society.

"Building a Family-friendly Society"

Family policies and programmes should be fully integrated into overall social and developmental policies to ensure the welfare of the family and its individual members, to build a family-friendly society.

WORKSHOPS

Workshops, (length 5 hours), are organized to provide opportunities for discussions of specific subjects which are of concern to individual family members, family life and family well-being in society. Concurrent workshops on Monday, November 29 and on Tuesday, November 30 will focus on

- a) the relationships between family and its members
- b) the functions and needs of family in the context of societies
- c) the ways and means to assist families with special needs.

All workshops will allow participants to share information, to present projects and programmes, to develop ideas and action plans for an effective International Year of the Family. Workshops will be organized by competent persons and organizations, they will be structured to encourage maximum involvement of participants. Depending on participants' interest simultaneous interpretation will be offered in three workshops.

Workshop leaders and workshop participants are requested to develop a summarized report on their deliberations, outlining specific IYF action areas in their field of competence.

Proposed Workshop Topics

- *Family and the mental health of its members

- *Family and parenting/partnership

- *Family and children's rights
- *Family and child resilience
- *Family and street children
- *Effects of family on the academic achievement of children

- *Family and women
- *Family and personal development of women
- *Women' work and breastfeeding

- *Family and the Elderly
- *Family and the role of grandparents

- *Family and the disabled
- *Dealing with homeless families
- *Family and aids
- *Family and violence
- *Substitute families
- *Councelling families with problems

- *Family and values of society
- *The spirituality as a dynamic element in the family

- *Family and family law
- *Assessment of family policy
- *Empower and involve families

- *Family and population
- *Family and culture

- *Family and education
- *Family life education
- *Family and gender equity in education
- *Family and education of women and girls
- *Educational programmes that enhance family well-being

- *Family and poverty
- *Family and economy
- *Family and resource management
- *Family and values/needs of consumption

- *Family and environment
- *Family and shelter
- *Family and housing
- *Family-oriented urban development

- *Family and health promotion
- *Family and the media

AUTHOR'S FORUM

An Author's Forum (length 1 hour per presentation), is offered. It will give participants an opportunity to hear about innovative policies, pilot projects and local level activities designed to promote family well-being. Further, experts will discuss special family concerns in different geographic regions, in different stages of political and economic development. A variety of social organizations will present their work in relation to promoting the role of family in rural and urban development processes. Opportunity for discussions with the authors will be provided.

Presentations of authors will be monolingual. Authors are requested to prepare a brief outline of their paper, these outlines will be made available to participants.

Proposed subjects of presentations

- *Family life education for peace
- *Family ethics and community bonds
- *Quelle politique pour quelle famille
- *Enhancing the quality of life in rural areas

- *From household economics to global resources
- *Family and paid/unpaid work - family leave
- *Family and work: Reconciling the seemingly irreconcilable
- *Promoting health for older workers
- *Preventive policies for street children

- *Successful family involvement in their children's education
- *Family and youth
- *Relationship between fathers and daughters

- *Families having a member with disability

- *Poverty in family relationships
- *Children and divorce

- *Parenting in dutch families
- *Families in the Mediterranean area
- *Assistance and therapy of Romanian families
- *Situation of families in Eastern European countries
- *Values in the extended African family
- *Difficulties of parenting in Croatia today
- *Land for poor families in Mexico City
- *The Russian family in transition
- *Promoting the well-being of family and community in Botswana

- *Presentation "Family-Fest"

REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL MEETINGS

Regional and sub-regional meetings are planned to give participants an opportunity to meet with colleagues from the regions for consultations and information sharing on national and regional IYF programme plans. Regional organizations have been encouraged to assume leadership in these meetings. Simultaneous interpretation, if required, will provided in English, French and Spanish.

EXHIBITION

Tentatively planned is an exhibition for organizations and institutions wishing to display documentation and illustrations of IYF action plans.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Social events will complete the Programme of the World NGO Forum. They will allow for informal contacts and meetings of participants. The Social Events will create an atmosphere of "coming, learning and working together" in promotion of IYF. The Malta President and Government will offer these receptions.

INFORMATION FOR FORUM PARTICIPANTS

Venue: A four-centuries old former hospital of the Knights of Malta, the Mediterranean Conference Centre in Valletta will accommodate the World NGO Forum. The Conference Centre meets the special needs of the disabled.

Languages: Simultaneous interpretation will be available in English, French and Spanish at Plenary Sessions and at some of the sub-meetings.

Documentation: Participants will receive conference folders which will include material from the Vienna NGO Committee on the Family, from the UN-IYF Secretariat, the final Forum programme, a participant list, information on Malta. It is planned to publish proceedings of the World NGO Forum.

Passport - Visa requirements: All participants are requested to check the validity of their passports and to inquire about visa requirements for Malta. In case a visa is necessary, the host committee has to be informed so that arrangements can be made by the Maltese authorities to issue visas on arrival.

Travel: Malta is located at the crossroads of Africa, Asia and Europe. Air Malta offers regular flights from major European cities. Other major airlines fly to Malta on regular basis. Travel agencies should be contacted to obtain reasonable arrangements.

Currency: The monetary unit of Malta is the Maltese Lira which is divided into 100 cents. All Maltese Banks change foreign currency. Money can also be changed at the bank desk at the Mediterranean Conference Centre. Most of the major International credit cards are widely accepted by hotels, shops and restaurants.

Registration procedure: Please see for details attached form.

Registration fee: The Organizing Committee in Malta will charge a registration fee in the amount of Malta Lire 20,- (US-\$ ± 55,-). This fee covers transportation from and to the Conference Centre, participation at social events and other services of the organizing committee.

Accommodation procedure: Please see for details attached form.

Climate: Mediterranean. In November-December the weather is mild, chilly in the evening with possibility of rain or showers, temperature averages 17 degrees Celsius.

Dress: For the World NGO Forum dress will be informal/casual. However national dress would be appropriate for the social events.

Programme for accompanying persons: An optional programme will be organized for accompanying persons. More details will be available at the information desk at the Conference Centre.

Insurance: Participants are requested to arrange for travel insurance, covering all health and accident risks. The organizers can not assume any responsibility.

UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM PLEDGES/URGES STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE FORUM

COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The Commission for Social Development, the preparatory body for the Year, at its 33rd session in February 1993, adopted a resolution for transmission to and adoption by the 48th session of the General Assembly (E/CN.5/1993/L.(Rev.1). This resolution:

"welcomes also the active involvement of non-governmental organizations in the preparatory process for the Year, including the major global initiative to convene a world non-governmental organization forum entitled "Launching the International Year of the Family 1994: Promoting Families for the Well-being of Individuals and Societies", to be held at Valletta, Malta, from 28 November to 2 December 1993, and calls upon all those concerned to support the event in every possible manner".

UNITED NATIONS AFRICA AND WESTERN ASIA PREPARATORY MEETING FOR IYF

The regional intergovernmental Meeting, held in Tunis, Tunisia, from 29 March to 2 April 1993, recommended that:

"Support for the Year should also be expressed through active participation of the non-governmental community in Africa and Western Asia regions in the World NGO Forum on the Launching of the Year, ... Organizations of the United Nations system should make substantive contribution as well as provide assistance to grass-root organizations from least developed and developing countries to enable their representatives to participate in the World NGO Forum."

UNITED NATIONS EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA PREPARATORY MEETING FOR IYF

The regional intergovernmental Meeting, held in Valletta, Malta, from 26 to 30 April 1993, invited:

"Member States, non-governmental organizations and the private sector, in recognition of the important contribution of the NGOs to family affairs, to support strongly the World NGO Forum, launching the International Year of the Family, to be held in Valletta, Malta, from 28 November to 2 December 1993."

The NGO Committee on the Family to the UN Office at Vienna was founded in 1985. At present the Committee has over 70 international and national non-governmental organizations with humanitarian objectives as members. The Committee has succeeded in becoming an international forum, assuring effective linkage between the international level and the grass-root realities. Over the years the Committee has carried out a variety of family-related tasks and events. It is working to ensure a successful implementation of the objectives of the International Year of the Family and in this context it has accepted to organize the major international launching event for IYF, the World NGO Forum.

For further information please contact:

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