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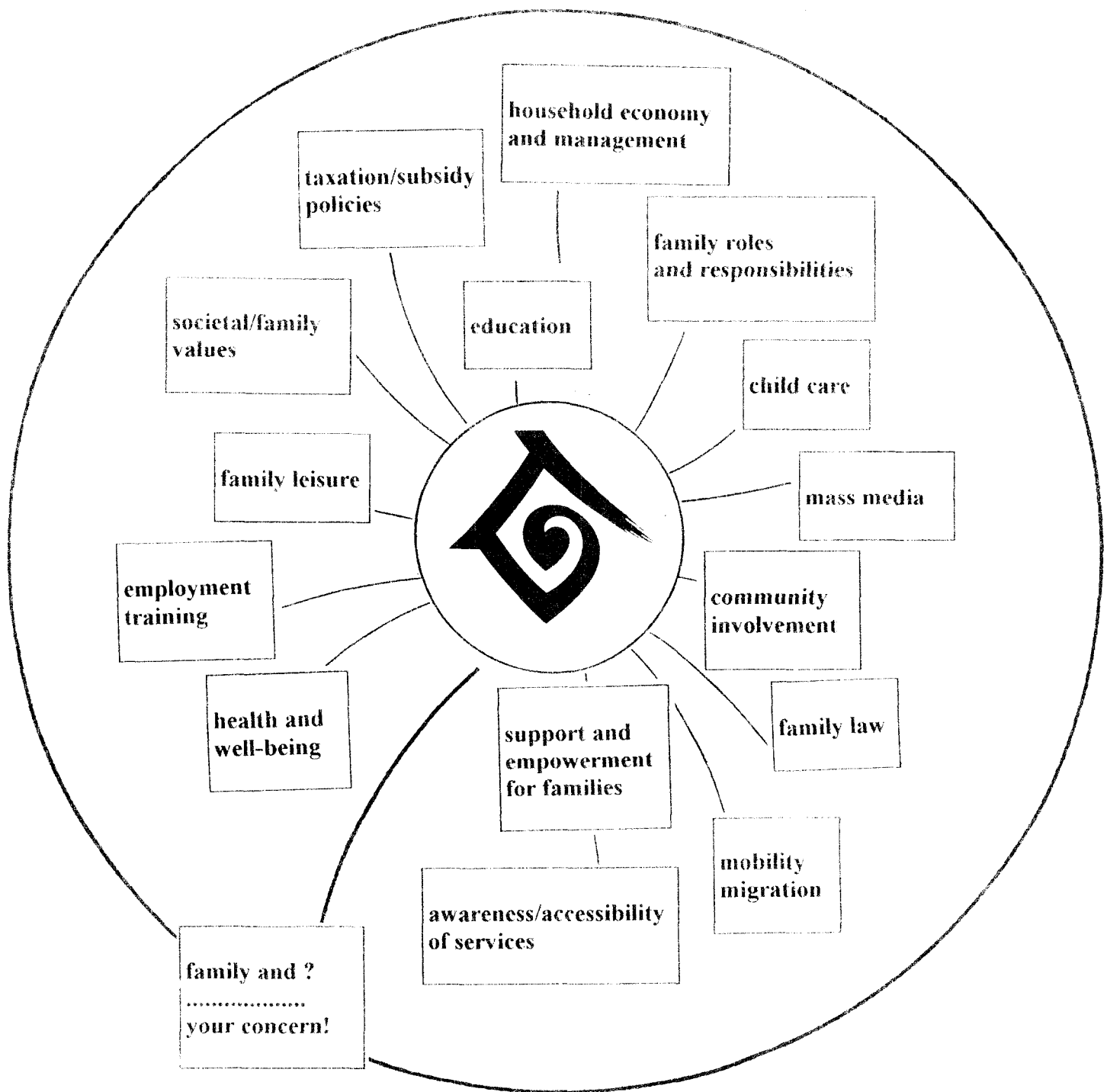
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ORGANIZING EVENTS
within and around
THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE FAMILY
1994



This document was designed by the IYF-NGO Executive Secretariat as a possible tool for preparing your related individual events.

THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE FAMILY (IYF) AND YOU EVENT

IF YOU ARE PLANNING AN EVENT

You may be interested in the information you receive on a family 1994 calendar so as to highlight important issues in each of the context of your mission. You may wish to use the IYF to raise the awareness of your event as being part of the global interest in family well-being.

You may want to include the IYF into your general assembly, board meeting, assembly of your experts in 1994 for spreading information on family concerns. You may be organizing a conference, a seminar, a workshop, or a social topic, which is also related to families and you are planning to include the IYF dimension.

You may be working at the national level in the field of improving relations between governmental and non-

governmental organizations and you are conducting projects and activities in the International Year of the Family, you may wish to include a coordinator. You may, moreover, sponsor family programs at provincial level and you should consider how IYF could assist your cooperation family members and family services.

You may be developing programmes to strengthen family cohesion and to increase family income at local level and through IYF actions you may wish to empower families.

You may be planning to involve families, friends, neighbours or a family self-help group in order to promote self-reliance of families in everyday life and you wish to strengthen your efforts by integrating your plans into IYF action.

THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE FAMILY

You might know that

In 1989 the General Assembly of the United Nations proclaimed 1994 the International Year of the Family.

At the request of the UN Secretary General, studies, seminars, conferences, articles, provide the main programme in to prepare for observation followed by a series of events on the family.

The United Nations Assembly decided that "while recognizing the role of the family, it should be strengthened at the local, regional, national and international levels, through, in particular, the support of governmental organizations, through a coordinated effort by developing and implementing programmes.

You should be aware that

IYF principles and objectives include among others the following statements:

- "The family constitutes the basic unit of society and therefore warrants special attention."
- "Families raise and direct a family and maintain their own values, in particular, within each national context."
- "Families are the primary social units through which individuals and communities become fully engaged in the development of their own systems."
- "Development should respect families and the integrity of their functions, rather than their substitution, through the law. They should promote the voluntary creation of higher institutions that are necessary and productive."

THE IYF AND YOU: HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE IYF AND YOU EVENT

At the family level

- identify the needs of your family and community
- identify the resources available in your family and community
- identify the strengths of your family and community

Identify the needs of your family and community, and identify the resources available in your family and community, group, information and support and service available for families and evaluate their effectiveness.

define and formulate required assistance programmes for families, of financial or non-financial nature.

At the community level

- identify the needs of your community
- identify the resources available in your community
- identify the strengths of your community
- identify the needs of your community and identify the resources available in your community, group, information and support and service available for families and evaluate their effectiveness
- define and formulate required assistance programmes for families, of financial or non-financial nature
- support family strength and resilience and assist in building self-esteem in all family members.

Use the **Opening Session** of your event to introduce the IYF proclamation and objectives of your event to all your participants. Encourage participants to discuss the significance of family in your country.

Organize a **Thematic Session** on the IYF theme to help participants from different sectors of society to discuss their views on family concerns, to suggest policy measures to address the issue.

Plan a **Seminar** of one day and involve colleagues from other sectors and family-related organizations and agencies to discuss cooperation among family services, assistance to participants of families and their individual members, involvement of family members in service delivery.

Organize a **Round Table** (or your own name) where participants can learn about IYF from a resource person and where programmes can be discussed and how IYF can be used in support of these programmes.

Use the **Closing Session** of your event to provide a summary of the event. Thank all Family Members for their valuable participation and inform them about the proclamation of IYF.

Consider organizing a poster-making competition with IYF posters, information on international developments and initiatives, an exposure of current family conditions, policies, and services, presentations of your family-related work and concerns.

Utilize an Evening Gathering or an Intimacy to invite families, family workers, individuals or programme/association, women's associations, youth groups to talk informally about family life, styles, fun and frustrations in families.

Use the **Closing Hour** of your event (not an IYF session) by linking the results of your deliberations to the objectives of IYF and by outlining required future action.

IF YOU ARE SEARCHING FOR AN IYF THEME

Use a topic of the UN proclamation of the IYF: family, resource and responsibilities in a changing world.

"highlighting the smallest denominator in the world of adults."

Other themes include: • Family and society • Family and gender • Family and development • Family and youth

Examples include: • The contribution of women to the development of the community

• The role of parents in the upbringing of their children

• The importance of family in the development of the country

"Creating a new partnership between school and family"

"The diversity of family life and family needs in a multicultural society"

"Family-focused tourism activities"

"Family supports for parenting: from mothers' groups to support groups for fathers and grandmothers"

"The importance of family in the development of the country"

"The role of family in the upbringing of young people"

"The role of parents in the upbringing of their children"

"The role of family in the development of the country"

HOW CAN I PUBLISH THE IYF REVIEW? 2.3

The IYF Review is a publication that provides a summary of the IYF activities and achievements in your country. It is a valuable tool for sharing information and promoting the IYF theme.

The IYF Review can be published in a variety of formats, including print, electronic, or audio-visual. It can be distributed to family members, community organizations, and the media.

Organizing the IYF Review can be done in a variety of ways. You can hire a professional publisher, or you can use a volunteer team. You can also use a computer program to create the review.

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The IYF Review can be distributed to family members, community organizations, and the media. It can also be used as a resource for family members and community organizations.

Organizing the IYF Review can be done in a variety of ways. You can hire a professional publisher, or you can use a volunteer team. You can also use a computer program to create the review.

at the national level

- Contact your "national focal point for IYF" which is in communication with the UN-IYF Secretariat.
- Get in touch with your national coordinating committee for IYF.
- Seek cooperation of specialized family organizations, governmental family departments, family research institutes and competent university departments.

* from the international NGO community

IYF NGO Executive Secretariat

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and obtain the following documents

- *Basic Tenets for Strengthening Families*
- *Checklist of Activities for an Effective IYF*
- *National Coordinating Bodies for IYF*
- *Family - a Topic for International Debate and Action*
- *Family and Environment: A Partnership*
- *Guiding Principles on the Family*
- *Malta Statement*
- *NGO-Newsletter "Families International"*

* from the United Nations

UN IYF Secretariat

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which has issued

- *1994 International Year of the Family - Building the smallest democracy at the heart of society*
- *"Occasional Papers Series"*
 - 1 *Family Matters*
 - 2 *Family: Forms and Functions*
 - 3 *Family and Crime*
 - 4 *Older Persons in the Family: Facets of Empowerment*
- *Guide for a National Action Programme on the International Year of the Family*
- *Families in Transition*
- *UN newsletter "The Family"*



*Committee on the Family
IYF-NGO Executive Secretariat
Vienna, September 1992*

