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Page 12  
 Date 22-Sep-2003  
 Time 2:55:16 PM  
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CF/RAI/USAA/DB01/HS/2003-00112

Full Item Register Number [auto] **CF/RAI/USAA/DB01/HS/2003-00112**

ExRef: Document Series/Year/Number **IYF Materials 12**

Record Item Title

**International Year of the Family IYF - World NGO Forum 'Promoting Families for the Well-Being of Individuals and Societies' Malta 28 November - 2 December 1993 - Plans for Workshops, Brief outlines of proposed workshops**

Date Created / on Item  
 22-Sep-2003

Date Registered  
 22-Sep-2003

Date Closed/Superceeded

Primary Contact  
 Owner Location  
 Home Location  
 Current Location

Record & Archive Manage Related Functions=80669443  
 Q, Fl 04, Rm 400, Row 032, SU 013, Lev 03, Pos 07  
 CF/RAF/ZW/J0101-1996-539173394 > CF/RA/BX/ED/PR/19

Fd1: Type: IN, OUT, INTERNAL?  
 Fd2: Lang ?Sender Ref or Cross Ref  
 F3: Format

Container Record  
 Container Record (Title)

CF/RAF/ZW/J0101-1996-539173394  
 Launch of International Year of the Family in Malta

N1: Numb of pages  
 0

N2: Doc Year  
 0

N3: Doc Number  
 0

Full GCG Code Plan Number  
 Record GCG File Plan

Da1:Date Published

Da2:Date Received

Date 3

Priority

Record Type A02a Item Hist Corr - CF/RAI/USAA/DB01/HS

DOS File Name

Electronic Details

No Document

Alt Bar code = RAMP-TRIM Record Number

**CF/RAI/USAA/DB01/HS/2003-00112**

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# COMMITTEE ON THE FAMILY

UNITED NATIONS - VIENNA INTERNATIONAL CENTRE  
INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE FAMILY - 1994



## WORLD NGO FORUM

**"Promoting Families for the Well-Being  
of Individuals and Societies"**

**Malta, 28 November - 2 December 1993**

## PLANS FOR WORKSHOPS

All lead organizations of Workshops and all authors of presentations at the Author's Forum have been requested to send a "brief outline of content and structures" of the Workshop/Presentation. The Vienna NGO-IYF Secretariat is deeply grateful for the positive response of many persons and organizations. Some Workshop leaders and authors of presentations have sent us detailed outlines of their work and of course these documents will become part of the Proceedings of the Forum.

Please find attached a compilation of the brief outlines received (unedited). This document is shared with participants in the hope to facilitate selection of topics according to interests and for active contributions to the discussions.

Vienna, 31 Oct 1993

## WORKSHOPS

### **Parents as Partners**

*Family Centre Network*

The Workshop will introduce the concept of partnership with parents/families in the social welfare area through the example of family centres in the UK. We will hope to relate this experience to a range of social policy issues which affect families and the individuals in them by highlighting the needs, rights and responsibilities of families. We will show how inherent conflicts need to be recognized priorities in partnership. From discussion and practical involvement it is intended that delegates should/could develop an action plan for themselves/their agencies/their countries for IYF 1994.

### **Family and Children's Rights**

*Defence for Children International*

Presented will be speeches on the above mentioned theme in general and in various countries; debate on the promotion of children's rights in the family with a view of strengthening the family structure; adoption of a final report.

### **Family and Child Resilience**

*International Catholic Child Bureau*

No details available.

### **Family and Street Children**

*Childhope UK*

No details available.

### **Substitute Families**

*International Social Service and NGO Committee on UNICEF*

There will be an introduction and four presentations concerning the right to family care for abandoned and orphaned children. Main topics will include: The right of an orphan or abandoned child to a family environment; Family reintegration: a Romanian experience; The *kafalah* (an Islamic tradition): a cultural and religious response; International adoption: The Hague Convention in the best interest of the child; Substitute families for AIDS orphans: a challenge for Africa.

**Affects of Family on the Academic Achievement of Children**

*World Organization for Early Childhood Education*

The Workshop will study a paper on research available on the effects of the family on academic achievement of children, with particular reference to ways in which parental involvement in children's education can have positive effects upon learning. Special mention will be made to children up to the age of 8. Discussion will focus upon strategies to encourage parental participation.

**Family and Women**

*Kolping Organization of Kenya*

The Workshop will include different presentations and a slide show on activities of women in Kenya.

**Family and Personal Development of Women**

*University of Munich/Int'l Council of Psychologists*

The Workshop focuses on changing options and demands for women's personal development between family and occupational work in western industrialized countries (and Germany in particular). Women's situation in different family systems and socio-economic contexts will be addressed with special focus on costs and benefits of maternal employment, not only for the women themselves but also for other family members, especially children and adolescents.

**Women's Work and Breastfeeding**

*World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action*

The Workshop plan: Introduction of how breastfeeding issues are relevant as themes for IYF; Regional initiatives on family friendly workplaces; Action plans for integrating breastfeeding and other work responsibilities.

**Breaking the Equality Barrier: Emerging Roles of Men and Women in the Family**

*Baha'i International Community*

The Workshop will consider the role of men and women in the family: particular focus on role of father; on moral and spiritual values; on empowerment.

**Family and the Elderly**

*HelpAge International*

No details available.

**Family and the Role of Grandparents**

*University of Vienna*

Workshop plan: 1. Introductory speech: Presentation of determining factors of grandparental roles in both "traditional" and "developed" societies; specific grandparental roles in industrialized countries due to demographic reasons; comparison of different socio-economic systems of grandparenthood.

2. Discussion: Experiences of participants; future developments of inter-generational relations in the family (children, parents, grandparents, great-grandparents). 3. Preparation of a summary report.

**Family and the Disabled**

*Disabled Peoples' International*

Workshop plan: Panel discussion with presentation from the perspective of disabled persons. Specific presentations from a practising lawyer in family law, parent of disabled child, a disabled parent and a disabled family member.

**Dealing with Homeless Families**

*The Salvation Army*

No details available.

**Family and HIV/AIDS**

*Caritas Internationalis*

No details available.

**Family and Violence**

*World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations*

No details available.

**Family and the Prevention of Substance Abuse**

*International Catholic Child Bureau*

Workshop plan: La famille, quelque forme qu'elle revête, constitue le milieu ambiant indispensable à l'être humain, de la naissance à la mort. La toxicomanie - on le sait - est fortement liée à l'impossibilité du toxicomane d'établir des relations personnelles et sociales harmonieuses, lui donnant une image de lui-même et un rôle satisfaisants. L'atelier se propose d'examiner des moyens de renforcer la "santé" de la famille pour qu'elle puisse jouer un rôle efficace de prévention de l'abus de substances psychotropes.

**Counselling Families with Problems**

*Centro Italiano di Solidarietà*

No details available.

### **Family and Values of Society**

*Steering Group of Catholic Family Organizations in Europe*

No details available.

### **Spirituality as a Dynamic Element in the Family**

*Centro Italiano di Solidarietà*

No details available.

### **Family and Media**

*Association Catholique Internationale pour la Radio et la Télévision*

Workshop plan: An explanation of the relationship between media and family and an exposition of different projects of family based media education programmes.

### **Family Law: How does it promote emotional and economic well-being of men, women and children**

*International Society on Family Law*

Topics to be discussed in the Workshop:

1. The legal recognition of different "forms" of families; the nuclear, the extended, the marital, the non-marital, the homosexual, the "commune".
2. The role of individuals within the family: interspousal relationships, parent and child, the ageing relative.
3. The child as a person: the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and its enforcement as law in member states, obligations to provide education, eliminate child labour and provide adequate health care.
4. Family law as it operates in a divided world; unaccompanied minors, immigration law and the law of asylum, religious imperatives such as religious divorces, international child abduction and its control, child prostitution and abuse of children and extraterritorial application of criminal laws prohibiting the abuse of children, intercountry adoptions.
5. The control of medical knowledge to promote the well-being of families: genetic engineering, artificial reproduction.

### **Strategies for Successful Implementation of Family Policies**

*Alberta Families*

Workshop plan: Overview of the guiding principles and implementation process for facilitating family sensitive public policies in Alberta. Included will be information about effecting change in public policy; role of policy makers; political leaders; the public, including NGOs and the academic community. The role of the Premier's Council as a catalyst for change will be highlighted. Participants, through small discussion groups, will discuss application of this process in their own jurisdictions as a way of ensuring sustainable, long-term developments for families as part of the IYF initiative.



### **Family and Culture**

*NGO Standing Committee - UNESCO*

Structure de l'atelier:

Matin: 1. Présentation de la problématique "Familles d'aujourd'hui, un rapport à la culture". 2. Intervention magistrale: Rencontre des cultures et évolution de la famille.

Après-midi: 3. Deux communications suivies de débats. 4. Interventions de ONG spécialisées: sur école, média, familles, éducation familiale.

### **Family and Education**

*NGO Standing Committee - UNESCO*

Structure de l'atelier:

Matin: 1. Présentation de la problématique (20 minutes). 2. Intervention magistrale: "Évolution de la famille et du concept éducation".

Après-midi: 3. Atelier en trois communications sur thèmes précis suivies de débats. 4. Interventions FIEP, FIEF, ATD Quart Monde.

Entre autres, les thèmes suivants seront traités: "Eduquer le jeune enfant, éduquer l'adolescent: ressources des familles au regard de l'évolution des questions éducatives contemporaines"; "L'éducation de parents, une incontournable nécessité: comment, quand et où"; "Ecole et familles, complémentarités et cohérences éducatives possibles".

### **Family Life Education**

*International Planned Parenthood Federation*

The Workshop topics will include: Description of a Youth to Youth project; perspective of a young person; HIV, sex education and young people.

### **Family and Gender Equity in Education**

*Arizona State University/Int'l Federation of Home Economics*

The Workshop wishes to develop new holistic approaches for positive change in and solutions to problems of women's and men's, and girls' and boys' resource access and control, role expectations and behaviours, and decision making in families (peasant farm households, urban households, or female-headed households in both developing and developed countries). We consider positive ways policy makers may support schools, grassroots organizations and families to use their strengths to promote gender equity; models for training specialists and therapists for sensitivity, facilitating cooperation among parents and educators, and enhancing family and gender equity in technical education in rural and urban areas; and, finally, effective NGO actions during IYF. Resource persons will address workshops; small groups then meet with resource persons to discuss positive strategies for IYF and beyond; all decide on workshop priority outcomes.

### **Family and Education of Women and Girls**

*International Council of Psychologists*

Workshop plan: After a brief (10 minute) lecture by each participant with time for questions thereafter, a didactic and experiential format with very small group (10 to 14) discussion will follow. Each speaker plus the group members will respond to important issues regarding the education of women and girls in each of the countries from which the speaker and members come. The problem areas preventing girls from entering schools will be discussed: rural vs urban, affluence vs impoverished, religious issues, parental attitudes, needs of family, cultural influences, etc.

### **Educational Programmes that Enhance Family Well-Being**

*Iowa State University/Int'l Federation for Home Economics*

The purpose of the Workshop is to provide a setting to dialogue about (1) educational programmes that contribute to families, their daily living activities, and overall well-being and (2) public policy education as it relates to families. Workshop leaders will summarize issues faced by families that have implications for educational programmes and will describe successful family education programmes with which they work. Participants will be involved in small group discussions in which they will (a) identify needs of families, (b) share examples of formal and non-formal educational programmes for families that have been implemented in their countries, (c) describe related public policy actions, and (d) develop educational programming action plans for implementation during the International Year of the Family.

### **Human Rights Education in the Family for Sustaining a Democratic Community**

*Committee of the People's Decade of Human Rights Education*

Workshop plan: Early childhood experience in the family shapes one's life style and one's values and attitudes regarding human rights, human dignity and social equality which are essential to the strengthening of democracy and the maintaining of civil society. Human rights education as part of family education is being recognized as a moral imperative, critical to the development of a human rights culture and a human rights way of life. The "human rights family" realizes that all people are born equal in dignity and recognizes the humanity in all people. The Workshop leaders are experienced in developing strategies and methodologies in human rights education as related to people's daily concerns and have many years of experience in running numerous schools for parents. They will discuss and demonstrate various models and techniques of parents education based on human rights values. As the UN General Assembly is about to declare a Decade for Human Rights Education, the International Year of the Family is a perfect international arena for introducing human rights education at the grassroots level with, for, and by the family.

### **Family and Poverty**

*Association Internationale des Charités*

Workshop plan: Keynote communication with questions and answers; panel of three or four resource persons; discussion with audience; write-up of conclusions and recommendations.

(The keynote speaker is to describe the problem of poverty/family. The resource persons will describe poverty in four parts of the world.)

### **Family and Resource Management**

*The Canadian Home Economics Association*

Workshop objectives:

1. to clarify understanding of "resource management" in the family or household context;
2. to facilitate the identification of resource management issues which are perennial problems for families;
3. to share practical experiences of professionals who have focused on "what should be done" about specific management problems of families;
4. to promote initiatives in 1994, which support programmes for better family resource management (research to practice);
5. to propose a stronger place for family resource management in educational and family service programmes.

### **Family and Household Economy Management**

*Universität Paderborn/Int'l Federation for Home Economics*

Workshop plan: Following an introduction on the theme there will be presentations on: Management education for family and household; Budget and credit management for the family; Time needs and time use of the family.

### **Family and Values/Needs of Consumption**

*International Organization of Consumers Unions*

Brief outline of Workshop:

Discussion on how the economic needs are influenced by generic values and the impact those values have on consumer behaviour. Special attention will be paid to conflicting values resp. dilemmas. The problems of value education, especially social and environmental responsibilities in the family related to the impact of marketing-messages and other external influences.

### **Family and the Workplace**

*IYF National Committee UK*

No details available.

**Family and Environment***University of Vienna/International Federation of Pedestrians*

Workshop structure:

1. Families in changing environment from natural to man-made environment;
2. Environment, social structures and families;
3. Does the environment policy take care of families?
4. Families - the key for an effective environmental policy;
5. Environmental needs for healthy family structures.

**Family and Mobility***University of Munich*

Workshop plan: Statements and discussion on the following topics:

1. Determining factors of transport induced by households;
2. Effects of transport on energy consumption and environment;
3. Possibilities to reduce mobility requirements of families.

**Family and Housing***Kolping Society of Peru*

Workshop plan: The meaning of "Inhabit and Living" for the family; Various initiatives and experiences with low housing construction programme for poor families; Housing construction programme as a meeting and solidarity place.

**Family and Shelter***Habitat International Coalition*

No details available.

**Family and the Mental Health of its Members***International Council of Psychologists and European Family Therapy Association*

Workshop plan: Questions and experiences from family politicians; What can be done with the research results? Identifying needs and resources; Elaborating possible ways of further cooperation; Compiling a report.

Subjects will include: "Coping strategies enhancing health and well-being in families", "Unwanted pregnancy - a product by chance or an attempt to solve problems", "Mental health of families in a rapidly changing society".

**Family and Health Promotion***Caribbean Association of Home Economic*

No details available.