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United Nations Fund for International Partnerships

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly decisions 52/466 of 31 March 1998 and 53/475 of 8 June 1999, wherein the Secretary-General was requested to continue to inform the Assembly, on a regular basis, about the activities of the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP). Information is provided on the outcome of the eleventh and twelfth funding cycles, which took place in 2002, as well as on progress in each programmatic focus area. The present report supplements the information contained in the previous reports of the Secretary-General (A/53/700 and Add.1, A/54/664 and Add.1-3, A/55/763 and Corr.1 and A/57/133).

Member States will note that a total of \$69.3 million has been programmed for the year 2002 — \$33.1 million for projects relating to children's health, \$20.6 million for projects concerning the environment, \$10.3 million for projects regarding population and women, \$3.1 million for projects in the peace, security and human rights area and \$2.2 million for institutional capacity-building. From 1998, when the partnership between UNFIP and the United Nations Foundation was launched, up to 31 December 2002, \$489 million was programmed.

* A/58/150.

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I. Introduction

1. In 2002, the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP) continued to play its role as focal point for the partnership with the United Nations Foundation (UNF) in connection with Robert E. Turner's contribution in support of United Nations causes. As such, UNFIP collaborated with UNF to support innovative, high-impact projects consistent with the programme frameworks for children's health; population and women; the environment; and the evolving strategy for peace, security and human rights. Special emphasis was placed on working with United Nations implementing partners and the United Nations Development Group on joint proposals at the field level, consistent with the Common Country Assessments and the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks. At the end of 2002, the programme portfolio stood at 251 projects totalling \$489 million, involving project activities in 120 countries carried out by 39 United Nations implementing partners.

2. UNFIP was also increasingly called upon to provide advice to the private sector and foundations on partnership options with the United Nations family in furtherance of the Millennium Development Goals, and to facilitate networking and fund-raising possibilities for the Organization, including with bilateral and multilateral donors.

II. Programme

3. This section contains a more detailed commentary on the key programmes and projects being implemented under the four programme frameworks: children's health; environment; population and women; and peace, security and human rights. Information is also provided on the monitoring and evaluation of these projects.

A. Children's health

4. A total of \$33.1 million was approved in 2002 for projects relating to children's health, bringing the total value of this portfolio to \$201 million as at 31 December 2002 (see annex). The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO) continued to be the major partners for this portfolio.

5. Member States will recall that the programme framework on children's health identifies three areas of focus, namely, eradicating polio, decreasing child mortality and preventing tobacco use. Examples of project activities during 2002 include reducing measles mortality in the Africa region through the strengthening of immunization services; support for the polio eradication initiative; and strengthening measures to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS.

6. Measles remains the leading cause of vaccine-preventable childhood mortality in Africa. In 2002, 37 million children were immunized. Over the three-year period of impact, approximately 240,000 childhood deaths were prevented. In some countries, measles activities strengthened national health systems by increasing community demand for immunization, training health-care workers, promoting injection safety and including other health activities in measles campaigns — e.g.,

vitamin A supplementation, polio immunization and the distribution of bed nets to prevent malaria. Success was made possible through partnerships with the American Red Cross, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

7. By 2002, approximately \$82 million had been made available through UNF to UNICEF and WHO in support of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. Collaboration in 2002 also resulted in an innovative financing agreement under which \$50 million in grant money from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Rotary International will go to the World Bank to secure grants for polio eradication. The \$50 million will enable the Bank to convert approximately \$125 million in International Development Association (IDA) loans to grant status — by buying down the net present value of new IDA credits — which in turn will be used by UNICEF to purchase polio vaccines in the countries recommended by WHO.

8. The project on prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV/AIDS (PMTCT), implemented by UNICEF and the ministries of health of eight African countries, was built on successful pilots started under a previous UNF-supported project. A comprehensive package of antenatal, obstetrical and post-natal care services for pregnant women was offered, including voluntary and confidential counselling and testing, the provision of a short course of anti-retroviral (ARV) therapy to HIV-positive women, modified delivery practices and the provision of information on infant feeding.

9. As part of the PMTCT project, data collected from Malawi, Côte d'Ivoire, Namibia and the United Republic of Tanzania for 2002 show that 49,974 women were tested at antenatal clinics. Of the 1,488 who were reported to be HIV-positive and who returned for results, 1,136 initiated an ARV regimen to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV. National policy reviews, the training of counsellors, health workers and laboratory technicians, and the preparation and distribution of relevant information materials for pregnant women and the community at large were funded. At its midpoint, this two-year project is well on the way to meeting the goal of scaling up project sites and acquiring additional experience for full-scale implementation and support for other countries in starting PMTCT programmes.

B. Population and women

10. A total of \$10.3 million was approved in 2002 for projects relating to population and women, bringing the total value of this portfolio to \$118 million as at 31 December 2002 (see annex). Country and global projects were implemented by partners, including the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UNICEF, the United Nations Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and WHO.

11. In 2002, most of the country team and multi-agency projects funded related to population and women. UNF-funded projects helped spur a new spirit of collaboration among the United Nations agencies. Projects continue to be closely monitored for a better understanding of the challenges and added value of joint implementation.

12. Member States will recall that the programme framework on population and women identified two priority areas, namely, improving the lives of adolescent girls and improving the quality of sexual and reproductive health care.

13. Therefore, the primary focus of the population and women programme is women and girls, since they continue to be denied equal status in a multitude of cultures, countries and political settings. Under the UNF-funded Adolescent Participation and Development initiative, UNICEF, UNFPA and WHO continued to enhance adolescent girls' abilities and social and economic capacity and contribution. After the completion of the planning phase of the initiative in 2002 (which included a holistic assessment of the situation and needs of adolescents, the development of tools and guidelines necessary for strategy design, and programme implementation and monitoring), 11 countries were selected and are currently conducting activities targeting adolescent health, livelihood and education. Encouraged by the results of this initiative, six countries in Africa (Benin, Burkina Faso, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania and Senegal) are exploring the expansion of young people's livelihood opportunities, including microcredit schemes, both as a means to alleviate poverty among this vulnerable group and as a strategy to promote a healthy and safe transition to adulthood.

14. The UNF/UNFIP initiative Improving the Quality of Sexual and Reproductive Health Care, which was set in motion in 2001, made tremendous progress in 2002 and significantly contributed to the realization, at the grass-roots level, of the Programme of Action adopted by the International Conference on Population and Development. Interventions in India, Kyrgyzstan, Mauritania, Nepal, Peru and the United Republic of Tanzania will promote the collective capacity of women to articulate their views in the formulation and implementation of reproductive health policies and services, in order to ensure that health-care institutions are responsive and accountable. The innovative approaches of this initiative led United Nations agencies and other institutions that operated separately to collaborate more closely at the community, country and global levels.

15. Another success story is the initiative Empowering Women and Girls in Poor Communities through Information Delivery and Dialogue — a pioneering effort to promote health, human rights and social progress through the delivery of vital information using cutting-edge satellite technology. Launched in 2002, this initiative is already providing innovative solutions for bridging the digital divide in culturally sensitive ways. It is a bold venture, well adapted to current constraints such as lack of connectivity and the paucity of genuinely useful and practical information for poor and isolated communities. Commencing with 400 villages in Nepal, the project is educating communities about HIV/AIDS prevention and women's and girls' empowerment. Project expansion to India and South-East Asia is under way. The project, led by UNDP and a non-governmental organization, Equal Access, has effectively forged partnerships with other donors, such as the European Space Agency, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the World Bank and the Open Society Institute, in joint support of United Nations efforts.

16. Projects approved in 2002 continued to foster a supportive social environment for adolescent girls, improve the delivery of reproductive health services, increase access to reproductive health information and reduce the incidence of HIV/AIDS.

Most of the projects comprised cross-sectoral and multisectoral approaches encompassing the larger issues of poverty and social development.

17. In view of the foregoing, and recognizing the devastating effect of HIV/AIDS, UNF supported new initiatives in various regions aimed at preventing the spread of the disease and mobilizing stakeholders and donors around this critical issue. The Coordinated HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) Response through Capacity-Building and Awareness (CHARCA) project in India was approved in 2002 in the amount of \$5.6 million and in partnership with the Government of the Netherlands. The project, following its successful planning phase, will utilize a multi-pronged strategy to address district-level information-gathering, awareness creation, social mobilization, skills-building, service-delivery improvement, the strengthening of support structures, district-level management and coordination mechanisms, and the development of an enabling environment for social and policy change. CHARCA is an excellent example of inter-agency collaboration, district “bottom-up” planning and the leveraging of various donor partners.

18. In the Russian Federation, a project jointly funded by UNF and the United Kingdom Department for International Development, aimed at developing partnerships for HIV/sexually transmitted infection (STI) prevention among youth, completed its planning phase and moved into full implementation. The project will serve youth at risk, including adolescent girls in three Russian oblasts, by providing clinical and social support services, mitigating risk factors and vulnerability for HIV/STI transmission and reducing unintended pregnancy.

C. Environment

19. The principal funding priorities in the environmental area are (a) biodiversity and (b) sustainable energy and climate change, each one guided by a separate programme framework. Details on the frameworks are provided in the report of the Secretary-General on UNFIP for 2000 (see A/55/763 and Corr.1, paras. 20-25). A total of \$20.6 million was approved in 2002 for 13 projects in the environmental area, bringing the total value of this portfolio to \$116 million as at 31 December 2002.

1. Biodiversity

20. Productive and healthy ecosystems and the species they support are fundamental to human survival. At the same time, these systems and species are under unprecedented and escalating pressure from human activities. The programme framework on biodiversity, endorsed by the UNFIP Advisory Board¹ and the UNF Board of Directors in 1999, seeks to assist developing countries to promote effective

¹ The UNFIP Advisory Board is chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General and is composed of members who serve in their personal capacity. The current membership is as follows: Lincoln Chen, Director, Global Equity Initiative, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University; Catherine Bertini, Under-Secretary-General for Management, United Nations; Nitin Desai, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations; Gert Rosenthal, President of the Economic and Social Council; Mary Oakes Smith, Manager, Africa Region, World Bank; Marco Antonio Suazo Fernández, Chairman, Second Committee of the General Assembly; Franklin A. Thomas, head of the Ford Foundation Study Group; and Amir A. Dossal (ex officio), Executive Director, UNFIP.

action for the conservation and sustainable use of key ecosystems and the biodiversity they contain by targeting protected areas designated as World Heritage sites under the 1972 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage.

21. In 2002, biodiversity emerged as a central priority of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, which underscored its importance in providing and sustaining livelihoods in poor and rural communities. As a lead-up to the Summit, UNF provided critical funding support for the Equator Initiative, a global partnership working to promote greater recognition of local community efforts to reduce poverty and conserve biodiversity. The Equator Prize 2002 was awarded to 27 extraordinary community enterprises and organizations that are pioneering creative and effective approaches to promoting local economic development through conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. The finalists were drawn from a pool of 420 nominees from 77 countries. Seven partner organizations have joined with UNDP in support of the Equator Initiative. Beyond the awards, Equator Initiative partners plan to develop local capacity through community-to-community learning exchanges and contribute to the generation and sharing of knowledge to make an impact on policy and public awareness.

22. In addition to its grant-making, UNF continued to work to facilitate partnerships among the United Nations system, corporations, foundations and non-governmental organizations to mobilize technical assistance and leverage other sources of funding to support the conservation of World Heritage sites. A major new partnership between UNESCO, UNF and Conservation International, announced during the thirtieth anniversary event of the World Heritage Convention in November 2002, will bring \$15 million to support World Heritage site biodiversity conservation projects over the next three to five years.

23. UNF funding support under the biodiversity programme framework has also catalysed a major initiative targeted at reversing the decline of coral reefs. The International Coral Reef Action Network (ICRAN) is a strategic alliance of organizations, including the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), acting worldwide to address needs related to the management of coral reef ecosystems and their relationship to the communities that depend on them. During the World Summit on Sustainable Development, UNF and ICRAN announced a new alliance with USAID to promote coral reef conservation in Central America. The alliance will provide \$3 million through ICRAN to Central American countries to protect and conserve the biodiversity of the Meso-American Reef, the second largest barrier reef in the world.

24. Other notable environment projects realized include the United Nations Atlas of the Oceans, which was launched on 5 June (World Environment Day) 2003 by the United Nations and leading international scientific agencies. This pioneering Internet-based Atlas offers the first comprehensive real-time tool to observe the state of the world's oceans. Amid mounting concern over the continuing deterioration of marine and coastal ecosystems, the Atlas was created as a tool to help reverse the decline and promote the sustainable development of oceans. The United Nations Atlas of the Oceans represents the world's foremost information clearing house on ocean issues and is expected to assist in negotiations of future marine-related agreements. United Nations project partners engaged in this inter-agency initiative

include the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Atomic Energy Agency, the International Maritime Organization, the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, UNEP, UNESCO and the World Meteorological Organization.

2. Sustainable energy and climate change

25. Member States will recall that the programme framework on sustainable energy and climate change was endorsed by the UNFIP Advisory Board and the UNF Board of Directors in late 2000 and was formally circulated by UNFIP to United Nations system partners in June 2001. The framework serves to channel the use of UNF funds in this area over a three-year period beginning in 2001, with the overall goal of advancing human development and mitigating climate change through the promotion of sustainable, market-oriented, clean energy services and technologies.

26. The framework is guided by the Secretary-General's millennium report (A/54/2000), wherein it is stated that addressing the challenge of climate change is one of the most important tasks of the twenty-first century, and his calls for the promotion of renewable energy and energy efficiency to address this important challenge. Special emphasis is given to market-based approaches for promoting sustainable energy development that are likely to have significant social, economic and environmental benefits and are based on innovative forms of public/private partnerships.

27. Consistent with the Millennium Development Goals, the framework has identified three priority areas for UNF investment: (a) promoting efforts to develop and demonstrate sustainable and commercial approaches to deliver clean and affordable renewable energy services to poor rural communities — as at 31 December 2002, UNFIP and UNF had supported renewable energy projects totalling \$21.6 million; (b) promoting greater energy efficiency through market-oriented policies and programmes — as at 31 December 2002, UNFIP and UNF had supported energy efficiency projects totalling \$7.6 million; and (c) promoting the clean development mechanism of the Kyoto Protocol as a means of assisting developing countries to mitigate climate change by engaging the private sector in promoting investment in renewable energy and energy efficiency projects — as at 31 December 2002, UNFIP and UNF had supported clean development mechanism-related capacity-building projects totalling \$3.7 million.

28. Sustainable energy was one of the five key priorities announced by the Secretary-General for the World Summit on Sustainable Development. While there is no explicit Millennium Development Goal on energy, goals related to poverty alleviation and sustainability clearly require increased access to clean energy services. The energy debate at the Summit, in particular, validated the relevance of the framework. The framework and its explicit focus on leveraging and replicability is especially relevant in the light of the Summit outcomes on type 2 partnerships and the need for effective follow-through. In effect, UNF has provided the United Nations with a source of "venture capital" to undertake innovative, market-based approaches for promoting decentralized renewable energy and energy efficiency.

29. Financing Indian Solar Home Systems is a four-year project launched in 2002 to accelerate the market for credit financing of photovoltaic solar home systems in

the southern Indian state of Karnataka. Although the market for solar home systems in India is growing, only 10 to 15 per cent of rural households and enterprises can afford to pay cash for such systems. The project, an initiative of UNEP, in partnership with two of India's largest banking groups, has developed a credit facility to enable up to 20,000 Indian households to purchase solar home systems at an interest rate of approximately 5 per cent below the normal consumer lending rates. The Syndicate Bank and Canara Bank have begun offering new low-interest loans under the UNEP programme, which is aimed at "buying down" the financing cost of photovoltaic solar home systems. The project is made possible with support from UNF and the Shell Foundation.

30. Eastern and Central Europe face severe economic and environmental problems caused by inefficient and polluting energy systems. In 2002, UNF continued to support the efforts of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe to accelerate energy efficiency market formation activities in five countries by promoting investment in energy efficiency projects in the municipal lighting, hospital and district heating sectors. The project has established a network of energy efficiency demonstration zones in 19 municipalities and generated 30 business plans for \$60 million in energy efficiency investment project proposals. Of these, several projects have already been financed, including projects in Belarus and the Russian Federation for which the World Bank and other investors approved \$9 million in financing. Under negotiation is \$15 million of European Bank for Reconstruction and Development financing for energy efficiency investments in Moscow.

31. UNF and the E7 organization launched a new partnership initiative during the World Summit on Sustainable Development aimed at expanding access to electricity for the poor. E7, formed during the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, aims to support sustainable development and comprises nine leading electric utilities in Japan, Europe and North America, namely, AEP (United States of America), Electricité de France (France), Enel (Italy), Hydro-Québec (Canada), Kansai Electric Power (Japan), Ontario Power Generation (Canada), RWE (Germany), ScottishPower (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) and Tokyo Electric Power (Japan).

D. Peace, security and human rights

32. A total of \$3.1 million was approved in 2002 for projects in the peace, security and human rights area, bringing the total value of this portfolio to \$43 million as at 31 December 2002 (see annex).

33. During 2002, the majority of approved projects focused on supporting reconciliation processes, strengthening good governance and the rule of law, rebuilding communities and promoting civil society in post-conflict settings. This was carried out through: (a) collaboration with UNDP in support of a national dialogue on citizen security in Guatemala and reconstruction efforts aimed at promoting ethnic reconciliation and coexistence in the Balkans region; (b) support for the Department of Political Affairs and the War Torn Societies Project to encourage community-based peace efforts in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; and (c) cooperation with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to build local capacity in newly independent Timor-Leste.

34. Another example of UNF/UNFIP support in the areas of conflict prevention and peace-building is a UNDP planning initiative in Arab States aimed at enhancing national capacity in the areas of rule of law and good governance. This planning phase is expected to produce, by late 2003, a full project proposal drawing from data collected through participatory needs assessment with the full engagement of national rule of law institutions and civil society. A capacity-building plan of action and the development of a regional network of rule-of-law professionals and institutions will form part of the project objectives.

35. Also approved during 2002 was an initiative by the Department for Disarmament Affairs, in collaboration with a non-governmental organization, the Hague Appeal for Peace, focused on education for children in post-conflict environments to promote non-violent behaviour, thereby contributing to peace-building and rehabilitation. This is a demonstration of the continuing commitment of UNF and UNFIP to advocacy and awareness-building in opposition to the proliferation of small arms and light weapons, which are the principal means of committing acts of violence against civilian populations and one of the key obstacles to post-conflict rehabilitation.

36. In addition to these field-based operational initiatives, UNFIP and UNF continued to support the strengthening of the Organization's capacity for peace operations, conflict prevention and peace-building. During 2002, support was provided to the Department of Peacekeeping Operations in its efforts to develop a leadership and management training programme to enhance the capacity of the Organization's staff for effective peace operations, as well as for the continuous training efforts of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, aimed at mainstreaming gender perspectives in peace operations.

37. In the area of human rights, emphasis continues to be placed on strengthening and supporting the role of civil societies in promoting human rights at the community level. During 2002, the initiative to build a network of human rights experts and advocates in the global South made significant progress. Based initially in Brazil, a network has been successfully facilitating cross-fertilization of ideas, peer learning and information-sharing among human rights experts in developing countries, especially in Latin America and Africa.

38. In 2002, UNFIP and UNF increased the substantive review of ongoing projects to draw lessons and best practices from them, focusing on the role of women in peace-building. Since 1999, UNFIP and UNF had been supporting a successful UNIFEM project promoting women's participation in the peace-building process in the southern Caucasus. An in-depth monitoring mission found that the project was having a significant impact in raising awareness and building women's capacities to promote peace and to assume community leadership. As a result, UNFIP and UNF expanded their support in this area by working with UNIFEM to launch a global project with similar goals.

E. Monitoring and evaluation

39. The goal of the UNF and UNFIP monitoring and evaluation strategy is to ensure that mechanisms to track progress towards achieving the goals in each of the major programmes are used in a cost-effective and efficient manner. The following are the guiding principles in this endeavour:

- (a) Use what is already produced to the greatest extent possible;
- (b) Use United Nations entities to the greatest extent possible in the monitoring and evaluation of their own programmes;
- (c) Utilize lessons learned for future programming;
- (d) Invest in new monitoring and evaluation efforts only when the effective use of information gathered is ensured and when the intended users of the information have been identified.

40. The UNF and UNFIP monitoring and evaluation strategy also differentiates four separate activities, the first two of which constitute monitoring and the second two evaluation: (a) annual programme progress reporting; (b) financial and budget monitoring and reporting; (c) project-level evaluation of inputs, outputs, outcomes or impacts; and (d) programme evaluation of clusters of projects, topics cutting across projects or important to the overall UNF and United Nations priorities, and institutional strengthening.

41. In its report to the General Assembly (A/57/7/Add.6), dated 17 October 2002 the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions observed that UNFIP's monitoring process appeared to be onerous and bureaucratic and that the time had come to assess and streamline the whole process. The Committee recommended an analysis of whether the reporting exercise had enabled UNFIP to become more focused, enabling it to better measure impact and to attain the objectives of getting additional resources and creating public/private partnerships in support of United Nations causes.

42. UNFIP has considered the recommendation of the Advisory Committee in the light of its history and agrees fully that the reporting process needs constant surveillance and adjustment to ensure that it does not become an end in itself but serves mainly the purpose of carrying out the business of the United Nations. In this connection, the following changes have been made to the UNF/UNFIP reporting framework, following consultations with UNF and implementing partners on streamlining reporting requirements so as to lighten the burden on all stakeholders, while still striving for greater effectiveness:

- (a) In 1999, UNFIP changed the frequency of progress reports from semi-annual to annual;
- (b) In 2002, UNFIP changed the frequency of financial reporting from quarterly to semi-annual. In this connection, the requirement for an annual financial statement from United Nations offices and departments has been eliminated because it was unnecessary;
- (c) Also in 2002, two improvements were introduced with respect to completed projects:
 - (i) UNFIP revised the final financial reporting requirements for projects with agencies subject to audit by the Board of External Auditors, resulting in simplified procedures for the majority of implementing partners;
 - (ii) The two separate reports required — a final-year progress report and a final substantive report — were combined into one report that effectively summarizes the activities undertaken in the final year and the overall

assessment by the agency of the project activities; the applicable deadline allows the report to be submitted within a 90-day period;

(d) Other deadlines have also been adjusted:

(i) Financial reports are due 45 days after the close of the financial period involved, instead of 30 days;

(ii) The deadline for the submission of annual progress reports has been synchronized with the deadline for submitting the second semi-annual financial report, 15 February.

43. During 2002, as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report (see A/C.5/57/SR.20), UNFIP embarked on a series of activities as part of a long-term, comprehensive and systematic analysis of its programmes and projects aimed at streamlining the Fund's activities and making them more focused and more effective. The following principles guided this process: (a) move from implementing projects to solving problems; (b) identify synergies between UNFIP/UNF programme frameworks and Millennium Development Goal for further prioritization; and (c) extract knowledge from evaluations of clusters of grants with a view to future partnership-building or the replication or scaling up of projects by United Nations implementing partners.

44. In consultation with focal points, UNFIP developed discrete linkages with relevant Millennium Development Goal targets and indicators and explored their relationship with UNFIP/UNF programme frameworks. This analysis will continue in 2003, with the expectation that in 2004 the focus might move to a few selected themes in support of the Millennium Development Goals, with relevant targets and indicators tracking the effectiveness of programme investment and the results achieved.

45. In terms of monitoring during 2002, the following activities took place: 59 completed final project reports were assessed; 132 annual progress reports were analysed, and feedback was provided to implementing partners; semi-annual tracking of implementation rates was carried out on the basis of financial reports and programme feedback to partners; field visits were undertaken by programme officers to 15 countries (jointly with implementing partners, either to learn lessons for future grant-making, to tell a successful United Nations story or for course-correction purposes); 9 portfolio reviews were undertaken with major implementing partners (in these in-depth sessions, the progress of all projects was reviewed and substantive discussions were held on end results to be achieved by the UNF-supported investments); and ongoing virtual contacts with project managers and UNFIP programme officers were maintained on the progress and results of projects.

46. In terms of evaluation, in 2002 two programme clusters — on tobacco-free initiatives and adolescent girls — were given priority.

47. UNF, UNFIP and WHO began a review of the cluster of five grants supporting the WHO Tobacco-Free Initiative. The strategy was designed to ascertain the range of effects attributable to the activities in question, taking into account that it will require decades to obtain data on their impact on tobacco-related mortality. Phase 1 of the survey (which has been completed) was based on a document review and structured interviews with 19 stakeholders by an external consultant. Among the positive findings was that the Global Youth Tobacco Surveys had a significant

impact on the global system of prevention and control of tobacco use and on leveraging. The UNF grant provided funds to support the first 16 surveys in 1999. Thereafter, the resources to carry out the Survey in an additional 96 countries were provided by WHO partners, namely, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Cancer Institute and the Canadian Public Health Association. Phase 2, data- and information-gathering at the global, country and local levels, and phase 3, review of findings by stakeholders and production of a final report, will be carried out subject to the securing of the required funding.

48. UNF, in collaboration with United Nations stakeholders (UNFPA, UNICEF and WHO) engaged the Population Council to conduct an evaluation of programmes for adolescent girls. Interviews were conducted with key staff dealing with adolescent programmes at various United Nations agencies, as well as with UNFIP focal points; and a desk review of all 34 UNF grants with programmatic emphasis on adolescent girls was carried out. The UNF/UNFIP programme for promoting adolescent participation and development represents a comprehensive effort to (a) identify the needs and potentials of adolescents in a gender-sensitive context; (b) design projects that strengthen the social and economic roles of adolescents; and (c) promote human rights. It was also established that the UNF grants fostered a broad-based developmental approach encompassing livelihoods, education (formal and informal), health information and services. A key finding was that this approach was found to be more effective than the “health only” strategy in meeting adolescents’ needs. UNF-supported adolescent projects were also the first to engage concerned United Nations agencies in working together, thus contributing to the Secretary-General’s reform process and prompting those agencies to critically examine their comparative advantages in addressing adolescent development issues.

49. The monitoring and evaluation process is an ongoing task, aimed at ensuring that activities remain effective and benefit from latest lessons learned. The evolution of UNFIP activities in this regard has kept pace with, and supported the changes in, programmatic development. As a result of a more thematic approach, the programmes have become more focused, using the venture capital aspect of the UNF contribution to effectively leverage resources from multiple partners.

III. Facilitating partnerships

50. Building on the success of the partnership between UNF and the United Nations system, and acting as a facilitator of new partnerships with other corporate and foundation partners, UNFIP continues to support the United Nations family in the development of innovative programmes and projects to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

51. In response to the Secretary-General’s request for the appointment of private sector focal points in 2000, UNFIP facilitated a team-based approach and information system for the 29 United Nations entities that have appointed private sector focal points. In October 2002, UNFIP, in collaboration with the Global Compact, organized a round table with all United Nations private sector focal points on the theme “Achieving the Millennium Development Goals”.

52. The major outcome of the October 2002 round table was the designation of lead entities to work on five key thematic areas, namely, (a) identification of corporate and foundation partners to assist in implementing the Millennium

Development Goals (UNDP, Global Compact, UNEP and UNF); (b) strengthening United Nations staff capacities to work with corporate and foundation partners, particularly within country programmes (United Nations Staff College); (c) improving the United Nations web site on corporate partnerships and presenting thematic project menus (Department of Public Information); (d) improving tools for partner selection and accountability (International Fund for Agricultural Development and FAO); and (e) creating innovative fiduciary and funding mechanisms (UNESCO and UNF).

53. UNFIP played a facilitating role with Cisco Systems, Inc., in its partnership with the United Nations. Since the launch of the partnership, Cisco Systems, UNDP, the United Nations Volunteer Programme, the United Nations Information Technology Service and USAID have been working together to train students for the Internet economy. This has been achieved by establishing the Cisco Networking Academy Programme in countries that suffer from poverty and from weak human resources and economic institutions. In 2002, 5,500 students — 25 per cent of whom were females — had access to the cutting-edge information technology (IT) curriculum.

54. UNFIP also facilitated the Digital Bridge to Africa meeting, held on 12 July 2002 in partnership with the United Nations Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Task Force, Digital Partners, Gruppo Cerfe and UNIFEM. More than 100 participants attended, including leading members of the African diaspora and representatives of technology corporations, foundations and non-profit organizations. Results included the official launch of the Digital Diaspora Network-Africa (DDN-A), a non-profit organization that seeks to promote development in Africa. In addition, AfricShare was established as a resource and knowledge-sharing facility to match innovative projects with mentors from DDN-A. The Social Fund for Africa was also inaugurated to provide financial support for entrepreneurial ICT activities in the region.

55. UNFIP has also served as a close partner of UNIFEM for the development of the Global Advisory Committee, which comprises mainly African IT entrepreneurs who advise on strategic partnerships to bridge the gender digital divide. The programme seeks to empower African women through innovative uses of information and communication technologies. The partnerships build on existing experiences and successful IT ventures undertaken in Africa by African women in the diaspora.

56. In 2002, UNFIP established ties with foundation consortiums, including the Council on Foundations, the Global Philanthropy Forum, the Network of European Foundations for Innovative Cooperation, and strengthened its ties with the European Foundation Centre. UNFIP further expanded United Nations collaboration with foundations, including the E7 Fund, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, the King Baudouin Foundation and the Van Leer Group Foundation. UNFIP also established links with the Princess Diana Memorial Fund, with special emphasis on HIV/AIDS.

57. UNFIP also arranged meetings for United Nations colleagues with approximately 35 professional associations, academic and research institutions and non-governmental organizations. These included the Corporate Council on Africa, the African-American Institute, the Southern African Development Bank and Development Fund, Hope Worldwide, the United States Chamber of Commerce, the

Centre for International Private Enterprise, the Drucker Foundation, the East Timor Fund, Earth Day, the Groundwater Foundation, Kids to Kids International, Books for Africa, the World Diversity for Peace Group, the International Business Leaders Forum, the International Development Law Institute, the Aravind Institute, the Conflict Management Group, the Financial Times Stock Exchange, the Discovery Advisory Group, the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition, the International Women's Democracy Centre, Living Water International, the International Centre for Not-for-Profit Law, the Aspen Institute Initiative for Social Innovation Through Business, the Leadership Institute, the Synergos Institute and the Chicago Council on Foreign Affairs.

58. A compendium profiling more than 200 companies and foundations whose mandates and philanthropic vision match the Millennium Development Goals was developed by UNFIP during 2002 and was shared with all the United Nations private sector focal points. As requested, specific compendiums of companies were developed on Millennium Development Goal themes for UNFPA (women's reproductive health), the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (humanitarian issues), UNHCR (refugees), UNDP and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (water and sanitation), UNESCO (primary education) and UNIFEM (information technology and women in Africa).

IV. Advocacy and public affairs

59. In close collaboration with UNF and its sister organization the Better World Fund, UNFIP increased its advocacy and public affairs efforts during 2002, focusing particularly on raising awareness of the work of the organization and on identifying new partners for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. In this regard, UNFIP organized a number of policy discussions and partnership development forums, bringing together United Nations colleagues and corporate and foundation executives, professional associations, academic and research institutions and non-governmental organizations.

60. UNFIP has also been working closely with the United Nations Association (UNA) of the United States of America, including its local chapters, and with the Business Council for the United Nations, to promote United Nations causes and engage the business community in partnerships. In 2002, the Fund participated in a dialogue with UNA-Greater Boston chapter on HIV/AIDS issues.

61. UNFIP has established a close collaboration with the European Foundation Community (EFC) and has facilitated numerous dialogues with United Nations agencies. In 2002, UNFIP, represented by its Executive Director, became a member of the EFC Programme Committee with a view to providing counsel to European foundations on United Nations engagement and to supporting implementation of the Millennium Development Goals.

62. In 2002, UNFIP launched its web site (www.unfip.org) as a tool to increase awareness about the Fund's activities on behalf of the United Nations and to attract new partners to work with the United Nations. The Fund also developed a number of articles and press releases for the international media with the aim of raising awareness of United Nations activities and promoting partnership between the United Nations and the private sector and foundations.

V. Funding rounds

63. During 2002 (eleventh and twelfth funding rounds) the UNFIP Advisory Board and the UNF Board of Directors considered and approved 29 new projects in the amount of \$69 million. The breakdown by theme is as follows: \$33.1 million for projects relating to children's health, \$20.6 million for projects concerning the environment, \$10.3 million for projects regarding population and women, \$3.1 million for projects in the peace, security and human rights area and \$2.2 million for institutional capacity-building.

64. During the eleventh funding round, the UNFIP secretariat received a total of 53 project proposals. On 13 June 2002, the UNFIP Advisory Board reviewed the proposals and endorsed 21 of them for recommendation to the UNF Board of Directors. During its meeting from 18 to 21 July 2002, the Board of Directors announced the approval of 17 grants totalling \$25.6 million.

65. A total of 28 project proposals were reviewed by the UNFIP secretariat for the twelfth funding round. In November 2002, the UNFIP Advisory Board reviewed the proposals and endorsed 24 of them (inclusive of intersessionals) for recommendation to the UNF Board of Directors, which in its meeting from 9 to 11 December 2002 approved a total of 23 grants amounting to \$43.7 million.

VI. Operational and financial arrangements

66. UNF and UNFIP work closely on decisions regarding projects and relationships with partners. Frequent conferences are held with United Nations implementing partners. There is at least one major general meeting of focal points involving agencies at up to six locations each year, and meetings are held with non-governmental organization implementing partners and donors in order to address concerns of the parties and ensure the full participation of all stakeholders in decision-making. UNFIP held special-purpose meetings with United Nations focal points to ensure continued dialogue on issues of mutual concern or interest, to hold portfolio reviews and to provide feedback on prospective project proposals.

67. The UNFIP Handbook on Budget and Finance was issued in June and was provided to implementing partners for information. Updated project guidelines were issued in October 2002 to assist United Nations implementing partners in making timely submissions that meet funding requirements. The progress and financial reports of implementing partners were delivered on time more often than in previous years. UNFIP continues to explore ways of supporting financial monitoring and analysis with enhanced IT capacity. In the meantime, UNFIP keeps its current applications updated in order to meet emerging needs of the office.

68. To implement the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, UNFIP introduced new guidelines in August 2002 to inform United Nations entities of revised final financial reporting requirements for completed projects. In addition, UNFIP installed document-sending equipment to expedite the processing of funding requests, which succeeded in reducing the average time required by the Secretariat to process funding requests from 16 calendar days to 7.

VII. Conclusions

69. 2002 marked the fifth year in the partnership between the United Nations and the United Nations Foundation. UNFIP continued to serve as the operational arm of the Secretary-General in this partnership, which has gone through a logical evolution from the initial “near-exclusive” grant-making approach to that of a multifaceted facility aimed at supporting the United Nations and its causes through: (a) grant-making — increasingly in collaboration with other donors and focusing on large programmes rather than individual projects; (b) partnership development and resource mobilization — moving from supply orientation to a demand-driven approach to identifying new and additional resources for the United Nations system; and (c) public advocacy and outreach — seeking to “tell the United Nations story” in collaboration with the United Nations Secretariat, chiefly the Department of Public Information and the Better World Fund.

70. In 2003, UNFIP will continue to support the partnership between the United Nations and UNF, in addition to acting as facilitator of new partnerships between various United Nations entities and the private sector and foundations. In this respect, UNFIP will continue to be guided by the Secretary-General’s programme of reform and the Millennium Development Goals.

Annex

Projects funded by the United Nations Foundation, by programme area

<i>Programme area</i>	<i>As at 31 December 2001</i>		<i>Approvals in 2002</i>		<i>Total</i>		<i>Contributed by</i>	
	<i>Number of projects</i>	<i>Value (United States dollars)</i>	<i>Number of projects</i>	<i>Value (United States dollars)</i>	<i>Number of projects</i>	<i>Value (United States dollars)</i>	<i>Other donors</i>	<i>United Nations Foundation</i>
Children's health	47	167 801 908	1	33 148 773	48	200 950 681	94 970 363	105 980 318
Population and women	67	107 681 751	4	10 256 399	71	117 938 150	11 871 389	106 066 761
Environment	65	95 161 421	10	20 590 000	75	115 751 421	22 765 000	92 986 421
Peace, security and human rights	31	40 046 501	10	3 084 500	41	43 131 001	11 550 000	31 581 001
Other	12	9 309 056	4	2 215 000	16	11 524 056	-	11 524 056
Total	222	420 000 637	29	69 294 672	251	489 295 309	141 156 752	348 138 557