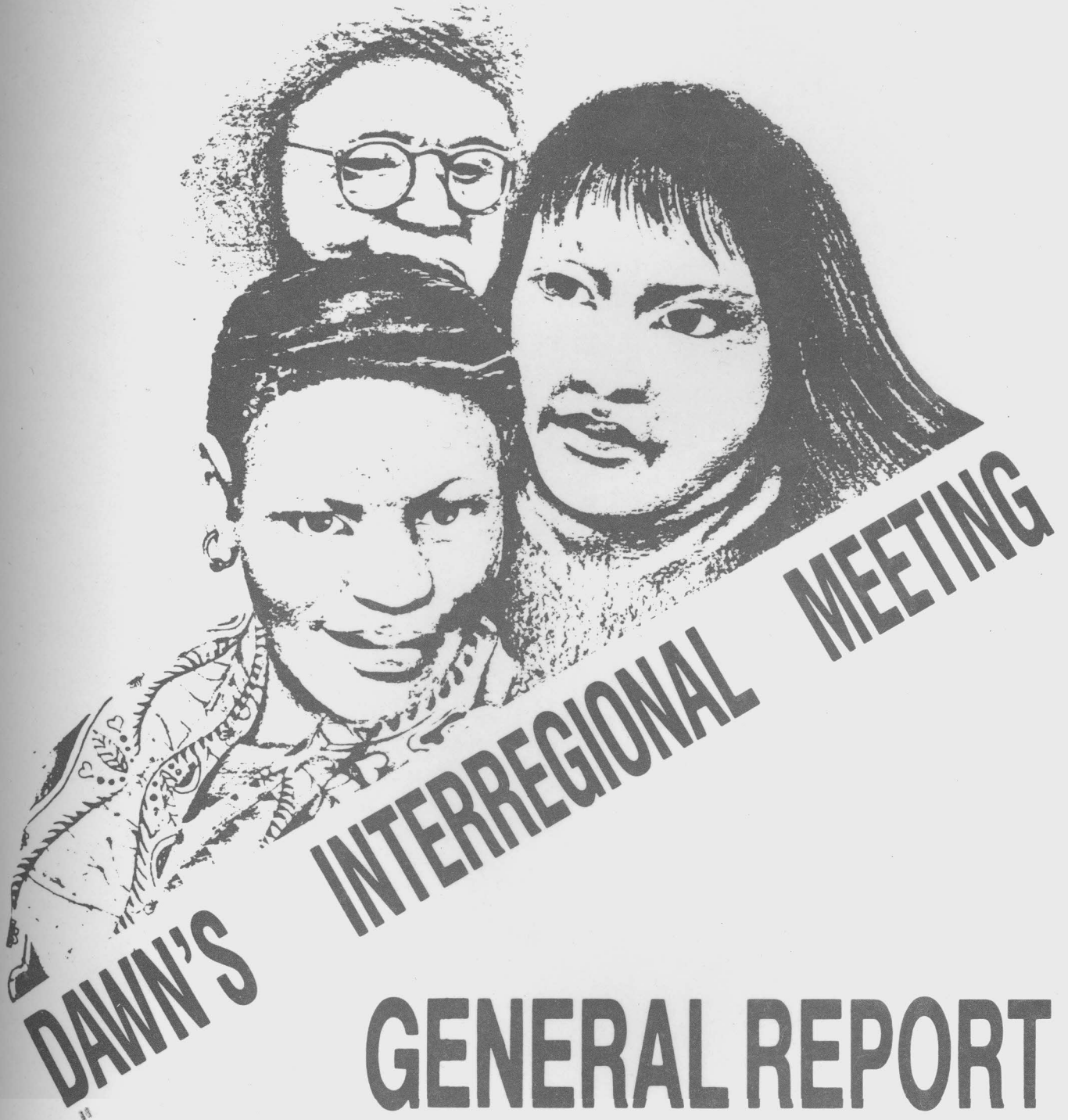
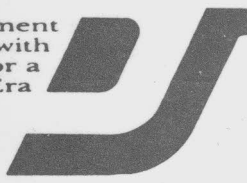


Development  
Alternatives with  
Women for a  
New Era



# GENERAL REPORT

IUPERJ – Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; May 6-11, 1990

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D A W N

INTER-REGIONAL MEETING

AND

GENERAL REPORT



A C

MEMO

This report was set up and typed by Maria de Lourdes Araujo and Rosangela A. Silva.

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This work was done under the general supervision and coordination of Neuma Aguiar.

We thank all the rapporteurs for their contributions.

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REPORT ON THE INTERREGIONAL MEETING ON

ALTERNATIVE VISIONS OF DEVELOPMENT

Rio de Janeiro, May 6-11

DAWN

1990

de Oliveira  
Banerjee

America Central

Social Movement

PROGRAM

May 6, 1990

07:00/09:00 hs. - Breakfast

Registration

09:00/13:00 hs.

14:00/18:00 hs.

Place: Gragoata Room on the Ground Floor

Welcome Cocktail

19:00 hs. - Hall on the Ground Floor

Speakers: Prof. Neuma Aguiar, DAWN General Coordinator -  
"Introduction to the Seminar"  
Prof. Candido Mendes, Rector Candido Mendes  
University and President of UNESCO International  
Social Science Council- Welcome Words  
Prof. Maria Regina Soares de Lima, Executive Director  
of IUPERJ- Welcome Words  
Federal Representative Benedita da Silva - "The  
Participation of Women in the Economic Development  
of Brazil in Relation to the Feminization of  
Poverty"

FIRST DAY - May 7th, 1990

Place: Icarai Room - 2nd. Floor

07:00/09:00 hs. - Breakfast

Morning - DAWN Regional Papers

1st. Session - As an introduction a set of questions will be  
presented related to the papers by the General  
Coordinator

President: Orlandina de Oliveira

Rapporteur: Nirmala Banerjee

09:00/12:00 hs.- "Women in the Latin America Crisis"- Neuma Aguiar

"The Women 's Social Movement in Latin America "  
by Virginia Vargas

Presented by Patricia Portocarrero

\* Coffee Break at 10:15

- "Crisis and Challenges of Caribbean Women in 1980s"- Peggy Antrobus

- "Women ' s Movement in the Pacific" - Claire Slatter

12:00/12:30 hs. - Discussions

12:30/14:00 hs. - Lunch

Afternoon - DAWN Regional Papers

2nd. Session - A set of questions will be presented related to the papers.

President: Maria del Carmen Feijoo

14:00/17:00 hs. - "Women 's Visions and Movements in the African Context" - Maria Nzomo, Lucia Omonti, P. Tipyambe Zeleza and Tabitha Kanogo

\* Coffee Break at 15:30

- "Food, Energy, and Debt Crisis in Relation to Women" - Noeleen Heyzer

- "Food, Energy, and Debt Crisis in Relation to Women in South Asia" - Nirmala Banerjee

- "Women 's Visions and Movements in South Asia", Hameeda Hossain

17:00/18:00 hs. - Discussions

19:00/21:00 hs. - Dinner

21:00/22:00 hs. - Video

SECOND DAY - May 8th, 1990

PANELS

Morning

07:00/09:00 hs. - Breakfast

09:00/10:15 hs. - Summary from previous day 's discussion

\* Coffee Break at 10:15 hs.

10:30/11:45 hs. - Basic Needs

President: Ana Maria Brasileiro

Rapporteur: Eleonora Menicucci de Oliveira

Discussants: Gita Sen

Berthy Thomas

Eva Blay

11:45/12:30 hs. - Discussion in small groups

12:30/14:00 hs. - Lunch

\* A radio program on the event will be made

Afternoon

14:00/15:30 hs. - Feminist Perspectives in the Third World

President: Carmen Barroso

Rapporteur: Urvashi Butalia

Discussants: Jacqueline Pitanguy

Chhaya Datar

\* Coffee Break at 15:30 hs.

16:00/17:30 hs. - Advocating and Disseminating Alternatives

President: Mara Regia di Perna

Rapporteur: Nkoli Ezumah

Discussants: Alejandra Faulbaum

Estela Suarez

17:30/18:00 hs. - Discussion

19:00/21:00 hs. - Dinner

21:00/22:00 hs. - Video

\* End of second day, proposals for small groups discussions (next day) should be presented.

THIRD DAY - May 9, 1990

Morning

07:00/09:00 hs. - Breakfast

09:00/12:30 hs. - Beginning of program

\* Coffee Break at 10:30 hs.

- Meeting of DAWN members and supporters on DAWN structure, past experience and future plans.

- Discussion in small groups

12:30/14:00 hs. - Lunch

Afternoon

15:00/16:30 hs. - Meeting reports

16:30/18:30 hs. - A Dialogue with the North  
President: Gloria Bonder  
Discussants: Peggy Antrobus  
Devaki Jain  
Dialogue with: Georgina Ashworth and  
Wendy Harcourt

19:00/21:00 hs. - Dinner

FOURTH DAY - May 10th, 1990

Morning

07:00/09:00 hs. - Breakfast

09:00/12:30 hs. - Presentation of the paper: " The Food, Energy,  
and Debt Crisis in Relation to African Women"  
- Bolanle Awe

\* Coffee Break at 10:30 hs

- Discussion of DAWN's vision and agenda for  
the future. - Devaki Jain  
Noeleen Heyzer  
Gita Sen

- Discussion in regional groups and plenary  
session

12:30/14:00 hs. - Founders and Steering Committee Meeting  
- Presentation and Approval of DAWN's Financial  
Report  
- Lunch

Afternoon

14:00/16:00 hs. - Election of the New General Coordinator  
- Discussion and approval of the Statutes

\* Coffee Break at 16:00/16:30 hs.

16:00/18:00 hs. - Theater MARIA E DIA

18:00/19:00 hs. - Cash Bar to say "Good Bye"

19:00/21:00 hs. - Dinner

May 6, 1990

Introduction to the seminar by Neuma Aguiar

The purpose of the seminar is to conclude the work that has been carried out regionally. The themes: "The Food, Energy and the Debt Crisis" and "Women 's Visions and Movements" were taken from the DAWN platform: "Development, Crisis and Alternative Visions: Third World Women 's Perspectives".

At that time, the need was felt to hold a series of case studies so as to document the visions advanced in the initial papers.

It is time to draft a comparative perspective. The case studies can give us a new analytical basis grounded on the reality of the different countries. We may sort out our different views of development and of the crisis, and also the ways by means of which the different dimensions of the problems we decided to analyze are being combined or privileged.

We have focused on two different strategies. In order to present the papers we will try to account for the centrality of gender in relation to our analysis of development. We will then look into the relationship between development crisis and the women ' s movements; and we will finally raise the issue on how relevant is the platform for our analysis, given the changes that have occurred since the beginning of our work.

The second reason why we are here has to do with drafting the program for the future. The balance of what we have accomplished may provide the opportunity to constitute the new guidelines for our work. In this process we will choose a new general coordinator and a new site for the secretariat. We will also decide on a new strategy for the future, both in terms of a new vision, and from the point of view of how we are going to develop this vision throughout the world regions.

This is a marking point for change and for new development, but it is also an opportunity to thank those who helped and contributed to the process. I must thank all those in the Steering Committee for their contributions. Lucille Mair, who helped arrange the first grant to the Secretariat. Lourdes Arizpe, who is not here, but helped many of those who are here today to attend this meeting. The many contributions which were given by Devaki Jain, our most constant correspondent whose innumerable contributions cannot be spelled out in this brief introduction. Hammeeda Hossain, who continued to give incentive to the women in her region, even with difficult limitations, as the floods which disturbed the DAWN South Asian Regional Meeting. Bolanle Awe, who, in spite of being the last person to join the Steering Committee, organized two international meetings in Ibadan on behalf of DAWN. Claire Slatter, who in spite of political adversity is here among us. The research group coordinators either organized meetings or were excellent networkers in the region. So, I want to thank all of them. I cannot thank all those who contributed. The risk of not mentioning the immense solidarity and commitment I received would be enormous. The only

exception I will make is to thank Carmen Barroso for innumerable consultations and feminist solidarity at all moments. I feel deeply indebted to her.

I want to thank the following agencies which supported our work: The Dutch Government, The Ford Foundation, UNIFEM, the United Nations-NGO Fund, EZE, OXFAM and MATCH.

This meeting received donations from the following sources: AGKED, The World Day of Prayer, The Dutch Government, The Norwegian Government, SID-WID, Confederation of Salaried Employees in Finland, CIDA, and DANIDA.

MAY 7, 1990

MORNING SESSION

THE FOOD, ENERGY, AND DEBT CRISES AND WOMEN'S VISIONS AND MOVEMENTS

President: Orlandina de Oliveira

Rapporteur: Nirmala Banerjee

Orlandina started the session with the three questions posed:

1. What is the role of gender in development?
2. What are the links between crisis and women's movements?
3. What have we found in our research efforts which was not covered by the DAWN platform?

Presentation I - "Women and the Latin American Crisis", by Neuma Aguiar

Interest in development theory emerged with a group of scholars centered in the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean. Another influential group was represented by those who analyzed development in relation to the Economic Dependency of the Capitalist North. Both lines of analysis proposed an import substitution and self-reliant development model, with close monitoring of the process by the state. As the socialist countries were also advancing a model of development based on heavy industry, Latin American development thinkers advocated similar strategies. Gender was a marginal issue in this analysis. It was only with the disillusionment with import substitution development models that gender issues came to the forefront. The available evidence regarding women's integration in development emphasized the gender dimension of discrimination in the labor market. The short-term strategies that have been followed were criticized for a view that we work out our own strategies for changing women's position even within the present

development models. Given that a large movement away from the fields has occurred throughout Latin America, it is not possible to advance propositions that are concerned only with the conditions of living in the rural areas, or which are based on small scale production only. Many countries in the region are facing a deindustrialization process and unemployment is a key concern as well as income reduction derived from structural adjustment strategies. The increase in women's participation in the labor market as well as in the home activities due to budgetary cuts in health, education and other basic needs, must be a key issue for developing alternatives to current development strategies.

Presentation II - "The Women's Social Movements in Latin America", by Virginia Vargas, presented by Patricia Portocarrero.

Patricia explained that her experience would be different from Virginia's and she drew attention to the way gender has been defined in the latter's paper. Gender refers to the social construction of sexual differences constituted by the set of attitudes through which society transforms sexuality and reproduction into products of human activity, a conception that Virginia Vargas borrows from Gayle Rubin.

There are many dimensions in the question of identity. Gender identity is constructed upon the concrete everyday life situation of women. Gender identity is built both individually and collectively and it relates to the way that the economic crises is experienced by Latin American women in everyday life. The gender analysis of women's issues is made by linking the domestic and public spheres of women's lives. This is done by breaking the isolation of spaces through connecting the domestic space with the global economy and with the public sphere.

While the question of gender in development was not new, it was the growing concern with human values that had given prominence to women's issues. Nevertheless, the policies to solve women's problems have been mainly palliative. Women's strategic role in production and reproduction has been recognized but strategies for help were of secondary importance in national priorities. Also women's poverty and subordination were not perceived.

In short, until 1985, women were seen as victims. With DAWN, we now have a method of connecting women's issues especially the traditional sexual division of labor to macro-level development. The future agenda for DAWN is to recognize feminist movements as flexible, and to accept that gender issues are diverse and that strategies to deal with them have to be different. In the DAWN agenda, parts related to the race and class issues need to be further developed in relation to gender. In addition, there is a need to understand women's subordination at micro levels and the way domination and its reproduction takes place.

We need research and action on issues which are central to women's movements-issues such as women's sexuality and its handling in each society.

Presentation III - "Crises and Challenges of Caribbean Women in 1980s", by Peggy Antrobus

Peggy Antrobus felt that she owed DAWN a debt in so far as it has made it possible for her to get an analytical framework for understanding gender in development.

She had realized that it was not that development models did not take into account women's issues. In fact, they have actually been actively based on the assumption that women's labor and work be taken as given. Assumptions regarding gender roles have to be exposed because they are central to growth models.

Peggy analyzed these gender roles in terms of both consumption and production. On the consumption side, development forces affect women in three ways (with cuts in social services).

- a. women's professional life and better paying jobs are destroyed,
- b. their average incomes go down, and
- c. these services have to be substituted by private provision by women in families.

On the production side: a) export oriented industries use women's labor in low paying jobs, and b) there, full advantage is taken of women's vulnerabilities.

She further added that the Caribbean region had the greatest advantage in that women's movements were directly addressing the development issues. They were conscious of developments at macro levels and the impact on their own lives.

Presentation IV - "Women's Movement in the Pacific", by Claire Slatter

Claire Slatter (Fiji) started by giving a brief survey of the economies and politics of the Pacific countries. She then went on to illustrate the problem in the light of her research on Fiji.

She pointed out that a major effect of the military coup in Fiji was to start a Free Trade Zone which was based on the availability of cheap labor of women.

The Fiji government had also started a scheme for tax-free factories to exploit Fiji's cheap labor further. Apart from that, there were cuts and privatization of services. Women's movements in Fiji have focused on particular issues, but not on the economic crisis. The link between state policies and women's exploitation has not been spelled out. It has not even been appreciated that there are systematic attempts to break up popular movements on ethnic lines.

Claire feels that women should also try to join with larger, popular, and better organized movements, (like trade unions) for their own ends.

#### Discussion

After the presentation of the papers there were comments from the floor. Several women raised questions about definitions of concepts like development and gender. They felt that these concepts, as well as our use of them, have become more complex as our understanding has deepened.

There were also some comments on Virginia's definition of gender as being constructed during daily life. Sisters from the Caribbean explained how their movements have moved from practical issues of survival to strategic visions about their long term future. Political movements there have been talking about power relations between men and women, and women and the state.

It was felt that women's movements should focus on:

- a. perspectives of poor women in the South,
- b. links between production and reproduction,
- c. links between micro experiences of projects and macro analysis of development, and
- d. they should help women do their own gender analysis to fight against the domination of men, society and state.

A sister from Africa said that media outside Africa always represent the African women as a victim, burdened by productive work, child bearing and housework. But she felt that the African woman is strong and has a long tradition of struggle and achievement. It was one of the priorities of women's movement there to record the personal histories of such strong women.

Other participants pointed out that the simple dichotomies like public and private, micro and macro, do not portray the total reality. Women get trapped in them - actually their exploiters are both public and private agencies, and their position reflects actions on both micro and macro levels.

Sisters from Africa pointed out the enormous diversity within their region and also the complex processes in which household and social controls on women interact and utilize women's subordination.

Some people felt that at an interregional level it was perhaps necessary to familiarize each other about the economic and social traditions and developments in each region.

#### THE FOOD, ENERGY, AND DEBT CRISIS IN RELATION TO WOMEN

(This session was presented May 10 (morning) - it is reported on May 7 for the sake of continuity)

Panelists: Bolanle Awe (also rapporteur)  
Olusade Taiwo

- Economic Dependency and Rising National Debt

Africa economic development has been consistent with the colonial "dependent" production structure. There has been instability in primary export prices and inability of African governments to finance the programs in their development plans. Such patterns of development have become exacerbated combined with the crisis and worldwide recession. Low prices of primary exports, the collapse of the oil market and food shortages signalled the beginning of the present crisis.

Other factors include capital flight and tight protectionist policies in the advanced countries. Internal factors include cost-ineffective expenditure multiplicity of gigantic projects, unproductive large-scale capital intensive industries, luxury consumer imports and expenditure on military hardware. Most suffer from dwindling government finances, export revenue and external reserves, increase in budget deficits and dependence on food imports- especially as African economics depend heavily on the export of only primary commodities.

The growing deficits were financed by increased borrowing from developed countries under conditions of decreasing capability to service past debts.

- The Food Crisis and "Disasters"

There is no consensus as to the cause of the food crisis in Africa but in general, agricultural development has been unduly neglected in past national policies.

- Women's Movements

Women's responses have been immediate particularly as they protest and demonstrate against the removal of certain women's rights, the removal of social welfare subsidies and the defence of the environment.

The government has paid much more attention to urban and middle class women, particularly those unpaid workers. However, the poor women of rural areas have not been reached by public policies. Their suffering has been notable. For this reason both men and women are complaining and organizing protest. They are working in the rural areas, having the community as a base, and demanding social justice. Examples of groups such as these are Women in Nigeria composed of radical and educated women.

What are their visions of the future? This crisis is very alive in part of our present day situation. I cannot speak about the African continent, but the World Bank and the IMF are all there in that they impose policies which are affecting women's economic condition. So there is at the moment, an attempt to organize a seminar to look into this matter and also to women's participation in education, food, clothing, etc. Women must have economic equality and researchers and intellectuals must provide

information if we want to speak about political equality. Many countries are suffering military dictatorships and have promised to start a civilian government so that women can have a voice in development matters and in political change.

The debt, energy and food crisis have imposed tremendous hardship and sufferings on the African people. The implementation of IMF and World Bank inspired Structural Adjustment Programs has resulted in shortages and increased cost of raw materials, underutilization of installed industrial capacity, pernicious inflation, and declining real wages, rising unemployment, drastic subsidy withdrawal, high costs of food and increasing social insecurity.

Those who suffer the most are the women, children, peasants, etc. With the husband unemployed or away, women have assumed added responsibility as heads of household, solely responsible for family sustenance. The inflation rate is high, and women find it difficult to meet the food and nutritional needs of their families. The rising cost of education has resulted in declining levels of school enrollment.

The sufferings associated with the debt crisis and the Structural Adjustment Programs have taxed the poor through inflation, increasing poverty and causing malnutrition and starvation.

In order to overcome or minimize the crisis, African countries must stop further borrowing, terminate the implementation of the Structural Adjustment Programs and initiate genuine self-reliant development strategies.

## II - Discussant/Rapporteur: Devaki Jain

The two presentations from Africa are a perfect example of the concept, method, and purpose of the DAWN exercise of this phase.

The paper on crisis showed the vulnerability of the African economy to commodity/primary produced prices. This will now worsen. The debt redemption and adjustment policies recommend devaluation which reduces prices of these commodities further, so they are sucked into an unending vortex of indebtedness.

In the meantime, as exportable primary products are being produced, food is scarce, and so poorer "dirty" food is being cleaned and eaten (food processing is used to make this palatable). This is the typical example of debt and deprivation.

How does the women's movement respond to this? True, riots and agitations call attention to the problem. It is a way of speaking to the State. True also, that this may influence the State to give other food. But there is a limit to what can be done because of external pressure and most often the riots do not lead to better food. This is where we, the researchers with a

feminist perspective must ask ourselves: "Have we provided support to the women who have to riot, to expose themselves to the danger of the street and of protest?" We have not. And this is what researchers can do and must do. They must make it unnecessary for those women to riot. We, through our analysis, know that this deprivation is happening; we understand how the economy got trapped. It is here we must find the alternative policy which provides the basics, which can release the country from the grip of commodity prices (through united political intervention at National and International level). This gives both the justification to look at Research and Activism as two hands; it also points to the importance of feminist development intervention at the global level. It also shows where North-South feminism can unite to influence global economic arrangements and their management.

MAY 7, 1990

AFTERNOON SESSION

PRESENTATION AND SUMMARY OF DAWN DISCUSSION

Panelists: Maria Nzomo and Fatma Alloo  
Nirmala Banerjee  
Hameeda Hossain

Rapporteur: Claire Slatter

Fatma Alloo provided background on Africa from the sixties to the present pointing to:

1. The main ideological influences that have shaped consciousness, ideas, and visions;
2. The post colonial shift towards military states and one party regimes, and
3. Women who are featured in processes (or dialogues) of political development and liberation.

Maria Nzomo highlighted the following aspects of the African experience:

1. The issue of gender subordination took second place to social welfare issues - even for women's organizations.
2. The mushrooming of women's organizations in the post-colonial period had not as yet led to a cohesive "women's movement" largely because of the obstacles presented by class and ethnic divisions and the domination of organizations by elite women who shared the dominant male ideology of development.
3. The role of the state in Africa is significant when attempting

to understand women's organizing efforts, especially the undemocratic nature of regimes in Africa which militate against women's activism and effectiveness. DAWN needed to support the courageous efforts of women who operate in hostile political environments at great risk to themselves.

4. Large numbers of women were not organized into women's groups and thus were without the support these provided. Women's isolation in crisis times led to either acts of despair (suicide) or their absorption into religious fundamentalist movements.
5. The Decade for Women had made little difference to government commitments to women's development. Lip service was paid to women's concerns. Cuts in social services meant a deterioration in the quality of life for poorer women.
6. Women were not taking the crisis sitting down, however. Women were actively working in terms of research and advocacy (AAWORD was a particularly effective organization with goals and philosophy very like DAWN's).
7. There was a need to strengthen women's organizations and to link with progressive organizations in other states. DAWN could be utilized better than it has been in the past.

Nirmala Banerjee spoke of the need to expand discussion of the crisis to illuminate why the crisis especially affects women. She suggested that the reason had to do with the survival of the household sector in which the internal power structure and division of labor meant women did most of the work. It is this sector (and women particularly) which suffers most when energy and water are commercialized, and other impacts of the crisis are translated into policies or social practices. In talking about structural adjustment programs we need to focus on the impact of structural adjustment on the household.

Hameeda Hossain raised the following points among others:

- The state which is seen as "paternalistic" in some contexts (where women seek concessions from it) and as repressive in others (where women organize directly against it). The rise in fundamentalism and ethnicism (and the State role in encouraging these tendencies) needed to be dealt with by the women's movement.
- She suggested we should look at how women were utilizing the space they occupied even in apparently negative/adverse environments/contexts (for example: export - processing zones). Women were/are organizing themselves and provided models/examples of successful organizing.
- Changing labor market patterns means that women were being thrown into new areas of production. She stressed the need to ask what are the trade-offs.

Discussion:

Gita Sen stirred the meeting by expressing a concern that we appeared to be in a "time warp". She said that we are still talking in the language of 1985. But the world has changed significantly since then, and we need to rethink our analysis and redefine our visions so that they are relevant to the changed context and realities of the 1990s. She pointed to three major areas in which we need fresh thinking. First, although when DAWN was initiated, we were struck by the commonality of the problems faced by women all over the world, we need to be aware also of the differences across regions, so that we can be more responsive to the needs on the ground. An important difference is the way in which the world economy has affected differently the various regions or countries within them, resulting in high growth rates in some, and low or even negative growth in others. This has implications for the ways women are affected and possibly calls for different strategies. Second, the major changes in Eastern Europe may have significant implications for our vision. Although we have always been careful to keep the DAWN perspective free of counterproductive jargon and "isms", there can be no doubt that we have been strongly supportive of visions of cooperative and collective economic activity. We have felt all along that such a vision alone has the potential for truly advancing the interests of all disadvantaged groups in society, and for building a more human and just social order. While the collapse of states in Eastern Europe can be supported in political terms because it represents a victory for more open and democratic process, it leaves a large vacuum in terms of economic ideas and alternatives to centrally planned systems. Third, the rapid spread of a materialist culture of consumption norms and standards in many parts of the Third World poses a major challenge to our argument against "growth centered" development. Is this what people really want all over the world? How do we respond to this challenge?

There was an immediate reaction to Gita's "bombshell". Among the reactions were the following: Peggy Antrobus affirmed the relevance of the DAWN framework and said much of what we predicted in 1985 had indeed occurred, that the vision was still relevant and it was important that we do not abandon our vision and lose hope. The world is different in many ways now, but many of the same trends are continuing; what is happening in Eastern Europe does not change the basic realities of the Third World. In this the USA and the USSR have more in common with each other than either have ever had with the Third World. The growing pervasiveness of the dominant paradigm only means that we must sharpen our vision even more.

Carmem Barroso said we should not view so negatively what was happening in Eastern Europe, from a social, economical, political and human point of view it represents a great victory. DAWN should not withdraw into a minimalist position without clear visions.

Claire Slatter said that part of the problem might be that our vision has not had a name; beyond "isms", is the authoritarian state our real "enemy"?

Nirmala Banerjee pointed out that the experience of China during 1949-78, was one of poor growth but good social development; after 1978, life expectancy has fallen and female infanticide has increased. Thus the socialist experience has to be evaluated from all angles.

Orlandina de Oliveira argued that the view that is emerging in Latin America is that the economic solution lies in obtaining better terms for incorporation into the global economy through regional integration.

Tone Bleie asked whether the social democratic countries are likely to emerge as a model; in that case it is all the more important to examine what happens to gender relations in a period of economic growth. The experience of the NICs becomes especially relevant in this context.

MAY 8, 1990

MORNING SESSION

DISCUSSION ON BASIC NEEDS

President: Ana Maria Brasileiro

Panelists: Gita Sen  
Berthy Thomas  
Eva Blay  
Irma Arriagada

Rapporteurs: Eleonora Menicucci de Oliveira and Helena Berends

The following question was put to the panel: what is the place of basic needs in the DAWN vision?

I - Gita Sen stresses that she will not discuss her paper but only raise some of the issues.

To start with, she points out why the macro approach to basic needs is important:

1. The goals of these programs are at macro level and should we define our own goals?
2. Basic needs deals with questions of planning: how large do we want the investments in the social sector to be, etc.?
3. It deals with implementation questions: how is the level of output of the social services determined? And on the demand side, are the prices asked for these services what we think they should be? And, how do we think these services should be organized, etc.?

About all these questions DAWN should formulate its own views and alternatives to the World Bank and IMF approach. One of the alternatives for the Structural Adjustment Programs(SAPs) now in course was given by the ECA (Economic Commission for Africa), which Gita briefly outlined. Her own proposals are somewhat different.

Looking in more detail to basic needs, Gita discusses three issues: privatization, user charges, targeting.

- Privatization of social services is part of the now existing structural adjustment programs, as the public sector is seen to be inefficient. As a result, planning is disappearing and many NGOs have come to help at the basic needs level but in an uncoordinated way.

- The introduction of user charges for basic needs provisioning is a second feature of the adjustment that is now taking place, that is the payment of the social services by those who use them. Gita thinks education and health services should be free (only for the poor) but that participation in the costs of housing and sanitation could have the positive effect of increasing the build-up of capital stock.

- Targeting is a third effect of structural adjustment programs, that is, concentration of the provision of basic needs services on a few groups, for instance pregnant women or children under five years old. This should not be accepted, says Gita, because it contradicts the idea of basic needs for all the poor, and protecting "human resources".

As to alternatives, Gita makes the distinction between supply, demand and institutions for the provision of basic needs services. Supply side alternatives and demands:

- At least keeping constant the (real) per capita spending on social spending.
- A joint planning of the NGOs with the government.
- Targeting funds more towards service provision instead of infrastructures.

On the demand side:

- No targeting of certain groups and therefore no exclusion of other groups of need.
- User charges should not be demanded for all basic needs, but differentiated as said above.
- Middle and upper income groups should be excluded from the provisioning of basic needs programs.

(Gita does not go into the institutions/organizations side of the question because of time constraints)

II - Eva Blay dealt with the political issues related to basic needs strategies. She posed the following questions:

- Who decides on basic needs at the national level? The national government? The political parties?
- What is the ideology behind the decision?
- Which countries have found a good system of social services? Considering the "rupture" in socialist systems as well as the latest events in Eastern Europe, which were the societies that historically, or concretely, fulfilled basic needs?
- Which paths can we see for developing countries?
- More generally: What is the relationship between gender and the state?

The paper diagnosed that women's political participation has been small. The author distinguishes three types of participation:

1. In social movements, but this is not a sufficient condition women can be manipulated in these movements,
2. In political parties, where women should be more active as to

3. In government structures like the women's councils or more generally at all executive and legislative levels.

We should pay attention to societies in which the State was or is composed of ideological forces oriented towards social democracy. These countries are not characterized by extremes of either privatization or nationalization. In fact, in these countries, the state intervenes in favor of the population precisely in prioritized areas involving the redistribution and control of resources. The situation of women in these countries has improved consistently over the past few years.

There exists in our underdeveloped countries a gender and economic inequality along with all the consequences resulting from this inequality. The establishment of a political project which entails the sacrificing of women is unacceptable. It is necessary that women have a strong and clearly defined role in any political project.

The author proposed to discuss the following points: (1) the State and Gender - the unequal participation in power according to gender; (2) women's participation in social movements, political parties, and the government.

Social Movements - extremely important because they achieved many victories for Latin America in general. In some countries these movements were responsible for proposing profound changes, especially at the constitutional level. One aspect requires special attention: social movements, especially those dealing with basic needs, were often the object of manipulation.

Political Parties - even considering the fragility of the political party system, the social movements have to make clear to the political parties that the parties possess the mechanism that the social movements need to enforce their demands. For this reason it is important that women participate in political parties as yet another focus of discussion and pressure.

The State - the proposals made by the women's movements are executed through the State at the executive or legislative level. The Women's Councils by virtue of their link to both the State and social movements are in a position to pressure the parliament. As a result of the joint efforts of women involved in the feminist movement, in the social movements and in the political parties, the image of women has been transformed. This conjunction of efforts explains the rise in the participation of women in the federal, state and municipal legislatures. These women, who in many cases started out as participants in the social movements, took with them to the legislatures demands relative to basic needs. Again, a word of caution in relation to conquered political space: taking advantage of the women's political inexperience, certain political forces could unite in order to rob women of their political space. Part of the problem, in this case, is the isolation of women once they reach positions of power. My last point has to do with the contradictory image of women who, on the one hand, are seen as capable and competent,

and, on the other hand, as honest, sensitive and maternal - characteristics which lead to election.

Conclusion-it is necessary to reinforce women 's political participation, and the concept of "empowerment" is one that deserves special attention during our discussions.

III - Irma Arriagada stressed that regional integration is very important, and the issues of equity (or income distribution). She stated we should think about technological development as this is very important, and spoke about the development alternatives to CEPAL proposals from women's perspective: CEPAL 's (ECLAC) six main proposals for an equivalent executive transformation can be analyzed from two different but complementary perspectives: a) how does this proposal incorporate a gender perspective? b) what are the implications for women of the proposed economic policies? - Proposals in support of the insertion of Latin America into an international economy: a) a commercial policy for currency exchange; b) a technological policy; c) the empowerment of labor; d) business response. From a gender perspective, we can raise the following questions: 1) what type of technology is being introduced, and what is its effect on women? 2) What are the implications of the policies for the work of women inside and outside the home? 3) What effects will the introduction of new technologies have on women in the areas of health, work methods, etc.? 5) In what way does wage discrimination against women impact on the competitiveness of labor?

Does this technology break with or perpetuate a gender division in the labor market? We can ask these same questions in relation to training: what type of training is provided? for whom (men or women)? are workers targeted for the segmentation of the labor market?

- Policies directed toward strengthening the links within productive sectors: a) industry, b) agriculture, c) natural resources, d) infrastructure and services, e) financial system. An analysis of these policies also takes into consideration the following points: 1) the differentiated participation in the productive structure of countries according to gender, 2) changes in the tendency towards the concentration of women's work in the tertiary sector?, 3) new forms of insertion into agro-business? 4) greater participation of women in the financial sector - in what form? 5) will credits for small and medium businesses benefit women? 6) analysis from a gender perspective of the systematic interrelations between the various productive sectors. - Policies directed toward encouraging the interaction of private and public agents: a) regulation, b) public enterprises, c) small and medium businesses, d) social sector. This group of policies should be analyzed in relation to changes in the organization of public companies and services as well as their effects on women. In addition, we should analyze the services offered by these companies as well as their impact on employment, especially of women, in the state bureaucracy. We could also analyze the

participation of women in the decision-making processes of companies of all sizes.

- Economic integration: a) insertion into the international economy and the liberalization of intra-regional commerce, b) support for increased competitiveness and favorable accords, c) the strengthening of the institutional base of the integration. We could identify which of the former sectors were eliminated and which new ones were created and focus our analysis on self-sufficiency in food production. We could also think about the dislocation of various productive sectors and note which are eliminated and which increase the weight of daily activities related to subsistence.

IV - Berthy Thomas made a link between basic needs and human rights, like housing, health care, etc. She asked for a social approach to basic needs and not only one dealing with it economic terms.

She then told about her experience in Holland and how they organized a large meeting of women around the debt issue. DAWN women were invited to attend and speak. The conference ended with some recommendations. She would like to know what the women here think about them:

- A healthy economic climate is needed. One example: realistic prices and not highly subsidised agricultural prices in the European community.
- The restructuring of debt so as to make economic development of the debtor countries possible.
- The emphasis on basic needs should not be abandoned.
- The creation of a central point from where the study monitoring of debt and its effect on women can be done.
- An action program for commercial banks as they hold 60% of the debt certificates.
- The encouragement of barter agreements (exchange of goods without the intermediary of money).

This panel was discussed in small groups

FIRST GROUP

Rapporteur: Cristina Bruschini

The group discussed the role of "basic needs" within DAWN's perspective. Should DAWN accept a minimalist strategy and fight for the satisfaction of basic needs?

The group thinks that this is not DAWN's role, that the question should be broadened. After all, DAWN was created to nourish a utopia and this is what should continue motivating the group. The major problem lies within the political dimension, or in setting up programs. The question lies in the relation between

utopia and pragmatism. Some people feel that DAWN has held fast to utopia and has made proposals devoid of practical effects. They think DAWN should have a minimum agenda focused on basic needs. Others are against this because they believe this is not DAWN's role, since any socially sensitive planner could carry out basic needs proposals. Some feel that it is impossible to tie utopia and pragmatism together, because utopia is devoid of a concrete political strategy. The DAWN program is a utopia and contains great ideals shared by all, but in practice it is difficult to define tactics, especially due to its lack of a political dimension.

We need to identify strategies for binding together these two levels and to establish forms of political actions without abandoning utopia along the wayside.

Up to now, DAWN has avoided these questions in order to maintain harmony. Now it needs to start thinking about a feminist policy that does not necessarily involve political parties. DAWN's proposal was formulated in a utopia vision of society without class, gender, and other social differences.

This vision is difficult to implement due to the widely existing differences between countries in the South, making it difficult to advance common tactics for action related to all regions. Since utopia should basically mean politics, it is necessary to build a strategy that can unite women, taking issues which are of common interest to all women.

This may not necessarily be advanced through political parties but we need to search for mediations between the movements, the parties, and the state to politicize such questions.

There was a discussion about the extent to which it is possible that a social leadership becomes a political leadership as this passage from one level to another has been difficult in some Latin American countries.

How can we link political participation and social movements? We have not yet managed to arrive at a satisfactory feminist answer to the question of the relation between the State, political parties, and social movements.

The group pointed out that one of the areas in which it may be possible for women to unite outside social classes, in the field of sexuality.

## SECOND GROUP

Rapporteur: Maria Betania d'Ávila

This group praised the idea of breaking down the large group into smaller groups, as this allowed the communication to flow more freely, as well as making it possible to face and question the State, the social movements, and the Academy as sectors in charge of shaping the public opinion.

The largest group of women (in this second group) was concerned with party representation, as women representatives have not necessarily advocated a basic needs strategy. This will be guaranteed only if there is an organic link between the women's movements and the representatives in the State Legislative.

Mayors elected for emphasis on reproduction issues may signify a crystallized view of women's position.

We don't think we should ask why the women do not vote for the women candidates as this was never asked from men.

DAWN needs to advance a strategy on how to articulate our criticism about what happens in everyday life as it becomes input into macro-economic policies.

### THIRD GROUP

Rapporteur: Chhaya Datar

The group discussed its adversity while observing that it contained members from Argentina, which is 70% urban, and India which is 70% rural.

However, some consenses on strategies were reached. It was observed that structural adjustments resulted in the reduction of public expenditures for health and education, and that this should not occur.

There was an emphasis, agreeing with Gita Sen, that special groups like pregnant women should not be targeted. Rather, basic needs should be a priority for all the poor.

As relates to user costs strategies, the group observed that although people will look after their houses, as they have a sense of belonging related to it, many poor women, because they do not make a living in terms of earning cash, may have a need for schemes that provide access to housing.

At this point, a question was raised concerning some programs addressed to the poor that were sometimes diverted to the middle class, such as programs related to housing and food.

Other questions were raised about launching basic needs projects which resulted in waste or in omitting women. Examples from a housing program in Brazil, and a livelihood project in Nigeria were offered to illustrate the point.

The discussion questioned the project approach to

development, and were reminded that dams and irrigations projects were advanced in countries in which the population resisted being moved to another site, as such schemes did not take into account the human beings who lived in the area of project. Cost benefit analysis should be undertaken as it relates to the construction of dams.

Another point raised related to the duplication of programs, which results from lack of coordination and also from lack of information exchange from recipients.

Lobbying was brought up as an efficient practice, such as what happened during the elaboration of the Brazilian Constitution.

#### FOURTH GROUP

Rapporteur: Nirmala Banerjee

This group started the discussion with warming up exercises which set us moving into the discussion of strategies for action.

We all agreed that we cannot do without the DAWN vision. The question that socialism is dead or the end of an ideology, is not relevant to us, as what we want is a world of equity and peace.

We were reminded that in the case where the Left was defeated, such as in Nicaragua, the population evaluates this as having been important to maintain a struggle for social justice.

Some observed that the women's movement is growing and becoming diversified, but we cannot achieve equity unless this movement becomes aware of what is happening to the global economy.

Others argued that in the countries where the Left movement is feeling feminism, at last, can provide the vision by looking into what is happening to the poor.

We need to politicize the women's movements so that when representatives are elected, they are accountable to the movement. The vision can provide such a space for action on behalf of the poor.

A last point was raised in relation to middle class women, as many have been negatively impacted by development strategies, as well as the poor, therefore, they should not be left out of any analysis.

After the presentation of the rapporteurs, Eva Blay said that a point she raised when she referred to the executive and the legislative had to be clarified. She said that the view of political representatives is an image that is projected by the electorate on those women, such as the Brazilian mayors she analyzed. It is up to the women's movement to modify this existing image.

MAY 8, 1990.

AFTERNOON SESSION

FEMINIST PERSPECTIVES IN THE THIRD WORLD

President: Carmen Barroso

Discussants: Chhaya Datar  
Jacqueline Pitanguy

Rapporteur: Urvashi Butalia

I - Chhaya Datar said that there is a need for a long term perspective. We do need utopias, even though it is difficult to mediate between micro and macro in order to decide what measures to take. We need more discussion. We need to critique the present development processes. In the context of yesterday's discussion on the collapse of the so-called socialist states, I would like to say that these countries tried a sort of centralized planning, a control of forces with some limited success. The market is a major force with which we need to come to terms. We need to ask how to control it, and not to blindly accept it and say how can we save some space for ourselves within this given scenario. We need to ask how we can decentralize these forces.

In present development, there is a move towards forcing markets that are enlarging daily. They demand large-scale technology, leading to high tech. This is the basic problem of the development process. Energy consumption is high, it leads to ecological problems, therefore development actually leads to ecological degradation. The tendency is towards centralization. Markets are getting centralized also because of the level of investment. This leads to political centralization. Hence there are coups, emergence of anti-democratic forces, authoritarian and military forces. If we really want democracy we need decentralized economies. Democracy and decentralization cannot ignore market factors.

Energy is a very vital part. It affects ecology and women, the latter in two ways. It affects their employment potential, displaces them, relocates them into informal sector work and they lose their traditional rights and safeguards. Also, in India, 70% of the women live in rural areas. High tech like the Green Revolution, forces people to use a lot of exogenous resources, and modernization in agriculture has created a great deal of havoc with women's lives. Unequal distribution which existed earlier becomes accentuated and accelerated because of the development system. Therefore women in the rural areas are deprived of land. Water is being used for cash crops. Due to shortages of drinking water, women have to go long distances to get water. Therefore, there is a need to understand the impact of this and given that, to reconceptualize technological needs in order to understand them as the embodiment of the relationship between human beings and nature. This relationship is also becoming more exploitative. Hence, a more urgent need to reconceptualize. This is a blind spot in DAWN.

There is a real need to reconceptualize the gender system. We should conceptualize production in such a way that the subsistence, non-wage system takes care of all human beings, not just women. This does not get represented at any macro policy level or economic level, although it is very much a part of the macro system. This has to be kept in mind. Thus we must reject the development process as it exists on four counts:

1. high tech and energy system, including nuclear, thermal, petrochemical etc.,
2. centralization of the market system,
3. centralization of the political system,
4. dichotomy of subsistence production and surplus production and accumulation.

Some efforts have been made to replace previous energy systems. There have been experiments on biomass production systems, looking for a regenerative industry. This will help women to get control, to get empowered because it will lead to decentralization. There is also a need for men to take responsibility in the area of reproduction. This way the whole world can be restructured. It is possible to begin with technology, to give hope to the poor and marginal farmers. This will create a different space as given global technologies and markets are what we always begin. It is time we begin elsewhere.

II - Jacqueline Pitanguy said that the problem of exclusion is inherent in any analysis of socio-political participation. It leads to certain key questions:

- Who are the citizens of whom we are speaking?
- Who are the discriminated groups?
- By which criteria are they excluded?

We need to see exclusion as part of the arrangements of most societies that are supposedly equal. Here there are variations

in the the way women have resisted discrimination. These vary according to the structural characteristics of society and according to the interrelations between the main protagonists in the political arena.

Feminism must be seen as a social movement for the projection of a new political identity in this political arena.

The perceptions and experiences of sexual discrimination direct the political strategies of women in different societies, and lead them to different forms of struggle. Thus, the structural characteristics and political conjunctures of each society have important implications for feminism.

The sociological configuration of the political scenario is due to the appearance and visibility of new historical movements. If feminism is one such movement, we must ask ourselves, how effective has it been? Has it given voice to new political actors? Are feminist questions considered legitimate in particular societies? Has feminism been able to include new questions related to the uneven distribution of power between men and women? Has it been successful in deriving legitimacy from those voices which express themselves in societies which have not considered such questions legitimate? Has it influenced institutional powers by giving voice to women's demands? Has it given a voice to sociological minorities such as those based on race?

It is important that we have an awareness of the historicity in order to establish linkages to protest and change policies. Also we should raise the awareness that while it may seem good to have a voice in policy-making, the crucial matter is the one of implementation. This becomes difficult because of the existence of countervailing forces in operation. We need to become aware of these conservative forces.

It is important to remember this history and feminism's contribution, even though now this important political national space has been totally destroyed as in the case of Brazil. Nonetheless, the importance given to it by conservatives is an indication of its national importance. Thus feminism is alive. DAWN must take up the question of what is its relation with politics. Is DAWN a political organization, how does it see its role as a politically important actor in the international scenario? Because conservative forces all over the world are becoming stronger, organizations such as DAWN need to multiply.

#### ADVOCATING AND DISSEMINATING ALTERNATIVES

President: Mara Regia di Perna

Discussants: Alejandra Faulbaum  
Estela Suarez

Rapporteur: Nkoli Ezumah

Mara Regia emphasized the need for the media to project women's perspectives objectively. However she noted that groups that monopolize the media do not project a good image of women. She cited the case of Brazil where reports about women's activities are distorted. Regia therefore argued that part of women's struggle is to combat distortion in the media and that through political participation women's alternatives can be disseminated.

#### Discussants

I - Alejandra Faulbaum represented the Socialist International Women's group which is an NGO. This movement tries to disseminate information about women through presentation, seminar and so forth. Some of the issues which the Socialist International advocates include: disarmament, equal rights for women, reduction in military spending, participation of women in development, women's work, right of women to work, abortion and so forth.

The movement holds that socialism guarantees the full realization of human beings. The Socialist International holds the view that any fundamental reform must include social and economic aspects. Consequently, the movement feels that the realization of Basic Needs requires overall economic transformation.

Faulbaum identified some social and cultural aspects of the economic crisis: the drug traffic has grown significantly, resulting in the breakdown of security agents and deterioration in citizen's rights. Women's movements seek solutions to these crises.

II- Estela Suarez discussed the need for the creation of women's solidarity with trade unions in Mexico. This is crucial since there is a concentration of women in medium sized industries. The existence of a women's solidarity trade union would help sensitize public opinion on women's work. The union world should be in a position to seek new technologies, and incorporate them into the industries to ensure access to international markets. She also pointed out that modernization and wage increases for workers are essential. In order to evaluate alternatives for combatting the crisis, we should analyze the social costs such as: unemployment, decreases in salaries and public services, increase in poverty and a drop in the quality of life and the rising quantity of resources entailed overseas for debt-payment.

The problems vary from country to country, and the present

analysis focuses on Mexico. The crisis cannot be reduced to the dimension of the foreign debt, since the debt is a financial manifestation of state policies combined with - to a certain extent - administrative corruption. The first signs of a crisis appeared in the 70s and the present debt situation arose in the second half of the same decade. The center of the crisis was localized in a national economy heavily protected from foreign competition. During the crisis, free trade as well as a "masking industry" of exportation operated in the north of the country. The rest of the country exhibited different characteristics: 1) an industry which produces expensive goods and services of poor quality; 2) a chronic agricultural crisis which leads to the creation of a rural proletariat, forcing large numbers of workers to the cities and create a dependence on imported food products; 3) a growing foreign commercial debt; 4) an inflationary process reflected on the monetary level by a deterioration of the national economy relative to that of the rest of the world; 5) a drop in internal investment and a rise in capital flight; 6) an increased public deficit by diverting resources in order to reactivate the economy; 7) an increased foreign debt resulting from the policy of using borrowed capital to finance rising public expenditures. This crisis had repercussions on the social level. In the 80s, austerity policies implemented to combat the crisis were accompanied by heavy inflation and resulted in: the diminution on the GNP, business failures, rising unemployment and underemployment, reduction in the buying-power of salaries and a more unequal distribution of wealth. Public services (water, sanitation, electricity, education, transport, health and communication) declined. Living conditions for the vast majority deteriorated so much that last year more children died of measles a disease which had been eradicated than had for many decades. The informal economy, in which women have the largest share, grew to 40-50% of the work force.

Drug-trafficking increased and the institutions, particularly the police, responsible for combatting it suffered from corruption. The destruction of the environment threatened daily life.

The political crisis - the crisis worsened, the party in power for over fifty years lost support in every election: municipal, state, federal, congressional and presidential. This process opened a space for democracy and rendered possible victories by the opposition and changes within the official party. On the other hand, there was an attempt to promote industrial competitiveness by opening the market to import goods. There was also an attempt to establish new labor relations which would make it in the interest of the worker to raise productivity. This led to conflict with the unions and cooperatives which exist, albeit with varying tendencies, throughout Latin America. The funds obtained from the sale of state-owned industries deemed non-strategic were earmarked - in

an obvious political move - for the provision of basic services to marginalized sectors of the population. Nevertheless, these efforts did make, a significant contribution to improving the miserable conditions in which these marginalized populations lived, an improvement valued and appreciated by its beneficiaries. With these policies the government intended to convey to the people that political reform meant cutting back on unnecessary spending and providing housing for the poor.

Alternative public policies - as members of the feminist movement and other women's movements, as well as civil society, we must make the effort to democratize social and political life. We must propose and promote solutions from a feminist conception of human rights which encompasses our concern with discrimination according to race, class, creed or national origin. These efforts would lead to the establishment of a new culture within civil society which would take advantage of openings created by democratic parties within the legislature. The response to the government's austerity plan and reforms should be: to support cuts in unnecessary public spending; to encourage more complete public services in the areas of health, education, electricity, water, public security and transportation for both the city and rural areas; to demand that public funds earmarked for poor and marginalized communities be spent according to objective criteria based on need and established by the legislature rather than on a desire for political "brownie points"; to call for the redoubling of efforts to combat the violence that mainly victimizes women and children but that undoubtedly affects the relations between all citizens. In terms of labor, our demands must lead to the modification of the existing division of labor by sex and prevent its entrenchment as a result of the current social situation. In relation to a free market economy, we should call attention to the fact that initially export industries relied heavily on unskilled female labor. With time these industries looked to male labor and automation to fill positions with semi-skilled and skilled workers, resulting in an even greater disparity in wages between men and women. To counteract this tendency, we must call for: improved public education for the poor; for an educational campaign about the importance and value of technical training and careers for women and for a developing female work force; for technical schools of all levels which would provide effective training. It is also important to promote affirmative action policies and the adoption of quotas or increases in the proportion of female workers in sectors dominated by men or of men in sectors dominated by women, thereby doing away with a work place divided into ghettos.

There is a need for the conversion of a crisis into old-style cooperative unions. This is an opportunity for democratizing organizations to create a real, independent state union capable of providing a forum for women. One of its roles would be to analyze the links between race, class, nationality, religion, age and sexual preference. This could also be the place where male and female workers form a new relationship and work

together for a union that truly protects their rights. To conclude, in the short term, alternative policies should promote the improvement of living conditions to the extent that is a response to the present stage of capitalist development. The long term policies should effect a political and ideological reconstruction formulating a theory of change which reflects the concerns of the mass of men and women exploited and oppressed by the capitalist system. This theory would lead to the establishment of a more just and egalitarian society through a new relationship to nature and all the human beings who live on the planet.

#### Discussion

Thais Corral discussed her experience in communication and dissemination within MUDAR. She pointed out that there is the need for women's organizations to learn how to disseminate what they are doing and also establish linkages.

Mara Regia pointed out that women journalists in women's movements usually provide free services in this direction.

Maria del Carmen Feijoo indicated that women in Latin American movements are trying to establish ideologies that unite them. She argued that a vision of the Socialist International should suggest how women can work together, for instance DAWN and the Socialist International could exchange their views.

A participant from Uganda pointed out that dissemination of news through the media in many African countries is still difficult because the majority of women are illiterate, do not have radios, and/or do not listen to radios. However, women's groups in Uganda try to reach women through voluntary organizations.

MAY 9, 1990

MORNING SESSION

REFLECTION ON PAST EXPERIENCE

Discussant: Neuma Aguiar

Rapporteur: Chhaya Datar

Neuma reported on her efforts of energizing DAWN through the last three years (the report is attached, see General Report).

Devaki congratulated Neuma Aguiar and Peggy Antrobus who is going to accept the responsibility of DAWN in the next term.

It was suggested that each Steering Committee member should reflect upon her experiences with DAWN and locate the strengths and weaknesses.

Devaki Jain reviewed the Steering Committee's work over the last four years - the problems, the successes and failures - and emerged with the view that DAWN's specific "success" had been its gathering, analyzing and advocacy role aimed both at macro economic development policy levels as well as synthesizing women's experience and innovations in development.

They recognized that in this attempt there had been much stress keeping our feet planted on the ground and at the same time finding ways of presenting the Third World women's case in a form that would impact the global policy as well as national policy.

It was not enough to have women's voice heard in the arenas where policy was being designed, and arguments developed. The voice had to be enabled to speak with the facts, existing ideas and positions beneath or behind them. Otherwise the voice is not heard. Hence the need for a women's group to prepare as carefully and as strongly, statements and proposals to counter the dominant position. This was a critical point.

It was the Steering Committee view that DAWN should maintain its momentum in this field.

DAWN's earlier success had been due to the fact that there was an event at a certain time for which preparation had to be made to mobilize and present an alternative framework. This made the mandate clear and the task focused. We need to do this again. The plenary and the groups had identified three major areas of immediate urgency mentioned above and the effort will be to understand the influence and consultative process to reach this goal.

- The world environment conference: Brazil, 1992.
- The search for economic development strategies, which would allow adjustment with self determination.
- Population: which has emerged as an urgent issue in the Third World but has yet to find a "feminist" approach.

We would as usual engage ourselves in these programs in collaboration with regional networks, existing work, and forums.

Nirmala and Hameeda voiced that it was felt that different regions have different concerns at times. Grass roots level movements take up different issues. Dynamics of the issues and movements keep on changing, and DAWN seems to be behind.

Noeleen's experience was exactly the opposite. When DAWN decided to study and research debt crisis, the women in South East Asia did not appreciate it, as they were busy with their own issues. But after four years, the meeting in the Philippines was very successful and timely. DAWN was seen as a political tool. The Planning Minister in the Philippines resigned from the government and the DAWN perspective was useful to her in making her arguments and in Malaysia as well. The DAWN perspective could be used as a tool to clarify many blind spots.

Bolanle's experience of DAWN in Africa was also encouraging. They got involved late and the papers presented were not up to expectation. Still the regional conference was a worthwhile exercise.

The difficulty was that her tasks such as training were not spelled out. She felt that one of the reasons for confusion may be the structural limitations of Africa (being a big continent, having several languages and a lack of communication facilities).

Claire explained her personal problems what with the military coup in Fiji.

A major problem was that the research theme was decided centrally. There could be broad concerns which would be decided in the DAWN Interregional Meetings. Also, identification with that particular theme becomes impossible. More autonomy is required for regions and getting researchers involved is a difficult proposition.

Gita Sen came out with a concrete suggestion. It is important to understand the structure of DAWN clearly. We must be aware that while we are talking about a loose structure of DAWN so that each region gets more autonomy, we must be aware that the strength of DAWN lies in the fact that it is an international body.

DAWN aims at making a global impact. Then we must envisage a structure which is sufficiently loose but definitively has a good linkage with all the regions and constant consultations on a number of contemporary issues. We must have strong regional focus and at the same time we should be able to connect the regional issues to macro level phenomena and policies. We must be able to put the micro issues in an economic perspective. We should be able to avail ourselves of research done by other people. Our task is linking up and bringing out gender dimension. We must also think of feeding to the movements in the region. In the

absence of this we will lose credibility as well as direction. Having an organic relation with movements will give us feel of the impact on people of economic policies.

Sandra, a Brazilian black women activist in the neighborhood movement, spoke about the distancing that black women felt from research in general.

Thais reminded us that efforts were made to approach and invite black women to the DAWN project such as interviews for the DAWN radio program and news for the newsletter.

The question of the newsletter was heatedly discussed. On the one hand there was a feeling that proper communication has been taking place through the current newsletter edited by the DAWN Information Officer in Rio, Thais Corral. She felt there was a shortage of material for the newsletter. Should DAWN have a newsletter and if so, then what should be its nature and at whom should it aim. These are a few questions to be sorted out. It was pointed out that a newsletter has been the major strategy to provide communication among participants throughout the world.

#### DISCUSSION ON DAWN ' S STRUCTURE

Chair: Peggy Antrobus

Rapporteur: Bolanle Awe

It was agreed that the present structure of DAWN has not functioned effectively, particularly as regards some of the functions of the Steering Committee and the responsibilities assigned to members of this committee.

It was felt that the regions should be more fully involved in the implementation of DAWN ' s programs, discharging the responsibilities assigned to members of the Steering Committee. It was therefore agreed that a restructuring be carried out as follows:

1. The Steering Committee will now consist of the General Coordinator and of Regional Coordinators from the different regions. In addition there will be an information officer and research coordinators who will be ex-officio members. The functions of these officers and the general coordinator are spelled out.
2. More responsibility will be given to the regions. Each region will structure itself according to its own peculiar circumstances and characteristics. Each region will therefore have a certain degree of autonomy and flexibility in determining its own program within the context of DAWN

- objectives. It will have its own research programs, and so forth. Each region will have a regional coordinator, whose function will be to see to the execution of the programs.
3. DAWN will continue with its global programs, e.g. the global research program.
  4. There should be a transition period within which these new strategies can start.

## DISCUSSION IN SMALL GROUPS

### 1. THE RESEARCH GROUP

Rapporteur: Nirmala Banerjee

It was felt we should begin with yesterday's agreement that our broad vision remains the same.

We also felt that the DAWN consultations worked very well for feminist research, linking women's movements with analytical thinking on global socio-economic issues.

We suggested a two-pronged program:

- 1) There are several scholars within the DAWN network who are interested in some major research activities. DAWN would support and stimulate their efforts.
- 2) We also proposed some issues of urgent global relevance, especially to Third World poor.

Work on these issues will be essentially by the DAWN method of consultation, and targeting our analysis and interpretation for both policy makers as well as women's organizations.

### 2. MEDIA WORKSHOP REPORT

Coordinator: Joan Ross-Frankson

Rapporteur: Fatma Alloo

It was agreed that a media unit is needed at a secretariat level and regional level. These media units will have coordinators who would be paid. It was reminded that DAWN is not only a network, but an organization with a particular analysis, which feeds into existing networks. It plays a catalyst role, that is to say, it does not only pick up what is going on at grass roots level, but has to put it in an analytical framework.

There should be a feasibility period whereby each region identifies effective networks and feeds into the secretariat, who would then put it in a lively format for publications.

As a first step this was seen as an immediate need. In the next year, the regional coordinators will meet with the Secretariat and assess how to proceed.

MAY 9, 1990

AFTERNOON SESSION

PLENARY DISCUSSION AFTER SMALL GROUPS MEETINGS

STRUCTURE, RESEARCH, COMMUNICATIONS

Rapporteur: Ritu Menon

- Relate the structure of the Steering Committee to the structure of DAWN. Recommending decentralization so that regions can function independently. Building on the present nucleus we recognize that there may be variations, but there will also be flexibility and independence in programs, research agendas, and so forth.

The Steering Committee will identify themes at the global level and have a research coordinator who will take over a particular research theme and operate at the global and regional levels. She will submit proposals for funding with the support of the Steering Committee. There will be a link coordinator who will link up with the regions and be like a general secretary.

The group felt that what they are proposing may be a bit radical - so they want an information officer who will be the link between regions. She will be an ex-officio member, but an employee of DAWN. A period of transition was suggested during which this revised structure will be reviewed. Time frame: approximately three months after which another Interregional Meeting could be held to make a final decision.

Gita Sen said that they were very concerned about making the distinction between DAWN's global character and decentralization. The Steering Committee will consist of Regional Coordinators autonomous in their decisions as regional representatives. They will focus on research, training, and so on, and come up with programs of action. But to retain a global character, certain issues have to be developed as part of the global activity. When such themes are identified, a research coordinator will draw upon people to conduct research related to that theme.

International support for this will be available from the Secretariat.

Devaki thought it would be worth considering the possibility of drawing upon existing research in order to enrich the themes selected.

- Research group decided that the DAWN vision remains an equalitarian peaceful world. The DAWN methodology of consultative process remains very important, DAWN will facilitate research on those issues that other researchers might wish to take up. Also issue statements on issues taken up by women's movements. Six themes were identified as important areas.

- 1) women's perspectives on environment, population, poverty, and ethnicity.
- 2) development as women want it: alternative economic framework.
- 3) reproductive rights, health, and new technologies.
- 4) cultural policy from women's perspective.
- 5) international relations.
- 6) gender and the State.

- Communications - there is a consensus for the need of media unit within DAWN at the Secretariat level. Wherever research is generated by DAWN, the media units would disseminate this information to grass roots and back to the Secretariat. How this would be done was the subject of much discussion and no clear answer emerged. So far DAWN has not clearly come up with a distinct perspective on many issues, so how does one deal with it?

From the publishers came the view that the newsletter is intended for outreach workers not the grass roots directly. Local groups use the content material of the newsletter and transmit it through its particular media skills-print, radio, etc. Each edition of "DAWN Informs" could be thematic: environment, health, etc. There was a suggestion for multi-media programs, through films, print, etc. And a very strong feeling that existing material is not linked yet; how do we deal with this? Let us begin with exchange and see how the analysis and perspective evolve. A question was raised about whether should we move beyond our themes? Should the newsletter provide solidarity to other women's struggles-for example, women in Sri Lanka or elsewhere? An example was given of FEMPRESS in Latin America as being a desirable model.

A view was expressed that we need to know about the structure of DAWN in order to proceed.

Rose Marie spoke about the coalition of publishers who already exist independently, so they may not really be a part of the media unit. We can transmit DAWN material at the grass roots only if it falls within one's specific technical skills.

Discussion:

- On communications: Devaki Jain said that when we talk of an information officer and media unit we should think of the process of information gathering and dissemination. These two should be a single process, not distinct.

Peggy Antrobus felt that the DAWN communication strategy should be to tap existing info-networks like TAMWA, etc. Could these be expanded to include DAWN activities? Can there be a flow between the two?

One reason for doing this is the question of funds. How do we raise money for this? Secondly, let us take advantage of the link with the grass roots.

Joan Ross reminded us that Thais spoke of the difficulty of working singly as an information officer. Our discussion about a "unit" may be larger than it actually is. We can not expect anyone to work voluntarily on dissemination. We have to have a more formal position to offer.

Nirmala Banerjee said that the newsletter is expensive and difficult to sustain. Can we consider using pamphlets or leaflets from time to time on specific topics?

Joan raised the question of the how and what DAWN really wants, otherwise any discussion on it futile.

Peggy Antrobus thought that it is very important for the DAWN Information Officer to be part of the discussion on communication.

Joan Ross asked if we want a newsletter that only goes to researchers or something more regional and oriented towards the women's movements all over the world? Should it be a viable project or not?

Devaki Jain asked if we want a newsletter at all. Maybe what we need is a disseminating and clearing-house strategy? We had a newsletter in the last few years, we may not need one now?

- Research: Peggy Antrobus felt it was necessary for us to include International Relations as a project for DAWN which would monitor changes taking place in Europe as of 1992, as very important for ACP countries.

Neuma Aguiar thought it was important to have a theme on gender relations in the Third World. DAWN should be able to undertake comparative studies on this.

Maria Nzomo thought that the issue of Gender and the State was necessary for inclusion.

PANEL: SOUTH/NORTH DIALOGUE

President: Gloria Bonder

Rapporteur: Lilian van Wesemael

Forum: Devaki Jain  
Peggy Antrobus  
Wendy Harcourt  
Georgina Ashworth

Aim: The priorities which women from the South see for women from the North.

Possibilities and requirements for women from the North in order to be able to work on issues arising from a South/North dialogue.

I - Peggy Antrobus

- DAWN must be the voice of the Third World Women.  
-We need allies from them because we need space and information from the North, for example on Europe, 1992. We need to know the decisions which will be made, the plans, the international agenda. We ourselves will not be able to cover all this.

What we need from the North is:

1. People who want to be our ears and eyes in order to hand over information on meetings, international agendas, major findings.
2. Overview of resources.
3. To be given space, to be given a position in international meetings.

What we expect is that people from the North should assist with our agenda. We want to meet women from the North that are critical on the development at which the North is heading; women who are critical of their own institutions, who have to deal with alienation with respect to their gender, who have their own experience on powerlessness and on exclusion.

Peggy 's conclusion:

- We need particular kinds of allies.
- We need women with a perspective similar to ours, experience and a similar urge to act.
- The agenda for a dialogue should be made by DAWN.

II - Both panelists from the North told their personal life history. Their activist work at a national and international level both in the development and the feminist circle.

Their experience of working as a single women, single feminist, and single person from a NGO in UNCTAD VII and the UN

Conference on Trade and Development, was defined as a very cold and unfriendly environment to work in, although you can use this position to make some advances.

In order to be able to influence the UNCTAD VII and the UN conference you need a documentation and data to prove the role that women play in development and the way they are marginalized. The information and documentation of DAWN is essential in this.

Furthermore in a more general sense the importance of grouping together and exchanging information and ideas to develop strategies was stressed. They put forward that women from the North see the need to challenge ongoing macro-process world wide.

Both panelists from the North belong to a network working on an European level of Women in Development (WIDE). They viewed WIDE as an appropriate group to:

- Exchange their experience as women working in male-oriented, narrow minded organizations.
- Develop strategies and visions with respect to the gender perspective in the development question.
- To discuss with DAWN what its vision and strategies for the future are.
- Work on the distribution and implementation of DAWN 's vision.

#### Discussion:

In the discussion with the audience the following questions were raised:

1. How can DAWN find its allies: should it be women activists, feminists, researchers, women working on development themes?
2. What are the loyalties which are expected from a woman of the South working in the North as a senior advisor in a development agency?
3. Should DAWN address itself to its allies in the North or should DAWN address itself to those who have the power, the men?
4. What is the role for women from the South of the North for DAWN?
5. Would it not be better if DAWN itself would gather information through research of the events taking place in the North instead of asking Northern women to pass the information over?

The following remarks were made:

1. The South should put pressure on the North to recognize the South within the North.
2. It will be difficult to incorporate women from the South in the Northern Development Agencies because of the still existing racism within these Agencies. Women from the North should acknowledge this and work on it. If not, they cannot be sincere.

3. Nowadays, NGOs are forced to seek a partnership with the South. DAWN should be very critical on this. Only if freedom on our analysis, working methods, and processes will be given, we can work this out. DAWN's part then can be to feed the NGOs in the North with material and ideas.
4. Women from the South live in and experience the effects of the crisis. That is why their analysis of the situation is deeper and more fruitful.
5. DAWN should make its own development agenda and not pay too much attention to which events and commissions are taking place at an international level. We should only participate if it is possible to view on the needed future development in the way we see it.
6. Only if the exploitation of nature, women, and essential resources is brought back in the North, will the South be able to work at this in a more effective way.
7. Women from the North should work on changing the development in their own countries in a more nature-oriented non-exploiting way.

At the end it was stated that the panel was the start of the dialogue about the South-North relations which needed to be further worked out.

MAY 10, 1990

MORNING SESSION

DISCUSSION OF DAWN'S VISION AND AGENDA FOR THE FUTURE

Discussants: Noeleen Heyzer  
Gita Sen  
Devaki Jain

I - Discussant/Rapporteur: Noeleen Heyzer

Questions:

1. What can be done at the regional level? How can regions organize?
2. What are we organizing for?
3. Should we organize around the six issues selected?
4. Selection of structures and processes that lead to empowerment and transformation .
5. Nitty-gritty and organizational issues such as identification of networks, who is doing what, people and resources.
6. Interfacing of regional and national levels/community/household/personal.

How the concept of development is understood in various regions and sub-regions and what are women's vision of development possibilities and priorities in the different context in which we live. We need to understand that true empowerment and control over women's lives defined and created from women's perspectives can influence social choices and decisions affecting the whole society.

What sort of processes and structures are needed to bring about the desired change? How can we create them from our own specific location as researchers, activities, development workers, and planners.

Transformation through feedback into the macro structures of planning and implementation, understanding the catalytic value of DAWN within the women's movement creating new data, analysis, knowledge that move the movement forward.

II - Discussant/Rapporteur: Gita Sen

I want to add to what Devaki and Noeleen have said about DAWN's future directions; particularly to share with you the process by which the Steering Committee arrived at certain decisions. In the DAWN spirit, we want the process to be as open as possible, and for everyone to understand the reason.

The Steering Committee went through a process of evaluation and self criticism of the experience of the last four years with respect to both organizational structure and the substance of DAWN's work. We felt that we need a better balance between regional flexibility/autonomy and the global framework. In this we must recognize and acknowledge that DAWN has chosen for itself an uncomfortable position, that is, publishing our vision of alternative development against an unresponsive and hard world system and institutions on the one hand, and being responsive to, but also catalyzing the movements in our regions in the directions of DAWN's perspective on the other hand. We must be aware that our self-chosen role is difficult and uncomfortable on both fronts, but is also challenging and full of promise. I feel that with the changes in structure we have put in place and with the themes we have chosen, DAWN will be in a strong position to tackle that challenge.

MAY 10, 1990

AFTERNOON SESSION

REPORTS FROM REGIONAL GROUPS

ASIA MEETING

Rapporteur: Gita Sen

We made several decisions and I am only going to speak about the decisions because that is what we need to know what we are doing in the different regions, and not about the process.

The first thing we decided was that instead of having a Southeast and Southern Asian division, we would have a lot to gain by working together. We had a wonderful offer from Noeleen Heyzer. She could make the APDC facilities available to us so that we could have a DAWN mini-secretariat operating in this region, and we accepted this. We are trying to have a DAWN office in Asia and we hope to be quite close to Noeleen Heyzer, and interact so that we can use much of her network and her experience in networking, and therefore not only extend DAWN in

Southeast Asia, but also extend it to the rest of Asia. This is our first decision.

The second decision that we reached, following in the steps of the first decision, is we are going to have someone - who will in fact be the DAWN regional coordinator - who will work in that office and can have other people helping her in this work; and maybe it will more than one person. As far as regional representation, we thought about what we were essentially discussing; we need two people from South Asia. Because this region is very large, we are considering four people to cover the entire region of Asia. We will pick the Regional Coordinator in the next two or three months, to carry out this complicated work that we hope to do. The second person would be Noeleen Heyzer, the third would be myself and I agreed to do it, since I do not have to do the harder work, which will be that of the regional coordinator - and one more person, whom we will pick within the region, and then we will all get in touch and we see what is possible.

As far as the program, we have identified three basic areas where we will try to approach not only regional questions, but also global questions. One thing ~~there~~ should be a program activity for the Secretariat. In the first place, there would be the question of alternative political-economic structures. We feel that for the entire region of Asia this will be the most energized and most important theme for us to work on, so we feel that this would be our first program of activities. Our first activity - that the Secretariat would be engaged in undertaking and doing, is a program which will help us fuel the general debate on the political-economic question, the dialogue with the movement, and, in short, all the political and economic questions. This will be the Secretariat's main task. In addition to this work in the region of Southeast Asia, we are going to begin with environmental questions, especially at a sub-regional level; and Chhaya Datar, who is not here, agreed that she would be the resource person to work on this line, together with Nirmala Banerjee. They would do this work, and focus more on the environment, which we identified well (this global question) among ourselves. And they will develop a program in the sub-region. The third decision we agreed to do and (that is very important) is that we decided we are going to follow the example of India. They have the People's Union for Democratic Rights. This group has a series of teams to research specific problems when they arise. If there is a question of violence in some region, a team from this organization would go there and do a leaflet on the problem which could be widely distributed afterward by the movements themselves. We think that this would be a good model for us to follow within the DAWN project. We could expand our network, bringing in new people, and energizing many people to do this work. We agreed that we would do as a DAWN activity in the region, and a number of people agreed to be involved with this; the people in the publication area also agreed that they would be very interested in doing this work.

Chhaya Datar, Nirmala Banerjee, and all our sisters in the region would be involved. These are the three main areas in which we are going to work. And we are going to try to get regional financing to carry out this work.

#### LATIN AMERICA MEETING

Rapporteur: Rosario Aguirre

#### Objectives:

This Latin America group began by trying to clarify the general framework of the network's goals. For us, the main objective is to study the fundamental political actions in an investigation, and we believe this is an appropriate goal for DAWN/MUDAR, since there is not any other network that fulfills this role. In this sense, DAWN/MUDAR's actions have two fundamental interlocutors:

- a) Multilateral organizations like CEPAL, OEA, BIRD, among others, will oversee projects developed by international and national organizations in order to orient them towards an analysis of gender relations within the context of development;
- b) Linkages with women's regional groups and with women involved in grass roots organizations.

#### Membership:

In order to establish a strong relationship with the members of the DAWN/MUDAR network, it will be necessary to re-evaluate membership requirements so as to form a more effective membership organization.

#### Remuneration Policy:

We must look for financing in order not to repeat the pattern of unremunerated female labor which we criticize. The person who organizes the synopsis will be paid.

#### Structure of Participation:

We propose that the regional coordinator for Latin America be Neuma Aguiar and that representation on the Board should be composed of Patricia Portocarrero of Peru, Maria Betania d'Avila of Brazil, Estela Suarez of Mexico, and Paola Perez of Nicaragua. The headquarters will remain at IUPERJ.

We also propose that Thais Corral continue as a member of the Latin American committee. Irma Arriagada and Ana Maria Brasileiro would cooperate in the organization of a regional meeting at CEPAL. Suzana Gamba would help to guarantee a place for DAWN/MUDAR within the Feminist Encounter in Buenos Aires.

#### Pivotal Themes:

In order to accomplish political action, the DAWN/MUDAR network will promote research, training and advocacy. The

following three thematic areas have been prioritized for the next research period: 1) The analysis of the various development policies proposed for or already in place in the countries of Latin America from a gender perspective. This involves not only determining if the policies take gender into consideration, but also how they impact on women of each country or social sector; 2) The analysis of public and social policies in relation to gender taking into account reproductive rights, work and the environment; 3) Focus on changes in gender relations within the family, at work, in politics and in social organizations.

We could base our analysis on the following documents: 1) alternatives proposed by CEPAL, 2) the twenty CLACSO theses, 3) versions of liberal model now being enacted in Latin American countries.

A synopsis containing a description of these three areas and revisions of CEPAL, CLACSO, and neo-liberal models made in accordance with the current literature on gender and development is in process of preparation. This synopsis will be submitted for discussion at a forum to take place in Santiago, Chile in April, 1991. Other researchers may be invited to develop supporting documents in the areas of economics, population studies and the environment. It is critical that our work be done collectively in order to truly be a product of the DAWN/MUDAR network instead of individuals. Our goal is to present a document containing alternative proposals at the November, 1992 Regional Congress of Women sponsored by CEPAL. The published document will be distributed throughout Latin America. We also have considered the necessity of a communications sector with clearly defined responsibilities.

Another important area of activity for the network will be the Feminist Meeting in November, 1990 in Argentina. We have concluded, therefore, that we must include a woman from Argentina on our Board. It was also suggested that we immediately contact the organizers of the meeting in order to ensure a debate on the relationship between the feminist movement and women's social movements active in rural areas, unions, neighborhoods, and grass roots organizing.

#### AFRICAN MEETING

Rapporteur: Nkoli Ezumah

#### Members present:

Bolanle Awe (Nigeria)	Beatrice Chileshe (Zambia)
Ananilea Nkya (Tanzania)	Christine Rebecca (Uganda)
Emy Siganga (Kenya)	Nkoli Ezumah (Nigeria)
Sade Taiwo (Nigeria)	Maria Nzomo (Kenya)
Fatma Alloo (Tanzania)	

Absent: Gaone Masire (Botswana)

Masire was unavoidably absent because her flight left that morning.

- Selection of members for the Steering Committee:

Members agreed to ask for an interim period of about nine months within which a regional meeting would be convened to make the selection. Participants should mobilize their country chapters and hold a meeting to select members to attend the regional meeting at Ibadan, Nigeria. Members present at the interregional meeting in Brazil will be expected to accompany their country members to the Africa Regional Meeting. About two to three participants from Member countries would be expected to attend the proposed regional meeting.

Maria Nzomo would assist in writing various African countries to inform them about the need to hold the country meeting. The outcome of the country meetings would be communicated to Bolanle Awe at Ibadan by the country leaders.

DAWN Secretariat at the center would be requested to facilitate funds for the African regional meeting. Some of the groups in the North would also be approached for funding. Maria Nzomo volunteered to seek funding from Ford Foundation, East Africa.

Bolanle Awe and Maria Nzomo are to prepare a proposal for funding.

Members should also seek funding from sources in their countries to sponsor these meetings.

Program:

DAWN in Africa will undertake research activities at international levels as prioritized as follows:

1. Structural Adjustment, Debt, and Alternative Development Strategies.
2. Environment.
3. Reproductive Technology and Population.

At the regional level the major focus will be as follows:

1. Structural Adjustment, Debt, and Alternative Development Strategies.
2. Reproductive Technology, Population, and other themes to be developed.

Communication:

The selection of communicators to coordinate the dissemination of DAWN's activities would be carried out during the African regional meeting. Meanwhile, the dissemination of information would be undertaken through the existing women's units in the African countries.

Members should endeavour to channel information from their various organizations to DAWN Secretariat for the Newsletter.

Membership:

Although there has been male membership in DAWN, participants unanimously agreed to disallow male membership in the future. This is in line with what exists in other regions where DAWN is active.

#### CARIBBEAN MEETING

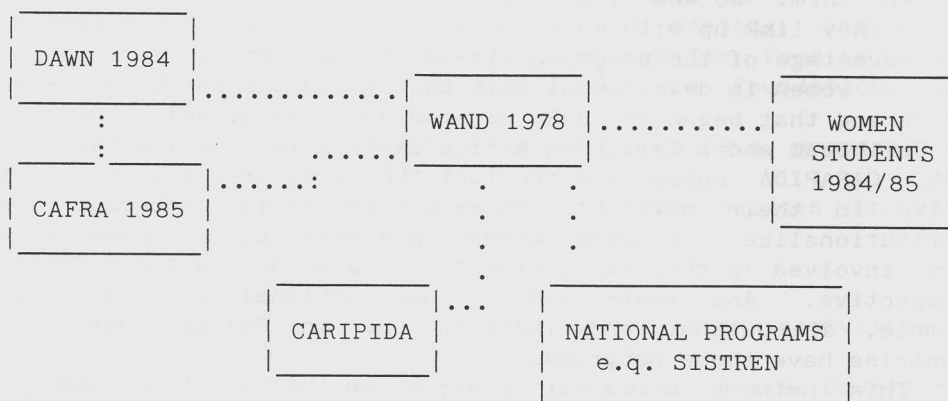
Rapporteur: Peggy Antrobus

In the name of the Caribbean I have a graph here that I would like to show. In one sense, this is the contrast of many regions, and I am sure that the Caribbean is not typical. First of all, we are relatively small, and in the second place, we already have networks and programs established with links between them. So what I did was make a chart and make you aware of how they link up with each other, because basically we want to take advantage of the programs already in existence. So here we have a women in development unit that is in the Caribbean East Indies and that began in 1978; we also have CAFRA, which began in the Caribbean and a Caribbean action association, which began in 1985. CARAPIDA comes from the fact that they are really quite active in their movement, so we are trying to encourage and institutionalize our agenda within this network. We have been very involved in this initiative to bring gender in the CARAPIDA perspective. And there are various national problems, for example, in Guiana, and there is one in Belize; and many countries have these programs.

This network works very closely in the Caribbean, and we have a regional representation, so we would like to recommend that someone from CAFRA represents this region. The idea is because CAFRA is also a structure quite consistent with DAWN, so we do not see the need to begin any additional DAWN program within the Caribbean. For example, CAFRA has been very involved with the debt, and it is acting as a catalyst in the free trade and the use of women in agriculture; CAFRA developed a methodology to achieve this.

Research - they are very active in research and the members develop the research projects - myself and another woman are activists at all levels, so we would like CAFRA to be represented in DAWN. Like the Africans, we cannot appoint anyone now but I think that if there is someone available from this network we will identify and engage her at a later period. CAFRA links us to non-English-speaking countries like the Dominican Republic, Surinam, and Curacao. And now we are trying to reach Guadelupe and other islands in that area. What we would like, however, is to have someone from CAFRA link into the network of

other countries to represent us at the meeting and work with the programs of all regions. In training, we would like someone from WAND to work with CAFRA. On communications, we have excellent bulletins in the region so we will have a communication group. As for advocacy, we would like to take it from the CAFRA and WAND network, which already offer much personal help and resources at different levels. And what we are going to see is that what we are doing is being supported by the structure, and in order to see what the Caribbean can do, bring everyone together in a special meeting next year. We can integrate the WAND-CAFRA viewpoint with the DAWN program, and this will be the Caribbean contribution to the DAWN program. In this connection we would certainly like to invite someone from the Pacific to this regional meeting when it is held next year.



THE PACIFIC MEETING

Rapporteur: Claire Slatter

In the Pacific program, what is seen for the near future is mainly that infratructure does not require anything, but there are little things that already exist, so it is a much looser network and activists stay in the movement historically bringing these individuals in the first stage and introducing them to a general perspective. We have already covered much ground with this - what we covered in the national region, but taking the opportunity that the group is all together ( but not necessarily a group that goes back to 1987) at this year's meeting . What we are proposing is a meeting in the Pacific. Implication of this is that we need to be able to hold it, and it is

necessary to do it in the region; we hope for support of the DAWN Secretariat in trying to get funds so that the meeting can be held. As far as the research program, I am the only person and I cannot state in the name of the region that we are going to support a certain program and that we are in favor of this - but it is the meeting that will decide which of these issues would be most appropriate for the Pacific. The environmental program seems to be something that could interest us, and we could apply DAWN's perspective to this program and to the environmental question in the Pacific, which is critical right now, and the development of resources and educating the public, since resources are being destroyed through excessive use. There is also a decision that just came up, that is shared with the Caribbean, which is a proposal to have much greater interaction between the two regions because they have so many things in common even though the regions are so far apart.

We are supporting that DAWN should facilitate and initiate a meeting of the Pacific with the Caribbean, and perhaps there would be a chance for someone from the Pacific - preferably not myself, but someone else exposed to the situation, to DAWN's perspective in the regional Caribbean meeting.

#### FOUNDERS AND STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

With regard to the date for the transfer of the Secretariat to Barbados, Peggy Antrobus said that the earliest date at which she could take up the responsibilities of General Coordinator would be October/November, as she had to complete certain outstanding matters first. She said that she would continue in her post as Tutor-Coordinator, so will not need a salary from DAWN. However, it will be necessary for her to appoint an Assistant along with a Secretary and a Communications Officer.

The list of Regional Representatives was reviewed (see Regional Reports)

The chief role of the Regional Representatives will be to serve as a clearing house and focal point for all DAWN - related activities in the region such as research, advocacy, communications, training, etc.

The following tasks were agreed for the new Secretariat:

- \* The compilation of a list of Resource Persons (classified by interest/expertise) who could be called on to represent DAWN at appropriate meetings.
- \* The Secretariat should inform Regional Representatives of up-coming international meetings, with a view to identifying suitable persons from the network to attend.
- \* The Secretariat should try to keep information on DAWN

members visiting the North, so that they could be called on to represent DAWN at certain events.

Registration cards should be reprinted (adding information on area of interests, etc.), and made available to Regional Representatives, and to persons organizing DAWN panels at International and Regional Meetings. The Secretariat should send out DAWN membership cards.

Regional representatives should review Membership Directories with a view of updating the list. This could then form the basis of a Resource List for identifying researchers, persons to represent DAWN at meetings, etc.

DAWN'S BUDGET should include funds to support the work of Regional Representatives in networking (travel, telephone calls, etc.). If possible each Regional Representative should be linked to the Secretariat by fax and secretarial support.

There should be more frequent communications between the Regional Representatives and the Secretariat - possibly a three month "personal" newsletter from the General Coordinator.

DAWN NEWSLETTER - there needs to be a closer link with existing communications networks and newsletters. Regional Representatives should identify these and send information to the Secretariat. It will also be necessary to provide for fees for regional correspondence. The Newsletter should be produced in English and Spanish. Translations to other languages besides these may be undertaken by the Regional Offices.

RESEARCH - The selection of Coordinators for the Research themes was a priority for any fund-raising. Gita Sen was an ideal choice for the theme of Alternative Economic Framework - and she will write a concept paper which will link to other themes of Reproductive Rights/Population and Environment. Regional Representatives were urged to try to identify suitable people for the themes of Reproductive Rights/Population and Environment (Personal note: it would be good if they could also come from different regions, for example, Claire Slatter would try to identify someone from the Pacific to coordinate the work on Environment).

PUBLICATIONS - It was felt that there was need for further discussions with Kali and Rosa dos Tempos before proceeding with arrangements for them to publish DAWN books.

The founders also felt that publication of the interregional papers should be restricted pending a more thorough review - and the preparation of a substantial Introductory Essay.

Devaki Jain reported on her work with the South Commission,

and suggested ways in which DAWN's work should link with theirs. The following activities which needed to take place in the near future were discussed, and it was agreed:

(I) Noeleen Heyzer would prepare a statement on the Report of the South Commission, which would be sent to Regional Representatives, for release when the Report was published in July.

(II) Devaki Jain had arranged for someone from DAWN to visit the Secretariat of the South Commission in Geneva to look at their documentation center, and establish contact. It was agreed that Noeleen Heyzer would visit. (Devaki Jain wrote the introductory letters before leaving Rio).

(III) Virginia Vargas, Hameeda Hossain, and Marie Angelique Savane should contribute to the South Commission's work on Gender and People's Movements-if Working Groups on these subjects were established (Devaki Jain will follow up).

With regard to up-coming events, it was agreed that DAWN members involved in these would try, if possible, to arrange for DAWN participation. This would help members of the network, especially the research teams, to meet more often. The following meetings were mentioned:

(I) International Network on Health and Reproductive Rights - Madrid, July. DAWN members invited Noeleen Heyzer, Gita Sen, and Carmen Barroso.

(II) APDC - Workshop on Gender and Development - Vietnam, October/November, 1990. Noeleen Heyzer organizing, Gita Sen involved. Will try to get invitation for Peggy Antrobus. Could provide an opportunity for completion of the research proposal on Alternative Economic Frameworks.

(III) Noeleen Heyzer had received an invitation to arrange a seminar on Development Alternatives at Queen Elizabeth House, Oxford University in 1991, and will suggest members of the research team as participants.

It was agreed that DAWN should target certain international conferences for panels/major presentations on its research themes. The following were mentioned:

- \* FINRAGE Conference - Brazil, 1991
- \* International Conference on the Environment - Brazil, 1992
- \* ECLAC Conference on Women in Development - Chile, 1992
- \* International Conference on Forward Looking Strategies - 1995

It was agreed that a new brochure was needed, and that Claire Slatter should work on this.

The next Interregional Meeting may take place in 1991.

It was agreed that the report of the meeting should be sent to members who were unable to be present at the Interregional Meeting and friendly institutions such as the South Commission.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Before the discussion and approval of the statutes Peggy Antrobus was elected the new General Coordinator and WAND was chosen to be the basis for the new Secretariat. She will take office in October/November 1990.

Neuma Aguiar presented the financial report relative to 1986 to 1990 and it was discussed and approved.

## DAWN'S STATUTES: DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL

The following statutes were approved:

### 1- GENERAL OBJECTIVES

1.1 - DAWN/MUDAR is a non-governmental and non-profit organization of persons from countries in the economic South, created to develop a framework for understanding the economic, social, cultural, and political processes which cause and perpetuate inequalities of gender, class, and race.

1.2 - DAWN/MUDAR analyzes development strategies applied to countries in the economic South and their impact on women and the poor through a feminist perspective.

1.3 - DAWN/MUDAR draws its strength from the women's movement of the economic South in order to articulate a critique of the development process.

1.4 - DAWN/MUDAR will attempt to fulfill these objectives through research, training, advocacy, international relations, and communications activities.

### 2 - THE LANGUAGE OF DAWN/MUDAR

2.1 - The language used by DAWN is English.

2.2 - When necessary, other languages will be used.

### 3 - ADVISORY COMMITTEE

3.1 - The Advisory Committee will be made up of those who initiated DAWN/MUDAR, and it is composed of those DAWN/MUDAR members who participated in the formulation of DAWN/MUDAR platform. This Committee will advise on policy directions, oversee, facilitate, and promote DAWN/MUDAR activities.

3.2 - The Steering Committee will consult the Advisory Committee on policies and programs at regular intervals.

#### 4 - THE STEERING COMMITTEE

4.1 - The Steering Committee is the Executive Body of DAWN/MUDAR.

4.2 - The Steering Committee will be made up of the following representatives from Latin America (2), Asia (2), the Caribbean (1), Africa (2), the Pacific (1), the Middle East (1), and the two last General Coordinators of DAWN/MUDAR.

4.3 - The Steering Committee may co-opt two other members of DAWN/MUDAR to serve as ex-officio members on the Steering Committee.

4.4 - Each representative on the Steering Committee will have an alternate.

4.5 - Each representative on the Steering Committee should coordinate regional activities in the organization's name; obtain funds for research, training, advocacy, international relations, and communications activities, and convene meetings.

4.6 - The representatives on the Steering Committee will be chosen by a Regional Assembly constituted by members of DAWN/MUDAR from that region.

4.7 - The representatives on the Steering Committee should meet on a regular basis to discuss the Network's programs.

4.8 - The term of office of each Steering Committee member will be three years.

4.9 - The representatives on the Steering Committee cannot hold office for more than two consecutive terms, unless for the two previous General Coordinators.

4.10 - Representatives of the Steering Committee will not receive financial remuneration from DAWN/MUDAR for their services.

#### 5 - THE GENERAL COORDINATOR

5.1 - The General Coordinator will be nominated by the Steering Committee and elected by the General Assembly.

5.2 - The General Coordinator will function with the assistance of a Secretariat, and will be responsible for the overall coordination of DAWN/MUDAR.

5.3 - The General Coordinator' s term of office will be four years.

5.4 - The nomination of a new General Coordinator will take place at the end of the third year of the incumbent' s term.

5.5 - The General Coordinator will be responsible for obtaining funds for the Secretariat and for interregional activities. The funds will be administrated by the Secretariat. A financial report will be presented at the meeting of the Steering Committee and the Interregional Meetings.

5.6 - The General Coordinator will be substituted by a member of the Steering Committee if she is unable to perform her duties.

5.7 - The General Coordinator or her representative will represent DAWN/MUDAR.

## 6 - REGIONAL COORDINATORS AND REGIONAL CHAPTERS

6.1 - Each of the Network' s regions will have a representative linked to an institution which will allow the coordination of regional activities, and will coordinate research, training, communications, publication, international relations, and advocacy activities in their own regions.

6.2 - The regional representative will serve on the Steering Committee of DAWN/MUDAR.

6.3 - The regional statutes will be based on the interregional statutes.

6.4 - In order to comply with local rules and regulations, the regional statutes may include additional provisions which will not conflict with the interregional statutes.

## 7 - MODIFICATION OF THE STATUTES

7.1 - Modification of the statutes will take place at the meetings of the General Assembly. Members must be informed of proposed modifications at least 30 days prior to the meeting.

## 8 - MEMBERSHIP IN DAWN/MUDAR

8.1 - Any individual living in a country of the economic South who shares in DAWN/MUDAR' s general objectives (parag. 1.1 - 1.2) can become a member of DAWN/MUDAR.

8.2 - Members are entitled to participate in DAWN/MUDAR' s regional and interregional activities.

8.3 - Members are entitled to select the regional representative and the General Coordinator in the Regional and General Assembly respectively.

8.4 - DAWN/MUDAR members must contribute to the Network ' s international activities. They will have the right to receive the newsletter and other publications with special discounts.

#### 9 - INTERIM PERIOD

9.1 - The first General Coordinator and Steering Committee selected under these statutes will be chosen by the Advisory Committee and with a mandate of four years.

#### 10 - GENERAL ASSEMBLY

10.1 - The General Assembly will take place in the third year of the General Coordinator's term of office.

10.2 - The General Assembly will be constituted by members of DAWN.

10.3 - The General Assembly will choose the General Coordinator.

#### 11 - REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

11.1 - The Regional Assembly will be constituted by the members of DAWN/MUDAR from that region.

11.2 - The Regional Assembly will choose the regional representative and the Steering Committee members for that region.

#### 12 - DISSOLUTION

12.1 - The dissolution of the Association can be declared at any time by the decision of two-thirds of the General Assembly.

12.2 - In the case of dissolution, funds will be transferred, as determined by the Steering Committee, to an organization or institution with similar objectives to those of DAWN/MUDAR, or they will be assigned for such use which is compatible with the Network's objectives.

INTER-REGIONAL MEETING

May 6 to 11, 1990

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THIS GENERAL REPORT WAS PRESENTED BY NEUMA AGUIAR  
AT THE DAWN INTER-REGIONAL MEETING, IN GRAGOATA,  
NITEROI, RIO DE JANEIRO, MAY 9, 1990, IN THE  
SESSION ENTITLED "REFLECTION ON PAST EXPERIENCE".

DAWN

GENERAL REPORT

1986-1990

## CHAPTER I

### Activities by the DAWN Secretariat in 1986

The following activities were undertaken:

1. DAWN Advisory Committee Meeting in Nova Friburgo, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from February 21 to 24, 1986.  
Purpose: a) To define goals and a plan of research and action for women in the Third World over the next two years, based on two broad themes: Women's Movements and Women's Organizations, and the Food, Energy, and Debt Crises in Relation to Women.  
  
b) To define an organizational structure for DAWN as a network. The Secretariat will move from Bangalore, India to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and Neuma Aguiar will be the General Coordinator.
2. The setting up of the Secretariat, after a period of subcontracting services, by hiring a secretary and organizing an office equipped to function in an international capacity.
3. Two visits to New York by the General Coordinator for fund raising and networking purposes, and to rework the preliminary research and action proposal. On behalf of DAWN, several talks were held about the network.
4. DAWN Meeting, at the Institute of Social Studies Trust, in Delhi, India, on August 20th.  
Purpose: To present, analyze, and discuss research on Crises and Women's Movements.  
This took place before the World Sociology Congress, August 18-20, New Delhi, which was also attended on behalf of DAWN. See also Appendix I, DAWN MEETINGS.
5. Research Committee Meeting at ISST, New Delhi, India on August 21.  
Purpose: To define research methodology and set up a program of research on a regional basis, to be presented at an interregional level after 10 months.
6. Hiring of an information officer and production of information material: folders and posters about DAWN, its history, purpose, and operation.
7. Organization of a preparatory meeting in Sao Paulo, Brazil, on the DAWN Latin American Regional Meeting in La Paz,

Purpose: To formulate and partly reformulate the organization and planning for the said meeting.

8. Participation in the National Conference on Women 's studies in Chandigarsh, India, October 1-4. A paper was presented on DAWN and on Alternative Development for Women.
9. Participation in the UNICEF Regional Meeting for NGOs and Network on Participation of Women in Development, Bogota, Colombia, December 10-12.

## CHAPTER II

Activities by the DAWN Secretariat in 1987

The following activities were undertaken:

1. Travel by General Coordinator - Neuma Aguiar - to various countries for networking and fund raising purposes. See Appendix II (a).
2. Organization of a data base with the list of all signatories, which comprises the major directory and from which lists are obtained.
3. Acquisition and establishment of a computerized telex system.
4. Contacts were established through participation in major events, meeting-places for feminist activities, or researchers interested in studying the subject "Women and the Crises".
5. Publication of the first issue of the newsletter, "DAWN Informs", in three languages, Portuguese, Spanish, and English. Distributed to all the DAWN participants and made possible by the contributions sent by the same network participants.
6. Networking activities developed by the Information Officer, Thais Corral, during the National Feminist Encounter in Garanhuns (September) and the IV Feminist Latin American Encounter in Mexico (October) followed by a tour through several Latin America countries. See Appendix II (d) (e).
7. Organization of a local support research group, with participants from major graduate schools (professors and students) in Rio de Janeiro. Purpose: to study together the

theme of "Women and the Crises", and "Women ' s Visions and Movements".

8. Organization of a panel with the research group on "Women ' s Conditions" at the XVI CLACSO General Assembly (Latin American Social Science Council).
9. Participation in seminars by NGOs on the theme "Women and the Crises" in Bogota, Colombia (sponsored by UNICEF) and on "Rural Women", in Friburgo, Brazil (sponsored by IPPUR).
10. Participation in organizing the Rio de Janeiro Council for Women ' s Condition, meetings, discussions, and the production of petitions from a policy prospective, in order to influence the draft of the Brazilian Constitution on behalf of women.
11. Networking activities with SEWA Video, Martha Stuart Video, and SOS Corpo Audio-Visual Division to provide audio-visual material for DAWN.
12. Networking activities with feminist groups which provide training for women ' s grass roots groups, such as Flora Tristan, Rede Mulher, CEAAL, and La Morada.
13. Publication of the first issue of the quarterly informative newsletter "DAWN Informs".
14. Participation in the Latin American Regional Encounter (December) in La Paz, Bolivia, which was hosted by FLACSO (Latin American Social Science Faculty). See Appendix II (f).
15. The General Coordinator produced the following papers which were presented during the meeting mentioned above:
  - "Changing Gender Hierarchies on a Brazilian Sugar Plantation: Housing Patterns, Household Occupational Activities and the Control over Women ' s Sexuality and Reproduction".
  - "Increasing the Participation of Third World Researchers in the Research Committee on Women and Society".
  - "Political Factors in the Debt Crisis: Alternatives from Women ' s Perspectives".
  - "Women and the Latin American Crisis".

Contacts made:

Ivory Coast - Visit to Ministry Women ' s Promotion, contact with Mme. Oka-Anghui Minister office. Meeting with Mme. Claire, (rah) President of the International Committee of African Women for

Development. Meeting with Maimonna Diallo CIRES researcher.

Sierra Leone - Meeting with Staneala Beckley, Joan Amarteifio, Laura Davis, Damaris Grosvenor, Amy Smythe, Jane Godwin, Doris Brower, Clarice Davis, and Isabella Johnston, members of AAWORD and Sierra Leone University.

Gambia - Meeting with Women's Bureau President, Ms. Safiatu Singhateh and her staff members. Visit to the Bureau's documentaion center and the past and current officers: Lisa Palm and Lori Light Richter.

Senegal - Meeting with Zene Tadesse, until recently the Executive Secretary of AAWORD, and editor of AAWORD's newsletter, Rosemary Jommo, Assistant to the newsletter. Marie Angelique Savanne, AAWORD's president, and Eugenie Awe, African Association of Professional Women in the Media. Meeting with Ford Foundation representative, Mr. Richard A. Horowitz.

Kenya - Meeting with Kavetsa Adagala, Collette Suda, Joyce Olenja, Rosemary Kaduru, Roberta Mutiso, Mjoki Wainama, Nellie Mathu, Betty Wamalwa, and Maria Nzomo. Also in Kenya, meetings were held at the departments of Sociology, Literature, and African Studies Program, as well as with Mr. William Saint, representative of the Ford Foundation.

Bombay - Meetings were held with Chhaya Datar and with the Research Center of Women's Studies.

Bangladesh - Meetings were held with Hameeda Hossain, Women for Women, Roqqiya Kabir, Maleka Begun, Murjehan Murshed, Shireen Huq, Firdous Azim, Nari Pokho, Farida Akhter, Taherunessa Abdullah, Latifa Akanda, Rasheda K. Choudhury, Sharmeen Soneya, Shaheen Ahmed, Nurjean Murshid, Shamina Islam, Mahamuda Islam, Juhanaara Haque, Rahnuma Ahmed, and the Center for Women and Development.

Malaysia - Meetings were held with Noeleen Heyzer, Filipino Maids Support Group, and with a representative of the Women, Law, and Development network. Additional meetings were held with action groups of women of plantations, and with women workers in the textile and eletronics industry.

Australia - Meetings were held in the Australian Development Bureau Assistance with Helen Ware, Valerie Hull, Nascha Teckle and Roger Wilson, and key officers in relation to Women and Development Projects. At the initiative of Nascha Teckle, Lia Rid, a visit was paid to Penny Lee of the Australian Council of Overseas Aid. At the Australian National University, a visit was paid to the Sociology Department and to the Development Studies Program. Meetings were held there with Lancaster Jones, Maria Evans, and Jonathan Kelly. Visit to aboriginal quarters.

Fiji - Contacts were organized by Claire Slatter and were maintained with Vanessa Griffen and Amelia Rorotnionna, and with Dewi Gorodey, Hilda Lini, Noumea Simi, Jully Sipolo, Laura Souder, Louise Aitsi, Vereara Maeva, Naama Latasi, Tipon Vere, and Atu Bain who attended a talk presented on DAWN.

New Zeland - A visit was paid to a Crisis Center, to a Single Mother's Support Group, and to a Maori Women's Support Group.

Argentina - Contacts were maintained with Elizabeth Jelin, Catalina Wainerman, Gloria Bonder, and Maria del Carmen Feijoo.

Visits were paid to CEDES and CENEP.

Nigeria - Contacts were made with Ayesha Imam, Mere Kisseka, and several interested persons at Ahmadu Bello University, University of Ibadan, Bolanle Awe, Lilian Trager, and Ann Kubish at the Ford Foundation in Lagos.

Brazil - A meeting was held in Sao Paulo with some of the organizers of the Latin American meeting: Virginia Vargas, Carmen Barroso, and Cheywa Spindel.

Caribbean - Contacts were maintained by correspondence and phone with Lucille Mair, Peggy Antrobus, and Rhoda Reddock.

### CHAPTER III

#### Regional Reports:

#### AFRICA

The purpose of the visit to Africa was:

1. To inform African researchers, activists, and concerned policy-makers of the new DAWN activities, particularly as relates to the two DAWN research lines:
  - a. The food, energy, and the debt crises in relation to women.
  - b. Women's visions and movements.
2. To inform how these regional networks have been organized in other parts of the Third World.
3. To contact AAWORD and find out the possibilities of cooperation in the establishment of these research networks in the region.
4. To find out about possible sites for a meeting of contributors to the two research lines, taking into account the availability of local institutions and facilities to organize the event.

Identify an approximate date for the event by the end of the year.

5. Identify possible resource persons that can write to researchers and collect their proposals and papers in the two areas of interest.

6. Identify persons, groups, and networks, as well as existing directories and production in areas of training and communications.

7. Find possible names for the position of training coordinator.

8. Find existing networks and persons in feminist media and begin to formulate a strategy for disseminating the research findings of the working groups as well as apprehending the views of activists.

9. Find out about interested activists.

10. Find bibliographies which are already available and which can contribute to the research topics.

11. Find contributors to the newsletter such as news about network activities, position papers, reports on conferences, cartoons, and major women's issues in the countries visited.

12. Contact those places where large groups of women have written the Secretariat and which could be included in the route. These included Abidjan, Freetown, Banjul, Dakar, and Nairobi.

#### SOUTH ASIA

The following activities took place:

1. Neuma Aguiar and Hameeda Hossain discussed matters relating to the DAWN research groups. They visited several groups and individuals from 8-10 March, 1987, to define the organization of the final document to be produced by DAWN in South Asia.

2. The document is to be prepared for the interregional meeting, which would provide the material for the second volume of DAWN perspectives. The consultations that were held extended to:

- a. Consideration of the South Asian regional working groups.
- b. Consideration of the National working groups.

3. The considerations referred to the dates, places, institutional support, proposal writing, and complementary funds which may be required for basic infrastructural support.

4. The consultations involved as a core part of the organization of the documentation, identification of the coordinator(s), as

well as the functions involved in the productions of the work. This includes the preparation of a bibliography to identify country coordinators. If this is not possible, then papers from specific researchers in a particular country, coordination of the working group meetings, development of a methodology, and the final write-up of the papers in a format to be presented to the interregional meeting.

5. It was decided that the meeting for the South Asian Region should be targeted for December, 1987 to coincide with the meetings of the other regions.

6. The site of the meeting would be determined by Hameeda Hossain by the end of April; two possible sites: Dhaka, Bangladesh and India.

7. Criteria for final decision on the site will include proximity to researchers, institutional facilities - including the complementary support - and the potential for strengthening new groups to participate in the network.

8. The research coordinators for the region will be as follows:  
Crises: Nirmala Banerjee  
Movements: Hameeda Hossain

9. A list of possible contributors from the region was identified to initiate the effort. These are:  
Nepal: Meena Acharya  
Sri Lanka: Myrtle Pereira and/or Radhika Coomaraswani  
In the other two countries substantial work has already been started to provide for national research networking by the regional coordinators.

10. Discussants were identified to provide guidelines, particularly with reference to action, policy, and methodology: Taherunnessa Abdullah, Ella Bhatt, Devaki Jain, and Gita Sen.

11. Contributors identified for country studies are:

Crises: India - Bina Agarwal and/or Nirmala Banerjee with contributions from Usha Jumani, U. Kalpagam, Leela Dube, Maitrie Krishna Raj, Leela Gulhati.  
Bangladesh - Shamina Islam, Mahamuda Islam, Jahanara Raque, Farida Akhter, Taherunnessa Abdullah, Nurjean Murshid.

Movements: India - Kumud Sharma, with contributions from Chhaya Datar, Aruna Roy, Illina Sen, Manoshi Mitra, Kamla Bhasin.  
Resource Persons: Vina Mazundar, Lucy Jac  
Bangladesh-Shireen Huq, Firdous Azim, Sharmin Murshid, Sultana Ahmed, Roushan Jahan, Rahnuma Ahmed.  
Pakistan - Contributions will be identified during Hameeda Hossain's trip in April.

Meena Acharya, Myrtle Pereira, and Radhira Coomaraswami will be asked to either arrange a national meeting or write a paper about the national situation based on secondary source materials.

12. Discussions were held with Women for Women representatives to consider the possibility of providing the site and infrastructural support for the interregional meeting of the South Asian Working Groups.

#### SOUTHEAST ASIA

The purpose of the visit:

1. The purpose of the visit of Neuma Aguiar to Malaysia was to consult with Noeleen Heyzer on the organization of DAWN research working groups in that region.

2. Countries with DAWN Research Working Groups will include Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Laos, Vietnam, South Korea, and China.

3. The regional meeting will be organized between August and November, 1987, either in the Philippines or Thailand.

4. The tentative list of researchers includes: Remy Rikken, Amara Pongsapich, Saskia Wieringa, Khemphet Pholsena, Doung Thi Quyen, Lee Hyo Chae, and Yao Deling.

5. The regional paper will be written by a person to be identified at the project meeting; another person may be identified to compile a bibliography.

6. The project will include both the Crises' and the Movements' Research Groups.

7. Neuma Aguiar will make the initial contact with Canadian Sources for the funding of South Asia and Latin American projects, and Noeleen Heyzer will finalize this for South Asia just as Gina Vargas and Cheywa Spindel will for Latin America.

8. The development of the regional Southeast Asia project, as well as the meeting, will be a joint DAWN-APDC initiative, with the understanding that its purpose is to contribute a regional paper to the DAWN interregional meeting.

#### PACIFIC

Visits:

1. The purpose of the visit of Neuma Aguiar was to prepare the ground on which the research groups in the Pacific can start to work to establish a plan for the communications network in the Third World regions with Claire Slatter, the Communications Coordinator.
2. The strategy considered contacting possible sources of funding for this work to be conducted in the Pacific.
3. Claire Slatter will prepare a proposal and send it to the Secretariat by April 25th. This proposal has to do with the communication of grass roots movements through the media. It will contain a more general part including a resource book or a kit on how to translate research results in a media content to the women's movement, and a fact to be derived from the research group work in the Pacific Region. The proposal will be returned and to the persons contacted at ADAB.
4. This regional work will involve establishing two research networks on the crisis and on movements.
5. Claire Slatter will solicit media feminist groups or individuals to send their suggestions. This may involve radio and video programs, drama, slides, songs, and printed work.
6. Claire Slatter will also be in charge of preparing the papers for the two research groups at regional level.
7. Vanessa Griffen will do the final summary of the seminar papers, thus preparing the regional perspective for the interregional meeting.
8. The seminar will be held by the last week of November or the first week of December in Fiji.
9. A local research and communication network will house the seminar.
10. Some tickets will be contributed by DAWN, possibly via Thomas Cook Travel Agency, which has headquarters both in Brazil and in Fiji.
11. Claire Slatter will send a directory of media, and another of research, with names and addresses in the Pacific Region as soon as possible.
12. Neuma Aguiar will send a directory on South American Women and the Media to Claire Slatter as soon as possible, as well as other media references for India and Africa.
13. Existing bibliographies will be sent by Claire Slatter to the

Secretariat.

14. Vanessa Griffen will send a report of the current seminar on Feminism in the Pacific for DAWN's Newsletter.

15. Possible contributors or identifiers:

Dewi Gorodey, New Caledonia

Hilda Lini

Noumea Simi, Western Samoa

Jully Sipolo, Salomon Island

Laura Sounder, Jaffrey Guam

Louise Aitsi, Papua, New Guinea

Claire Slatter, Coordinator

Vanessa Griffen, Rapporteur

Amelia Rorotnionnam, Meeting Coordinator

16. Dates for meeting: either late November or first week of December.

For more details reports on Asia and the Pacific, see Appendix II.

#### CHAPTER IV

Activities by the DAWN Secretariat in 1988

The following activities were undertaken:

1. A DAWN - South Commission meeting was organized with the support of the Institute of African Studies and Wordoc at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria (February 23-25).  
The purpose of the meeting was to discuss ways in which both organizations could work together to interchange information and ideas, and to deepen the awareness of South Commission members of research performed by DAWN participants on Alternative views of Development. For more information see Appendix III (a).
2. Inauguration of a radio program "WOMEN SPEAK", carried once a week in a local radio station of Rio de Janeiro by the Information Officer, Thais Corral. This program was possible through the sponsorship of the City Administration of Rio de Janeiro. It was developed as an open forum where the women's movement could express its voice. This radio program lasted until October, 1989.
3. Travel by General Coordinator Neuma Aguiar to several European countries for networking and fund raising purposes.

4. The DAWN - Southeast Asia Regional Meeting was held in Tagaytay, the Philippines (July 18-21) under the sponsorship of the Center of Research and Resources of Women, Maryknoll College, Quezon City. The theme was "The Impact of Food, Energy, and Debt Management on Women". It was attended by 32 women representing various organizations of the regions. Several papers on the subject were presented. See Appendix III (b).
  
5. The DAWN ' s African Regional meeting was held at the University of Ibadan in Nigeria (September 27-29). The main objectives of the meeting were:
  - Discussion of the theme, "The Food, Energy, and Debt Crises in Relation to Women".
  - Discussion of the progress made by the Women ' s Movements on the African Continent.
 More than a hundred women participated and various papers relevant to the subject were presented. See also Appendix III (c).
  
6. The DAWN - South Asia Regional meeting was scheduled to take place in Dhaka, Bangladesh (September 2-4). At that time terrible floods affected the region and most of the participants could not attend as travel was impossible. Several participants had sent their work, and later, thanks to the efforts of DAWN ' s regional research coordinator - Hameeda Hossain - a meeting was subsequently held in Bombay, India (July 89). See also Appendix III (d).
  
7. The Caribbean meeting of DAWN was hosted by the Women and Development Unit of the Extramural Department of the University of West Indies in Barbados (November 7-11). See also Appendix III (e).
  
8. A panel about DAWN was organized during the Thirtieth Congress of the Indian Social Sciences Academy in New Delhi, India (November 14-18). Various papers explaining DAWN ' s perspective were presented and discussed. See also Appendix III (f).
  
9. Several other activities within the framework of DAWN ' s objectives were organized during the year 1988:
  - Four issues of the newsletter "DAWN Informs" were published.
  - General Coordinator - Neuma Aguiar travelled around Latin America for networking purposes.
  - A round-table conference was organized on "Women, Militarization, and Disarmament" during the XII Congress of the International Peace Research Association (IPRA).
  - The Information Officer, Thais Corral, participated in an

INSTRAW meeting (International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women) held in Rome (October 24-28). The theme was "The Role of Communications in Women 's Development".

10. When returning from the Phillipines, Neuma Aguiar stopped at Tokyo to meet with women's organizations like Asian Women's Foundation, and made fund raising contacts with JANIC, the Japanese Government Technical Cooperation Service, the United Nations University, and the Toyota Foundation. See Appendix III(g).

## CHAPTER V

Activities by the DAWN Secretariat in 1989

The following activities were undertaken:

1. Organization of the five weeks training program on "Women and Alternative Visions of Development", which took place from January 4 to February 3, in the DAWN office in Rio de Janeiro. This project was financed by the International Development Research Center (IDRC) of Canada. The purpose of the course was to promote and provide training of Third World researchers within a theoretical and practical framework of alternative development along the lines of DAWN's two themes: "The Food, Energy, and Debt Crises in Relation to Women" and "Women 's Visions and Movements". See also Appendix IV (a).
2. Travel by General Coordinator, Neuma Aguiar, to meetings in Germany (Stuttgart, May 3-5 and Berlin 8-16), where she could disseminate information about DAWN and DAWN 's experiences over the last few years. The main topic of discussion in the meetings was the condition of women in developing countries - the impact of the crises and the role of women in the development process. Another meeting was held in Denmark (December 89), where she presented her paper "Political Factors of the Debt Crisis: Alternatives from Women 's Perspective". During these trips, networking and fund raising activities were also carried out.
3. DAWN members in all regions held preparatory meetings in anticipation of the Interregional meeting (May, 1990) to be held in Brazil. An example is India, where a meeting was held from July 1-5, with the objective of discussing DAWN 's perspectives, and to incorporate the concrete experiences of the region. See Appendix IV (b).

4. A large part of the year was taken up by the fund raising and organizational preparations for the Interregional meeting planned to be held in December, 1989 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Due to several motives this was postponed to May 6- 11, 1990. A circular explaining this move was sent to all members in October, 1989. Several papers on the theme "Food, Energy, and Debt Crises in Relation to Women", and "Women 's Visions and Movements" were produced and sent in to the Secretariat.
  
5. From June to December 1989, the following meetings were attended by the General Coordinator:
  - June 15-16, Seminar on Public Policies and Gender Relations, USP - Sao Paulo.
  - July 8-16, Seminar organized by DSE (Deutsche Stiftung fur Internationale Entwecklung) "Women in the Development Process", where she presented her paper "Political Factors in the Debt Crisis: Alternatives from Women ' s Perspectives".
  - August 10-11, Consultation with the Researchers in CEBRAP and Carlos Chagas Foundation on Women in the Debt Crisis related to the Interregional Seminar and DAWN - BRAZIL.
  - October 23-25, Participation in the Seminar on Women, Sanitation, and the Environment, organized by SID-WID, Brazil.
  - December 1-4, Participation on WIDE Seminar with the work "Political Alternatives on the Debt crisis from Women' s Perspectives".
  - December 14-16, Participation on Rural Development Seminar at the Academy of Sciences in Moscow.

## CHAPTER VI

Activities by the DAWN Secretariat in 1990

The following activities were undertaken:

1. A visit for a fund- raising campaign, for the Interregional Meeting, to Holland, Belgium, Switzerland, Denmark, and Finland by the General Coordinator.
  
2. Work on the organization of the Interregional Meeting took up most of the time from January through May. Invitations, program, infrastructure, fund- raising activities, the production of a general report (1986/1990), etc.
  
3. Preparation of, and participation in, the SID-WID-DAWN Meeting in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, May 4-5.  
 Purpose of the meeting was to debate "The Role of Women in Development". See also Appendix V (b) for a list of the

papers presented.

4. DAWN Interregional Meeting, "Alternative Visions of Development", in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, May 6-11.  
A report of the meeting was produced and sent to all participants and sponsors. For a list of papers presented see Appendix V (a).
5. New information material was produced, i.e. flyers, posters, and a video tape about the above mentioned meeting and DAWN as a women 's network.
6. Preparation for, and work on, the DAWN annuals from 1986 to 1990. There are three parts, to be concluded later in 1990.
  - a. Alternatives 1 - "Food, Energy, and Debt Crises in Relation to Women".
  - b. Alternatives 2 - "Women 's Visions and Movements".
  - c. Alternatives 3 - "Crises and Movements".
7. Participation in, and preparation for, the RC-32 DAWN meeting for the ISA Conference in Spain July 5-8. A panel was organized on "The Effects of the Socio-economic Crisis on Women".

## APPENDIX I

### DAWN MEETINGS

#### RESEARCH ON CRISES AND WOMEN ' S MOVEMENTS

August 20, 1986 - at ISST, New Delhi - India

Noeleen Heyzer began by presenting to the group two alternative paths of organizing research on the two themes of crises and women ' s movements. One option was to have two separate research programs with strong structural interlinkages. Or, alternatively, both themes could be brought together as one research project (necessitating 3 instead of 6 regional coordinators). Women ' s movements could provide the broad framework within which the focus would be on the food and debt crises. She saw advantages and disadvantages in both strategies. As far as the latter option of a combined project was concerned, the primary disadvantage stemmed from the area of women ' s movements - incorporation of important issues other than the food and debt crises. The advantage, however, would be that the research would be more focused, enabling concrete recommendations to emerge. As for the other option of organizing separately around the two themes, this would allow a wide coverage of the area of women ' s movements, incorporating cultural and political aspects. There was, however, the danger of diffusion unless interlinkages were established at the planning stage.

She then touched upon issues of women ' s movements that needed to be covered. The motivating forces behind the upsurge in the last 10 years, the analysis of what issues were being dealt with by these movements (whether they focused on patriarchal hierarchies or dealt with structures and processes within development), the developments in strategies employed, and the means to sustain the achievement - so far being some of these issues. There was the need to understand why divisions have emerged despite the common vision and the effort to build solidarity and what the solutions were to repair this fragmentation.

Devaki Jain ' s response to the issue of whether the research projects should remain separate or be combined favored the latter. She felt that this strategy would provide a good focus for the research. Since women ' s groups tend to be more concerned with issues of gender than with those of food and hunger, the role of the coordinator would be to ensure such a focus. There was a need to raise the consciousness of women ' s movements to

macro-issues. The implications of women's movements to macro-issues. The implications of their micro-actions should be understood both by individual actions such as the poor, rural, and researchers. Neuma Aguiar emphasized the need for an understanding of the crises in order that a framework be provided to the groups. Cheywa Spindel also felt that it was crucial to have a clear picture of the social and economic crises, and therefore argued for the two themes to be dealt with separately. Gina Vargas also argued for such a separation. She felt that the theme of women's movements was too wide for such a merger. Although the food and fuel crises were at the core, other issues such as violence could not be incorporated if the two themes were combined. Danielle also felt that two separate research projects should be maintained. She argued that women's movements and visions included important micro-issues other than the macro ones related to the crises. Also, given the importance of policy changes and the role that women's organizations have played in that area, she felt that the theme of women's movements was too important, in and of itself, to be merged with the other. In response to the debate, Carmen Barroso suggested that the issues for investigation include linkages between crises and women's movements.

In response to Danielle's questions, it was clarified that DAWN's role would be to draw together research which was being done in the areas chosen, performing a South-South, synthesizing role. As for the form that the output would take, this was an issue which was open for discussion. Noeleen Heyzer strongly felt that the result should go beyond forums and books, but since this was a meeting to discuss research, those issues could be raised in other discussions.

Gina Vargas felt that the kind of research that DAWN does, and the form that the output takes, will depend upon what use it will be put to. Commenting on the General Report (on the Third Advisory Council Meeting and Plans for the Future), she observed that two assumptions had been made. Firstly, that DAWN has links with both policy makers and grass roots organizations, and therefore functions as an intermediary. Secondly, that DAWN plays an agitational role. Given its loose structure and international nature, she wondered if it could serve either of the two functions. She felt that a more modest role such as linking with other existing groups, might be better. She also observed that in many cases the assumption that grass roots organizations do not have a macro, global perspective may not be justified, particularly since many of them have middle-class activists.

As for linkages, she thought that it was important to clarify with whom, and around what issues, these would be established. For instance, in the area of training, there are organizations such as the Pacific and Asian Women's Forum, as well as independent groups such as those in Rajasthan, which

conduct training, and some of which have used the DAWN report in creative ways. What the needs of these groups are and how linkages could be established should be determined. It would be useful to provide these groups with macro-based research. The documents could either be of the nature of the first DAWN report, a synthesis, or those which could be used more directly for training, the kind which she herself was thinking about. It would be very useful to bring together and distribute existing documents which small groups, who lack funding and logistical support, are using. These documents, therefore, need to be located, selected, and reproduced. The process of selection itself would generate dialogues. Such an activity would help to meet the shortage of simple and clearly presented material for training. She also drew attention to the possibility of linking with non-women's groups, particularly in the Indian context where there was a large number of groups who were doing work related to the crises.

Noeleen Heyzer described her aim as a regional coordinator to incorporate into the process groups who have not been reached before. This would constitute a step forward and generate fresh analysis. She was therefore extending the Asian network to areas such as Vietnam and China which had a different history, and had the opportunity of articulating their experience. She also saw in this harder process a rejection of the wrong practice of researchers extracting material and then departing.

She drew attention to the heterogenous nature of South-East Asia by delienating four categories. In addition to the above, another grouping was that of countries such as Malaysia and Thailand where organizations were new, very small in size, and trying to develop through borrowing as well as experimentation. Another category would be of countries such as India and the Philippines which had strong women's movements. Yet another grouping consisted of East Asian countries such as Korea and Hong Kong.

Noeleen Heyzer also supported the methodology of identifying groups and building country teams rather than just individual researchers. Although this was a harder process it was a desirable and lasting one.

She intended therefore, to hold consultations at both the regional and country level. The approach which she has used in the past. She felt that planning should take place after consultation at the country level, while comparative, regional framework be used to analyze the country papers.

She did not see a conflict between this approach and the aim of producing interregional comparisons which would enable a Third World perspective to emerge. Granting that there must be parameters, she argued that the research should be built up

through a "bottom-up" process which avoided the situation where a high level of abstraction was not based on regional reality.

Carmen Barroso felt that the idea of country teams was very important and desirable, but she questioned its practical feasibility. Her experience in Latin America had been that of time and infrastructural constraints making networking even with individual researchers a difficult process.

Noeleen Heyzer admitted that the experience was likely to be unique in as much as her center (which she vehemently denied as being a U.N. organization) provided her with the network and infrastructural support required. However, she avoided making this process a discrete function, and tried to integrate it with opportunities such as conferences. Carmen Barroso added that the conference on Women and Politics which had taken place in Uruguay last June provided such an opportunity. They were also hoping to conduct a "major outreach exercise" at the Latin American Studies Association meeting in October. Devaki Jain added that the National Conference on Women's Studies was meeting in October, with the theme of Women 's Struggles.

Returning to the issue of whether the two themes would be combined into one research project or not, Devaki Jain added that at present, the food and energy crises constituted important areas of research and the Women 's Movement input was small at present, but growing, and should become important.

Gina Vargas raised the issue of the need for greater clarification about the nature and aims of DAWN in order that groups conducting research have a basis for deciding whether they want to network with it. Devaki Jain added that the process of networking needed a lot of goodwill and trust. The groups should in no way feel that they are being replaced or their territory encroached upon. Gita Sen's outline did this successfully. However, now that DAWN had matured, this would be more difficult to achieve. It needed to be emphasized, however, that DAWN was embodied in an aspiration and not an organization.

Ayesha Imam response to the issue of networking was that restricting the organizations to those already in the network, was preferable to further extension, owing to the time constraint. She said she would report to AAWORD about the meetings, who could then make decisions. In response to Noeleen Heyzer 's request for her to share her experiences with women 's movements in Africa. Ayesha Imam presented an overview of the situation as she perceived it.

Given the infrastructural and lingual barriers, she spoke primarily for Nigeria, not even West Africa, let alone the whole of Africa. She felt that none of the mass movements could be

labelled "feminist". There were, however, smaller women's organizations which fell into several categories.

Firstly, there were the organizations which worked at defending particular interests rather than changing the patriarchal structure. The market women's associations which had historically maintained a strong defense of their trading interests, continued to do so. Although they do not control a large volume of trade, they are numerically strong. Not unlike the colonial government, the authorities in Nigeria and Ghana are becoming increasingly worried about the power of autonomous organizations. They are therefore imposing bureaucratic restrictions which have to be satisfied before an organization is given official recognition.

These market women's associations often come into conflict with the official national women's organizations, which are infamous for towing the government line, provoking the label of belonging to the AGIP (Any Government in Power) party. It was noted that the situation in India was no different. In Nigeria, when the war on Indiscipline was declared, the national organization supported the government's analysis which placed the blame on mothers who were employed outside the home. When the market women protested against the 40% increase in market stall fees, they received no support from the National Council.

The second category of women's organizations consisted of the wealthy religious Muslim and Christian groups. Two trends can be identified within these. The first being the fundamentalist, right-wing one, and the other the more liberal one which tries to use progressive interpretations of the Koran to support certain rights for women. The latter is a weaker trend. It requires the study of Islamic law and teaching on a level which most women do not reach.

The number of actual feminist women's groups is few. These groups are very new and some are still at the stage of their own consciousness raising before beginning mass action.

The account of women's organizations other than feminist women's groups raised the possibility of networking with them. That such a linkage might prove feasible was indicated by the response of Muslim women in the North when they were asked about the kind of political system they wanted in the future. Despite having said that women were incapable of being leaders, the concrete conditions they desired such as reservation, and a free, single and compulsory system of education, were revealing. They also stated clearly that they needed organizational help.

Carmen Barroso mentioned that Nirmala Banerjee had felt that the issues for investigation were based towards Latin America. She felt therefore, that the regional coordinator needed to

revise and adapt according to specific needs.

She herself did not want to be coordinator. Noeleen Heyzer too did not want to be the overall coordinator since she felt that with her experience, the facilities and network to which she had access, she would be more useful as the regional coordinator.

It was decided at the end of the session, that the meeting should be reconvened the next day.

#### MINUTES OF RESEARCH COMMITTEE MEETING

Members Present: Carmen Barroso  
Lucille Mair  
Nirmala Banerjee  
Hameeda Hossain  
Noeleen Heyzer  
Shashi Rajagopal

1. Research studies will be conducted on a regional basis initially for a period of 1 1/2 years.
2. Each region will have a regional research coordinator.
3. Regional research can be divided into sub-regional studies which can further be divided into country cases.
4. It would be up to the regional coordinators to decide whether they need country coordinators.
5. A broad framework would be necessary within which the research would be conducted.
6. The two outlines prepared by Noeleen Heyzer and Carmen Barroso on Women's Movements and Crisis respectively, would be circulated, and comments would be invited. The two outlines would then be put together to provide one framework.
7. The regional coordinators would be given enough flexibility to chose/conduct research.
8. After the first 18 months, during which time the regional studies would be complete, another meeting would be convened (probably by Hameeda Hossain) where the research studies of all regions will be presented.
9. An inter-disciplinary Congress would be convened in July '87 in

Ireland. Carmen Barroso and Noeleen Heyzer have been invited to participate in this congress. They would write to the organizers to check if DAWN panels can be accommodated into the program. It would, however, not be a substantial panel but just to keep contact with other academicians. This kind of a meeting, which has an academic responsibility, would also be useful for DAWN in that it would help in getting funds for independent research.

10. The following would be the regional coordinators:

- |                   |                  |   |  |
|-------------------|------------------|---|--|
| Women's Movements | 1) Pacific       | - | Claire Slatter                               |
|                   | 2) Asia          | - | Hameeda Hossain                              |
|                   | 3) S.E. Asia     | - | Noeleen Heyzer                               |
|                   | 4) Caribbean     | - | Rhoda Reddock                                |
|                   | 5) Latin America | - | Virginia Vargas<br>Carmen Barroso            |
| Crisis            | 1) S. Asia       | - | Nirmala Banerjee                             |
|                   | 2) Caribbean     | - | Peggy Antrobus                               |
|                   | 3) Latin America | - | Lourdes Arizpe<br>Cheywa Spindel             |
|                   | 4) Pacific       | - | Noeleen Heyzer will<br>identify persons      |
|                   | Africa           | - | Ayesha Imam<br>Simi Afonja<br>Rudo Gaidzanwa |

11. For the AAWORD members, participation in the DAWN Steering Committee and DAWN research would be separate issues. However, DAWN has to write to AAWORD formally (approach them as group) to conduct research studies.

12. As regards funds, the Rockefeller Foundation may provide funds for research groups, particularly to convene meetings. Therefore, if for each region, the number of countries are identified, it would be easier for Neuma Aguiar to canvass for funds.

13. Noeleen Heyzer would prepare a budget for a sub-regional meeting, and submit it to Neuma Aguiar who will then have an idea of the amount involved to convene a sub-regional meeting.

## APPENDIX II

(A) The purpose of the networking activities was:

1. To establish the research groups in regions where they either had not been established or where communications had been very difficult.
2. Consult with the coordinators where the research groups had already started their activities.
3. Contact funding agencies so that the research groups could look for complementary funds to organize the research group activities and meeting. Discuss with the research coordinators which sponsors might be contacted.
4. Establish the dates of the regional seminars, the sites, the housing institutions, the jobs to be performed, the activities, the responsibilities, and the final outcomes. Establish a strategy to obtain the regional papers, discuss with the regional coordinators the possible contributors to the papers, and the rapporteurs. Obtain regional directories of researchers and existing bibliographies related to the research themes.
5. Communicate with Steering Committee members in the regions visited, discussing their activities and needs. Communicate with Devaki Jain, Hameeda Hossain, and Claire Slatter.
6. Discuss alternatives for training coordinator and initiate the activities for the communications coordinator office. Make contacts for the later towards the establishment of a network.
7. Discuss publications strategies to be considered later by the publications coordinator.
8. Establish lines of communication with possible DAWN participants in some of the countries visited, where a large number of researchers, activists, and policy-makers had manifested an interest to contribute to DAWN activities.
9. Solicit news for the newsletter on behalf of the information officer.
10. Report on activities being developed on other regions.
11. Provide models and discuss alternatives out of the regional strategies for organizing the activities.
12. Establish cooperative networking efforts with regional network.

13. Find out women's priorities in the region as manifested by the women's movement.
14. Give talks about DAWN.

(B) REPORT ON THE PANEL "THE FOOD, ENERGY, AND THE DEBT CRISIS IN RELATION TO WOMEN", organized at the XIth National Encounter, of the Brazilian Association of Graduate Schools and Research Programs in Social Sciences, promoted by DAWN/MUDAR.  
Rapporteur: Teresinha D'Aquino Ricci.

The XIth meeting of the Brazilian Association of Graduate Schools and Research Programs in Social Sciences was organized in Aguas de Sao Pedro, Sao Paulo State. DAWN presentations were made October 22nd, during the two Work Group meetings: women in the labor force, and women and politics. The first group was coordinated by Heleith Iara Bongiovani Saffioti, and the second by Eleonora de Oliveira. The session was coordinated by Maria Aparecida Moraes e Silva of UNESP, ARARAQUARA-SP, and had the following program:

- 1) "The Crisis and Family Strategies of Urban Work" by Zuleica Lopes Cavalcanti de Oliveira. IBGE-RJ), discussed by Teresinha D'Aquino Ricci (UNESP-Marilia/SP).

- 2) "Crisis and Development: Gender and Work in a Sugar Cane Plantation" by Neuma Aguiar and David P. Moraes (IUPERJ/RJ) discussed by Lena Lavina (PUR/RJ).

- 3) "Women's Presence in Latin America in a Decade of Crisis", by Teresita de Barbieri and Orlandina de Oliveira (UNAM/El Colegio de Mexico). The authors could not attend, therefore Elisabeth Souza Lobo, the discussant, presented the paper.

- 4) "Women's Work in Face of the 1980's Economic Crisis", by Cheywa Spindel. The author was absent and asked her colleague, Maria Amelia Cupertino (IDESP/SP), to present the paper, which was discussed by Heleith Saffioti.

After opening the session, Heleith Saffioti, the coordinator of the group "Women in the Labor Force", gave the word to Neuma Aguiar who presented the network DAWN/MUDAR to all present, discussing its objectives and main activities.

### (C) LOCAL RESEARCH GROUP ON THE CRISIS AND THE MOVEMENTS

To provide basic scientific background for the Secretariat, develop a collective basis for generating questions into DAWN's research themes, to involve intellectuals from the local community, and to prepare ahead of time suggestions on major hypothesis to be investigated by the regional and interregional research groups, moved the Secretariat to formulate a local program of conferences and discussions on the two DAWN research themes.

During 1987, the activities promoted at local level were the following: During the whole year a working group composed of about 10 persons met at our office to study and discuss the two themes of our main projects, which were, "The Food, Energy, and the Debt Crises in Relation to Women", and "Women's Visions and Movements". From July to November every week, we promoted a round table with a speaker expert who talked on a recently produced paper, according to the following list:

- |           |    |  |
|-----------|----|--|
| July      | 04 | . Organizational meeting,  |
| July      | 18 | . Neuma Aguiar - "Introducing DAWN's Platform: Development, Crisis, and Alternative Visions",                          |
| August    | 19 | . Selene Herculano dos Santos - "A Review of the Literature on the Crisis and Its Effects on Women's Work",            |
| August    | 24 | . Elizabeth Jelin (CEDES) - "Social Movements and Women's Movements",  |
| September | 02 | . Catherine Delcroix - "Women's Political Participation in Algeria and Egypt",   |
| September | 09 | . Zuleica Cavalcanti de Oliveira - "The Crisis and Urban Work Strategies",   |
| September | 16 | . Amaury de Souza - "Women's Political Agenda: Recent Research Evidences",   |
| September | 30 | . Neuma Aguiar and David Pereira de Moraes - "The 1930 Crisis: Gender and Work in a Sugar-Cane Plantation",            |
| October   | 28 | . Marcia Segadas Viana - "Recession and Female Participation in the Labor Market: a Comparative Analysis - 1980-1984". |

Other activities were promoted at the national and international levels during the Feminist Encounter, the ANPOCS (The Brazilian Graduate School and Research Programs in Social Sciences) meeting, and the CLACSO (The Latin American Social Sciences Council) meeting.

### (D) TRAVEL BY THE INFORMATION OFFICER

At the international level, or more specifically, at the Latin American level, our Information Officer, Thais Corral, made

a trip to nine countries from 16th October to 14th November, 1987. She attended the Latin America Feminist Meeting where another DAWN Steering Committee member, Gina Vargas, organized a workshop about "Latin American Feminism and the Visions of the Future". At this time, Thais Corral attended all the workshops and informed about DAWN as a network and its projects.

Afterward she was in Guatemala City, making contacts with the "Women's Association in Defense of the Consumers", a very enthusiastic group of about 3,000 urban women who are making their best effort to put pressure on the government to advocate laws for consumer protection.

Thais Corral visited the Association of Guatemalan Women Journalists and Writers, which gathers a large number of women who try to highlight women's issues and the question of peace and human rights in the media at a political level. She also met Dr. Raquel Xelaia, an economist from ASIES, an institution that recently promoted a Seminar for rural women agents addressed to the necessities of rural women in order to diminish the work they are burdened with because of the crisis. Contacts were also made with women in the government.

In Tegucigalpa (Honduras) contacts were made with several women's organizations: the person responsible for the Women's Project in the Ministry of Planning and Development, the person in charge of the Women's Program in the National Agrarian Institute, and with the organization, "Solidarity with Women for Development".

In San Jose de Costa Rica, Thais Corral made contact with the local UNICEF Office which has an important program linked to women.

In Lima, Peru, DAWN participated in the seminar, "Women and Communication Alternatives", November, 16-19, 1987. Apart from that, our Information Officer contacted the Manuela Ramos Organization and Flora Tristan.

In Chile, where she went after the week spent in Lima, Thais Corral contacted ISIS International, ILET, FEMPRESS and La Casa de la Mujer: LA MORADA. During her stay there she also participated in a Forum by the MEMCH (Chilean Women Emancipation Movement) which is comprised of nine Chilean Women's Organizations.

In Buenos Aires, Argentina, Thais Corral met the women from the Women's State Subsecretariat linked to the National Government. She visited the Women's Place (Lugar de Mujer), CEDES (Center for Development Studies), and she also made contact with the owners of the Women's Bookshop, and the Group Mitominas that prepared a feminism and culture meeting in the 2nd semester of 1988, and supplied its agenda of interests to DAWN.

In La Paz, Bolivia after having attended the DAWN's Regional meeting, Thais Corral made contact with Gregoria Apaza, in the Women's Center.

The main objective in these contacts was to disseminate DAWN's activities and to enlarge the network.

Following is the list of new Latin American participants contacted during this trip:

#### ARGENTINA

- Asamblea Permanente de Derechos Humanos (APDH)
- Alicia Dieringer (Facultad de Humanidades y Ciencias Sociales)
- Blanca Moscato (Subsecretaria de la Mujer)
- Lugar de Mujer
- Muchnik Awnamaria (Radio Belgrano)
- Monique Altschul (Mitominas)
- Susana E. Sommer (CEM, Lugar de Mujer)

#### BOLIVIA

- Carmen Beatriz Ruiz (Centro de Promocion de la Mujer "Gregoria Apaza")
- Carmen Elena Sanabria (CEJIS)
- Magali Vega (CIMCA/FREMPRESS)
- Mirian Suarez (Mujeres del Pueblo)

#### BRAZIL

- Helena Bonuma (GEA - Porto Alegre)
- Ligia A.C.Mendonca (Secretaria de Saude do Parana)
- Nalu Faria (SOF - Sao Paulo)

#### CHILE

- Adriana Santa Cruz (FREMPRESS - Revista)
- Ana Caceres Orellana (CENPROS)
- Blanca Velasco (Agrupacion de Economistas Feministas)
- Blanca Rios Crocco (Casa de la Mujer)
- Cristina Morrissen (Grupo ITA Ford.)
- Ingrid Droguett (Programa de Radio: Mujeres Hoy)
- Jimena Pizarro (Lila - Libreria de Mujeres)
- Marta Orozio Ossio (Comunidad India "Gregoria Apaza")
- Rosita Aguirre (Revista Nos/Otras)
- Soledad Wesinstein (ISIS Internacional)
- Viviane Eraso (FREMPRESS - Revista)

#### COLOMBIA

- Adalgiza Charria Quintero (Revista CALI)
- Maria Victoria Angel (Colectivo de Bogota)
- Sara Gomez A. (Fundacion Dialogo Mujer)

#### COSTA RICA

- Athenia Montejo (UNICEF)
- Dina Gimenez (UNICEF)
- Isabel Ovares (SEMLA-IPES)
- Ligia Martin S. (Colectivo Ventana/Universidad Nacional)
- Marisol Wexman (UNICEF)

#### EL SALVADOR

- Sandra Guerrero Amaya (Secretariado Social Arzobispado)

#### EQUADOR

- Cecilia Torres (Centro Accion de Mujeres)

#### GUATEMALA

- Carmen Yolanda Chavarria (Bufete Profesional)
- Marta Mena (Fundacion "Dolores Bedoya")
- Margarita Lopes (Proyecto Ling. Francisco Marroquein)
- Maria Eugenia O. Echeverria (Liga de Defesa del Consumidor)
- Raquel Zelaya (ASIES)

#### HONDURAS

- Dora Argentina Rosa Burgos (Istituto Nacional Agrario)
- Fela Isabel Duarte (Asociacion Mujeres Periodistas y Critoras de Honduras)
- Nussy Martinex (SECPLAN)

#### MEXICO

- Adriana Batista (Revista ESPORADICA)
- Andrea Chavira Mares (Radio Universidad de Sinaloa)
- Colectivo Feminista "Coatlicue"
- Comision Deprensa del Taller "Mujer Centroamericana"
- Cristina Martin Arrieta (CIDHAL)
- Esmeralda Lagos Castaneda (Union de Mujeres Mexicanas)
- Estela Suares (Mujeres en Accion Sindical)
- Elena Tapia Fonllen (Mujeres en Accion Sindical)
- Elisa Ramos (Centro de Apoyo a la Mujer)
- Fatima Flores (Centro de Estudios de la Mujer)
- Gilda Salazar A. (Grupo "Mujeres")
- Giorgina Sandoval (Popular)
- Heather Dashner (PRT)
- Isela Villela Gonzalez (UNAM)
- Josefina Hernandez Tellez (Uxtopulco Universidad)
- Luz Guerrero Cruz (Revista Vozes de Mexico)
- Maria del Monserrat Diaz (Colectivo Feminista de Xalapa)
- Maria del Carmen M. Cervantes (Colegio de Postgraduado de Chapingo)
- Marta Rosas (V.E.M.E.A.)
- Maria Isabel Inclan (Revista FEM)
- Maria Antonia Illoldi (Centro de Apoyo a la Mujer)
- Marianela Madrigal Hinojosa (Hermanas del Servicio Social)
- Minerva Gutierrez (Liaison-Femmes)
- Olga Bustos Romero (Centro de Estudios de la Mujer/UNAM)
- Rita Peralta (Diario El Imparcial)
- Rosario Madrigal F. (Org. Mexicana de Mujeres)
- Safuega (Centro de Informacion y Documentacion para Mujeres)
- Ximena Bedregal (Suplemento Doble Jornada)
- Mujeres por la Soberania Nacional y la Integracion Latinoamericana A.C.

#### NICARAGUA

- Cornelia Amrschall (AMNLAE)

#### PANAMA

- Aida Rosa Gonzalez (Frente Reformista de Educadores Panamenos)
- Asociacion de Mujeres de Panama
- Cecilia Moreno R. (Taller de Estudios de la Mujer)
- Dayra Cano (Asociacion de Mujeres de Panama)
- Denis Acosta de Amor (Ministerio de Trabajo y Bienestar-Promocion de la Mujer)
- Elvia Alvarado de Amador (Editora Renovacion S.A.)
- Edisa M. Pitty Pinto (Asociacion de Mujeres de Panama)
- Isabel Maria del Rosario (ADEMUPE)
- Jacqueline Rodriguez (Asociacion de Mujeres de Panama)
- Laura Vda. de Rodriguez (IRHE POLI)
- Martha de Sedas (IRHE)
- Mercedes de Herreya (ADEMUPE)
- Margarita Pastrana (Asociacion de Mujeres de Panama)
- Margarita Escobar de Serrano (Frente Reformista de Educadores Panamenos)
- Odilia de Saumiento (Frente Reformista de Educadores Panamenos)
- Rosaura E. Pinedo (FREP)
- Tayra Barsallo (UNAMUP)
- Yolanda Marco Serra (Universidad de Panama)

#### PARAGUAY

- Asociacion Suiza para el Desarrollo y la Cooperacion
- Manuela Escobar (ALTER-VIDA)
- Maria Lisa Rodrigues Alcalá (Diario Ultima Hora)

#### PERU

- Ana Maria Portugal (Centro de la Mujer Peruana - Flora Tristan)
- Armida Testino (La Tortuga)
- Carmen Tocon Armas (Nuestra Vida)
- Carolina Garcia Vargas (IPSS)
- Carolina Carlessi (Asociacion Lilith Ediciones)
- Consuelo Perez Herrera (Radio Libertad de Trujillo y programa: Mujeres como tu)
- Giovana Vargas Valdivia (Peru-Mujer)
- Luciana Bizeo (SPF)
- Lupe Rodrigues Bolanos (Grupo Choski)
- Maria Bernarda Subiria Franco (Asociacion Peru-Mujer)
- Movimiento Manuela Ramos
- Rosa Villaran (La Tortuga)
- Rosa Espinoza (Movimiento Manuela Ramos)
- Rosa Duenas (Casa de Refugio "La Voz de la Mujer")
- Victoria Rojas Alvarez (Instituto Superior Tecnologico)
- Zoila Hernandez (Centro de Comunicacion y Investigacion Aplicada Mujer y Sociedad)

#### URUGUAY

- Ana Maria Capoye (Grupo Reflexion Amas de Casa Independiente)

#### OTHER COUNTRIES

- Albano Cordeiro (L Arc en Ciel - Paris)
- Britta Neuhold (Huttel Bergstrabe - Vienna)
- Esther Andradi (Instituto Latinoamericano de Berlin - Berlin)
- Joyce Yu (Church Women United - New York)
- Johann Paquer (Development Information Officer - London)
- Maria Navarro (Colectivo de Mujeres Latinoamericanas - California)
- Maigenet Shifferman (Editor TWWN Newsletter - Washington)
- Nancy Guevara (AWAC - New York)
- Tatiana Cordero (Proyeto Prostitutas Migrantes en Holanda - JR Den Haag)
- The International Coalition for Development Action - Brussels)

#### (E) REPORT ABOUT THE WORKSHOP "WOMEN AND DEVELOPMENT" HELD DURING THE IX FEMINIST MEETING

This report refers to the workshop, "Women and Development" organized by DAWN during the IXth National Feminist Meeting that took place from the 3rd to the 6th of September, in the city of Garanhuns, in the State of Pernambuco.

Nearly 60 women from all over the country participated in the workshop coordinated by Neuma Aguiar, DAWN's General Coordinator and Thais Corral, DAWN's Information Officer.

The main subject of the discussion, that lasted for more than three hours, was the crisis and how women are coping with it. In order to enrich the discussion, the coordinators decided to follow the model proposed by the Colombian Group, "Equipe de Trabajos con Organizaciones Populares", who had already organized regional meetings on this subject. The methodology we adapted from them was the following. The women were divided in four groups, each one related to one aspect of the crisis:

- (1) Economic Crisis in the Social and Public Services.
- (2) Economic Crisis and the External Debt.
- (3) Economic Crisis in its Relation to Work.
- (4) Economic Crisis and Family.

After having divided the larger group into smaller ones, the coordinator gave each subgroup a small questionnaire containing four questions that should guide the discussion. This phase lasted for sixty minutes. Each group was then asked to choose a rapporteur, who would report on the group's conclusions during the closing session.

During the final discussion we noticed that each group had a special characteristic which enriched the group experience. For instance, group "Economic Crisis and Public Services" had a sui-generis aspect since most of its participants were public employees and not users of the State Services as the questions had anticipated. They concluded that in the present situation

with its lack of state resources, they live a frustrating experience which makes it very difficult to perform a good job in the government.

The group which discussed the external debt had multiple opinions. Whereas some of them tended to hold the external debt responsible for all sorts of problems, others thought the situation was more complex, and discussed matters dating back to private financial agencies and the internal debt problem. Good examples are these cases: An old woman, 59 years old, argued that the payment of interest was affecting her income. She said she was ill and could not be treated because of the external debt. The second case was offered by a young bank employee who complained how terrible she felt when she had to lie to bank clients when they asked for information about good investments.

The women involved in the group concerning the issues of work as related to the economic crisis, pointed to the change of mentality of their members. They observed that nowadays there is more participation of male members in the domestic tasks.

The group discussing the family theme agreed that only when the family is well structured, can it help in the growth of all its members.

At the end, a very rich general discussion was held. Women who attended the meeting all agreed that the crisis is provoking impoverishment of the population in general, and of women in particular.

The work maintained by DAWN at the feminist meeting was important since there are differentiated tendencies being presented by feminism. Traditional perspectives have pointed to difficulties in associating questions developed by middle-class elites in the South with gender matters as they affect women from popular extraction, labor unions, rural environment, and from black or native extraction.

The DAWN perspective offers a major contribution to a feminist agenda of structural issues as they affect the women's movement.

(F) LATIN AMERICAN MEETING

The year of 1987, ended with the organization of the Latin American Regional meeting December, 5-9,1987. The seminar was hosted by FLACSO (Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales), Bolivia.

Themes that were discussed can be divided in two areas:

- The Food, Energy, and Debt crises in Relation to Women
- Women 's visions and movements.

The results presented during this event, were published in the book, Mujeres, Crisis y Movimientos, which has been published by ISIS International in Santiago, Chile, and a second volume as just been produced by Editorial Nueva Sociedad de Venezuela.

Participants were:

Bertha Pooley	Magdalena Leon
Carmen Barroso	
Carmena Sanabria	Marta Orozco
Eleonora Menicucci de Oliveira	Mirian Suarez
Erika Brokman	Monica Gogna
Gina Vargas	Neuma Aguiar
Gloria Ardaya	Patricia Rivas
Irma Arriagada	Rocio Rosero
Isabel Ardaya	Rosario Leon
Lelia Gonzalez	Rosario Sanches
Leonor Rodriguez	Sonia Montano
Lucila Criales	Suzana Prates
Luz del Socorro Ramirez	Thais R. Corral
Vivian Arteaga	Yara Carafa

Papers presented were:

- "Empleo Femenino en Mexico en Tiempo de Recesion Economica: Tendencia Reciente "  
Orlandina de Oliveira
- "Las Mujeres del Sector Popular: Recesion Economica y Democratizacion Politica en la Argentina "  
Maria del Carmen Feijoo e Elizabeth Jelin
- "El Impacto de la Crisis sobre las Mujeres Latinoamericanas" Sintesis de las Contribuciones de las Participantes de la Red MUDAR/DAWN en la Region.
- "Las Mujeres Latinoamericanas y la Crisis "
- "Las Mujeres Resisten la Crisis Economica y Reclaman Participacion "
- "Mujeres en los Sindicatos: Organizacion, practicas y demandas "
- "El impacto de la crisis en la mujer minera "
- "Sexo y Crisis "
- "Proyectos Productivos de mujeres. Reflexiones a partir de la experiencia "
- "Pobladoras en Santiago: algo mas que la crisis "
- "Movimiento de mujeres en America Latina: un reto para el Analsys y para la Accion "

- "Las Mujeres en Transición: de lo Específico a lo Integral"
- Reflexiones a partir del IX Encuentro Nacional Feminista"
- "Lucha por la Seguridad social de la Trabajadora Doméstica"
- "Balance y perspectivas del movimiento de Mujeres"
- "Por un Feminismo Afrolatinoamericano"
- "Feminismo: pasos críticos y deseos de cambio."

### APPENDIX III

(A) DAWN and the South Commission  
Subject of the Meeting at Ibadan

DAWN held a meeting at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria, February 23-25, 1987, with the participation of the members of the Steering Committee of the Network and the Research Group Coordinator of the Projects: "Food, Energy, and Debt Crises in Relation to Women" and "Women's Visions and Movements". The objective of the encounter was to discuss the proposal that the International Relations Coordinator, Devaki Jain, our representative at the South Commission, would present at the second meeting with the Commission to be held in the first days of March.

The South Commission, founded during the eighth encounter of the non-aligned countries in September, 1986, in Harare, is a non-governmental and independent organization. Its members are professionals from various countries in the Southern Hemisphere who agree on the necessity to create new alternatives to strengthen South-South cooperation.

The urgency that the South Commission expressed for the need to discuss the development crisis in the Southern Hemisphere justified that DAWN's meeting in Ibadan would also concentrate on the analysis and discussion of the impact of the economic crisis and the foreign debt on women gathered by the Network Regional Committees.

The basis of the relationship between DAWN and the South Commission was discussed exhaustively during the meeting. The question of the impoverishment process that the Third World is currently living through, and the role of women in such situations, occupied a large part of the time.

Pius Okigbo, representative from Nigeria in the South Commission, criticized the manner in which the debtor countries are confronting the debt problem, trying to get concessions from their creditors on an individual basis. For him, the Third World countries would get more benefits if they united and took a common position. He justified this thesis recalling that in historical occasions the Northern countries rejected their debt. "The only thing missing is political will", concluded Okigbo.

Peggy Antrobus agreed that political will is essential, emphasizing that the debt crisis exposes the untenability of the development models, accepted and assumed by the poor countries. According to Peggy, the essence of the problem besides the fact that the victims of the effects of the debt are not the same people who make the decisions is "The poor, especially the poor women that support the burden of poverty and did not choose the debt". She also emphasized the results of the recent study by UNICEF on the impact of the debt settlement and admonished the South Commission that it should examine, critically, this information that considers women to be passive consumers.

Neuma Aguiar emphasized that to categorize the countries in the Southern Hemisphere was not enough, a common feature for all countries is the poverty generated by adjustment policies. She added that the debt problem had grown in the last four or five years. Poverty grew along with the recession, unemployment, and the flattening of the salaries of the working class. She suggested that the cooperative efforts between the countries should be more widely divulged, and the information should reach the poor who need to fight for better salaries since what they receive today is below subsistence level.

Gita Sen insisted in the necessity of formulating a wider perspective in order to understand the debt question. She explained that DAWN, and other women's groups, came to the conclusion that the development process as a whole, was erroneously designed by not foreseeing that it should be focused on the most basic everyday needs, essential for rendering women's work more simple.

DAWN adopted three strategies for working with the South Commission, Devaki Jain informed: 1) to better inform the South Commission on the Network's activities; 2) to deepen the awareness of the South Commission members on the important work that is being developed by women researchers, the Commission was given the references of women who have written on relevant topics such as the debt crisis more strictly related to the Commission's work; and 3) to establish Common Regional Meeting areas of concern with the South Commission.

#### (B) The Southeast Asia

Under the sponsorship of the Center of Research and Resources of Women, Maryknoll College, Quezon City, the DAWN meeting in Southeast Asia occurred from the 18th to the 21st of July.

"The Impact of Food, Energy, and Debt Management on Women", was the theme of the meeting in which thirty-two women participated, representing different organizations in the region.

The meeting was organized in cooperation with the Women's Program from the Development Center for Asia and the Pacific.

Ample discussion was possible due to the contributions of the participants. The following papers were presented during the

meeting:

- "The Impact of the Food, Energy, and Debt Management Crises: a Cycle of Poverty for Women",
- "The Impact of Devaluation Policies on the Poor with Special Attention on Women",
- "The Impact of Food, Energy, Foreign Debt Management from the Perspective of the Women's Movement",
- "The Debt Crisis of Farm Households, and its Impact on Rural Women in the Republic of Korea",
- "The Role of Japan in the Debt/Aid Issues",
- "The Impact of Food - Energy - Foreign Debt Management from the Perspective of the Women's Movement:an Approach to the Case",
- "The Impact of the Food and Energy Crises, and the Foreign Debt on Women of Thailand".

(C) The African Regional Meeting:

For the second time this year, the University of Ibadan hosted a DAWN meeting. In February, the Steering Committee members and Research Group Coordinators met in Nigeria to discuss the proposals that Devaki Jain, International Relations Coordinator, would take to the meeting of the South Commission (scheduled to take place soon after). The participants also met in order to organize the two DAWN research projects for the African region.

This time more than one hundred women met between September 27th and 29th, in order to discuss the food, energy, and debt crises in relation to women and the progress made by "Women's Movement" in the African Continent. DAWN's General Coordinator, Neuma Aguiar, was also present. The papers presented illustrated the consequences of the foreign debt in the region, with special emphasis on the position of women.

From information now made available, it has become evident that these crises help to build up the level of tension in women, due to the insecurity which stems from growing unemployment, and from the lack of government investments in housing, health, and education.

The energy crisis together with the difficulties confronting many women who have to cope with the economic burden of the crisis in the administration of their own homes, has made their workday unbearable, a phenomenon recurring in all the crisis affected countries.

Bolanle Awe, DAWN's Training Coordinator, and Director of the Women's Research and Documentation Center of University of Ibadan, pointed out in her opening speech, while recalling data furnished by Dr. Pius Okigbo of the South Commission, that the greatest number of impoverished countries is located in the sub-Saharan region. Their debt payment equals 100% of their exports. "These countries cannot cope with their debts, and at the same time, create opportunities of growth", she concluded.

Bolanle Awe recalls that, aside from the crisis brought on by

the debt, there is, in Africa, a food and energy crisis. She cited examples of the hunger in Ethiopia and of the droughts in the Sahel which reveal the growing scarcity of food. In Nigeria, the lack of an adequate agricultural policy has produced the picture of a nation which not being properly industrialized, does not have the means to feed its own population.

The energy crisis is another phenomenon which many African women, especially the poorer ones, feel the effects of on a day-to-day basis. According to Bolanle Awe, this evidence leads us to the conclusion that alternative solutions are necessary at a national and international level. They are as follows:

- (1) Identify the effects of specific policies on the different classes or groups of women.
- (2) Draw up a conceptual structure of new alternative models of development.
- (3) Develop a comparative model, based on different factors in the various regions.
- (4) Bring to light the multiple dimensions of these crises, and suggest answers within a cultural, ethical, and political context.

The DAWN Training Coordinator recognizes the importance of the growing women's movement throughout the world, and further suggests:

- (1) Identify and compare the strengths and difficulties of the women's movement.
- (2) Project their alternative viewpoints in relation to development.
- (3) Examine strategies, ideology, and methodologies which have emerged from the women's movement with a view to guiding a more viable future with greater participation.

At the end of her speech, Bolanle Awe recalled that many of the subjects proposed by DAWN for research projects in Africa, have also been developed by another organization, AAWORD (Association of African Women for Research and Development), which held a General Meeting to celebrate its 10th Anniversary last August with the participation of women from the entire continent and among them a representative of DAWN.

The complete list of papers from the African Regional meeting is as follows:

- "Access to Education and the Advancement of Women in Employment in Botswana".
- "Education in Nigeria: Can the Momentum be Sustained?"
- "Women's Role in Resolving the Food-Debt Crisis in Southern Parts of Nigeria".
- "Effective Integration of Women in Food Production: A Solution to Nigeria's Food Crisis".
- "Women's Visions of their Role in National Development: An Evaluation of Women's Participation in Political Affairs - Igbo Women Experience".
- "The Women's Movement and Women's Vision".
- "Women's Movements and Visions - The Nigeria Labor Congress Women's Wing".

- "Methodological Considerations in Women 's Studies in Nigeria".
- "Family Conflict and Violence on Women in Kenya: Some Parameters for Instituting Contemporary Alternatives".
- "Science, Technology, and Development Crisis in Nigeria: What Relevance and Role for Women?"
- "Women and Nigeria ' s Food Crisis: Implications and Strategies".
- "The Food,Energy, and Debt Crisis in Relation to Women in Ghana".
- "Women and Labor in a Changing Environment: Problems of Domestic Service and Servants in Nairobi".
- "Women 's Vision and Struggles in Folklore: An Analysis".
- "Violence, Militatism, and Family Conflicts:Invisibility of Family Violence and its Causes and Links with Institutionalized Violence".
- "The Nigerian Food Crisis:A Critical Analysis of Women ' s Role".
- "Women 's Visions and Movements Conference".
- "Food,Energy, and Debt Crisis in Relation to Women".
- "Women's Organizational Alternatives in Africa: Independence vs Incorporation?"
- "Women's Labor and Trade Unionism in Kenya".
- "Women and Dairying in Nigeria: An Alternative Development Strategy".
- "The Energy Crises in Relation to Women".
- "The Women 's Group Movement in Kenya: A Viable Strategy for Empowerment".
- "Notes on Women 's Vision, Women 's Movement, and the Food: The Case of Ethiopia".
- "Adolescent Situation: An Overview and a Study Suggestion".
- "Women 's Struggle to Combat the Spread of Aids and HIV: A Case Study of Women in Sex Industry in Nairobi".
- "Women in Sierra Leone: Their Reactions to the Socio-Economic Effects of the Energy and Debt Crises".
- "Women and the Food Crisis: the Nigerian Situation".
- "Nigerian Women 's Visions and Movements: An Overview".
- "The Food, Energy, and Debt Crises in Relation to Women".
- "Women and the Economy in Pre-colonial Nigeria".

(D) Regional Meeting in South Asia - September 2nd-4th, 1988

Circumstances beyond the control of the organizers greatly hindered the Regional meeting of the South Asia, scheduled to take place in the first week of September in Dhaka, capital of Bangladesh. The floods which affected the region, closing off the airports and other means of transportation and communication, made the arrival of many of the participants impossible.

The reunion became just a small get together, composed of some members of Women for Women, the sponsoring organization the Indian, Devaki Jain, Coordinator of the Network 's International

Relations, Hameeda Hossain, Research Coordinator, and Najma Sadeque, a representative from Pakistan.

According to the communique sent to us by Hossain, Najma Sadeque was the only one to personally present her work on the growing militarization in Pakistan and the changes resulting from this phenomenon. Other participants had sent their work before - hand making it possible for us to present a small summary for the participants of this network:

- "The Nature of Development Crises and its Impact upon Women: The Bangladesh Case".
- "Transformation of Women's Role and Work in Rural Bangladesh".
- "Women's Struggle for Emancipation and Equality from the Private to the Public Sphere".
- "Interaction Between Cultural Patterns, Development Forces, and Women's Position".

As many of you may recall, DAWN's Regional meeting for South Asia had to be postponed last September due to the heavy flooding in Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh, where the gathering was scheduled to be held.

Thanks to the efforts of Hameeda Hossain, DAWN's Regional Research Coordinator, and of Chhaya Datar of the Tata Institute (who hosted the meeting). Network participants were able to meet in Bombay in July, 1989.

What's more, Hameeda Hossain sent us an interesting paper entitled "Network Experiences in Development Research", in which she tells of her experiences as DAWN's Research Coordinator. In South Asia, for example, she states that DAWN's two projects attracted feminists, members of academic institutions, women's groups, and professionals.

According to Hameeda, DAWN's research in South Asia seeks to change the orientation of traditional studies, which attribute the deterioration of women's conditions in the last few years to endemic poverty, cultural limitations, and the invisibility of women's work in official statistics.

#### (E) DAWN's Regional Meeting: Caribbean

DAWN's regional meeting for the Caribbean took place November 7-11.

The network's general coordinator, Neuma Aguiar, was present at the event, which commemorated the tenth anniversary of the Women and Development Unit of the Extramural Department of the University of West Indies in Barbados. The DAWN Steering Committee met during the event.

Meeting participants discussed strategies for integrating women in development women's groups with a religious base, the orientation of the new feminist organization, and the characteristics of women's groups linked to political parties. The crisis in the Caribbean also occupied prominent place in

discussion, with an entire day being set aside for debate on the topic.

(F) Panel about DAWN organized in the Thirtieth Congress of the Indian Sciences Academy

Ten papers explaining DAWN's perspective were presented and discussed. Devaki Jain, DAWN's International Relations Coordinator, moderated the discussion. She opened the session by emphasizing the need to construct new development theories based on the experiences and needs of poor women.

Research Coordinator Hameeda Hossain, was also present at the meeting. She added her thoughts on how development has utilized the cheap labor of women. In her opinion, women will have to make a greater organizational effort through women's movements in different countries.

C. P. Sujaya described experiences as a member of the SAARC Commission for Women and Development, formed by seven South Asian countries who decided to cooperate by exchanging information on development issues. She pointed out how hard it is to find trustworthy data in some countries of the region. She also denounced the failure of many governments in the region to consider women's development as a political issue, and stated that this situation should be changed.

Nirmala Banerjee pointed out that not just economic and cultural factors should be taken into account when analyzing the situation of women. Kumud Sharma presented an analysis of the "New Women's Movement" that uses gender perspectives to meet the challenges of development from the social and political standpoint.

Finally, Sundry Raviindran discussed women's health in South Asia and India, showing that life expectancy is very low. The causes are not only related to poverty, which leads to malnutrition, but also the cultural aspects of women's behavior.

All in all, the papers demonstrated that families headed by women are a growing phenomenon in rural areas of South Asia. In urban areas, female workers have not yet forged their own identity. Women's participation in labor unions is still slight, and they continue to take the worst jobs with no chance of social mobility.

(G) Communications applied to the theme of women and development

Do communications help facilitate women's integration in the development process? Which communications media are most effective - the mass or alternative media? What impact have advances in the informatics field had on communications; have they made women's participation in the development process more efficient? How can we evaluate the concrete experiences in which communications were applied to the field of women and

development?

These questions were at the forefront of the debate during the International Encounter on the Role of Communications in Women's Development held from October 24-28, 1988 at FAO (U.N.) headquarters in Rome. INSTRAW (the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women) organized the event with support from the Italian government and the Frederick Ebert Foundation of Germany.

The experiences described by some 30 specialists participating in the gathering (the majority of them women), illustrated the wide range of resources that have been applied to the question of women and development. North American participant, Bettina Corke, for example, presented the "CD Rom" program, which permits the storage of information equivalent to 500 books in a single compact disc that is adaptable to a personal computer. Other interesting experiences were cited, including the educational women's programs transmitted by a radio network in Zimbabwe, and the utilization of electronic mail to facilitate international exchange of information among women. According to one participant the use of audio-visual techniques has borne excellent results in women's training programs. In a joint project, INSTRAW and the OIT have used audio-visual to train women in sanitation, water supply, and energy resource projects.

The diversity of experiences related led to some important conclusions. The treatment of women's themes in the mass media continues to be insignificant. The situation is due, on the one hand, to intense discrimination against women. On the other hand, it results from our own difficulty in finding ways to present our information according to media parameters.

The women's groups with access to new communication technologies are a minority, and there is an obvious shortage of tools, as well as women trained to use them. Representatives of funding agencies present at the encounter, promised to transmit these concerns to the coordinators of programs for women at their respective institutions.

Thais Corral, DAWN's Information Officer, was present at the meeting. She presented the experience of our bulletin "DAWN INFORMS" as an example of an alternative communications space, aimed at promoting the exchange of information and experiences among Third World Feminists. She also cited DAWN's work in radio communications, the weekly program "FALA MULHER", broadcast by a local Rio de Janeiro radio station for over a year. The program constitutes a pioneer effort in the city attempting to apply the conceptual approaches of the women in development field in the context of broadcast journalism.

INSTRAW was in charge of preparing the final report from the encounter on The Role of Communications in Women's Development.

## APPENDIX IV

### (A) Training Program on Women and Alternative Visions of Development

One of the main concerns that prompted a group of feminist researchers and activists to create the DAWN/MUDAR network in Bangalore in 1984, was the need to deepen and disseminate the alternative experiences and visions of Third World Women in relation to development issues.

In various meetings of the founding group - formed later on as the network was organized in working groups - the idea of promoting the training of Third World researchers within a theoretical and practical line of alternative development became a reality.

Great effort was required to reach this goal, not only in terms of financial resources - provided by the International Development Research Center (IDRC) of Canada - but also in terms of DAWN's theoretical development along two project lines: "The Food, Energy, and Debt Crises in Relation to Women", and "Women's Visions and Movements".

DAWN/MUDAR acting as a catalyst, did a significant amount of work in various regions during the last biennium, thus providing the foundation for the five-week training program, designed in harmony with the network's objectives.

#### The Training Program

Twenty-one women participated in the training program, which took place between January 4 and February 3, 1989. The IDRC financed the participation of 10 Latin American women, and with the United Nations, three Portuguese-speaking African women. Some Latin American participants paid their own way and others obtained scholarships from the institutions where they work.

140 people applied to obtain study grants for the training course. Each of them presented a research proposal within DAWN's two theoretical lines. Grant recipients were selected based on the analysis of these materials and their curriculum vitae.

The organization of the training program's content sought principally to fill the participants' basic needs, permitting them to develop their own research projects during the course.

Different topics were grouped in units, which facilitated teaching. The unit, "Women and Alternative Development Perspective" opened the course. During 18 hours of theoretical classes, participants examined issues related to the following subjects: Development and Crisis, Participation in the Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment, Sexuality and Reproduction, Women's and Feminist Movements, and Social Policies Related to Women.

The second unit, totalling 42 hours, covered various sub-

themes under the headings of Socio-Demographic Indicators and Statistical Measurements.

The third unit related to research methodologies. Discussion of the different projects presented by participants, the appropriate methodologies to be applied in each case, dissemination and financial matters were treated.

The fourth unit emphasized the practical, including: micro-computer exercises accompanied by a monitor. The fifth unit referred to dissemination strategies and included, audio-visual preparation as a possible research dissemination technique, and alternative experiences in popular theater as a possible method of working with women.

The team of professors responsible for directing the course is now involved in the reading, study, and final evaluation of the projects.

#### (B) Asia and Pacific Meetings

In anticipation of the Interregional meeting which will take place in May 6-11, DAWN members in all regions have coordinated preparatory meetings. In India, for example, 32 women participated in a meeting from July 1 to 5 to discuss and broaden DAWN's perspectives, incorporating the concrete experiences of the region.

In the concluding document of this meeting, Chhaya Datar of the Tata Institute, an active participant in DAWN, criticized the analysis of development promoted in DAWN's platform as presented in 1985 at the closing ceremony of the U.N. Decade of Women held in Nairobi. She observed that this analysis itself lacks an explanation from an historical perspective of the role that women occupy in the production process. According to Datar, the analysis also lacks a conceptual explanation of why women were expelled from their lands or were marginalized in the current development process. The participants in the meeting, therefore, decided to broaden the scope of discussion relating to questions of women and the economic development of India, emphasizing the necessity of understanding the "market economy" as a key mechanism obstructing the "economic realization" of women and causing the ecological degradation of nature.

Other questions such as population control, the politics of contraception, and new technologies of reproduction were considered. The discussion underscored how patriarchal factors influence women's work opportunities in industry, in the same way that technological development and the restructuring of industry in formal and informal sectors has direct effects on the female workforce. The effects of market orientation in agriculture and its consequence for deterioration of the environment also received attention.

The participants in the meeting further delineated principles

that are part of an alternative development process. These points constitute a negation of the characteristics of the current model of development, which follow:

(1) The principle of the current economic model is: "Increasing consumption brings happiness". The market mechanism helps to increase consumption and transform natural resources into consumer goods, thereby destroying them.

(2) "Nature exists for the pleasure of the human species". For this reason, nature should be conquered, exploited, and manipulated for the satisfaction of this pleasure. Science was developed to reveal the mysteries of natural phenomena and the laws of nature. Research for the demystification of nature's mysteries initiated the manipulation of nature for pleasure and for the market. Genetic engineering and the current developments in the technology of genetic manipulation are a form of intervention in nature aided by science and by "research for knowledge's sake".

(3) When the principal objective of the economy is the development of markets, increasing the size of these very markets - to make large scale production possible - becomes inevitable. The production of merchandise is no longer to satisfy needs but rather to feed voracity. Technological investments consume energy and resources intensively in their turn, producing "high tech" which causes the waste of resources and ecological degradation.

(4) Resource-intensive technologies also contribute to the concentration of capital and of land, that is, of resources in the hands of a few multinationals and of wealthy landowners. Because of this, the value added remains highly concentrated. The use of intensive technologies to increase value added causes problems in the distribution of incomes, and thereby purchasing power. It increases the poor.

(5) In the process of giving incentives to the development of markets and of high technology, women are expelled from the land, and their access to traditional resources is eliminated. They are the most seriously affected.

The following points emerged as basic principles for an alternative model of development:

(1) The level of consumption of human beings in the entire world should be re-evaluated and should be congruent with the availability of natural resources for all. The level of consumption should be maintained respecting the natural cycles and their respective process.

(2) The relationship with nature should be based on the principle of harmony and not of conquest. Intervention in natural process should not exceed certain levels which affect the complex of factors which comprise ecological equilibrium. The manipulation of nature should not be in relation to the satisfaction of our desires. Our principles should be cooperation based on comprehension of the laws of nature and of conservation, reproduction, and evolution. Too much importance has been attributed to science as a force for human beings. The problem is that science sees nature in a fragmented form. It does not have a

holistic vision.

(3) Production should be for the genuine satisfaction of the needs of all, not for excesses. The market mechanism which stimulated greed in consumption should be reduced. The internationalization of markets should also not be stimulated.

(4) Women should be at the center of any development program since they are intrinsically linked to survival, above all in the case of women workers. It must not be forgotten that women possess knowledge or traditional methods of conservation and subsistence which permit human beings to live on earth.

(5) Development should be self-sustained, persisting generation after generation, and should be based on the principle of the renovation of natural resources.

#### APPENDIX V

(A) List of papers presented at the Interregional meeting, Brazil:

Rhoda Reddock - "Women 's Organizations and Movements in the Commonwealth Caribbean in the Context of the World Economic Crisis of the 1990s".

Peggy Antrobus - "Crises and Challenges of Caribbean Women in the 1980s".

Neuma Aguiar - "Women and the Latin American Crisis".

Virginia Vargas - "The Women 's Social Movement".

Noeleen Heyzer - "Crisis in Relation to Women".

Hameeda Hossain - "Women 's Visions and Movements in South Asia".

Nirmala Banerjee - "Food, Energy, and Debt Crises in Relation to Women in South Asia".

Bolanle Awe, et al. - "The Food, Energy, and Debt Crisis in Relation to African Women".

Maria Nzomo, et al. - "Women 's Visions and Movements in the African Context".

(B) SID-WID-DAWN MEETING - MAY 4-5

INFORMATION ABOUT THE DEBATE

THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT

Neuma Aguiar  
Chair of the Session

The debate, "The Role of Women in Development", was organized by the DAWN/MUDAR network, in collaboration with SID-WID.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We thank LOURDES ARIZPE, the representant from the Mexico Chapter and member of the DAWN/MUDAR Steering Committee member, for the idea of our taking advantage of the SID-WID meeting in Rio de Janeiro, which took place before the Inter-regional Conference, to sponsor a joint debate with that organization.

We also thank ANA MARIA BRASILEIRO, the SID-WID coordinator in Brazil, and MARLENE FERNANDES, an active member of SID-WID, for their contributions in organizing the debate.

In addition, we are grateful to WENDY HARCOURT for her valuable help.

INTRODUCTION

The DAWN/MUDAR network began in Bangalore, India, and since 1986, has been headquartered in Rio de Janeiro. Since the beginning, the network - in its analysis of development established by its researchers - has called attention to a world crisis which particularly affects women. Our researchers noted that, given the assumptions of developmental models, women were left out of analysis, thereby undermining an evaluation of the impact of development on the family and on the composition of the various domestic units.

In recent decades, the role of women in development has been growing, even during periods of recession. This rise is due to the activity of married women with children who do not necessarily compete with men for jobs.

When the economic reform policies affected the general population

through cutbacks in formal employment and reductions in salaries, women left their homes in search of remunerated work in order to diminish the impact of the crisis on standards of living, on basic necessities such as health, education, housing, as well as on the quality of public services.

The trends exhibited varying tendencies according to country.

Papers were presented by:

Orlandina de Oliveira-(Researcher at the Colegio de Mexico)  
"Economic Recession and Changes in the  
Determinants Affecting Women 's Work".

Rosario Aguirre (Researcher at CIEDUR)  
"The Effect of the Crisis on Uruguayan  
Women: A Proposal for Democratization of  
Knowledge".

Irma Arriagada (Researcher at CEPAL)  
"The Unequal Participation of Women in the  
Latin American Workplace".

The debate moderators were:

Vivian Arteaga (Researcher at the Centro Gregoria Apaza)

Patricia Portocarrero (Researcher at the Centro Flora Tristan)

The Inter-regional Conference of the DAWN/MUDAR Network will take place after this meeting.

In the meantime, we invite the participation of anyone who would like to pursue this question.

ECONOMIC RECESSION AND CHANGE IN THE DETERMINANTS  
OF WOMEN ' S WORK

Brigida Garcia  
Orlandina de Oliveira

This paper bases its demonstration of the great differences in the probability of work between social sectors and two moments in time on fertility surveys (END and ENFES). These surveys document the substantial changes in the magnitude and conditions of women 's work which took place in Mexico at the end of the 1980s. This paper makes use of the same analytic strategy in addressing

the two historic moments, calling attention to possible changes in the role of the conditioning factors of women's employment within different social sectors.

Changes according to age group are of particular interest. The differences in what we know by the end of the 1970s - the so-called participation of the 1980s - does not suffer a sharp decline after the ages of 20-24. This figure remains high for all other age groups and declines only after the reproductive years. This could be due to the fact that young women do not stop working after getting married or after having their first children, and that older women need to enter the labor market in larger numbers in order to generate enough income - especially in informal, unsalaried jobs - to sustain their families.

The figures provided by the National Census of Urban Employment for the principal urban areas of Mexico, especially after 1985, follow the same trend as the ENFES data. This is especially true of the information regarding Guadalajara and Mexico City where surveyors registered the highest incidences of female participation in the labor market beyond the youngest age group. As for the role of educational level as a conditioning factor on women's employment, we discovered an important change: among women employed as manual laborers, the economic crisis contributed to an increased employment of those workers with lower education levels, thereby removing the level of formal education as an indicator of likelihood of work.

We call attention to the fact that we discovered among women of the middle class sectors in 1982: married women are more likely to work than single, divorced, or widowed women. In this case, the huge expansion in the number of non-manual jobs available up until the 1980s could explain the entrance of large numbers of married women into the labor market during that period. Married women looking to work as unsalaried manual laborers also displayed a greater likelihood to work than single women. The economic context for the women of this sector, however, is of a particular kind. Due to the economic crisis, these women play an important role in sustaining the family.

It is also clear that children play a conditioning role on women's employment, a role which varies according to social sector in times of expansion or times of economic crisis. In certain cases, the influence of children on women's employment is equivalent to the influence of marital status, depending on the dynamics of the labor market. During the economic expansion in non-manual occupations, for example, women of the middle class sectors and unsalaried manual laborers with children, including those with very small children, were as likely to participate in the labor market as women without children. During the crisis, however, which led to a reduction in non-manual jobs, the likelihood of women with children (in the previously - mentioned social sectors) to work declined relative to women without children.

THE EFFECTS OF THE CRISIS ON URUGUAYAN WOMEN:  
A PROPOSAL FOR THE DEMOCRATIZATION OF KNOWLEDGE

Rosario Aguirre

There has been, in the case of Uruguay, a massive explosion in the number of women participating in the labor market as a result of the persistent crisis which has affected the country since the 1960 s.

This increase has been most spectacular in Uruguay. Between 1967 and 1987, the employment rate for women rose from 27% to 47,8%. We can show that currently almost half of women over the age of 14 work outside the home.

This massive integration of women into the work force is linked to the effects of the deteriorating salaries and reduced incomes on Uruguayan homes. As a result, families have faced this situation by developing "strategies" such as increased work hours wherever possible for already employed family members, self-employment, increased consumption of homemade products, or internal migration.

Two particular characteristics distinguish the process of incorporating women into the area of remunerated work in Uruguay: the employment rate for Uruguayan women is much higher than for other Latin American women whose entrance into the labor market was much more gradual; and this process was not accompanied by policies meant to facilitate women's economic activity.

The majority of women do not "substitute" remunerated work for housework. The use of appliances, commercial services (launderers, security services, food suppliers), or domestic service is a viable alternative for very few female laborers. The structural reform process initiated this year will certainly have an important effect on the lives of women.

Fiscal reform, cutbacks in public spending, and social disorganization have caused a rapid decline in employment and income for sectors with the fewest resources.

The limited rate of increase in benefits for management and labor would lead to the rise in the number and variety of atypical jobs: seasonal and temporary employment, clandestine or "under the table" jobs, part-time work, and home-based employment. These forms of employment distort the salaried relationship.

When employment is precarious, labor becomes cheaper due to reductions in benefits linked to salaries and non-payment of salaries during the downtime in seasonal or temporary work or when demand is low.

On the other hand, there exists a labor force available for this type of work, precisely because of the flexibility of hours. This is the case with working mothers, men and women looking for second jobs, youth who have difficulty entering the labor market, and retirees who look for the occasional job.

One result of this process is that more and more workers

fall through the social security net. Because of privatization policies and reduced state intervention, it is particularly difficult to finance educational, health, and infrastructural services which would resolve on a collective level properly domestic tasks such as washing, security, food preparation, etc. The position of female laborers becomes more difficult because domestic work continues to be considered women's work. On the other hand, adult male members of the household who could take over domestic tasks are forced to compensate for the loss in income due to inflation and the recession.

In certain situations where the labor market contracts, economic demands require the modification of the effect children have on women's employment outside the home. This was the case in 1987 among salaried female manual laborers for whom children traditionally had been a limiting factor on employment. Faced with the economic pressures imposed on urban salaried workers by the economic crisis, the women ceased to be influenced by the previously inhibiting factor of having children. Only in cases of heavy familial responsibility (three or more children with the youngest aged 0-3 years) did the number and ages of children impact on women's employment. It is, therefore, a mistake to think that many women left their jobs to take care of their homes; it is more a question of developing a strategy to increase income on a level with strategies to care for the home and children.

We are, then, facing important changes (which vary according to social sector) in the conditioning factors on women's work. These changes are probably motivated by the economic crisis which affects us all, albeit differently according to long-term factors which have to do with the education and standards of behavior of the female population.

## THE UNEQUAL PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN THE LATIN AMERICAN WORKPLACE

Irma Arriagada

The interest in studying the economic behavior of women in the region is a recent occurrence. This interest coincides with studies of development. One early conclusion of the analysis of the economic roles of men and women is that there is an unequal participation by sex in the labor market. According to census figures, the majority of the male population is economically active, while the majority of the female population is classified as economically inactive; in other words, they are registered as homemakers. This finding led researchers to look for the causes of this phenomenon and to investigate the different ways in which work is allocated to men and women in the

sphere of production. In one way or another, Latin America - like the rest of the world - has concentrated women's economic activity in the areas of social reproduction, reproduction of the work force, and biological reproduction. The role that women play in these spheres of reproduction determines the form and impact of female participation in productive activity.

It is the intention of this paper to review the employment of women in the labor market and in the home as well, as to call attention to the interrelationship of the areas, both of which have been very much affected by the crisis.

## DISCUSSION

Patricia Portocarrero

1) These contributions serve as an example and indicate the path that we should follow. It is necessary to continue and complete research from a gender perspective which combines empirical data with theory and analyzes comparatively the positions of men and women in the workplace during a crisis period.

This necessity leads us to "sound the alarm" since the completion of research with the previously-mentioned objectives will appeal to empirical data which has rarely considered the variable of sex, thereby hampering an appropriate comparison.

(2) This work - like the work of our three contributors - should make use of a micro approach which favors an in-depth analysis to a general overview. This is not to say that these analysis should in any way ignore macro-economic mediations. Only the combination of the two perspectives will allow the formulation of proposals and recommendations relative to working-class urban women.

(3) We need to keep clear - as do the three contributors - that the formulation and enactment of any proposal presupposes putting into play a specific desire not only to soften the effects of the crisis, but also to change society in general. At the same time, the structural elements which effect the subjugation of women in the society, the labor market and home should be addressed.

In accordance with the first perspective which attempts to change gender relations through specific policies, we should always ask questions such as: Who benefits from this policy? How does this or that policy affect gender relations? In what cases? Questions like these, apparently very general, are in fact, critical for the formulation and execution of policies to combat oppression.

(4) Finally, we must underline that the implementation of recommendations and specific policies will only be possible if the main protagonists involved - women - participate and commit themselves to the process of their formulation.

## DISCUSSION

Vivian Arteaga

(1) Without a doubt, the impact of the economic crisis of the 1980s on Latin American women was the increased informality and terciarization of women's employment on the one hand, and by greater unemployment on the other. Women increased their participation in the economic sector, especially in less-productive, lower income and depressed areas of the economy. On the other hand, the number of women participating in the economy will increase at a faster rate in the future than that of men, particularly in a context where poverty has increased due to the economic recession which will certainly continue at least for the short term.

(2) This situation allows us to ensure that future political and economic reforms for the development of the region be directly linked to the general problems of inequality and inefficiency which had been identified as the major barriers to be faced by states and national societies: Inequality - because women suffer higher rates of poverty and social subordination. Inefficiency - because if women, who make up 50% of human resources, are not incorporated more effectively into development policies, our societies will be wasting significant human potential.

(3) The facing of these barriers should, nevertheless, take into account the current reduced relationship between the state and society resulting from the modernization of the state. This modernization presupposes the reduction of public spending, political and administrative decentralization, and the restructuring of the state apparatus as methods leading to a more efficient and effective state. If the centralized state were to stop administrating education, health, employment, and access to productive resources, how could these services be efficiently rendered at a decentralized regional level? What form will the foundation of society - the private sector - take? How should policies be formulated in order not to ignore or exclude women from development efforts? Within the private sector or public sector? These are the questions which should, in my opinion, be resolved as soon as possible so that by the end of the next decade women can be fully integrated into the development process and rescued from poverty and subordination.

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#### RADIO PROGRAM

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Development Alternatives With Women For a New Era

DAWN/MUDAR-IUPERJ

Financial Report

Period: January/86 - March/90

	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
. Revenues	561,837.92	428,746.99
	_____	_____
. Balance (03/30/90)		<u>133,090.93</u>
TOTAL.....	US\$ 561,837.92	US\$ 561,837.92

Rio de Janeiro, March 30, 1990

*Edson Luiz Vieira de Melo*  
 Edson Luiz Vieira de Melo  
 Accountant - TC. CRC/RJ 20070

*Neuma Figueiredo de Aguiar*  
 Neuma Figueiredo de Aguiar  
 General Coordinator  
 DAWN/MUDAR

Income Statement DAWN/MUDAR-IUPERJ  
January/1986 and March/1990

SOURCES	PERIOD	
Ford Foundation Grant 860.0987	December/86-September/88	90,000.00
ONU/NGO	May/86-October/87	10,000.00
Anonymos Donour	June/86-October/87	24,990.00
DUTCH Government I	November/86-October/87	37,704.57
DUTCH Government II	March/88-August/89	46,290.22
Rockefeller Foundation I	January-October/86	11,000.00
UNIFEM	October-December/89	20,000.00
MATCH I	October/88-March/89	3,372.48
DUTCH Government III	February-March/88	36,769.53
NORAD	June/87-December/88	26,280.00
Rockefeller Foundation II	April/87-October/89	25,000.00
Ford Foundation II Grant 885.0120	November/87-December/88	18,000.00
IDRC	March/88-December/89	63,611.48
DUTCH Government IV	December/89 (on going)	90,101.36
Churches	October/89 (on going)	5,000.00
NORAD	March/90 (on going)	24,939.83
EZE	March/90 (on going)	26,645.18
MATCH II	March/90 (on going)	<u>380.79</u>
	Sub-Total	560,085.44
Other Grants	January/89 (on going)	<u>1,752.48</u>
	TOTAL	561,837.92

Expenditures Statement "DAWI/MUDAR-LUPERJ"  
January/1986 and March/1990

ITEMS	I Ford Foundation Grant-860.0987	OHU/NGO	Anonymous Donour	I DUTCH Government	II DUTCH Government	II Foundation Rockefeller	UNIFER	MATCH	III DUTCH Government	NORDAD	I Rockefeller Foundation	II Ford Foundation Grant-865.0120	IDRC	IV DUTCH Government	TOTAL
1 - Secretariat	67,181.74	5,716.09	15,896.85	29,183.37	40,404.53	25,000.00	14,750.88	1,170.47	-	-	-	-	19,442.85	218,627.38	
1 - Personnel	36,491.83	3,374.86	-	10,373.31	27,035.80	13,856.20	8,711.14	-	-	-	-	-	14,769.31	114,612.45	
2 - Telephone, Mail and other Expenditures	7,214.91	-	4,338.70	9,103.88	8,292.83	745.98	5,235.65	1,025.02	-	-	-	-	2,813.24	38,770.21	
3 - Travel Expenditures of Secretariat Staff	17,371.99	-	-	-	980.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	908.08	19,260.07	
4 - Travel Expenditures of Steering Committee and Working Group Members	4,000.00	-	-	-	-	10,357.82	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,357.82	
5 - Maintenance	2,023.01	2,341.23	11,558.15	9,626.78	4,175.90	-	804.09	145.45	-	-	-	-	912.22	31,586.83	
II - Seminar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22,182.82	26,280.00	10,000.00	18,000.00	33,890.87	118,862.78	
1 - Travel Expenditures	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22,182.02	26,280.00	3,138.63	14,316.00	13,793.13	88,220.39	
2 - Telephone, Mail and other Expenditures	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,629.58	3,684.00	6,734.42	15,048.00	
3 - Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,231.79	-	11,362.52	15,594.31	
III - Publications	4,898.26	4,283.91	4,895.15	1,100.25	5,885.69	-	1,249.12	2,282.81	-	-	-	-	538.19	24,975.34	
IV - Training	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22,883.22	22,883.22	
1 - Scholarships and/or Fellowships	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,116.86	15,116.86	
2 - Training Workshop	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,766.36	7,766.36	
V - Overhead	18,000.00	2,000.00	4,998.00	7,500.35	-	-	4,000.00	-	-	-	1,000.00	-	5,900.00	43,398.35	
TOTAL	90,000.00	10,000.00	24,990.00	37,704.57	46,290.22	25,000.00	20,000.00	3,372.48	22,182.02	26,280.00	11,000.00	18,000.00	63,611.48	428,746.99	