

groups, social integration and social welfare, including the preparation of a special issue of the International Social Development Review devoted to poverty and a newsletter.

26. Close contacts will be maintained with the non-governmental community participating in events to observe the Year. The World Summit for Social Development emphasized the essential role played by actors of civil society in the struggle against poverty and called in particular for a strengthening of "actions taken in partnership and cooperation with actors of civil society, the private sector and cooperatives". 10/ In the light of General Assembly resolutions 48/183 and 49/110 and of the decisions of the World Summit for Social Development, the Under-Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development addressed a letter to international non-governmental organizations that took part in the preparatory process for the World Summit for Social Development. The aim of this letter was to emphasize the significance of the active participation of all actors of society, in particular non-governmental organizations, in the struggle against poverty; to inform them about the main activities the United Nations intended to undertake to observe the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty in 1996; and to ask for their cooperation in that respect.

Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis

27. Many of the population activities of the Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis have a direct bearing on poverty. The analytical studies of the Population Division of the social and economic causes and consequences of fertility, mortality and migration, relate to poverty issues. The Division's work programme in this field also includes a review of conceptual approaches to poverty and its measurement, and the interplay between demographic characteristics of the poor and the equivalence measures that underpin many of the poverty indicators. Some other relevant activities might be added to the work programme of the Department in the course of the year.

Department for Development Support and Management Services

28. The Department for Development Support and Management Services will do its utmost to cooperate with the family of the United Nations agencies to attain the objectives of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty. It supports the idea that inter-agency teams should be placed at the disposal of developing countries that wish to formulate anti-poverty programmes and national strategies for the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development. A number of projects of the Department related to the issue of poverty will come to fruition in 1996. They include: a study of poverty in the Arab region; poverty and the environment in Thailand, Viet Nam and Laos; social mapping of indigenous communities in Indonesia; and poverty alleviation in Tanzania. In order to assess the policy relevance of these projects, a workshop will be organized towards the end of 1996.