



IFSW-Newsletter

1 - 1996



*International
Year for the
Eradication of
Poverty*

President's Message: Eradication of Poverty through Social Integration and Empowerment

As I write this, it is three months to the start of our next General Meeting. I look very much forward to meeting those of you who are able to attend, some of you again and others for the first time. We have since the last GM gained new members and received many requests for application. Through two postal ballots we have been able to affiliate social workers in Brazil, Czech Republic, Malta and Netherlands Antilles. With the last members we now represent more than 430.000 social workers globally in 60 countries.

The GM in 1994 gave us a number of tasks to fulfil to further develop the federation and promote the profession and social development. These include organisational concerns of great importance as criteria for membership in IFSW and for membership fees. There were also other tasks as the development of an international committee for ethics in social work and a revision of the definition of social work. This work has not been concluded but is a start on a long and very important process that I believe will have significant impact on social work around the world.

The period has also brought us many and important commitments. One of these is the commitment to co-operation for social development. We have had several fruitful opportunities to renew and develop our oldest relationships to the International Council on Social Welfare, ICSW, and the International Association of Schools of Social Work, IASSW. We are once again in close co-operation around our world conferences. We have met several times and continue to elaborate our co-operation for the future. We must also continue to cooperate with other NGOs and UN and government agencies.

It is a little over a year since the United Nations Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen ended with the signing of the Declaration and Plan of Action by all the governments and leaders of the world. The Summit left the social work profession with a clear commitment to contribute to social integration, eradication of poverty, and empowerment of marginalised and excluded people. Unfortunately it

now seems that most leaders around the world, with a few exceptions, e.g. Nelson Mandela, wish to forget their declaration and their ten commitments. 1996 is the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty, but poverty, unemployment and continued exclusion grows - rapidly. My hope is that it may for social workers be a year of reflection and commitments. We must disturb all governments with reminders of their commitments. But we should also join forces with them, other NGOs and the people living in poverty themselves to find ways toward eradication of poverty through social integration and empowerment.

In June this year another UN Conference, Habitat II is held in Turkey. It will focus issues of central importance to social work. It concerns the 600 millions living in cities under health- and life threatening conditions. The special follow up symposium on the implementation of the Copenhagen declaration arranged by the three sister organisations in Hong Kong 28 July, will also focus on these special needs and the conditions of poverty in cities and the challenges for social workers and social actors.

A world congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children is held at the end of August in Stockholm, Sweden. It is organized by UNICEF and ECPAT (End Child Prostitution in Asian Tourism), and hosted by the Swedish government. Social workers play or should play a crucial role in this extremely important combat against the most abominable of all violations of children's rights. Psychosocial prevention and rehabilitation together with a wide co-operation between professions, organisations and governments can be the major reply to the works of paedophilia. Let us contribute to a decade for the eradication of paedophilia, sex tourism and all other forms of sexual violation of children.

Stockholm, April 1996

Elis Envall

IFSW President

Contents

President's Message	2	News from Member Associations	10
Eradication of Poverty	3	News from Member Associations	12
News from New York, IFSW/UN	4	Four New IFSW-members	13
Human Rights and Extreme Poverty	5	472 IFSW Friends	15
News from Member Associations	6	IFSW Congresses and Seminars	15
Important General Meeting ahead in Hong Kong	8	Diary of Events 1996	16



1996

International Year for the eradication of poverty

1996 has been proclaimed as the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty by the UN General Assembly. While many UN activities are linked to social work values, nothing seems to be more linked than this. Since the very beginning of professional social work, poverty has been the dominating area of concern. Social workers daily meet the challenges created by the unbalanced distribution of resources, globally, nationally and locally.

One out of every five people - or more than a billion people - live below the poverty line. 60% of the world's poor are women, Asia alone has more poor rural women than the population of Western Europe. But poverty is not only to be found in the developing countries. Walking the streets of rich cities like Berlin or San Francisco is evidence of this. Poverty is developing during armed conflicts and wars, even if some actors increase their wealth. Peace is therefore a necessary condition for improving the situation. Participation in the political, economic, social and cultural institutions that form our society is another step on the road to improvement. Education is a key to participation and thereby to democracy, which again is the only political system where human rights are respected.

1996 should be a year dedicated to reflection and action to speed up the process toward eradication of poverty. Charity is not the answer, even if it can give temporary relief. Sensitization of the political leaders and the public opinion, a process enforced through the World Summit for Social Development (WSSD), is essential. Provision of social services, job creation, activities aimed at facilitating economic

development and dedicated poverty alleviation programs are stepping stones toward the goal. A thorough discussion and reconsideration of the Structural Adjustment Programs to include social development goals, as recommended by WSSD, is necessary. Dismantling the social security net, as also many industrialized countries encourage, may temporarily assist in balancing the government budgets, but the price has to be paid in the future as social exclusion and social unrest. Empowerment of marginalized groups is a road toward a more integrated, and thereby peaceful, society. Empowerment must be based on partnerships with the poor, involving their experience and knowledge as essential ingredients in developing strategies to fight poverty and social exclusion. The task ahead is immense and to large to be tackled by one actor. Governments, non-governmental organizations and poor people themselves must join forces to find ways of combating a problem which the globe has resources to solve, if we only have the will and determination to reorganize into societies including everyone as active participants. In this process, social work needs to renew its traditions, refine its methods and enter into active partnerships.

Facts about Poverty

- * Every minute of every day, approximately 50 babies are born into poverty
- * Of the 5.7 billion people in the world, 1.5 billion are desperately poor, and the number is increasing with 25 million a year.
- * The income ratio between the richest 20 % and the poorest 20 % of the world's population was 30:1 in 1960 and had increased to 61:1 by 1991
- * 20 % of the world's population survive on a daily income of less than US\$ 1
- * Today 1 billion of the world's poor live in rural areas, but by the year 2005 every second person will live in cities or towns, bringing about a growing urbanization of poverty
- * The majority of the poor are women. Children and other vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, such as indigenous people, the disabled, the elderly, refugees, migrants and the long-term unemployed, are most susceptible to poverty
- * In developing countries, over 95 million children under the age of 15 are estimated to be working to help their poverty-plagued families, while an equal number are estimated to be homeless, destitute "street children".
- * Over 120 million people are officially unemployed and many more are underemployed. Many young people, even those with a formal education, have little hope of finding productive work

Source: UN brochure on the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty, UNDPI, December 1995

News from New York

IFSW Team, United Nations

Habitat II: 60 % in urban poverty

In February, the UN completed the last preparatory meeting for Habitat II, a United Nations Conference on Human Settlements to be held in Istanbul, Turkey, June 3 - 14, 1996. This is the last of a series of conferences sponsored by the UN during the last few years, many of which had relevance to social work goals; i.e. issues of Population (Cairo); Human Rights (Vienna); Environment (Rio); Poverty, Unemployment and Social Integration (Copenhagen); Women (Beijing); and now Habitat II.

The reason for this conference at this time is the concern that 1/2 of the world's population live in cities, a figure expected to increase to 2/3 by the year 2025. There is no question that cities play an important role in development but not without significant stress. For example, urban poverty is estimated up to 60%, and in spite of growing investments, 1/3 of the urban population live in substandard housing. 40% of urban dwellers do not have access to safe water and adequate sanitation. With increasing urbanization and a deteriorating urban environment, at least 600 million people in human settlements (cities, towns and villages) already live in health- and life threatening situations, and almost 50 % are children.

This development transcends the borders of developed and developing countries, and reveals many common problems. Habitat II (also known as the UN Conference on Human Settlements or the "City Summit" will address these challenges. The major themes of the conference are "Sustainable human settlement in an urbanizing world" and "Adequate shelter for all". However, Habitat II will also address rural settlements, especially infrastructure and services (water, health and education).

Some key words toward obtaining the goals of Habitat II are equality, eradication of poverty, sustainable development, liveability, family, civic engagement and government responsibility, partnerships, solidarity, and international cooperation and coordination.

IFSW will be represented at Habitat II by Ellen Mouravieff-Apostol from our UN Geneva Team and Winifred G. Kagwa from our UN New York Team.

Toward a society for all ages

The UN General Assembly has adopted a resolution to hold an International Year of Older Persons in 1999 with the slogan "Toward a Society for All Ages". A number of events are being planned, and member

associations are encouraged to plan special events in observance of the year. A special event with 400 attendees was held in New York November 9, 1995, commemorating UN's International Day of Older Persons and looking into "Aging in the 21st Century: Challenges". Dr. Celia B. Weisman, IFSW Head of Representatives to the UN in New York, played a major role as chair of the planning committee and moderator.



Closer cooperation between UN and NGO's

CONGO (Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations), composed of NGO's in consultative status with UN, has been active working toward more positive attitudes from governments. Both the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen and the Beijing Conference on Women gave limited opportunities to interact with and make presentations to government bodies. During the preparatory process for Habitat II, a major breakthrough has been achieved toward closer relationship between civil society and governments, called "a new methodology of cooperation" by Dr. Wally N'dow, Habitat II Secretary General.

Social Work Day at the UN

The 13th Annual Social Work Day at the UN was held March 20, 1996. The day has been established to offer social workers and others an opportunity to be informed about what UN is doing relevant to some of the problems they deal with in their everyday work. This year's theme was "The Global Impact of Trauma: Promoting the Well-being of People".

Africa: Marginalization of the potentially richest continent

The NGO community at the UN is deeply concerned with Africa, and sponsors regular meeting, lately on

“Economic Development in Africa” and “Children in Southern Africa”. Looking at Africa as a whole, education is declining, middle class collapsing, and de-industrialization ongoing. One speaker underlined that the only way out is for Africa to know what it wants and formulate its own self-interests and policies.

A severe and deadly problem is the presence of land mines. In Mozambique, 45% of the land is unusable because of land mines, affecting children more than any other part of the population. Another pervasive social problem in many African countries is teen-age pregnancy, resulting in school drop-out as well as other social problems.

Eradication of poverty core issue for social workers - and for UN

The NGO Committee on Sustainable Development has held a briefing based on the Copenhagen World Summit for Social Development (WSSD) which concluded that eradicating poverty is a key element toward a better world. Eradication of poverty is also the core objective of social work, in its origin as a profession and in its ongoing practice. Social workers should therefore be in a special position to participate in implementing this ambitious UN goal. Im-

plementation needs cooperation between all positive sectors in society, and developing national plans to move from awareness to action should be a cooperation between governments and civil society. The plans should address the structural causes of poverty, assigning a higher priority to basic social services, generating income and promoting access to reproductive assets and economic opportunities.

UNICEF: Child survival - for what?

UNICEF's traditional focus has been on child survival. As mass child deaths are reduced in many parts of the world, there is a new challenge: Survival for what?

UNICEF's new Executive Director, Carol Bellamy has set forth six vital areas where urgent action is needed : 1) Exploitive child labour, 2) Children in armed conflicts, 3) Child sexual exploitation, 4) Gender discrimination, 5) The right to a name and civil registration, and 6) Participation rights of children. Therefore, work now needs to be focused to make respect for the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (ratified by 181 countries and with only 10 countries that have not yet become ratifiers) as universal as it's ratification.

Human Rights and Extreme Poverty

IFSW Statement to the 52nd Session of the UN Commission on Human Rights

On March 26, IFSW had the floor during the 52nd Session of the UN Commission on Human Rights, meeting in Geneva, to present a statement on Human Rights and Extreme Poverty. Ellen Mouravieff-Apostol, IFSW's Main Representative to UN in Geneva, underlined that the social work profession addresses the needs of individuals, families and communities. Some of those needs are material ones, but even those whose underlying causes are of a more personal, emotional, professional or human relations nature, are magnified by poverty and its corollary threat to survival.

Social workers have a deep commitment to social justice, and experience has taught them that poverty needs to be prevented as well as remedied. Referring to the Vienna Declaration on Human Rights and the Copenhagen declaration and program of action from the World Summit,

she continued to state that little of the good words and intentions of these landmark UN Conferences has been matched by actions. Social workers call upon governments to reexamine priorities and to assert the importance of human dignity. The reality of extreme poverty demands a unified attempt to tackle the problem based on the values of human rights:

- the worth of each individual
- the importance of building capacity in individuals, groups and communities through education, skill-training and support-systems
- the development and encouragement of self-help
- the dignity of all people, and especially women, involving equity in all matters, not least in access to education
- the maximum utilisation of the knowledge and skills of people living in extreme poverty.

Kuwait

Support for Voluntary Work

The Association of Social Workers in Kuwait said in a statement released in connection with the International Volunteers Day that the government should increase its financial support to private agencies involved in voluntary work as part of forming the new public social welfare society. It added that ratification should first be given to societies concerned with human rights, stressing that private agencies should offer better voluntary services to society and face up to social problems, especially those created by the Iraqi occupation and invasion. 55 public welfare societies in Kuwait are active today, including occupational, social, women and cultural ones as well as others working in various fields.

More Equal Opportunities for the Handicapped

A new handicap law, awaiting approval, will provide better opportunities for handicapped to integrate in society, including employment. Exploitation of handicapped will lead to sanctions.

Tributes to Outstanding Voluntary Workers

Two prominent Kuwait figures, Moudhi Sultan Al-Issa and Yusif Al-Hajji, have been honoured for their long and outstanding efforts to improve society, both at home and abroad. With the strong Islamic focus on the necessity and nobility of charitable work, efforts promoting this is especially important to humans in need.

Zimbabwe

Organizational Development Workshop

The National Association of Social Workers, Zimbabwe (NASW, Z) hosted an organizational development workshop in Harare February 5 - 9, 1996. The workshop was a cooperation between NASW-Z, the Danish Association of Social Workers and IFSW with the Danish Trade Union Council for International Development Cooperation in a key role, providing both technical and financial assistance. The workshop consisted of 29 participants from all over Zimbabwe, 7 from other African countries (Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland and Tanzania) and 2 European countries (Germany and Norway) in addition to the Danish organizers and the IFSW President and Secretary General.

The workshop, opened by the Minister of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare of Zimbabwe, Dr. Nathan Shamuyarira, was structured as a need analysis for NASW-Z. It started by looking into the present situation of the organization and then defined realistic goals for future development. Much attention was paid to how the gap between the present situation and the goals could be bridged in a number of different areas. NASW-Z has today approx. 100 members, but the potential is as high as 4000. What can be done to recruit more members, and to develop

NASW-Z into being a stronger tool for the social workers of the country? It is hoped that the workshop is a first step in a strengthening process over the nearest 2 - 3 years that will bring NASW-Z to a point where it will be able to sustain its own activities. The process will focus on participatory education and training of active members.

Spain

Cooperation Romania and Spain

The Spanish General Council of Social Workers signed a Cooperation Agreement with the Romanian Association of Social Workers in Bucharest with the purpose of letting a Social Worker have the possibility of visiting Spain in order to exchange views and experiences in the social field. This Agreement had been granted a subsidy equal to 0.7% of the General Council's Budget for 1995. Consequently, the Romanian Social Worker Alina Ligia Dumitrescu stayed two weeks in Spain in December 1995. She was accompanied by several Spanish colleagues.

Her work program included visits to the different bodies and Public Institutions relevant to social work. Among them, the Ministry of Social Affairs, State Offices for the Minor and Social Work, Cataluna's Generalitat Social Welfare Office, Social Work Schools of Madrid and Barcelona Universities, Basic and Specialised Social Services. This Cooperation Agreement has proved quite positive both for the Romanian Association of Social Workers and the Spanish colleagues. It was more than right to have chosen Romania; the mentality is so close, culturally, to the Mediterranean one! Moreover the Latin language of both countries facilitated the oral communication and understanding of the papers delivered.

VIII Spanish Congress of the Social Workers

On 7-9 November 1996 the VIII Spanish Congress of Social Workers will be held in Seville with the theme: "Social Work in the Change of Millennium". It is organized by the General Council of Professional Associations of Social Workers from Spain in conjunction with the Seville Association and the support of the State Administration and social institutions.

Social Workers from all over Spain will take advantage of the event to analyse, discuss and study in depth the role to be assumed by the Social Work profession in the next few years, taking into account the current trends of the social and financial policies, and whether they meet the new social needs.

The Congress is also aimed at achieving that methods and expertise satisfy the new professional demands allowing for in-depth study of social work ethics, the responsibility of the profession and the rights of the users.

The Congress Program will include:
Trends of the Social and Financial Policies - Their Effects on Social Work;
Social Work in the Complex Societies;
Social Work in Integration and Exclusion Processes.

Outstanding Titles for Social Workers around the World from NASW

The NASW Press, publishing division of the National Association of Social Workers, offers
4 primary journals • reference works in print and on CD-ROM • a bibliographic database
in print, online, and on CD-ROM • nearly 100 books to support social work activities
in practice and in policy development. **Here's a sampling of our titles:**

Approaches to the Welfare State

Pranab Chatterjee, 1996.

Encyclopedia of Social Work, 19th Ed.

Richard L. Edwards,
Editor-in-Chief, 1995.

Multicultural Issues in Social Work

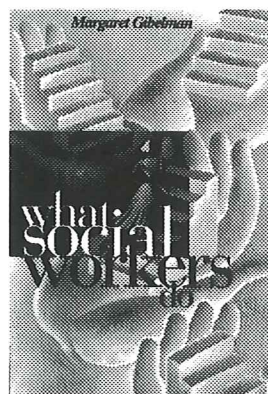
Patricia L. Ewalt, Edith M.
Freeman, Stuart A. Kirk, and
Dennis L. Poole, 1996.

Person-in-Environment System and the PIE Manual (set)

James M. Karls and
Karin E. Wandrei, 1994.

Profiles in International Social Work

M.C. Hokenstad, S.K.
Khinduka, and James
Midgley, 1992.



What Social Workers Do
Margaret Gibelman, 1995.

Social Work Almanac, 2nd Ed.

Leon Ginsberg, 1995.

Social Work Dictionary, 3rd Ed.

Robert L. Barker, 1995.

JOURNALS

Social Work

Patricia L. Ewalt,
Editor-in-Chief. Bimonthly.

Health & Social Work

Dennis L. Poole,
Editor-in-Chief. Quarterly.

Social Work in Education

Edith M. Freeman,
Editor-in-Chief. Quarterly.

Social Work Research

Stuart A. Kirk,
Editor-in-Chief. Quarterly.

Social Work Abstracts

NASW's abstracting service.
Quarterly.

.....
 **Please send me the most recent NASW Press Publications Catalog.**

NAME

ORGANIZATION

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE/PROVINCE

COUNTRY

POSTAL CODE

TELEPHONE

FAX

E-MAIL

NASW Distribution Center, PO Box 431, Annapolis JCT, MD 20701 USA.
Phone: 301-317-8688 Fax: 301-206-7989 E-mail: press@naswdc.org

INT96

Important General Meeting ahead



The upcoming IFSW General Meeting July 21-23 in Hong Kong will be filled with substantial issues, as the distributed preliminary agenda reveals.

Definition of Social Work

One of the central items on the agenda is revision of the 1982 Definition of Professional Social Work, which not only shall serve as a reference and base of identity for the profession itself but also be an instrument toward international agencies, governments, media, users, partners and others to assist in understanding and recognizing what social work is about.

Criteria for membership

Criteria for membership in IFSW is another issue trying to find ways for the future development of the federation. One of the initiatives of the Task Force on Membership Criteria appointed by the General Meeting in 1994 is to propose that a Committee of Inquiry may be established by the Executive Committee when a request for membership has been received from an organization other than the member association in any country. The Committee of Inquiry shall in consultation with the existing member association consider the Constitution, Code of Ethics, Annual Report, membership criteria, number of members with professional qualifications, involvement in professional and social justice and social policy issues as well as involvement in professional development and other relevant factors affecting the member association and the applicant association.

Major revision of Constitution and By-Laws

The recommendations of the Task Force on Membership Criteria has been integrated in a major revision of the IFSW Constitution and By-Laws, and a number of changes are proposed in these two linked

documents. Among them are an expansion of the defined aims of the federation to update them to recent development, clarification of the term of office for the Executive Committee Officers and Members, the establishment of an Elections Committee instead of having one Elections Officer, clarifications on the election process and an expansion of the days before the General Meeting for distribution of documents.

Fees structure

The General Meeting will also deal with the Fees structure of IFSW, based on the work of another Task Force. One recommendation is to develop a more standardized system for fees' assessment as well as more transparent mechanisms for dealing with requests from member associations unable to meet the assessed fees. Another finance issue is to discuss a Development Strategy for IFSW Funds.

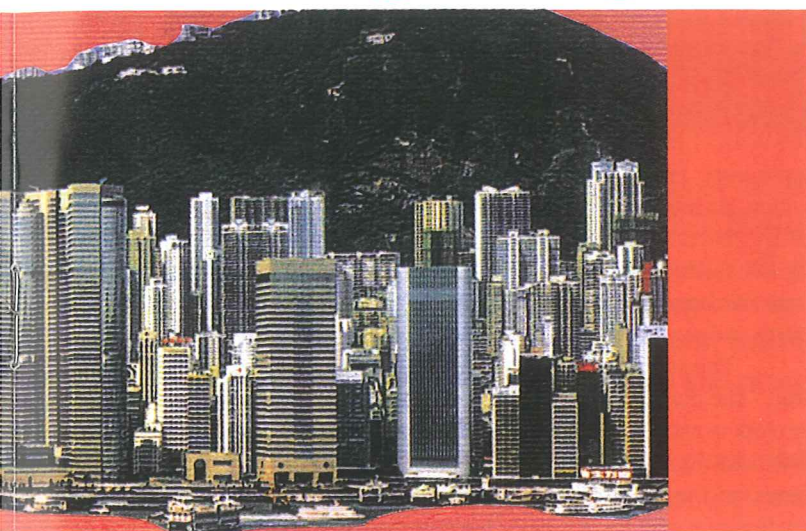
New publications

The publishing policy of IFSW is also on the agenda. This year, the federation is introducing two new communication vehicles. "ifsw update" presented its first edition in March as a supplement to the Newsletter with news of special interest to the governing bodies of the federation. Ahead of the General Meeting, IFSW information will be available for a global audience on the Internet. By these two supplements to the IFSW Newsletter and the International Social Work journal, the federation has expanded its communication capacity to enhance knowledge of what is going on in international social work.

Guidelines

Other items for the General Meeting are "Criteria and Guidelines for IFSW Representatives", "Guidelines for Conference Planning and Selection" and

ad in Hong Kong



"Role Description for the IFSW Ambassador", all intended to clarify and making the work of the federation more transparent.

Reports and UN Conferences

The many reports to the General Meeting from Officers, Representatives and the Human Rights Commission will reveal that the period between 1994 and 1996 has been a very active one for IFSW, also due to four major United Nations Conferences linked to social work : Population and Development in Cairo 1994, World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen 1995, Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing 1995 and the upcoming Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) in Istanbul 1996.

Policy Papers and Ethical Committee

Revision of Policy Papers is an ongoing process, and this General Meeting will also hopefully be able to finally see the establishment of the Committee on Ethical Issues.

Cooperation

The cooperation with IASSW and ICSW has continued to being strengthened, and the General Meeting is expected to confirm this as an important platform for the further positioning of the federation.

Trafficking of Human Organs

A report on "Trafficking of Human Organs" was requested by the General Meeting in 1994, and will be presented in Hong Kong.

Jerusalem 1998 - Canada 2000

Israel will report on its preparations for the world conference in 1998, and Canada will invite social workers globally for the year 2000. The General Meeting will also receive reports on the increasing number of projects IFSW is involved in.

Election of Executive Committee 1996-98

The meeting will end with elections of the Executive Committee for 1996 - 98, and member associations have been asked to send nominations to the new Elections Officer, Eugenia Moreno, Executive Director of the Canadian Association of Social Workers, before May 31.

Joint Symposium of IASSW, ICSW and IFSW, Hong Kong, July 28, 1996

Social Development, Justice, Equality and Peace

How can the results from the United Nations World Summit for Social Development be taken from the conference rooms into people's daily life?

Linking the world conferences of IASSW/IFSW and ICSW, this symposium will look at how implementation of the outcome of the World Summit can be stimulated, and examine how disadvantaged people can be positively affected by efforts to promote an enabling environment for social development, eradication of poverty, expansion of productive employment and enforced social integration.

Confirmed speakers at this time are Noeleen Heyzer, Director of UN's Development Fund for Women and Prof. James Midgley of Louisiana State University, USA in addition to outstanding global and regional representatives of the three organizations.

For everybody participating in one of the two world conferences, this symposium is offered without additional costs.

Israel

Social Workers' Bill passed in the Knesset

27 February, the Knesset (Israel's Parliament) passed into law the Social Workers' Bill, which will come into force in another three months. The new act, for the first time, recognizes the profession of social work and gives it statutory protection: Only certified social workers may practice, bogus workers will be prosecuted, and communication between social workers and their clients will be privileged in a court of law. A Council of Social Workers is set up to handle registration of social workers and to advise the minister, and a disciplinary panel will be set up.

The day after the law was passed, the Annual Convention of the Israel Association of Social Workers met, and the new law was extensively welcomed. The hundred delegates recognized their new responsibilities, but were happy to accept them in the light of their new legal standing.

The 1998 International Conference takes form

The 1998 International Conference in Jerusalem is beginning to take form. All three international bodies (IFSW, IASSW and ICSW) will hold their conferences in the same conference center at the same time, with many joint ceremonies and functions. We hope to bring a preliminary program to Hong Kong this summer.

Contacts with Palestinian Social Workers



During their recent visit to Israel to discuss preparations for the 1998 World Congress, the IFSW President Elis Envall and Secretary General Tom Johannesen also went to Gaza to meet Um Jihad, the Palestine National Authority Minister of Social Affairs and Labour and representatives of the Palestinian Association of Social Workers. Um Jihad called for international assistance to bring the Palestine National Territories from their present state of despair toward a more human future. The Palestinian Association of Social Workers expressed their interest in developing international links, and to work for the formation of a National Association together with their colleagues in the West Bank as soon as conditions would permit closer contacts. They also wanted to link to the preparatory work for the World Congress, and the Israel Association of Social Workers is welcoming closer cooperation to include also Palestinian social work experiences in the upcoming congress in Jerusalem.

IFSW Liaison Committee to the European Union

Mobility of Social Workers?

For the first time ever the IFSW European Region and the IFSW EU Liaison Committee convened a meeting on one topic only. Following the development of the European Union, its internal (and single) market and the appearance of EU Directives (legislation) on mutual recognition of diplomas, the focus of social workers' associations in Europe has been directed towards the situation around mobility and recognition of diplomas from other countries.

This interest arrives from a number of different reasons - the major ones being either the possibility to move or work in another country or the implications for the standards and duration of training in social work. So far the focus on the subject has been centered on a number of professions who traditionally have moved around - especially in the health sector. With a new generation of European social workers graduating following a period of training where international matters or even field placements in other countries have added to the complexity of the training period, demands for possibilities to work in another (European) country is heard more often.

This led to the recent meeting in Brussels - an IFSW Strategy Meeting - which following a very formal but interesting and informative meeting with the section of the European Commission responsible for the Directive was really a working group - chaired by IFSW Vice-President for Europe Eilis Walsh and President of the EU Liaison Committee, Eila Malmström - formed to develop ideas and suggestions for IFSW but also the individual member associations.

A number of issues were raised, ideas for future clarifications - a new challenge to define a number of key words were identified - and ideas for further initiatives were added and the group assembled agreed to form a network on mutual recognition issues.

Documents from the meeting will be sent out to all European Associations and the network in early April - and the network will hope to meet again early next year to evaluate and discuss further development.

Fund Contributions

IFSW thanks contributors for donations to IFSW funds

Suzanne Dworak-Peck, USA

in memory of

Jones Muguse, Zimbabwe

IFSW will accept contributions in the form of memorials or tributes, or donations to the Jane Hoey Fund for social work development, and will acknowledge support in the IFSW Newsletter. Donations may be tax deductible in some countries. More information can be obtained from the Secretariat.

A special edition of Nordic Social Work/Nordisk Sosialt Arbeid

This is the first time the journal has presented an overall Nordic view on this theme in social work and the response has been very encouraging. The editorial committee hopes that this special edition will be useful as information and inspiration and will raise an interest in the Nordic models and methods of social work today.

H. Lyding - Meeting a Challenge: Danish Social Policy and HIV/AIDS
G. Isacson - Swedish Social Policy Meeting HIV/AIDS
T.I. Skjelbred - Can HIV and AIDS Become Everyday Terms?
K. Madsen - AIDS-activists or Professionals: Who Should Deal with AIDS?
V. Urwitz - Social Work and the Prevention of HIV/AIDS
H. Jensen - Group Therapy with a Focus on Death Consciousness and Quality of Life
M. Isachsen - Male Prostitution and HIV Prevention
M. Omsätter - HIV Information to Immigrants. Centred on Dialogue
M. Omsätter - Ugandan Women's Association. Preventive Efforts and Support for Countrymen
M. Davidesen-Nielsen and N. Leick - Sudden Encounter with Death, Meaninglessness,
Isolation and Freedom - a Theory of Traumas.

Canada

Concern for Social Consequences

The Canadian Association of Social Workers (CASW) held a major think-tank on Canadian Social Policy to express alarm at the lack of real debate about social policy options in Canada. Assumptions that Canada's debt problems have been caused by overspending on social and health programs have been continuously repeated and finally, widely accepted, in spite of evidence to the contrary. This has resulted in economic policy being delivered without concern for its social consequences, or for the long- and short-term financial costs of those consequences.

Canada's debt must be addressed. It is timely to review all the fiscal options vis-à-vis the debt, including social programs. It is critical to remember that Canadian social programs were developed in response to the past deficiencies of the marketplace; new responses to the current deficiencies of the marketplace are in order. But the substitution of self-sufficiency in place of social and health programs is not a realistic option. It is unreflected, and ultimately contradictory, to promote a culture of self-sufficiency in an increasingly interdependent global economy.

From recent research, it is known that the majority of Canadians continue to see a strong role for their government in providing social and health services. This view is reflected in international judgements about the quality of life in Canada, whereby the wealth and status of a nation is measured by more than its economic indicators.

The meeting resulted in the development of strategies to involve social workers across the country in challenging the widespread myths, both about the analysis of Canada's financial problems and the range of options to address them.

Corporal Punishment of Children must be Banned

CASW continues lobbying for the removal of Section 43 from the Canadian Criminal Code which sanctions the use of physical force as a means of child correction, and recently urged the Federal Government to take action to repeal Section 43 in the interest of the well-being of children and reduction of violence in Canadian society. CASW believes that corporal punishment of children must be banned. It endangers children's mental and physical health, and it violates children's rights.

Documents on HIV/AIDS

As part of a major project on HIV/AIDS, CASW has just released 3 documents: "Social Workers and HIV/AIDS: A Challenge to Our Profession", "Social Work Practice and Practice Wisdom in the Field of HIV/AIDS: Research Report" and "Statement on the Impact on HIV". A few copies are still available in English and French from the Canadian Association of Social Workers.

New Zealand

Successful Conference in Christchurch

The Asia-Pacific Regional Social Services Conference in Christchurch, November 20 - 23, 1995 was a great success. Arranged by IASSW, ICSW, and IFSW in cooperation with their New Zealand partners it gathered over 600 participants from more than 30 countries on the subject "Partnerships that work?". For the first time in the IFSW history, the Executive Committee held the days before the conference its meeting in the Pacific, hosted by the New Zealand Association of Social Workers.

Reinforcing our Professional Identity

The "Social Work Review" of the New Zealand Association of Social Workers states in its guest editorial after the conference that "there was a refreshing lack of the need to justify our profession at the conference. We were reminded that we belong to an international community of social workers as we shared our stories, struggles and concerns. Where the social work identity is under threat, as for example in health, where social work teams are being dismantled and fragmented, some speakers reminded us of the need to make the social work task visible. Carrying out research into the effectiveness of social work practice is just one of many ideas for reinforcing our professional identity that were presented at this conference".

Skilled in Strategic Management

It is tempting also to quote from the speech of the President of the New Zealand Association of Social Workers, Buster Curson, at its Annual General Meeting following the conference: "We are hovering on the brink of previously unimagined opportunity. Whilst there are many pressures for practitioners, social workers are required to participate in ever growing areas of practice. Restructuring and reformation itself provide opportunities (as well as difficulties) and of all people it seems to me that social workers are amongst the most skilled and versed in strategic management. Our challenge is to make the advance from "rescuing mode" to development and innovation".

Advertisements

The IFSW Newsletter is open for advertisements. Deadlines for our remaining 1996 editions are August 20 for the September edition and November 10 for the December edition. If you want to know more about how to advertise, please notify the Secretariat.

Denmark

Albanian Committee Visit

The Danish Association of Social Workers has invited the Executive Committee of the Albanian Association of Social Workers to visit Denmark in May. The Albanians have expressed wishes to join the IFSW and strengthen their international relationships after many years of isolation. The 11 day program for the visit from ten Albanians includes:

History and development of the Danish Association into a democratic body playing its part in a modern democratic society, thus legally attempting to influence legislation, educational facilities, working conditions, etc. A visit to two of the Danish schools of social work and three days of field work with Danish colleagues in Aarhus is also part of the program.

The Danish Association has asked the Danish Democracy Foundation/The Foreign Ministry to help financing the Albanian visit to Denmark. Representatives of the Danish Association have been attending conferences on social work in Albania in 1994 and 1995 and have also established contact with the Albanian Association.

USA

Send a Get-Well-Card to Eileen

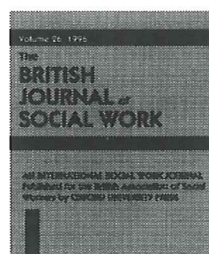


Eileen McGowan Kelly, NASW's Director of Peace and International Affairs, was taken seriously ill and underwent emergency surgery at the end of February. Cards may be sent to her in care of Brenda Ruiz-Bustos, NASW, 750 First Street; NE, Washington, DC 20002-4241, USA. Brenda is available at (1) 202-408-8600 ext. 388, to field questions about Eileen's projects.

Four new Members - Brazil, Czech Republic, Malta and Netherlands Antilles

IFSW has achieved membership expansion in 4 new countries, resulting in social worker associations in 60 countries now being part of the international network.

After postal ballots with the member associations, the Conselho Federal de Servico Social, Brazil (60 000 members), Association for Social Workers in the Czech Republic (650 members), Maltese Association of Social Workers (52 members) and the Organisashon di Trahadornan Sosial Uni, Netherlands Antilles (72 members) are now all part of international social work, resulting in a total of more than 430.000 social workers globally being linked to IFSW. This means that membership in Europe is moving even closer to a total coverage, and that membership in Latin America and the Caribbean has made an important step forward with the major Latin America country now being linked to IFSW. It is expected that even more social worker associations will apply ahead of the General Meeting in Hong Kong in July 1996.



EDITOR
Audrey Mullender
University of Warwick, UK

ASSISTANT EDITOR
Marcia Spence
University of Durham, UK

Established as the pre-eminent academic journal of its kind in the UK, **The British Journal of Social Work** is essential reading for all social work educators, researchers, practitioners, and managers who need to keep abreast of theoretical and empirical developments in the field. Over 50% of subscribers are from outside the UK.

ARTICLES IN VOLUME 26 INCLUDE:

Children and literature
Kate Wilson and Anne Ridler
Deprofessionalising social work:
anti-oppressive practice, competencies,
and post-modernism
Lena Dominelli
Dragged to market: being a
professional in the post-modern world
Meryl Aldridge
Specialism, genericism and others: does
it make a difference? A study of social
work services to elderly people
Roger Fuller & Emmanuelle Tulle-Winton

Special Issue: Volume 26/4 Child Protection

Includes papers on
parental participation,
the impact of social
networks on rates of
abuse, young people's
perspectives on
investigative interviews,
and the effect of child
protection work on
child homicide cases.

Please enter my subscription to **THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF SOCIAL WORK**
Volume 26 (4 issues): Institutions £95/US\$175 ☐ Individuals £42/US\$81 ☐
1st-time Individuals £30/US\$55 ☐
Please note: £ sterling rates apply in UK and Europe, US\$ rates elsewhere. Customers in the EC
and in Canada are subject to their local sales tax.

Name.....

Address.....

.....Postcode.....Country.....

☐ I enclose the correct remittance. ☐ Please debit my credit card

Card number:

Exp. date:

For further subscriptions information please contact:
Journals Marketing (IFSW96), Oxford University Press,
Walton Street, Oxford OX2 6DP, UK Tel: +44 (0)1865 267907

New and Recent Books on

Social Welfare

The Discovery of Poverty in the United States

Robert H. Bremner

With a new introduction by Walter I. Trattner

Bremner traces the growth of factual information about social conditions, describes the ways in which writers and artists handled the subject of poverty in their work, and presents the experiences and influences that led to the enactment of legislation affecting housing, child labor, women in industry, and industrial accidents.

ISBN: 1-56000-582-3 (paper) 399 pp. \$21.95/£13.95

Physical Violence in American Families

RISK FACTORS AND ADAPTATIONS TO VIOLENCE
IN 8,145 FAMILIES

Murray A. Straus and Richard J. Gelles

"Those who are familiar with the literature in the area of domestic violence will no doubt recognize the major contributions of Murray Straus and Richard Gelles in determining the incidence of physical violence in US families.... For the researcher who is new to the field of domestic violence, this book is the ideal place to begin."

—Linda Vinton,

The American Journal of Family Therapy

"Its many strengths include the excellence of the writing, careful attention to detail, the stimulating nature of the commentary, and, above all, the quality and comprehensiveness of the research."

—Leslie Moulton Asplund, *Violence and Victims*
ISBN: 1-56000-828-8 (paper) 622 pp. \$24.95/£15.95

A History of Child Welfare

Eve P. Smith and Lisa A. Merkel-Holguín, editors

As we approach the year 2000, infant mortality rates, child placement dilemmas, and appropriate socialization of children continue to challenge the field of child welfare. It is thus especially significant to reflect on the history of child welfare. The carefully selected topics explored in this volume underscore the importance of recovering past events and themes still relevant. Its aim is to illumine current issues by a review of past struggles and problems.

ISBN: 1-56000-866-0 (paper) 320 pp. \$22.95/£14.95

Evaluating the National Health Service Reforms

RESHAPING THE PUBLIC SECTOR, VOLUME 8

Ray Robinson and Julian Le Grand

The King's Fund, the largest independent funder of health policy research in the United Kingdom, commissioned a series of projects to monitor the impact of health care reforms. This book reports the results.

ISBN: 1-56000-194-1 (cloth) 288 pp. \$34.95/£22.95

ISBN: 1-56000-796-6 (paper) 288 pp. \$21.95/£13.95

The Dilemma of American Social Welfare

William M. Epstein

"[This book] ably demythologizes the methodologies of psychotherapy and social services beyond the liberal myopia and conservative strategies of our times."

—Brij Mohan,

International Journal of Contemporary Sociology

ISBN: 1-56000-088-0 (cloth) 241 pp. \$39.95/£25.95

Order from your bookseller or directly from

T R A N S A C T I O N

Department 95ASW—Rutgers—The State University—New Brunswick, NJ 08903 USA

In the United Kingdom and Europe:

Transaction Publishers UK Ltd.—Book Representation and Distribution, Ltd.

244 A London Road, Hadleigh, Essex SS7 2DE—United Kingdom

Prices subject to change without notice. All major credit cards accepted.



Call 908/445-2280 or Fax 908/445-3138

IFSW Friends

The Symbol of Professional Commitment to International Social Work



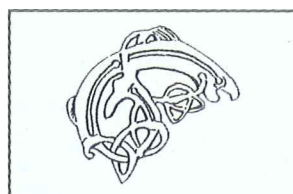
The Friends of IFSW program is growing steadily toward its first 500 affiliates, and now covers 49 countries and 472 Friends. The program is designed to give social workers, agencies, corporations and others a possibility to link with international social work and receive benefits as the IFSW Newsletter, discount registration at IFSW conferences, access to IFSW documents, a certificate of recognition, a special Friends pin and more. If you want to know more, please contact the IFSW Secretariat.

IFSW/IASSW Congresses and Seminars

HONG KONG

24-27 July 1996

World Conference: Participating in Change -
The Social Work Profession in Social Development



DUBLIN

24-28 August 1997

European Seminar: Culture & Identity -
Social Work in a Changing Europe

JERUSALEM

5-10 July 1998

Joint World Congress of IFSW and IASSW



The 2nd International Conference on Social Work in Health & Mental Health
January 13-15, 1998,

World Congress Centre, Melbourne, Australia

Details of this University of Melbourne School of Social Work Conference
are available from the Conference Secretariat at:

C/-ICMS Pty Ltd, 84 Queensbridge Street, Southbank VIC 3006, Australia

Phone: +61 3 9682 0244, Fax: +61 3 9682 0288, email: 2icsw.98@icms.com.au

Diary of Events 1996

Helsinki, Finland, 10-15 June

17th International Federation of Settlements and Neighbourhood Centres Conference: Strengthening Communities in our Society

Rovanemi, Finland, 11-14 June

Husita 4, Fourth International Conference and Exhibition on Human Services Information Technology Applications

Montreal, Canada, 25-30 June

Defence for Children International: 5th International Week for Children's Rights

Vancouver, Canada, 7-12 July

XI International Conference on AIDS:

One World, One Hope

Helsinki, Finland, 8-13 July

10th World Conference of the International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual Disability

Oporto, Portugal 15-19 July

9th International Symposium of the Inter-University Consortium for International Social Development. Contemporary Realities

Hong Kong, 29 July - 3 August

27th ICSW International Conference: Societies in Transition - Development in a Political, Economic and Social Context

Dublin, Ireland, 18-21 August

11th International Congress of the International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect: Children and Families - Creating Stability in an Unstable World

Washington D.C., USA, 5-8 September

The 7th International AWID (Association for Women in Development)

Forum: Beyond Beijing - From Words to Action

San Francisco, USA, 7-8 September

The Global Behavioral Healthcare Leadership Training Institute

Helvoirt, Netherlands 19-21 September

5th International Federation of Settlements East-West Conference

Linz, Austria 8-11 October

Int. Conference of the Austrian Association of Social Workers: Principles in Social Work

Cairo, Egypt 13-17 October

Inta20 Congress: New Urban Communities, Past Experiences and Responses to the Future

Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA, 25-27 October

18th Annual Symposium on Social Work with Groups: Rebuilding Communities - The Challenge for Group Workers

Vienna, Austria 11-12 November

NGO Committee on the Family, 6th International Seminar

Lima, Peru 12-15 November

XXI Jornada Iberoamericana de Derecho del Trabajo y de la Seguridad Social en los Umbrales del Siglo XXI

Bangkok, Thailand 2-6 December

World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action Global Forum

Information Service on International Conferences

IFSW is providing an extended information service on upcoming international conferences. A list will give you details on venues, topics, time schedules and where to obtain more information. The list is available from the Secretariat on request, and updated on a regular basis.

IFSW-Newsletter is published by
International Federation of Social Workers
P. O. Box 4649, Sofienberg, N-0506 OSLO, NORWAY
Tel (47) 22 03 11 52, Fax (47) 22 03 11 14