



CF-RAI-USAA-DPP-RAM-2006-00053

Expanded Number **CF-RAI-USAA-DPP-RAM-2006-00053**

External ID

Title

**Perspectives of Development for Children & Adolescents in the Second Development Decade.**

Date Created / From Date

Date Registered

Date Closed / To Date

Primary Contact **Tarlok Singh**

Home Location **CF/RAF/ZW/H0022-1980-000075835 (In Container)**

9/3/1971 at 11:08 AM

5/12/2006 at 11:22 AM

Owner Location **Dep.Exec Dir,Operations ( Heyward) =50019304**

Current Location/Assignee **Record & Archive Manage Related Functions=80669443 since 5/12/2006 at 11:08 AM**

F12: Status Certain? **No**

F13: Record Copy? **No**

d01: In, Out, Internal Rec or Rec Copy

Contained Records

Container **CF/RA/BX/N9/ED/OP/1980/T002: Mr. Heyward - Emergencies & Educ:**

Date Published

Fd3: Doc Type - Format

Da1:Date First Published

Priority

Record Type **A01 DPP-RAM ITEM**

Document Details **Record has no document attached.**

Print Name of Person Submit Image

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PLAN/P/3  
3 September 1971

TO: Field Offices

FROM: Tarlok Singh

SUBJECT: Perspective of Development for Children and Adolescents in the Second Development Decade - Outline for Collation of Material

1. In our preliminary work on the preparation of the perspective study on Children and Adolescents in the Second Development Decade as outlined in PLAN/P/1, dated 19 May, 1971, we have reached a stage when such contribution as UNICEF regional and country offices can make will be of considerable value. Our effort here is to prepare a rough first draft of the study by the end of November, 1971, and to request your comments and further suggestions by the beginning of January, 1972.

2. The study has three main objects:

- (i) to analyse developments foreseeable over the next decade which will have a special bearing on the welfare and development of children and adolescents;
- (ii) to assess the possibilities of action during the decade as a stage in the larger task of meeting the long-range needs of children and adolescents; and
- (iii) to suggest directions and priorities in the light of the financial, administrative and other constraints as well as the favourable opportunities which may be expected to emerge in the coming years.

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PLAN/P/3

For the purpose of the study, children and adolescents are taken as falling broadly within the following sub-groups:

Infants (0-1)  
Pre-school children (2-6)  
Elementary school-age children (7-12)  
Adolescents (13-15 and 16-18, boys and girls)

Developments over the past decade, and more specially during the period 1966-1970, are to be taken as a starting point. The decade 1971-1980 is taken as consisting of two sub-periods, 1971-1975 and 1976-1980. In looking at the perspective for the first part of the decade, information available in national development plans and UNICEF-assisted projects and programmes already approved or under consideration will be drawn upon to the extent possible. In considering perspectives for the second sub-period, to the extent possible, an attempt will be made to take a view beyond the decade, perhaps even up to 1985.

The perspective study is being undertaken with a practical purpose: to assist countries individually in formulating and pursuing, effectively and continuously, essential goals affecting the welfare and development of children and adolescents as part of their overall scheme of development and to bring the requisite experience, organization and resources to the support of these efforts at the national as well as international levels.

3. The outline enclosed with this memorandum has been drawn up with a view to collating and organizing material on which to base UNICEF's report to the Executive Board. It is hoped that this outline will also assist each field

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office, in relation to the country or countries with which it is concerned, to make a quick review of national development plans, studies and evaluations, reports of important national commissions and committees on themes of interest to UNICEF, and completed or ongoing projects or programmes which are likely to throw significant light on the approach to development over the next decade. It is requested that field offices will kindly make an effort to refer us to such materials as early as possible. Being close to the ground, they will be in a position also to communicate their own views and suggestions in the form of brief statements and to cite data which they consider helpful for the perspective study. In this respect, whatever assistance they feel able to give will be greatly appreciated. Country by country reviews are not required. What is contemplated is that field offices may point to materials, experiences and possibilities which, in their view, should not be lost sight of in our work on the perspective study. Groups of countries, as in West Africa or Central America, where a concerted effort is being made to prepare for future development, may also offer some valuable guidance. Where documents which are considered helpful for the perspective study have not been sent to Headquarters at an earlier date, and copies are still available, they may now please be forwarded to us. Regional Planning Officers are also being requested to give such assistance to field offices as the latter may desire.

4. In explanation of the Outline, it may be stated that Part I, (Conditions of Development), is intended to bring out linkages between the development of children and adolescents

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and overall economic and social development which will be of increasing importance in the coming years. Part II (Areas of action concerning children and adolescents) and Part III (Integrated approaches), view the various themes indicated in terms of policies and measures within individual countries. Part IV (Regional and national perspectives) is intended to project the picture over the next decade, however broadly, in terms of UNICEF regions, with illustrative data drawn from individual countries. Data available from regional economic commissions and other sources will be recast accordingly. This approach has been adopted both to facilitate future programme development in different regions and to elicit the contribution of each of our field offices. It is hoped to bring together the major conclusions of the study in Part V (Policy implications). Part VI (Guidelines for the preparation of country perspectives) will focus attention on the steps which could be taken by individual countries at the national level in preparing their own perspective studies in relation to children and adolescents as a means for ensuring accelerated and systematic development.

Your suggestions on the scope of the study and on aspects which may be highlighted in what is yet a very preliminary and sketchy outline will be of much help to us.

5. There are a few specific points on which statistical information will be required by us. On these a separate memorandum is being sent and Regional Planning Officers will be requested to consult with UNICEF Representatives.