REPORT OF THE
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS
REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR ASIA
BANGKOK, THAILAND
NOVEMBER 6–10, 1967

Theme — Action Programmes of Social Work Organizations in Meeting
Present and Emerging Social Welfare Problems in Changing Asia.

Report of the

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS
REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR ASIA

Bangkok, Thailand

6-10 November, 1967

Staples Removed
due to rusting

2/5/2016

Table of Contents

FOREWORD

It does seem relevant to provide the background of events leading up to decision taken by the International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) to hold its First Asian Regional Conference at Bangkok, Thailand in November 1967.

The matter was first raised at a meeting of the IFSW Executive Meeting at New York in August 1966. It was felt that the organization of such a Regional Conference would be in keeping with the objectives of the International Federation; it would serve to focus attention on the special problems of the region and in this process, help achieve greater professional solidarity among social workers through a discussion of problems of mutual concern. At this meeting, Mrs. Renu Jotidilok on behalf of the Social Workers Association of Thailand extended an invitation to hold the Conference in Bangkok.

This offer of hospitality from Thailand was accepted by the IFSW Permanent Council at its meeting in Washington D.C. in September 1966. It was agreed that the First Asian Regional Conference should be held in Bangkok, Thailand in November 1967. In drafting the programme of work, it was felt that each national association of social workers in the region should be requested to prepare a country paper high-lighting social welfare problems that deserve the highest priority; a description of the approaches and solutions evolved so far and the outlines for further action. While the discussion would necessarily concern itself with the effective tackling of welfare problems and steps to improve the quality of welfare services, adequate attention would be given to the raising of professional standard among social workers themselves. It was also decided to hold a special meeting of the IFSW Executive Committee during the Asian Conference.

The next stage was reached in November 1966 when the Social Workers Association of Thailand wrote to IFSW confirming their invitation to act as hosts to the Asian Regional Conference. In March 1967, Mr. Nelson Jackson, Secretary General of the IFSW sent out a letter to the national associations inviting participation in the Bangkok Conference.

The Government of Thailand approved in principle that the Department of Public Welfare should collaborate with the Social Workers Association of Thailand in organizing the Conference and also agreed to provide the funds needed to underwrite the local costs involved. The Asia Foundation continued its tradition of supporting the work being done by the Social Workers Association of Thailand. These offers of assistance helped to bring together a representative gathering of social workers from as many as 18 countries and raised the standard of professional discussion.

The thousand and one details that combine to ensure the success of such a Conference were handled by the Local Organizing Comittee set up under the chairmanship of Mr. Pakorn Angsusingha, Dean of the Social Administration Faculty, Thammasat University. Their work was reinforced at key points in the development of the Conference Programme by the advice of Miss Dorothy Moses, Chief, Social Development

1

Division, ECAFE and her colleagues. The following theme was chosen for the Conference as holding out the greatest relevance to social workers in the region:

"Action Programmes of Social Work Organizations to Meet Present and Emerging Social Problems in Changing Asia."

On a number of occasions it was necessary to consult with the office-bearers of the IFSW Executive Committee and we are truly grateful for the close working relationship achieved with the President, Miss Litsa Alexandraki and the Secretary General, Mr. Nelson C. Jackson in ironing out a number of delicate problems. Mr. M.C. Nanavatty, Vice President for Asia was most helpful in drafting suitable guidelines and in preparing a general background paper that guided the discussion.

A number of national associations have taken considerable pains in preparing position papers and documents detailing current developments in the welfare field. It is regretted that due to limitations of space and funds, it has not been possible to print them in full, but we are glad that in this selective process we have been able to print the background paper of each topic of discussion by Miss Teresita L. Silva (Philippines), Mr. Seiho Miyano (Japan) and Mr. E. Hamilton-Smith (Australia).

We owe a special debt of gratitude to the members of the Drafting Committee appointed by the Conference to prepare the Final Report considered at the closing plenary session and to the Chairman, Convenors and Rapporteurs who worked so hard all through the Conference. At the time of compiling the manuscript for the press, we did not hesitate to draw upon services of Mr. P.D. Kulkarni and Mr. I.E. Soares of the ECAFE who have helped us at various stages of the Conference.

The Social Workers Association of Thailand presents with a certain justifiable pride this Report of the IFSW Social Workers Regional Conference for Asia which attempts to sum up the insights, perception and professional competence of social workers brought together from as many as 18 Asian countries. We trust that during their all too brief stay in Thailand, they have had a glimpse of our traditional hospitality and that they have returned to their countries with renewed enthusiasm and a spirit of dedication to the varied social work tasks that confront our Asia.

(Suwan Ruenyote)
President
Social Workers Association of Thailand

Their Majesties the King and Queen of Thailand receiving IFSW delegates in audience at the Chitralada Palace. Picture shows Mr. Pakorn Angsusingha introducing Miss Litsa Alexandraki, President IFSW.
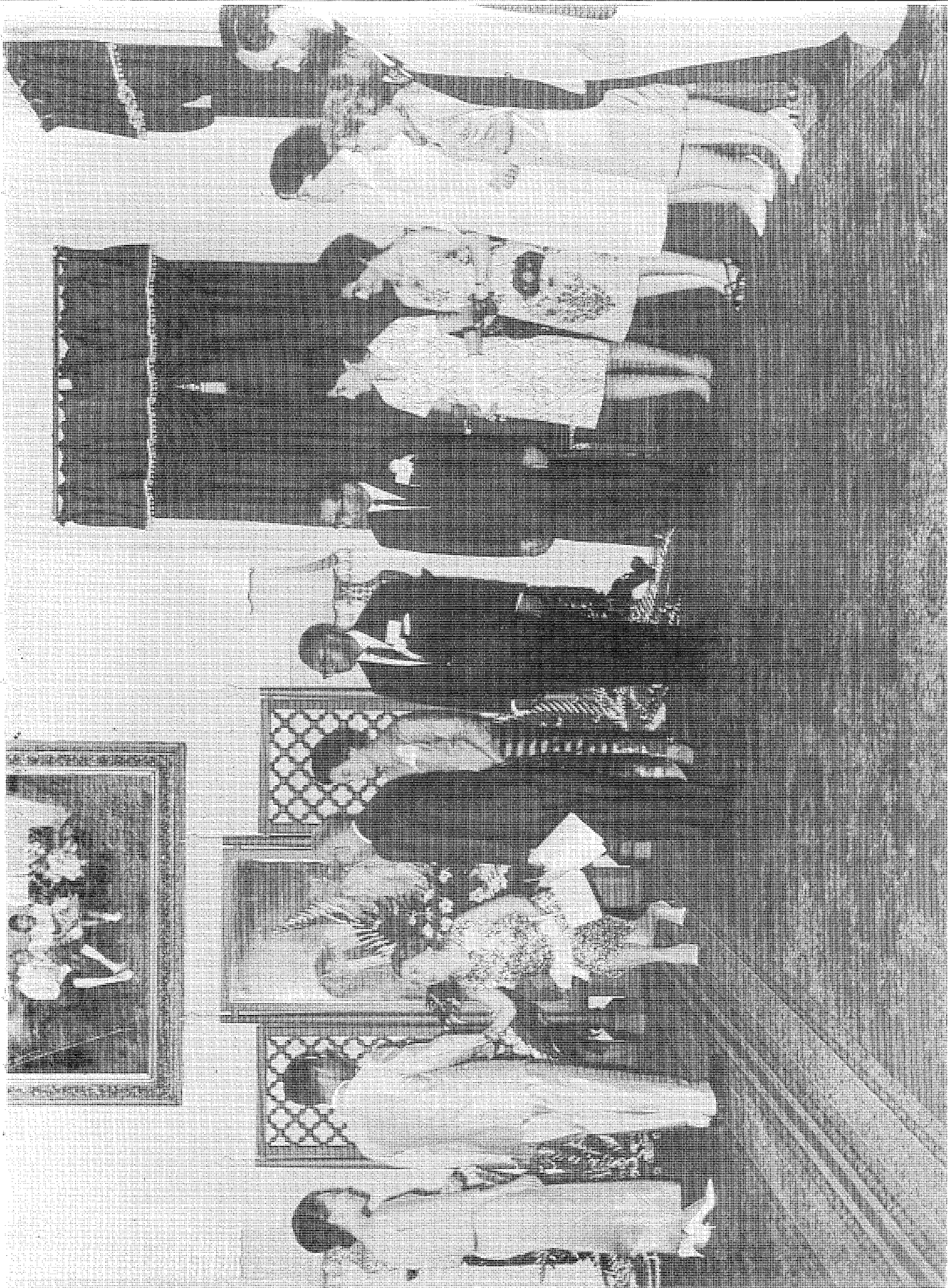
Delegates arriving for the opening session.

Delegates at the registration counter.

Inaugural Session. Miss Litsa Alexandraki President, IFSW welcoming the delegates. Seated (r. to l.) H.R.H. Krommun Narathip Bongsprabandh Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Pakorn Angsusingha and Mr. Suwan Ruenyote.
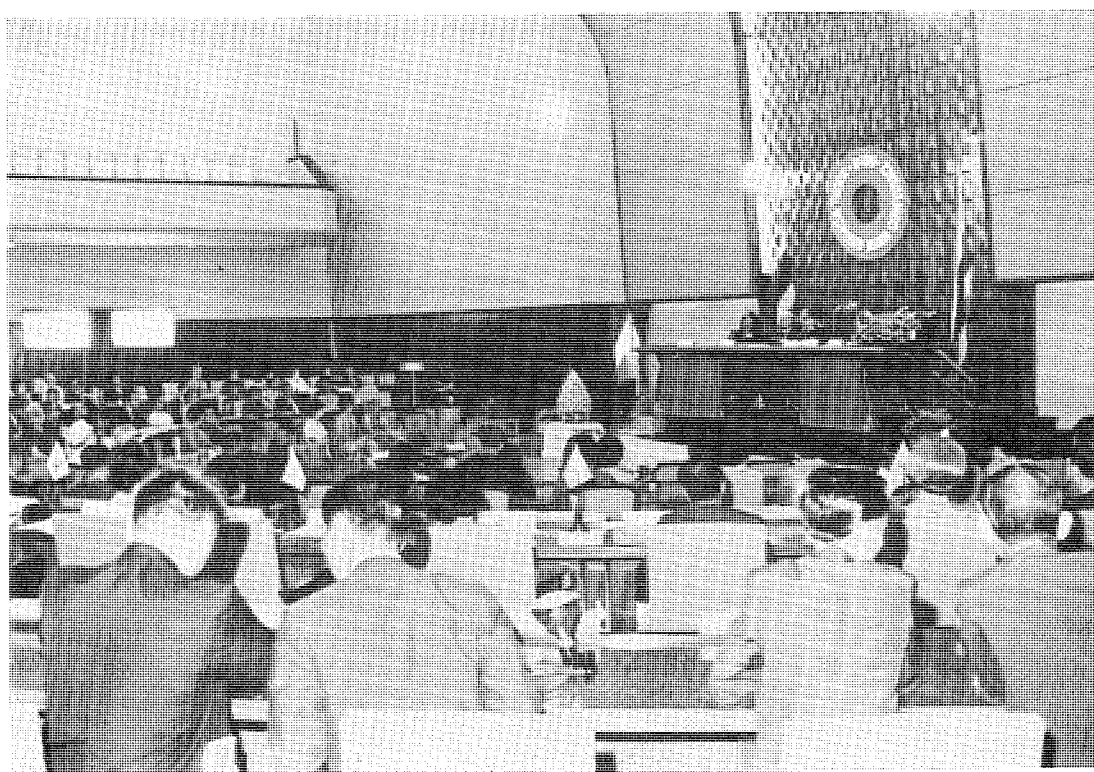
The Conference meeting in Plenary Session at the Auditorium of Thammasat University.

IFSW SOCIAL WORKERS REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR ASIA
Bangkok, Thailand, November 6-10, 1967
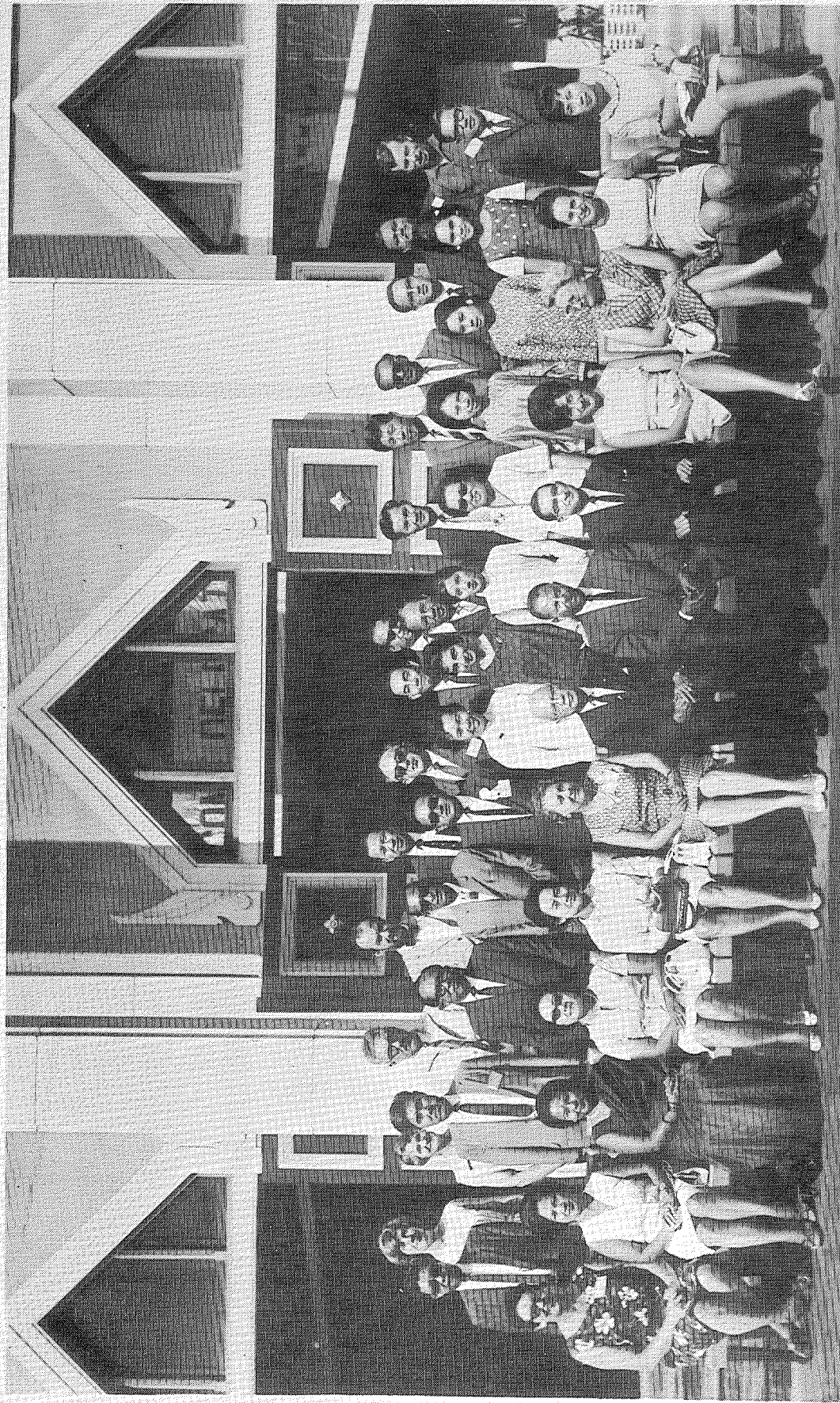
Front row: Mary Bush, Josefina Pineda, Usha Narayanan, Suparb Visessurakarn, Renu Jotidilok, Litsa Alexandraki, Pakorn Angsusingha, Nelson C. Jackson, Meher C. Nanavatty, Maria Teresa Gnecco, Irmgard K. Rawiel, Nava Arad, Tersita L. Silva

2nd row: Chamnean Kantasewi, Seiho Miyano, I G. P. Kamayana, I. K. Ghosh, Sompong Piamsilpa, Mac Thi Gam, Bosli Stahel, Nguyen Thi Tu, Krasae Vajarapana, Chariya Khandhawit, Lavan Valyasevi, Payao Wnansnit, Sanay Wattanathorn

3rd row: Susan Dinklage, Bertha Zurcher, Albert W. Stahel, E. Hamilton-Smith, Thomas Lee, Dr. Kurtz M. A., Huynh Thanh Hung, I. E. Soares, Tran Van Liem, Phan Van Nhan, Kim Un Cho, P. D. Kulkarni, Cheng Siew Hon, P. Balasubramanian, Colin Clague

Australian delegation (l. to r.) E. Hamilton—Smith and Colin Clague

Delegates from New Zealand and the Philippines (l. to. r.)
Bertha Zurcher and Mary Bush (NZ) Teresita L. Silva and
Josefina D. Pineda (The Philippines).

Address by Miss Litsa Alexandraki
President,
International Federation of Social Workers

Your Royal Highness,

On behalf of the International Federation of Social Workers I am humbly expressing to you our gratitude for honoring us with your presence at the first Conference of Associations of Social Workers of Asian Countries.

The interest Their Majesties and Your Royal Highness shown to this conference on "Action Programs of Social Work Organisations in Meeting Present and Emerging Social Welfare Problems in Changing Asia" is considered by us, Social Workers, as an active expression of your interest for the people we serve as well as a recognition to the profession of Social Work.

Your Royal Highness, we would like you kindly to accept our gratitude to the Royal Government for its generous support to the Social Work Association and Organisation Committee for the preparation of this conference. We are very happy to be at your beautiful country with its great cultural heritage and communicate with its noble, proud, hard working and progressive people.

I would like now to welcome all my colleagues and friends who come to participate in this conference by naming the country of each one of yours (I will appreciate if each of you hearing the name of his or her country stand up for all of us to see you and give you a warm welcome) Australia, Hong Kong, India, Israel, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Vietnam and Thailand.

I left Thailand last because I want to express to the Thai Association, the Organizing Committee and to all who assisted them to their efforts our deep gratitude because due to their work the decision of IFSW Permanent Council in Washington has materialized. On behalf of IFSW I would like to thank and congratulate the President of the Organizing Committee, Mr. Pakorn Angsusingha, for his excellent leadership, to the President of the Thai Association, Mr. Suwan Ruenyote, and to the Vice-President and Secretary of the Organizing Committee, Mrs. Renu Jotidilok, for their endless effort and hard work.

The International Federation of Social Workers attaches great importance to its first Conference in Asia.

With the profound changes of our times all countries face the problems in welfare of how to meet expanding needs how to establish the appropriate services through which these needs to be met, how to prepare sufficient manpower equiped with knowledge and skill.

We believe that the Professional Social Worker who is face to face with all kind of problems in his country because of his everyday work with individuals, families, groups and communities poccesses an invaluable amount of knowledge which can be used for the benefit of the people of his country.

We believe that Social Workers must and can assume greater responsibilities in developing and developed societies, International Federation of Social Workers in its effort to help the profession to meet its growing responsibilities provided through this conference the opportunity to the Social Workers of Asian Countries to present, discuss, exchange their rich experience and enlarge their cooperation with Social Worker of other countries.

The profession of living one of the most challenging periods of its history. We believe that we are equiped to face the challenge Social Work principles with universal application.

Social Work Methods and Practice

Social work methods and practice in their infinite variety can adopt in one form or another in every cultural setting.

The profession's interest is rooted in its commitment to service and its conviction that the people should get the kind of help they need.

The Social Workers must realize our growing responsibilities to undertake leadership roles in the planning of new services or in adopting existing services to changing cultural values, economic developments and new knowledge in our own countries.

We must face the problem of shortage of manpower with realistic approach.

It is our responsibility to encourage, to cooperate and assist the Educational Institutions of our countries in reviewing their programs in the light of changing needs of welfare. It is our responsibility to encourage cooperate and assist all those socially minded people of our countries who want to participate in this great effort in meeting the tremendous needs of our people and of our countries. IFSW hopes that this conference will be an opportunity for us to think, re-examine, re-evaluate our work and that this first meeting will lead to further collaboration of social workers within our own countries as well as internationally for the benefit of the people we serve. The presence in this conference of the members of the Executive Committee Social Workers from the continents from Europe, Latin America and North America shows that the interest of Social Work from all over the world is focussed on the discussions which will take place this week in Bangkok.

I hope and wish this network of collaboration and friendship among the Social Work around the world to strengthen further (through IFSW) for the welfare of humanity and for peace.

I wish great success to the conference, and to each one of you. This conference, I hope, will give the feeling of accomplishment and new drive for the great work to be done in your countries.

4

A Report

Presented to H.R.H. Krommun Naradhip Bongsprabandh

by Professor Pakorn Angsusingha

Chairman of the Local Organizing Committee,
Under - Secretary of State, Ministry of National Development
And Dean of the Faculty of Social Administration, Thammasat University.

Your Royal Highness,

On behalf of the Local Organising Committee and the participants to this Conference, I would like to say how grateful we are to have Your Royal Highness to preside over the inaugural ceremony of the First Asian Regional Conference of the International Federation of Social Workers. Your presence today will not only assure us of your kindness and support for this conference, but will also provide an inspiration to us to work towards the accomplishment of the objectives set forth for this conference.

This Regional Conference is being staged in accordance with the decision taken by the Executive Committee and Permanent Council of the International Federation of Social Workers which met in New York in August 1966. The main purpose of this Conference is to enable member organisations and social workers to exchange ideas and experiences which will assist in the formulation of a strategy to deal with social problems in the context of the developmental needs of the countries in this part of the world.

Asia more than ever before in its history has experienced great and rapid changes in every field of human activity. Out of this process of change and development in economic, social and political fields, new and more complex problems have emerged, making a profound impact on the life of individuals and society. We therefore have set for ourselves the theme of devising action programmes of social work organisations to meet the present and emerging social welfare problems in Asia.

This Conference will get to business immediately after the inauguration by Your Royal Highness and will continue until Friday the tenth of November. The three major topics for discussion will be:

(1) Main Challenges in Social Welfare in Changing Asia;

(2) A Critical Analysis of Current Action Programmes in Social Welfare; and

(3) The Role of Social Work Organizations in Social Action with Special Reference to the Professional Social work Organizations.

I have great pleasure in reporting to Your Royal Highness that this Conference has been given a high accord of importance by the participating countries as 33 delegates have joined the conference of which 22 are from abroad; namely, Australia, Hong Kong, India, Israel, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore and Vietnam, Moreover, we have today in our midst distinguished personalities who are playing a leading role in the social work organizations in their

respective countries, May I also invite the attention of Your Royal Highness, to the distinguished presence amongst us today of Miss Litsa Alexandraki, the President of The International Federation of Social Workers, and to the members of the Executive Committee of the Federation, who have travelled from distant parts of the world specially to attend this conference.

I am confident that meeting as we do on Asian Soil with delegates who have such rich and varied experience of our common social problems, the conference is sure not only to achieve its objectives, but also to provide each participant with a rewarding experience.

I would like to take this opportunity to express to you and through You to the Royal Government of Thailand our deep sense of gratitude for their generous grant without which this Conference would not have been possible.

With the permission of Your Royal Highness I would like also to place on record our thanks to the many organizations and persons from here and abroad who have contributed to the staging of this Conference.

I would now like to take the pleasure of inviting Your Royal Highness to inaugurate this Conference on "Action Programmes of Social Work Organizations in Meeting Present and Emerging Social Welfare Problems in Changing Asia".

Inaugural Address
by H.R.H. Krommun Narathip Bongsprabandh
Deputy Prime Minister
Government of Thailand

Honourable Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of my government and myself I have great pleasure in welcoming you all to the Asian Regional Conference of International Federation of Social Workers. We consider it a great honour for our country to have been selected as the first venue of this Regional Conference.

I am glad to know that the main objective of the conference is to review the rapidly changing social scene in Asia and to formulate an adequate response to the new challenges appearing in all our countries.

Most Asian countries today have adopted planned development as the chief method of raising the levels of living of their peoples. This process entails far reaching structural and institutional changes. On the one hand most Asian countries have their ancient cultures and long histories, and on the other there are the new urges of transforming a traditional society into a modern economy. it is, indeed, high time for Asian social workers to collectively prepare themselves to meet these challenges.

The presence of so many distinguished and competent persons in this Conference indicates the interest and determination of Asian social workers to work together in examining the changing patterns and the social problems that face societies in our region. The IFSW and the local organizing committee are to be congratulated for making this gathering possible.

In my view there are some aspects of this challenging problem which you may like to consider during your deliberations. Firstly, I do believe that in the persuit of economic and political goals, the human and social problems of adjustment to such rapid advancement are apt to be forgotten. For instance, the rapid changes in agriculture through scientific methods and mechanisation will undoubtedly create a completely new ethos of work and leisure and a new pattern of rural life. The development plans are seeking to provide the infrastructure and the techniques of these changes. The question to which social workers should address themselves is how best to prepare the community and the people for the new attitudes, values, modern practices and patterns of relationship and behaviour.

Secondly, I hope that you will eventually evolve plans to make positive and realistic contributions to cater for social problems in a manner that thus will not only dovetail into the fabric of the overall development plans of our respective countries but also to supplement them so as to complete the picture in all its human detail.

Thirdly, I do appreciate that we have gained from the knowledge and experiences of western countries, and while this technical know-how will always serve as guide-lines in our work, we should endeavour to bring the best out of our oriental and cultural backgrounds and heritage in meeting modern social problems.

For example, the love of family has always been the foundation of society in Asian countries; and we should tackle all social problems to preserve and strengthen the bonds and ties of family life no matter how modern we may get in the fields of economy and technology.

I notice from the programme of work for this Conference that you have set yourselves problems of great magnitude and your time is limited to only five days. I have no doubt however that each of you will give your best, so that even if you do not achieve what you desire, nevertheless, each of you will, I am sure, be richer for the experience gained and certainly you will be able to view your own problems in a broader perspective with much greater confidence and clarity of vision.

I congratulate you for having conceived this idea of regional discussions at a professional level and prompted by a spirit of service, and I feel sure that this first session will be the forerunner of a long series of profitable discussions which will undoubtedly lead to the betterment of the measures to deal with the social conditions in our respective countries.

I now take great pleasure in declaring this Conference open and wish you all a very happy stay in Thailand with every success in this laudable endeavour.

Address of the Conference Chairman
Mr. Suwan Ruenyote
Director General Department of Public Welfare
Government of Thailand

It is indeed a great honour for any one to preside over this very important International gathering. I consider that this honour is bestowed really upon my country rather than on my humble self. Nevertheless I shall try to serve this Conference to the best of my ability. In making this statement I am certain that I express the sentiments of the other officers who have been elected.

To me, this first International Federation of Social Workers Regional Conference for Asia, is more important than any other like gathering held here before. Because our meeting is a grouping of dedicated men and women of one of the most humble professions which has one common purpose - that is to bring a better life to people. Although in the midst of ignorance, idleness, disease, squalor and want, a better life seems to recede from us at times, we as social workers, with the help of modern social sciences are always willing and eager to take up the challenge. We shall strive to improve the environment in which men live. We shall restore ability to the minds of men until they are accepted as normal, integrated members of the community. We shall tackle the vast number of social problems, to serve the present and the emerging needs.

My fellow delegates, during the course of the next 5 days, I expect that many opinions will be expressed and many points of view regarding our subject-Action Programmes of Social Work Organization in Meeting Present and Emerging Social Welfare Problems in changing Asia will be recorded. Our responsibility is to sort out those experiences and ideas which have common application and to develop a plan of action which has both realistic and realisable goals. I know that you must share with me high hopes for the success of our deliberations. With our practical experienced and good will and with the help of the International Federation of Social Workers Executive Officers, I am sure that we can attain our common goals in the Conference. Thank you.

Action Programmes of Social Work Organisations in Meeting
Present and Emerging Social Welfare Problems in Changing Asia

by Mr. M.C. Nanavatty
Vice President for Asia,
International Federation of Social Workers

1.   This paper has been prepared out of the three Country papers and other available material received uptodate from member organisations of Australia, India and New Zealand.

2.   The theme of the Conference "Action Programmes of Social Organisations in Meeting Present and Emerging Social Welfare Problems in Changing Asia" is divided in the following three main topics for the purpose of facilitating discussion during the Conference:

  i) Main Challenges in Social Welfare in Changing Asia;

  ii) A Critical Analysis of Current Action Programmes in Social Welfare; and

  iii) The Role of Social Work Organisations in Social Action with Special Reference to the Professional Social Work Organisations.

Topic 1 and 2 **MAIN CHALLENGES IN SOCIAL WELFARE AND CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF ACTION PROGRAMMES.**

3.   The Social Welfare position in Asian Countries is as varied as its constituents. This is borne out of the economic and social indicators of the circumstances influencing people, specially children and youth in these countries. The population ranges from 0.101 million in Brunei and 0.130 in West Samoa to 484.811 in India and 700,000 millions in China. The density of population similarly varies from one person per kilometer in Mongolia and Australia to 3,210 in Singapore and 3,686 in Hong Kong. The urban population ranges from 3 % in Napal and 14 % in Pakistan to 63.5 % in Japan and 73 % in Hong Kong. The annual rate of increase population, ranges from 1.0 % in Japan to 4.3 % in Hong Kong and 3.4 % in China. The per-capita income in these countries ranges from $74 in Viet-Nam, $78 in India, $79 in Pakistan to $1,807 in Australia and $2,046 in New Zealand. The details of the data are given in Appendix A, B and C. The factors of population, density, urbanisation, the rate of growth and per capita income determine the requirements of welfare services and influence their development. In many of the developing countries where population growth is high and the per capita income is low, the basic amenities remain inadequately provided. This in turn creates the need for more extensive welfare services for which the resources are not available or are inadequate. This is reflected in the data available for infant mortality rates which ranges from 133.4 per 1,000 live birth in Burma to 19.7 in Australia (1960-64), and expectation of life of 40.8 years for male and 43.8 for female in Burma to 67.1 per male and 72.8 for female in Australia. (Appendix 'D')

4.   In the development of basic social amenities as well as welfare services both for the needy as well as for others, the coverage of population in the age group 0 to 19 years is a vital factor to be considered.

The data available indicates that the percentage of population of children and youth in the total population is above 50 in a very large number of developing countries and below 40 in some of the developed countries in the region. (Appendix 'E'). This factor in itself pre-determines the requirements of services for development and welfare. Coming nearer to the availability of services, it is known that the coverage of inhabitants per physician ranges from 670 in New Zealand to 72,000 in Nepal (Appendix 'F'). Similarly population per bed in hospitals and other hospital establishments ranges from 89 in Australia to 11,000 in Pakistan (11,000 in East and 1,900 in West Pakistan). The food consumption per persons per day ranges from 2,000 calories in Pakistan to 3,460 calories in New Zealand (Appendix 'G') In terms of the facilities for education the data available indicates that the literacy rate of population ranges from 12.7 in Iran to 71.9 in Philippines and the percentage of students attending elementary schools (from 6 to 14 years) ranges from 17.6 in Pakistan to 95.00 in Japan, those attending high schools (15 to 19 years) ranges from 9.0 in Pakistan to 88.2 in Thailand (Appendix 'H')

5.　　These appalling rate of difference in the prevalence of social services of health and education combined with the problems of population rate, and per capita income are the determinant factors that pause main challenges to social welfare in Changing Asia. Added to this are varying cultural backgrounds and the politico-economic structure of the governments prevalent in different countries. The growing urbanisation, and the resulting influence on social life, specially the inadequacy of social institutions such as the family to meet the requirements of changing pattern of living, is an additional determinant influencing social welfare problems of urgent significance.

II

AUSTRALIA

6.　　Coming to the specific challenges that individual member organisations experience in their respective countries and as given in their country position papers, it may be stated that the resolution of a wide range of welfare problems in AUSTRALIA is frustrated or retarded by a dual system of Federal and State legislatures and areas of responsibility, This factor, while general in nature, is the most significant one to be considered in any discussion of major problems in Australia. There are many other specific problems which professional social workers and other concerned with the social welfare field would identify. The most urgent are probably questions relating to aboriginal welfare; to preventive and supportive services and financial provision in relation to health; the welfare of deserted wives and widows; the elimination of poverty in an estimated 8% of the Australian population who are deemed to live below "poverty line" (an arbitrary and relative choice-point determined within Australian Society); housing; education; and the implications of increasing urbanisation. However, the lack of coordinated planning or indeed of long-range planning itself, between Federal and State Government, affects most the effort of the social workers.

7.　　Australia being a federation of six States, a National level agreement between the State Governments and the Federal government is necessary for the development of social welfare services on a planned basis. From the beginning the Federal Government has been fairly well situated financially having the facilities of custom and excise duties and taxation. On the

other hand the financial position of the States has deteriorated and they rely on Federal grants for more than 60% of their revenues. In terms of welfare planning, the implications of the financial dependence of the Sates and the split responsibilities for legislation are plain. For example, while the payment of a wide range of social service benefits to aged pensioners, widows and invalid pensioners is the responsibility of the Federal government, it is the States who must provide the housing, ancilliary health services, and general welfare and advisory services for these persons; the extent to which the States are able to perform this function is, however, severely hampered by their lack of finance. Despite the fact that Federal Government has responsibility for financial benefits, it has little real power in terms of legislation and planning for social welfare services as a whole. Planning, in terms of principles and goals is carried out primaried at a State level, but tends to be episodic and piecemeal. In fact, most services in Australia came into being as Ad Hoc arrangements to deal with special and urgent problems, and there has never been a comprehensive study of social services or of social welfare needs in Australia. The gaps which exist in social welfare planning are, therefore, a reflection of division of power, and many groups of disadvantaged people fall between Federal and State legislations.

8. This very situation result in lack of effective machinery for coordination of welfare services. There is not a great deal of permanent formal machinery in which Federal Departments regularly come together to formulate national policies. Only in times of national emergency formally structured machinery is set up such as the Department of Post-War Reconstruction set up in 1942 and abolished in 1950. The general practice is for interim and ad hoc committees composed of representatives of various departments. Where there is Federal and State responsibilities, there are similar ad hoc committees set up to deal with the emerging problems.. There is also the problem of divided responsibility even in one field of service. For example the administration of Health is in the hands of three relatively autonomous bodies, all of whom from policies related to emergent departmental needs, while coordinated planning is marked by its absence, as could be seen from the following;

(1) "The Department of Health is responsible for the general health of the public, and, through local (municipal) government, and assist with Home Help, Elderly Citizen's Clubs and Meals on Wheels services and District Nursing services;

(ii) The Hospitals and Charities Commission is responsible for the financial and anministrative oversight of Hospitals and "charities," and also has an Advisory Service with regard to accommodation for the aged;

(iii) The Mental Hygiene Authority will, be arrangement with the Commission, accept, responsibility for the aged person suffering from senile dementia."

It appears that there is no policy regarding the care of the sick and frail aged; co-ordination between those departments

responsible in part for health needs is lacking; administration is diffuse and ambiguous, and overall planning remains an ideal to be achieved at some time in the future. Similarly in the areas of housing and slum clearance progress is severely hampered by the relative situations of Federal and State. Powers to deal with these problems rest with the States, but they are dependent on the Federal government for finance to deal with them.

9.   There is a fourth factor which is important to the Australian scene, and involves the place of the voluntary (i.e. non-statutory) welfare organisations. From the time of the first settlement in Australia in 1788, voluntary organizations have played a significant role both in terms of the provision of welfare services and in stimulating government action these are the first services to be established, and their traditional and independent role has tended to produce an over-cautious approach to voluntary joint planning. The statutory bodies, too, have shown a measure of reluctance to participate in joint planning, and have tended to see their role as one providing a uniform minimum service of social security benefits, and of providing substantial financial grants to approved voluntary agencies.

10.   There are however a few recent developments that indicate the direction of greater coordinated effort in planning and promotion of welfare services. The financial impoverishment of the States may in itself be a stimulus toward greater Federal direction and planning, as may the increasing, centralisation of Federal government departments in the national capital incontrasts with the previous distribution of departments

in three areas, Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra. In addition uniform laws regarding marriage and divorce have been passed at the Federal level (with the full consent of the States), and each of the States have, by agreement, enacted separate but similar legislation in regard to adoption of children and family maintenance. It is to be hoped that these examples may lead to more effective coordinated planning in regard to many other anomalies.

11.   With regard to the organisational set up for coordination of welfare planning, the logical meeting place for coordination and joint planning of social welfare is in the Australian Council of Social Service (A.C.O.S.S.). But two major weaknesses prevent A.C.O.S.S. from bringing its aims to fruition. One is that there is no Federal government representative on the Council, and the other is that member organizations tend to retain their autonomy and are reluctant to hand over real power to the co-ordinating agency. The following factors were important in relation to the lack of effective co-ordination:

1. Shoestring finance

2. No connection with federated financing for welfare agencies, since this scarcely exists in Australia.

3. Inadequate staffing provision, including research staff.

4. Little widespread expertise in community organisation as a social work method

5. Lack of well developed permanent machinery within the councils to deal with functional areas of

welfare, and the increase of functional co-ordinating bodies outside the councils.

6. Failure to gain more than a superficial participation by governments, departments, and a tendency to identify the councils with the non-government sector of welfare.

7. Uneven professional and lay leadership not sufficiently connected with the power structure of the community.

8. The existence of large numbers of agencies insufficiently secure in their work to allow themselves to be exposed to external scrutiny.

9. Voluntary participation - the council has no authority over its members.

A serious lack of research and of indigenous sociological material must also be mentioned as factors which militate against effective planning in Australia. In recent years, there have been a few limited studies on specific social problems but the findings of these constitute very small islands of factual data in the ocean of impression and conjecture. Australia lacks a tradition of seeking expert advice, and intuitive beliefs and values still tend to carry considerable weight. The accumulation of indigenous factual matirial on social welfare needs is imperative if planning is to proceed on a more rational basis than identifying priorities in crisis situations.

INDIA

12. Contrast to this is the Indian Scene. With its 500 million population it is the second most populous nations in the world. The Indian society has developed a social structure which is characterized by the inter-play of several different kinds of affinities, viz., kinship, caste, linguistic and territorial. Caste governs to a considerable extent the organization of kinship and territorial unity. Besides Caste system, the joint family system play a very vital role in providing a programme of welfare services including basic subsistence to all its members and security to the orphans, disabled, aged widows as well as temporarily unemployed. The system, however, discourages individuality, initiation and enterprise and tends to act as a drag, to an extent, on social and economic progress.

13. The 1961 Census recorded India's population as 439,072,582 million, which showed an increase of 21.64 percent during the ten years. The country is adding annually about 12.5 million people to its population (more than the population of Australia). Of the 439 million, 365 million or 82% live in villages and 74 million or 18 % in cities and towns. There has been, between 1921 and 1961, a slow but steady shift towards urbanization. The country has 107 cities with a population of 100,000 inhabitants of more, of which six cities top the million mark. In terms of religions, the Census of 1961 records the distribution of population as under: Hindus 83.50%, Muslims 10.70%, Christian 2.44% Sikh 1.70% Buddhist 0.74%, Jain 4.6 % and others 0.37 %. In terms of languages it is recorded that 324 million people or 90% of the population speak one of the fourteen languages specified in the Constitution. English continues to be the link language

of administration and business. About 25 % of the total population is literate. The percapita income to Rs. 400 ($ 78).

14.   India has declared herself to be a Welfare State.   Within the limits of economic capacity and development the State has aimed to make effective provision for securing the right to work, to education and public assistance in case of unemployment, old age, sickness, etc.   It has also assumed for itself the responsibility of promoting with special care, educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people and of protecting them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation. The Constitution provides responsibilities of the Federal and State Governments in the Central, State and concurrent lists.   There are 17 States.   These States are sub-divided for administrative and developments purposes into 355 and 5,200 districts Community Developments Blocks.   There are 560,000 villages.

15.   Great changes are taking place in the Indian society since the British rule and with the advent of independence. Social awakening as evident from social unrest is extensive.   Among urban middle classes two contrary movements may be noted.   The first is the rapidly falling standard of living resulting from the discrepency between diminishing real income and the comparative fixity of the obligations of status and prestige; the second is the social climbing of the lower middle and the upper stratum.   Socio-cultural and psychological barriers between the lower-middle classes and the proletariat have not been broken down and the in-group feeling

among the upper middle stratum, though weakening, still persists.   The rural areas are stirred with expectations.   The expectations rise has over-taken the capacity to meet them.   With the weakening of, the joint family, the loosening of social control and with the rise in urban population, the country is facing many problems like juvenile delinquency, growth of mental illness, and other tensions which affect the unity of people.

16.   Since independence, the nation has introduced development plans for the promotion of economic and social programmes. The rate of economic growth in the first five year period (1951-52 to 1955-56) was 3.4 percent and in the second five year period (1956-57 to 1960-61) 4 percent and despite all the difficulties, bad harvest, external aggression and foreign exchange shortage, the rate of growth of the national income in the first four years of the Third Plan (1961-62 to 1964-65) was of the order of 4.2 percent.   There, however, prevails a conflict of priorities for economic development verses social development.   the planners and administrators continue to give greater attention to economic development, even at times neglecting social development. Inspite of the continuous efforts from social workers and social planners, even some of the social hazards resulting out of quick economic change are not taken into consideration.   Some of the social institutions like the family lag behind in meeting the requirements of life resulting out of quick economic development in industrial areas. The need for harmoneous and integrated social and economic development is a

continuous process of interpretation by social workers.

17.　　　There also prevails a conflict even among social workers and planners in determining priorities for promotive and preventive measures of social services and social welfare services as against ameliorative and curative wihin the availability of limited resources.　　The popular feeling in favour of ameliorative services continues.　　Thus the allotment of limited　resources within the social welfare sector of the plan continues to　experience　pressure　of demands and priorities.　　The　social　indices　for　the balance development of economic and social services are still to be accepted by adminis-trators and planners.　Besides this, although the directive　principles of the Constitution give guidance on social policy, actual social policy resolution remains to be adopted by the Central parliament and the State legisla-tures.　　In the absence of a well defined social policy most of the decisions on social welfare services are taken on ad-hoc lines.

18.　　　In　spite　of　many of these limitations ¦the Social　Welfare programmes have taken shape by stages in the course of the first three plans.　In the first Plan a provision of Rs. 4 crores was made for welfare programme, for women and children and for grants to voluntary bodies.　To administer　these　programmes, the Central Social Welfare Board was consituted in the year 1953 as a non-official　autonomous organization which　could in　turn,　bring large number of voluntary workers into the field of social work.　At this stage, social welfare　schemes　undertaken in the States were outside the purview of the Plan.　In the second Plan, the scope of social welfare programmes was enlarged to include both Central and State schemes, and a provision of Rs. 19 crores was made against which expenditure incurred was about Rs. 14 crores. In the Third Plan, besides programmes pertaining to social defence, social and moral hygiene and after care services and services for handicapped, special attention was given to the welfare of women and children.　The Plan provided for a total outlay of Rs. 31 crores but, due to the budgetary and other limitations after 1,962.63 programmes in this sector did not expand as the Plan envisaged, and the actual expenditure over the Plan period　amounted　to　about Rs. 19 crores. About 6,000 voluntary　organisations have received grants-in-aid through the Central and State Social Welfare Boards for promo-ting specific welfare services for women and children and for handicapped persons.

19.　　　The growth of social welfare services after independence has made one thing clear, that voluntary agencies have played an increa-sing part in planing and implementing the services and evolving standards of services. This calls for a good deal of coordination among themselves.　One factor that stands in the way is the fear that coordination may spell subordination.　　Besides this the voluntary organisations have come to depend more on regular Government grants and public contribution towards welfare is tending to diminish.　It has therefore become increa-singly　necessary of the voluntary social welfare organisations to come together and evolve effective measures of cooperation and coordination among themselves.

20.　　　The problem of respective role of voluntary　and　governmental　organisations also confronts the field of social welfare. It is felt that in a　welfare state, the voluntary agencies have less scope of work. This need not be true in a democatic set up

of the Government. The Government. including the Central, State and Local Bodies, have to work out their respective roles along with voluntary organisations and try to promote social welfare services on the basis of partnership. This remains to be achieved.

21. The Government of India established a separate Department of Social Welfare in 1964. Almost all States have their own Directoraters of Social Welfare. The subjects covered by the Central Department of Social Welfare are Social Welfare services in general including Child and Family Welfare, Youth Welfare (non-student), Welfare of the handicapped, Social Defence and Welfare of the backward Classes including the Tribals. A separate organisation in the form of the Central Social Welfare Board has been constituted to promote social welfare services in the country with the help of grants-in-aid to voluntary organisations. It has its State organisations working in cooperation with the State Governments. In spite of these efforts in promoting organisational set up for social welfare much remains to be achieved. There are a number of factors contributing to this problem. Some of these are: a) the absence of a precise definition of the scope of social welfare, b) the dispersal of social welfare services under many administrative organisations at the Central, State and Local levels, c) lack of coordination between Government departments, d) lack of coordination between the Government and Voluntary Organisations and e) prevailing distrust among the cooperating organisations.

22. Thus the challenge for social welfare in the country like India comes from many sources and situations. They include the vastness of population low standard of living, increasing rate of population growth, limited resources, lack of clarity of objectives of social welfare services, limited man-power, irregular pattern in administrative and organisation set up and lack of cooperation and coordination. In spite of these problems, the efforts made continue to indicate the direction of change and development. The very vastness of the need for social welfare services provides scope for different approaches and efforts.

NEW ZEALAND

23. According to 1966 Census, the total population of New Zealand was 2,676,919 persons, with a slightly greater number of males than females. This represented an increase of 261,935 over the 5 years since the previous census. The growth of the population is due party to natural increase and partly to immigration. In 1965 it was estimated that 22.72 per cent of the population was under 15 years of age, 41.86 per cent under 20 years of age and 8.29 per cent was 65 years of age and over. At the 1961 census 73.9 per cent of the population were living in areas classified for census purposes as urban. Final figures for the 1966 census are not yet available but the indications are that the "drift from the country" is continuing.

24. At present no mechanism for research exists to identify New Zealand's problem considered to be of highest priority in the field of social welfare. There are many specific problems which can however be identified from data available in annual reports from statutory services. If similar data was available from the many voluntary services then problems relating to: the mental

health services, the illegitimacy rate, the welfare of the family, particularly the family with only one parent in the home, the internal and external migration, would possibly be problems identified. In addition it needs to be noted that certain services are only available in one centre, others at widely spaced centres. The reasons for this are easy to understand in terms of cost and staffing, but often a person requiring a specialist service is isolated from their family. Diagnostic, consultative and follow-up services in some fields are not yet fully developed outside the centre.

25.   The specific problem of illegitimate children confronts the social workers in the country.   The available studies on the subject reveals that the numbers of children born out of wedlock have continued to rise year by year and in 1966, the number registered was 6,960, which is 11.6 per cent of all live births. In 1965 it was 10.9 per cent. From the point of view of the social worker a more realistic approach is to compare the number of these births with the numbers of unmarried women of reproductive age in the community.   A study reveals that in 1965 there were 162,000 number of unmarried women in the age-groups 16 to 44. The ex-nuptial births recorded were 6,554 giving 40.5 as ex-nuptial births per 1,000 women. Besides in 1965, there were 6,620 illigitimate confinements, resulting in 6,666 children, including 112 stillborn. In 939 of the 6,620 cases the mother was a married woman, and in 5,681 cases unmarried. Analysing these into age groups showed that illegitimate confinements of married women were more numerous in the 25-34 age group, whilst in unmarried women the

greatest numbers were in the 16-24 group. Another aspect studies in the 1965 figures was the matter of location of the birth in relation to the normal place of residence of the mother.   Of the 6,620 ex-nuptial confinements 4,985 took place in the home town, 1,583 outside the home town and with 52 the home town was overseas. While over half the total births away from home were to girls in the 16-19 age group, Only 34.3 per cent of the girls in this group chose to take this course.   It was in the youngest age group that the greatest proportion of girls (40.4 per cent) chose to have their babies in a town away from home.   A study of the geographical distribution showed that the ex-nuptial birth is a problem mainly of the large city areas.   While almost every town in New Zealand had its small share of these confinements, the greater numbers were in the urban areas surrounding our major cities.   Alongside the problem of the ex-nuptial birth is the increase in the number of births taking place early in the marriage, conception being pre-marital.   In 1965 there were 4,808 confinements less than 7 months after marriage, out of 16,538 nuptial confinements during the year, 8,145 being within one year of marriage.

26.   Services available to the expectant mother of an illegitimate child vary considerably from area to area.   On a country wide basis provision is made under the Social Security Act for ante-natal, hospital and post-natal care, with monetary benefits payable prior to and after birth of the child. Under a section of the Child Welfare Act 1925 officers are authorised to investigate the circumstances of mothers and babies where an illegitimate birth has been reported.

Some of the larger maternity hospitals have medical social workers in this field and there are many voluntary services providing services to the expectant mother and later her child. Provisions under the Social Security Act comprise free confinements in State or hospital board maternity hospitals, and also ante-natal and post-natal treatment. Where confinements are conducted in private maternity hospitals the Department of Health pays fixed fee on a daily basis. In addition a Social Security benefit is payable for the last three months of a working girl's pregnancy but there is no benefit payable if she is under 16. The provisions under the Child Welfare Act indicates that the illegitimate child is most vulnerable was recognised very early in the social history of New Zealand. Statutory provision requires that the Registrar of Births notified the Child Welfare Division of all illegitimate births recorded, and authorises Child Welfare officers to investigate the circumstances of mothers and babies where an illegitimate birth been reported. The officers advise and help unmarried mothers make adequate provision for their babies. Inspite of all these efforts it is a matter of concern that the number of illegitimate births escape notification to Child Welfare Officers. Measures introduced to correct this situation have not yet proved as successful as anticipated.

27.   The State had also passed an Adoption of Children Act in 1881. It was amended in 1955 to meet the requirements of changing time. Maori adoptions are now on the same footing as those of Europeans except that a Maori Welfare Officer issues the approval, supervises and reports to the Court where one of the applicants and the child are Maori.

28.   While much valuable work is being done in this field of social welfare, there is much more that needs to be done to help the unmarried mother and her child. For some years Medical Officers from the Health Department and other interested persons have on request from head teachers of High Schools given talks on sex education to their pupils. While this was a start, it became apparent that many young people need help to clarify the confusion of their thoughts and feelings about themselves and their relationships with others. Now schools are gradually evolving courses in Personal Relation which may be given by school staff or outside speakers. Some Marriage Guidance Councils are training tutors specially for this purpose. While the formation of a national body to institute a survey into the problem and bring down recommendations would seem necessary,, there are three areas which could be considered as starting points.

1. After-care for the unmarried mother and her child, including financial assistance and accommodation.

2. The place and responsibility of the unmarried father.

3. Community acceptance of the unmarried mother.

Highlights of Main Challenges

29.   The main challenges as could be seen from the reports of the three country organisations of Australia, India and New Zealand arise from the following:

i) Vastness of population. low standard of living and increasing rate of population growth in many of the developing countries in the region;

ii) Limited resources for developing social services and social welfare services and the low priority given to the social sector of development in the national plans;

iii) Lack of clarity of objectives of social welfare services;

iv) Limited man-power and facilities of training in social work (This is considered in details in the second section of the paper);

v) Irregular and uncoordinated pattern of Social Welfare Administration; specially between federal and state and local governmental organisation.

vi) Limited studies constituting "very small islands of factual data in the ocean of impression and conjecture" and lack of research and of indigenous sociological material;

vii) Lack of or limited coordination among government organisation, among voluntary organisations and between government and voluntary organisations;

viii) Rapid industrial development and resulting process of urbanisation affecting the functioning of social institutions and requiring new social welfare services; and

ix) Emerging social problems, such as ex-nuptial confinements, illegitimate children, broken homes, increasing rate of divorces, delinquency among children and youth, lack of care for the aged etc.

Topic 3

The Role of Social Work Organisations in Social Action with Special Reference to the Professional Social Work Organisations.

30. The pattern of social work organisations in different countries of Asia is as un-even as its development. In Australia the Australian Council of Social Services (A.C.O.S.S.) exists to give representation to all fields of social welfare in the country and its Territories. It aims to provide an active centre through which its members can keep abreast of the latest welfare practices and development, and, through the discussion of common problems, can combine to encourage modifications or the establishment of welfare services to meet new needs for the whole comminuty. The Council, however, acts as the voluntary sector of Social Welfare Services and no Federal government representative in its member. The Australian Association of Social Workers, which has the total membership of approximately 800 is influential in relation to the setting of standards for the profession, but as yet is not involved in actual planning of welfare programmes. While the opinion of the A.A.S.W. is sought on occasions, it would be fair to say that, in general, neither the profession per se nor the professional person is seen by those responsible for the administration of welfare legislation as having a vital contribution to make in terms of social policies. It needs however to be noted that State and Federal government welfare agencies which employ social workers state the eligibility for membership in the A.A.S.W. as an essential pre-requisite for professional practice, as do most voluntary agencies. The

disparity between the States, at the same time, is extensive when one turns to the question of the scope of work of professional, and to the question of requirements for training. New approaches to social welfare problems however have caused a change in the nature of demand for personnel. The training of professional social workers in Australia, which has been extended towards casework approaches, receives demands to prepare workers to implement group programmes and to work as consultants with other workers or with community programmes.

31.   The pattern of social work organisations in India is more complicated and uneven than in Australia. The Indian Conference of Social Work was activised as early as 1944. It acts as a forum for voluntary workers, professionals and administrators active in the field of social welfare. It has acted as a spokesman for social welfare on many important occasions. It was the first to demand separate Directorates of Social Welfare at the State level and the Ministry of Social Welfare at the Central. There are a number of other social welfare organisations active in specific field of services through out the country, such as Indian Council of Child Welfare, All India Association for the Handicapped, etc. The Government of India set up the Central Social Welfare Board to promote the programme of social welfare services with the help of voluntary organisations. Many of the known voluntary social workers are associated with it as members and office - bearers. The Indian Association of Trained Social Workers was activised in 1962. It has eight chapters with the total membership of more than 400. The membership is open only to two years trained post-graduate social workers. Although it is active in many areas of social welfare, like its Australian counterpart, it has still to acquire the status of consultation for planning and development of social welfare services in the country. Individual members of the social work profession are however active in the different areas of planning and development of social welfare services in the country.

32.   In New Zealand, it is reported that social workers did not begin to make any moves to form associations until the late 1940's. Regional Associations sprang up to provide forums for social workers in 1950's. In 1964 after three long years of patient activities a New Zealand Association of Social Workers emerged and is now a relatively strong national body with a membership of 560, Efforts are continued to be made to form a New Zealand Council of Social Services where all interests, including voluntary, professional and government, could be associated.

33.   The picture in regard to the Social Work Organisations in other countries of the Region is not clear in absence of reports from the participating organisations, However following information was made known on the existence of the professional social work organisations in some of the countries at the first informal meeting of some of the professional worker present in Bangkok on 19th November, 1966.

CEYLON

The Ceylon Social Workers' Association was established in 1964. The membrship of the association consists of:

a) Trained social workers with two years of work experience, and
b) Social workers without training but with five years of work experience in social work jobs.

About 500 members are on the register, out of which 150 are active.

HONG KONG

The professional social workers' association was established twenty years ago. The membership covers 460 members. The practitioners without training are enrolled as associate members. There is also provision for student membership.

JAPAN

The professional organization was established in 1960. At present there are 1,500 members. Membership consists of both undergraduate and graduate social workers. The membership is also open to certificate holders in social work after four years of field experience. There are ten branches of the organization.

PAKISTAN

Since 1954, the All Pakistan Professional Social Workers' Organization is in existence in the country. The membership consists both of fully trained social workers and partially trained social workers. The latter category belongs specially to those who have undergone UN short-term training in social work organized earlier in the country. The association has two branches, one is West Pakistan and the other in East Pakistan.

PHILIPPINES

The professional organizations was established in 1948. The regular members are those who have M.A. in social work. The associate members are those who have BA. in social work, with a number of years of working experience. The students at the post-graduate level are also considered as associate members. Besides, there is a separate junior students membership for those preparing for BA. in social work. In 1963,

the membership was open to those who have some years of working experience in the field. Later it was confined only to trained social workers. At present there are more than 500 members on the register, out of which 150 are active members. The State has recently passes Licensing Act for social workers. This has facilitated the promotion of the profession of social work in that country.

THAILAND

Social Workers' Association of Thailand was started in 1958. Membership is open both to trained social workers as well as to voluntary workers. The associate membership includes voluntary members as well as students. There are 400 members on the register.

34. The contribution of the social work organisations, specially of the professional organisations, is dependent a considerable extent on the standards of training in social work introduced in different countries. A Report prepared by the Division of Social Affairs, ECAFE gives the details of the trends in social work education in Asia. some of the following abstracts prove useful in the consideration of the subject at the Conference:

The predominant trend among Asian countries is for professional schools or departments of social work to be under the auspices of university. Hong Kong, India, Iran, Japan, Korea, Singapore, Pakistan, the Philippines, China (Taiwan) and Thailand all have one or more schools or departments of social work attached to a public or private univesity. In a few countries like Hong Kong and Taiwan, for example, social work is still found as a part of the departments of sociology. In Thailand, work training is in a Faculty of Social Administration which

includes also journalism, anthropology and sociology. With the exception of India and Pakistan, education for social work has been predominantly at the under-graduate level. Pakistan, Japan, Korea, Thailand, and the Philippines offer social work training at both the undergraduate and post-graduate level, but few students complete the post-graduate programme in Korea, Thailand and the philippines. The under-graduate courses lead to a Bachelor's Degree, certificate, or diploma; post-graduate courses are of one or two year's duration after the first college degree and lead to a Master's or its level of approximation. The Teheran School of Social Work in Iran has given a two-year training after the completion of high school and, later, added a third year. Most recently, a fourth year has been added at the end of which a Bachelor's Degree is given. In Thailand, the Department of Social Work gives a three-year course in social work, preceded by a one-year pro-gramme in the liberal arts which all students of the University have to take. In Indo-nesia, a Bachelor's Degree has been given in education in the Faculty of Education of Padjadjaran University in Bandung for those students majoring in social work for three years.

In most Asian countries, more men than women go for training in social work, this is not the case in the Philippines. Government sponsorship and financial sup-port of social work training is fairly common.

One of the pressing problems at-tracting the attention of schools of social work in Asia is that of appropriate require-ments for admission to schools of social work. Although there seems to be wide-spread agreement on the factors to be taken into account, wholly reliable indices for personal suitability for social work, apart from educational qualifications, still need

development. Another equally pressing problem facing social work education in Asia is how to help the students to develop those attitudes and values deemed desirable for social work practice.

Many social work educators in Asia have received a significant portion of their professional training in western countries, particularly North America, where the curricula of the schools of social work are naturally designed for their own nationals and developed in the context of their own historical, cultural, socio-economic and political conditions. Not enough attention has been given to the social needs of foreign students in helping them to understand how to "adapt" their training for use in working with the special problems were magnified because many of the foreign students lacked sufficient knowledge and experience of conditions of their countries before going abroad. This resulted in many cases of the students transplanting uncritically the prin-ciples and methodology they had learnt in the West to social work education in the East.

In most of the Asian countries to-day there is a frame of reference and a body of content for professional social work education. Though, presumably, the fun-damental principles and basic methods of social work may by universally applicable, they need, however, to take root, life, colour and shape in every culture in which they are born; they need to be adapted and related specifically to each country's needs. New methods in social work may also be needed, as for example, how to initiate and regulate large scale organization change. Particularly in less - evenly - economically developing countries, where problems of mass change are of first importance, it is being recognized that social work could be more useful, if in addition to the knowledge and skills it has

in individual and social therapy, it could develop further basic knowledge and practice skills in working with groups, communities, in social administration, social planning and policy formulation.

Many social work educators in Asia are seriously beginnig to question the educational objectives and curricula in social work education in the light of their own country's needs. Evidence of this concern is the trend that is beginning to develop in many of the Asian countries to countries to assess the social work curricula. In West Pakistan a study is being completed at the Department of Social Work in Lahore on the effectiveness of its social work education programme. The Japanese Association of Schools of Social Work has also undertaken a systematic evaluation of the undergraduate curricula in Japanes Schools of Social Work. In August 1965, Korea had its first National Workshop on Social Work Education. including Community Development. At this Workshop, the curricula of all the schools of social work were re-evaluated and revised according to the needs in the Korean situation. One of the issues discussed at the first Regional Training Centre for Social Work Educators and Field Work Supervisors held by ECAFE in Bangkok, Thailand, in August 1966 was curriculum development and evaluation in the light of socio-economic and cultural needs as found in various Asian countries.

In short, the search for an indigenous social work and social work training in most Asian countries has begun. Though coming gradually and, perhaps, piece-meal, in many Asian countries, it is being clearly recognized that western social work has been suggestive but cannot be depended upon to reflect the social priorities of Asian countries in various stages of social and economic development and with different resources. There is some awareness that social work and social work training needs to be at least re-evaluated if not indeed re-defined, in terms of current problems of social change which Asian countries are seeking to cope with and the service solutions and institutional arrangements necessary to deal with them.

One of the serious considerations engaging social work educators in Asia, is how social work education can be more directly and explicitly related to national development plans and how training needs and objectivs on various levels can be defined.

35. With regard to the contribution that the social work profession can make to meet the prevailing challenges in social welfare in the Region, there prevails a number of opinion among member organisations. The Australian report says that only limited progress can be made while social workers themselves remain indifferent or ignorant about the complexity of factors which influence individual and cammunity dys functioning and while lack of skills to participate in the planning and administration of social welfare programmes. It suggests that the answer lies in part in terms of type of training to be offered to prospective workers. There is a need in Australia to continue efforts already begun to clarify and define objectives, policies and practice in education for social welfare; the need for specialized training and advanced level to meet the need for certian special functions including teaching, administration and research; the need for a broader approach

to professional training which will more adequately prepare students for community oriented work tasks; the need for a more adequate study of job specification in social welfare as a basis for training policy at all other levels. In addition the profession should develop on active and effective machinery for action through its professional organisation and create for itself opportunities of more meaningful involvement in planning and promotion of the programme of social welfare at national, state and local levels.

36. While other country organisations would agree to the analysis given in the Australian paper, the Indian opinion adds two more suggestions. It states that in addition to the direct responsibility of service to the community, both voluntary as well as on the basis of jobs, it is necessary to work for the promotion and implementation of social legislations for development and recontsruction of the society. A constructive lobby for the study and promotion of social legislation, both at the central and state levels, is what is called for. This should be considered as an obligation of the professional organisation in a democratic society and should be attended to with vigour and determination. It is true to say that the profession of social work in all countries in the Region is confronted with many problems. They include the need of developing a sound body of knowledge and practice in social work, an effective system of social work education, a vital and active professional organisation and promotion of sound relationship with the voluntary and governmental organisations dealing with social welfare services, besides assuming and strengthening social responsibility for

social reconstruction. To the extent to which the professtion develops high standard of services, a sense of brotherhood and a social purpose, to that extent mainly these problems can be resolved both in the interest of the professional social workers and the community.

37. The Action Programme suggested by one of the members of the New Zealand Association focuses its attention on the leadership role of social worker in his/her society or country. The social work professional organisation would make their greatest contribution if they foster the concept of shared leadership within the profession and with other professions. Throughout the Region there is a wide spread use of untrained people in agencies to achieve the goals of social work. The central task of the professionally trained social worker should be to act in consultative as well as supervisory capacity. It should be the hallmarks of the profession to develop willingness to share knowledge and skills with others. The need for an effective use of volunteers in the field of social welfare should not be over-looked. In addition, social workers have much to contribute in promoting communication between the professions, seeking the answer to large and intractable social issues. They have a major responsibility to see that research works on human problems are known, communicated and shared with other professions in promoting inter-disciplinary programmes of welfare and development in the community. The paper also suggests two other steps viz., a) I.F.S.W. Trust Fund to be set up to enable member organisations to share and exchange services of some of the member consultants in different fields of welfare, through the organisation of seminars and workshops on problems of common interest;

and b) to institute fellowship awards to encourage the exchange of members having expertise in different fields of social welfare between member organisations.

38. As there continues to prevail conflicting responsibilities and demands on the professional organisation to meet the prevailing as well as emerging challenges in the field of social welfare, it is necessary to clarify some of the issues involved.

What should be the membership of the professional organisation in social work? Should it be confined only to professionally trained social workers? What should be the levels of training? Should it be at the postgraduate level only or should it also be at on undergraduate level? How should they be inter-linked to offer support and strength in maintaining and raising the standard of social work education and practice?

What should be the nature of relationship of the professional organisation with voluntary social welfare organisations on one hand and the governmental organisations on the other?

What are the obligations and responsibilities of the profession al organisation to its members? What activities should it undertake to support and strengthen the professional responsibilities of its members in the jobs as well as to the community?

39. What are the social obligations of the professional organisation to the community? How could it fullfill these obligations through its activities?

It might be difficult to find common answers to many of these questions useful to all member organisations. Each country in the Region has its own requirements reflecting the historical development of social life. The experiences however gained by member organisations in meeting some of these problems could help in understanding them in a wider perspective. As the basic human needs are common, the requirements of social welfare have common essentials although their manifestation may find different expressions in the nature and mode of services. Similarly the main challenges in social welfare in the Region have a common trend of essentials of social change, although it is to be understood in the cultural and socio-political background of each country. Sharing of experiences in meeting these challenges will in itself help in strengthening the social work organisations besides finding new approaches to meet them.

MAIN CHALLENGES TO SOCIAL WORK IN CHANGING ASIA

by Miss Teresita L. Silva
Philippine Association of Social Workers

Introduction:

We have convened this conference, for the first time as representatives of associations of social workers in Asia, to accomplish a three-fold sequence of responsibilities which flows directly from our social function and professional knowledge: (1) identifying problems and needs and the challenges these present to our profession; (2) determining existing resources in terms of existing action programs; (3) the identification of our role as a profession particularly through the vehicle of our respective professional associations, and developing specific guidelines for a plan of action which each country might adapt to its own situations and to meet its specific challenges.

In this working paper I shall attempt to provide a springboard for the discussion of our first responsibility. Since all of us here and the countries we represent have in several previous conferences and through periodic reports identified the needs and challenges in this region, I shall attempt simply to review some of those which have been of major concern to several of our cuntries, without hoping to encompass the comprehensive scope of the 1963 Report on the World Social Situation prepared by the United Nations with which we are all familiar.

Demographic, Social and Economic Trends:

At this point, a brief review of some of the pertinent statistical data available to this writer may serve as a frame of reference, with particular focus on the Philippines, since data is more readily accessible in one's country of residence:

1. Population—

The ECAFE region in 1960 held a population of 1,600 million, more than 1/2 of the world's total with 50% consisting of children and youth under the age of 21 years. In terms of the ratio of people to arable land, it is the most densely populated in the world. In the decade from 1950 to 1960, the rate of population increase in Asia was estimated at 293 million people of 60% of the total world increase.

The mortality level remains relatively high in Asian countries and current death rates are almost twice as high as in industrialized countries and much higher than in Latin America. Mortality rates may be expected to continue to decline.

The estimated pre-school age population of Asia was approximately 115 million in 1962. Mortality rates among pre-school children in Asian countries vary between 10 and 50 per 1,000 population in this age group, while 1 or 2 per 1,000 are reported in the more developed countries.

Two-thirds of the population of many of the Asian countries (e.g. Cambodia, India, Korea, Thailand, Philippines) are still dependent on agriculture so

that the Asian population continues to be predominantly rural.

In the Philippines, the present (1967) estimated population is 34.7 million comprising about 6.2 million families and households in 116,000 square miles of land. The rate of population increase is 3.2%, which together with China (Taiwan), Hongkong, Thailand, Singapore, ranks high in the region. The population of the Philippines is a young one; the median age in 1960 was 17.1 years, with persons below 18 years old forming 51.9% of the population. The birth rate in 1963 was 27.70 per 1,000 population; the death rate of persons 1 year and over was 7 per 1,000 population. Population density in 1966 was reported as 111.6 persons per square kilometer. Only 30% of the total population in the 1960 census was urban although population in the cities is increasing at the rate of 5% to 8%.

2. Health and Nutrition —

In the ECAFE region, infant mortality ranges from about 30 per 1,000 live birth to a high level of 150 per 1,000 live births. Approximately 1/3 of the deaths in the pre-school age group may be attributed to poor environmental sanitation. The substantial shortage of trained medical manpower at all levels, concentration of medical facilities in urban areas, reluctance of doctors to serve in rural areas, a general distrust of modern medicine are reported in many parts of Asia.

An estimated 300 million people are presently reported as undernourished and 650 million as malnourished. Inadequate food production, family poverty, ignorance of basic nutritional require-

ments, traditional food habits are among conditions reported in the region which is generally characterized by a poor nutritional level. The Far East has been described as the region probably having the largest numbers and largest proportion of the population suffering from varying degrees of nutritional deficiencies.

Food production increased about 40% in the Far East and Near East between 1950 and 1961. In these countries a slow upward increase of 100 to 300 calories per capita per day was recorded.

In the Philippines, the total food production in 1960 was only 7.6 million metric tons requiring an annual increase of 4.8 to 5.2% from the 1960 level. A reported average 6.2% increase in food production between 1950 and 1960 must be maintained.

3. Literacy and Education —

Although there has been a marked expansion of education in Asia with a noticeable increase in school enrollments, the quality has in several situaitons deteriorated, and there continues to exist a large proportion of drop-outs (as much as 75%) in rural areas. In 1962, 20 million (25%) of the 89 million children in the region in the age group 6-12 years were reported to be potential drop-outs, 40 to 60% of these occurring in the first three grades and with higher incidence in the rural areas. In 1962 also, 116 million (over 50%) of the 254 million children in the age group 6-15 years were reported out of school.

The basic structure and form of most Asian educational systems, it has been observed, still remain unsuited to the requirements of present-day development; e.g. inadequate stimulus to technical

and vocational education, the lack of effective relation of education to employment opportunities and social responsibilities, the traditional stress on general literacy at the bottom and higher education at the top, low quality teachers.

Cambodia, Indonesia, Philippines and Republic of Vietnam were reported as among the countries that achieved a substantial reduction in illiteracy. However, of the population 15 years and over in Asia, the percentage of illiteracy recorded in several countries ranged from 23% to 89% during the 1950–60 period.

In the Philippines in 1957–58, 75% of the total population 10 years and above could both read and write a simple message in any language or dialect. Literacy was highest in the age group 15–19 years but declined in the older age groups. In 1960, the highest median grade completed was 5.1 so that the percentage of drop-outs remains high, in view of the very early age at which children in rural areas start to work as farm helpers or as domestic helpers.

4. Labor and Employment –

The total labor force of Asia is estimated at 600 million persons and by 1980 it is estimated at 936 million, requiring an estimated 336 million increase in employment opportunities. It has been pointed out that it is the increasing numbers of unproductive persons rather than the general increase in population that obstructs national development. Shortage of trained manpower, i.e. skilled and semi-skilled workers, and a surplus of unproductive labor are the serious manpower problems which face Asian countries. In the rural areas in particular, are found the majority of unemployed persons belonging to the 15–25 years old age group.

In the Philippines, of an estimated 10.8 million (1965) labor force, 7.5 million are in rural areas and 3.3 million in urban areas. 33% were females, with implications of a large number of working mothers. 61.8% of the labor force are in the age range 25–64 years and 30.3% in the 15–24 years age group. Most of these young workers are unpaid family workers or self-employed while the rest are wage earners. In 1965, the labor participation rate was 53.1%. 66.7% of the employed labor force was in agriculture and 11% in manufacturing, industry and commerce. Underemployment (2/3 in rural areas) represented 23.1% of the total labor force or 25.4% of the total employed at work. The overall unemployment rate is 6.2% of the labor force. Since an increasing number of unemployed flock to the urban centers, 53.5% of unemployed are in the urban areas.

While 2/3 of the population is in the rural areas, agricultural productivity contributes only 1/3 of the national income. The average family income in 1961 was P 1,804.00 and the average family expenditure for rural areas was P 1,332.00, but 46.3% of the 4.4 million families in the country reported incomes of less than P 1,000 for 1961 for an average family size of 6 members, indicating a marked inequality in the distribution of wealth.

5. Housing and Urbanization –

Although majority of the Asian population live in rural areas, its urban population exceeds those of Europe or America. Of the 314 million people

living in large cities of the world, 1/3 live in Asia's cities where some of the worst slum and squatter settlements have sprouted. At present only 13% to 16% of the population in Asia and Africa live in cities of 20,000 or more. However, while the European urban population is growing at a slower rate of 1.4% per annum which is the same as their total national population growth, the urban population in Asia is growing at the rate of 3.8% per annum.

The Philippines is estimated to be 30% urban and the total urban growth rate averages 3.7%. With migrants flocking to urban areas the squatter population is increasing at a rate of 12% per annum. By 1973 it is estimated that squatters and slum dwellers will constitute 30% of the population.

In the Philippines, in 1960, 4.79 million dwellings were reported of which only 3.72 million may be considered acceptable dwellings, the rest being dwellings of make-shift materials, light materials and non-dwelling structures. Of these, it is estimated that by 1980 only 1.5 million dwellings will remain in view of the climatic conditions affecting the type of materials used. It is estimated further that by 1980, the Philippines needs 9,428,321 dwelling units, requiring an annual construction requirement of 470,000 dwelling units per year over the twenty year period, 1960–1980.

Challenges to Social Work:

This skeletal review of the social situation in Asia, presents us with the gigantic challenge of a region that remains socially and economically depressed and under-developed. The challenge lies in the fact that "in terms of absolute numbers, there were at the end of the 1950–1960 decade, more human beings unable to read and write or to enjoy a healthy diet and dwelling than ever before," that economic productivity has failed to keep pace with population growth. In agriculture on which 2/3 of the population depends, a decrease in per capita output was reported last year.

Mass poverty and scarcity therefore remains a persistent challenge in social welfare in Asia, for when we speak of poverty, we refer to the condition of millions who are still unable to maintain a decent standard of living and whose basic needs exceed their means to satisfy them.

Poverty has its sources in various social and economic factors. In the Philippines these consist primarily of low per capita income (one of the lowest in the world), a high rate of population growth, a tradition bound populace, an educational system not directly related to employment opportunities and the requirements of national development, low productivity of labor due to the lack of needed skills resulting in unemployment and underemployment, negative attitudes toward manual work, low level of food production, among others. As has been indicated 2/3 of the population depends on agriculture which presently contributes only 1/3 of the national income. While the Philippines is rich in natural resources, these have not been adequately tapped nor developed due to lack of capital. Filipinos are only beginning to engage in entrepreneural activity the fear of taking risks has limited investments. While industry is presently able to provide only limited employment opportunities, employables have not developed the skills and positive attitudes

towards entrepreneural activity. For those in employment, wages have failed to keep pace with the rising costs of living.

Philippine society continues to be family oriented and characterized by a marked degree of personalism. Economics and politics are strongly guided by these considerations, to which also might be attributed the difficulties encountered in developing a sense of national discipline. The Filipino individual has traditionally depended to a great extent, even in adulthood, on his immediate and extended family as the source of sustenance and support in times of economic need. But as the family is increasingly burdened with present-day ecological pressures and strains, its cohesiveness as well as its capacity to provide for its members has declined. Steeped in paternalism, the Filipino has then turned from the family to the government and the church, but these institutions are still in the process of understanding the impact of their present-day responsibilities, its nature and scope. In view of its present limited resources, the government has not adequately focused on identifying and carrying out its emergent roles toward the very real problem of adults, youth and children who can no longer rely as completely on family resources but must turn to government, if not for direct aid, more importantly for the provision of opportunities and the necessary support to develop the environment and it resources.

A vital challenge in the government's development programs is the training of manpower with the skills relevant to the development of the country's resources. The problems of shortage of manpower with critical skills of technology, planning and administration, the oversupply of untrained labor and unemployed educated youth, the lack of vocational preparation and lack of job opportunities for young workers need to be resolved. The need of promoting changes in the prestige status of relevant occupations and of providing incentives towards training for these must be the concern particularly of educators and social workers who work directly with attitudes and attitudinal change. Indentification of manpower needs, the realignment of the educational system, a more systematic development of apprentice and on the job training programs require the participation of social workers at all levels.

Population growth and the increasing density of population has multiplied the pressures on land in the Philippines. In the rural areas where tradition and superstition influence every aspect of life, the challenge of social change lies specifically in helping people to overcome ignorance, to accept new and more productive methods of agriculture, other means of improving standards of living and perhaps most difficult of all, developing the social technology required to respond to, and achieve the goals envisioned in such programs as land reform (directed towards the 1,500,000 tenant farmers in the Philippines who constitute 51.15% of the total farm population).

In the urban areas, there is the challenge of the **rural migrant** who dissatisfied with rural productivity brings along his relative poverty, inadequate education, lack of technological and social skills, rural habits, values and mores. He brings all these into and urban community which cannot keep pace with the onrush and is unable to provide employment opportunities, housing, and other municipal services, for a fast expanding urban population. Hence, the proliferation of congested squatter colonies, deteriorating neighborhoods with all the concomitant social problems and consequent

breakdown of law and morals. The urban area may offer many resources not available in the rural community but the migrant needs help in identifying, accepting, and training in the use of these resources. In turn, urban resources and services, unless expanded, become inadequate so that basic needs remain unmet. Furthermore, the more affluent residents who possess the means to develop the city's resources move to the suburbs. This segment of the community needs to be motivated to emerge from isolation into more active participation in assisting government and other institutions to plan and develop an urban community that can serve as a powerful vehicle for economic and social growth.

In Asia as a whole and in the Philippines, the challenge of population growth, has given stimulus to national and regional efforts towards increased food production, manpower training and development. At the end of the last decade it has also pointed up the need of exercising some control over the birth rate. The need for developing programs of "family planning" or "responsible parenthood" that are compatible with religious and cultural values and beliefs in each particular country, health and medical considerations, as well as with the circumstances prevailing in a particular country calls for the participation of the social worker-social planner. Pakistan, India, mainland China, Hongkong Singapore, and Japan have been cited for their efforts but except for Japan, surveys indicate a widespread desire in many parts of Asia to engage in family planning but no appreciable effect on national birth rates have been reported. Deep poverty, ignorance, socio-religious conditions, and the fact that family planning programs have not been sufficiently adapted

to Asian conditions as a whole, are viewed as reasons for the lack of impact. These must continue to be explored.

Crime and Delinquency:

The unequal distribution of wealth which accounts for the wide gap between the poor and the rich, the ostentatious use of wealth in the midst of poverty, the rising expectations for the "necessities for better living" resulting from the widespread use of communication media (e.g. transistorized radios), the cumulative effect of bitterness and frustration in unemployed adults and youth, are among factors which have contributed to crime and delinquency in several Asian countries and which present still another challenge.

In the Philippines, World War II is often referred to as a historical factor in the breakdown of law and order and the distortion of presonal and social values. Since survival was to be achieved at all costs, stealing, killing, bribery, corruption were methods resorted to, if not accepted in principle. Respect for authority, self-discipline in the use of freedom, and respect for norms and values essential to human development and well—being need to be communicated, accepted, and integrated by adults and youth from all levels of our society.

Child care and youth development, including the dependent, abandoned, neglected and disabled continues to be a major challenge in Asia with its predominantly young population. The tremendous task is that of providing children and youth with opportunities for normal growth and development and of strengthening the family a the basic social unit.

The need to develop a socially conscious self-reliant responsible and productive

32

citizenry, has given ongoing stimulus to intensify and expand community development programs, both rural and urban. As a social reform program, directly related to economic development, it provides unlimited opportunities for facilitating social change and resolving social unrest, for helping people to direct their efforts to the achievement of development objectives, the first of which has been described as "freedom from misery."

In summary the challenge to social work is the development of our people. In Asia we all share in a vision of development reiterated by Pope Paul VI:

"Development cannot be limited to mere economic growth. In order to be authentic, it must be complete: integral, that is, it has to promote the good of every man of the whole man . . ." (Sec. 14).

"If further development calls for the work of more and more technicians, even more necessary is the deep thought and reflection of wise men in search of a new humanism which will enable modern man to find himself anew . . . This is what will permit the fullness of authentic development, a development which is for each and all the transition from less human conditions to those which are more human." (Sec. 20)

Sources of Data

1. 1963 Report on the World Social Situation, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations, New York, 1963.

2. "Children and Youth in National Planning and Development in Asia," Report of Conference 8–15 March, 1966, Bangkok, Thailand, United Nations Children's Fund.

3. Compendium of Social Statistics, 1963, United Nations, New York.

4. 1965 Statistical Handbook on the Philippines.

5. Philippine Statistical Survey on Households Series No. 14, 1962 Bureau of the Census and Satistics, Manila.

6. The BCS Survey of Households Bulletin Series No. 18, 1965, Bureau of the Census and Statistics, Manila.

7. Journal of Philippine Statistics, 1967, Bureau of the Census and Statistics, Manila.

8. The Philippine Economy Bulletin, Vol. IV Nos. 1 & 2, 1965, National Economic Council.

9. Pope Paul VI, Encyclical Letter "On the Development of Peoples, 1967.

10. De Veia, Jacobo, "The Social Implication of Urbanization," Unpublished paper, Sept. 1967, Manila.

11. De Vein Jacobo, "Housing Program in the Philippines. Unpublished paper, 1967.

'A Critical Analysis' of Current Action Programmes in Social Welfare
by Seiho Miyano
Japanese Association of Social Workers

Part I

1.   Japanese Association of Social Workers considers that change of family patterns and functions in the present society of this country and its impact to social work profession should be given highest priority. I, being assigned to prepare the paper for the Asian Regional Conference, I.F.S.W. am glad to describe below the social situation in Japan in this regard and resulting problems as well as to indicate how the social workers professional and semi-professional and people in the related fields recognize the problems and challenge them.

2.   It has been rightly said that the family is best and most stable and basic institute ever made in our society to create, develop and maintain the existence of human individuals so as to contribute the personalities fostered in the family to society-at-large. No one would deny this basic concept. When, however, we pay attention to the pattern of family construction and its function and roles of the members seen from the view-point of inter-relationship of them, we also have to recognize very rapid and great change of it, which occurred in the last two decades. Japanese family system before the World War II based its concept on paternalistic philosophy in which head of the extended family was vested with very powerful rights and responsibilities to maintain family and its order and make decision for legal and social deed of each member. There had been movement for tens of years specially on the part of law–professionals to deprive too much power of the head of family and give equal rights to the adults family members. Their goal was only attained when New Constitution was enacted in November 3,1946 and enforced in May 3,1947. Article 24 provides:

> Marriage shall be based only on the mutual consent of both sexes and it shall be maintained through mutual cooperation within the equal rights of husband and wife as a basis.

> With regard to choice of spouse, property rights, inheritance, choice of domicile, divorce and other matters pertaining to marriage and the family, laws shall be enacted from the standpoint of individual dignity and the essential equality of the sexes.

Consequently the Civil Code, Family Registration Law and other pertinent laws and regulations were completely revised in order to realize and enforce the idea of the Constitution in the practical family life. Thus the old paternalistic family system was legally abolished in Japan. In this sense wo should say that legal provisions were forrunner of social change in terms of family life in this country.

There are other factors which are secio - economic and brought about practical change of family life. It is influence of industrialization and urbanization prevailing not only in the very large cities but also in even smaller towns. Influx of the

people into urban areas necessarily result in shortage of housing facilities and establishment of public and semi-public large scale housing projects with small apartments available to each inhabitant family. At the initial period the Japan Housing Co-oporation built so many apartments comprising mostly so-called 2.3 Ks (2 living rooms and a dining kitchen). In such a small house it is almost impossible for any extended family of old type to live in. Young couple became to live separately from their parents and produce their children only one or two due to prevalence of idea and techniques of birth control.

The national census of 1965 shows that 62.4% of ordinary households are so-called core-family as compared to 60.2% in 1960, and that the average number of family members became only 4.08 in 1965. Thus we see very rapid and clear tendency toward smaller size of household.

Influenced by legal provision and physical limitation of family size, gradual change in people's idea on family life is seen. This is evidenced in "the Study of Public Opinion Regarding Family Life" administered by Prime Minister's Cabinet in March 1966. When the respondents were asked their feeling on the present family lives compared to that of their childhood, 65% of total of them answered that present family life as a whole is better than before, though regarding discipline of children those who think that present is better are almost same in number as those who not. Generally speaking, the surveyer concluded that since the old way of family life was broken down the new idea based on the Constitution has been now under way of being established in philosophy and practical life of Japanese, that is to say, it is still in conflict and transition period toward the positive direction.

Then what problems are identified in relation to the change of family pattern and functions?

1) As a result of change of value system from paternalistic to democratic way of family living there is confusion between the old and new generations within the family and society itself.

2) Smaller size of house and change of family function and philosophy make it difficult for the senior parents to live in. It is the problem of the old aged. The number of people over 65 occupied about 6.3% of the total population in 1965, and will be 10% in 1985. Some of them desert homes and commit suicide, the rate of which is 57.9 men and 40.5 women for 100,000 people of age over 60. The latter is notoriously world highest and the former is seventh. (Epidemiological and Vital Statistics 1962)

3) More and more house wives become to find jobs outside their homes not only for economic reason but also to spend more comfortable lives. 1963 Survey of Children's Bureau showed that 20.2% of all the mothers were working outside home. This situation results in raising the problem how their children can be adequately cared for. The problem of "Key-child" is keenly concerned by society. It is difficult for them to fine suitable playground nearby their homes usually in the congested areas.

The children deprived of maternal affection have become object of concern of child welfare people. There is the fact that a Child Welfare Center in Tokyo, which covers industrial and commercial area, had to place in the

institutions in recent years remarkably increased number of children under school age who have signs of emotional deprivation due to separation from one of two parents.

4) From agricultural and forestry areas more and more migrant workers come to metropolitan areas, leaving their wives and children in country who become victims often when contact of husbands (fathers) ceases.

5) Influx of young labourers from rural to big cities are most remarkable and delinquency rate of them is very high among them. Judge Sato of Tokyo Family Court documented in his article of December, 1962 that 20% of serious offenders and about 10% of all offenders who are sent to Tokyo Family Court by police do not have domicile in Tokyo. He classified groups of Wards and certified that those groups of Wards with high deliquency rate had also high rate of young workers who come to work and live in Tokyo away from their parents.

6) As society becomes more and more complex and one has to make always adjustment efforts within and outside of own home, to keep healthy into personal relationships is not easy. These days there seem to be more emotionally disturbed children such as who hate to go to schools and express their inner problems in the various forms. Many times it is said that they are resulted from conflicts between expectation on the part of parents and other family members or society. Ministry of Health and Welfare estimates number of those children is about 37,000. The institutions specially designed for such children are only 5 and have treated about 1,000 children. Because of shortage of the Homes in this category, many of the disturbed children have been placed in the institutions for dependant and neglected children with function of treating such children.

7) Sudden disappearance of one of the family members from home and community. This phenomenon is becoming concern of society. More than eighty-six thousand of such people are said to be registered in police which recently initiated nation-wide search for them. According to police report, 24% men and 17% of women unlocated have no clear notives.

(b) No single organization could be a sole determining body of such scale of problems which covers whole nation and various aspects of living as afore-mentioned.

National Governmental Departments have taken these problems up; for example, Bureau of Youths, Prime Minister's Cabinet for youth problems: Economic Planning Administration for rationalistic leveling-up of standards of people's living: Ministry of Justice for protection of basic human rights in family: Ministry of Education for social education of youth, adults and women: Ministry of Health and Welfare for securing welfare of children and pregnant girls, of old aged people and the destitutes: Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry for developing services of improvement of rural living: Ministry of Trade and Industry for protection of consumers: Ministry of Construction for housing problems. Since so many ministries as above mentioned deal with more or less

problems concerned with family life, Prime Minister's Cabinet (Division of Commissions) now tries to build up general policy in this issue through its Commission on Family Life, which was established in November, 1965 with its aim to reply back to the Prime Minister's question, "What will be the basic direction of the administrative policy in regard to the roles of the family in the social living at present Japan and the partinent problems ?" In due process the Commission made survey of public opinion on this issue, some of whose results were quoted above and some will be shown later in this paper. The Commission also made an interim report on March, 31, 1967.

The private organizations have also contributed to determine and enlighten importance of this problems through various kinds and levels of conference on social welfare. For instance, National Social Welfare Assembly, sponsored by National Council of Social Welfare and held biennially, always discuss this probems from various points of view.

The Japanese Association of Social Workers has made this the theme of its seminars of national and local levels.

(c) Thus we can say that this problem are now concern of governmental and private organizations and are to be attacked with close cooperations, and through the coordination, of all those concerned. Some of the efforts for solution of the problems are listed below:

1) Need of family social work is more and more perceived by the people. In the past when marriage mostly were arranged by the parents and go-betweens, the couple used to consult with their go-between who is very trusted and powerful person in case any marital problems occurs. But now such person is not often needed, because young people select their spouses by themselves. It is very interesting to note result of the afore-mentioned national survey done by the Prime Minister's Cabinet in this regard.

When the respondents were asked as to with whom they would consult in cases of their marital problems and child's (age 12-19) dalinquency, they replied as follows;

With Whom to Consult	Marital Problem	Delinquency
Relatives (Parents, siblings Relatives)	69 %	47 %
Other Acquaintances (Friends, teacher, employer, neighbor)	30	67
Public Service Agency (Family Court, police, public welfare office, local gov'tal office)	15	35
Those Who Referred To Only Public Service Agency Without Mentioning Relatives or Acquaintances	2	6

In response to the need of the people with family problems who want to use professional social worker, Ministry of Health and Welfare have made scheme 3 years ago to provide one third subsidy for the cost or operation of "Child and Family Counseling Room" established by the cities within their Public Welfare Office. Now there are 480 Rooms in 1967 and workers for the settings numbered 774 in 1965. They had about 95,000 contacts with the problem persons. Their problems are classified as such: character, behavior and custom, intelligence and speech, school life, delinquency, familiar relationship, environmental welfare, physical-mental handicapped and others.

To administer those activities, Children's Bureau of Ministry of Health and Welfare, which was established in 1946, was renamed Children and Families Bureau in 1964. This fact shows nothing but positive attitude of the Government to challenge family welfare problems at present Japan.

National Government is also assisting voluntary child and family service agencies. They numbered 14 in 1967. In Tokyo and its vicinity there are 9 private agencies rendering family services, including those which receive the governmental grant. To classify them according to the governing bodies, 3 are those integrated in community centres of various auspices, 3 are university sponsored family agencies and 3 are independent ones. One of them is rather private practitioner and one of them specifically handles family problems which go beyond national boundaries.

There is a radio program called "telephone counselling on living" sponsored by a big organization which operates one of the above agencies. This program attracts so many worried persons who want to get professional social workers' opinion for their problems by telephone. I mentioned this fact in order to show people's need and eagerness to seek professional service one family affairs.

Family Courts, which number more than 300 including branch offices in local cities, have been established since 1949 to deal with Juvenile delinquency and family problems under the new Constitution through the reconciliation committee which tries to find solution to their problems. Family Courts have also function of consultation for marital problems. Tokyo Family Court even established Counselling Section last year.

We can rightly say that those efforts have been positively accepted as shown in that more and more people are utilizing family service facilities.

If we refer to the negative features, it would be that there is still conflict between the newly developed professionally trained workers and the old experts who are well experienced and believe in that life experience is most valuable and it only can solve the family problems. We, however, can say that both types of workers try to understand each other toward the development of the profession

2) As seen in (a) 2), the old people tend to live separately from their adult children, and there is need to establish more and more homes for such aged persons, with or without fee, and to send homemakers (called helpers in Japan) to them while they live lonely in community. There are now 100 boarding homes and 61,759 old people are accommodated as of March 31, 1967. The

number of Helpers are 800 in 1966 and the sponsoring organizations are 306 throughout the nation of upbringing of the children within the home remarkably became weak as seen in (a), 2), 3), people wish to establish a large number of nurseries and playgrounds. National and local governments have pleasure to subsidize those who want to establish nurseries and playgrounds. Both need professional worker - nurses, caseworkers and groupworkers.

(d) All the efforts as described above done by governmental and private organizations indicate need of having more professionally trained social workers. Development of professional standard of social work is one of the most important and effective solutions for the issue. In this connection there are 3 practical measures.

1) One is to establish status of social service workers as new classification among public servants. So far only 16 prefectural and local governments established such system, each of which has different practice. Tokyo Metropolitan Government requested in December, 1965 to its Advisory Commission on Social Welfare to devise plan how to develop new system and the Commission made an interim report in the end of March, 1967 stating the basic philosophy of the issue and some of the practical way of changing the present situation.

2) The second is to develop facilities to train professional social workers. The schools of social work should give generic training and also there is need to devise more intensive and effective in—service training for specialized fields.

3) The social workers who are engaged in assisting the people with family problems are employed by the public and private organizations such as judicial, medical, psychiatric, educational, industrial, public assistance, child welfare, welfare for the aged and handicapped and others. Needless to say, they have common basic philosophy and techniques as social workers, and also from the view-points of family welfare they should have much in common. If effective and close coordination of those social workers is established, it will much contribute to the solution of the problems. Some of the fields have their own professional associations and some are under movement of forming such associations. Japanese Associational of Social Workers is in position to promote to coordinate professional associations of each field, although it has not yet been powerful enough to do so.

We have to admit that in this country societal recognition of social work profession is not yet developed. To make issue a little broader, human value specially of professional service is not assessed properly. It is manifested, for example, in the fact that governments and private subsidizing organizations make it their policy not to subsidize the professional service. This policy must be directed to change through enlightening the society-at-large and raising the professional standard.

(e) As aforementioned, during the course of 20 years, now family philosophy has been in process of being established but value system is not yet given firm basis and there are uncertainties in the practical way

of family living. These issues resulted from change of family pattern and way of practical family living apparently cover many fields of people's life-not only ways of thinking but also legal, economic and social life-and within social welfare field it concerns most of the subdivisions of the social welfare services, as I mentioned above.

Development of professional standard and training of workers, which is of our greatest concern, is inevitably ill-affected by these difficulties and uncertainties of the above situation, which makes vicious circle.

No single approach only would be effective. There must be comprehensive policy planning with understanding that it is in the midst of change.

PART II

1.　　　There are no criteria at present to assess degree of social work development. One would be to describe the situation of professional workers engaged in social welfare services. But again there is discussion on who are called social workers. Certainly it is not yet identified. People are struggling over developing standards of social workers. One of the goals would be accrediting qualification as social worker by means of registration at governmental offices, or private professional associations, or academic assemblies. This has not yet been attained in any field of social work in Japan, though there is a movement in this direction. For instance, in the field of medical and psychiatric social work, the people are trying to propose to make a law on "Registered Medical Social Workers". In 1962 Social Welfare Council of Tokyo made a draft proposal regarding registered social workers. Recently Social Welfare Commission of Tokyo reported back to the Governor of Tokyo proposed important change of the system so that status of social workers who are governmental employees be established firmly as profession as described before.

Schools of social work including universities and colleges which have departments teaching social work number 32 in Japan. Among them 7 are junior colleges (2 public, 5 private) and 470 students for one year are enrolled. Undergraduate level of schools are 25 (5 public and 20 private) and number of students for one year is 1725. 6 universities among the above 25 have graduate courses. It can be said that average level of professional education of social work in Japan is undergraduate. Since some of them have more than 10 years of history, many of their graduates have been taking leading roles of developing standard of social work including administrators of social agencies and institutions. As a very important factor for developing social work, I will brifly describe social workers' organizations below, each of which aim to level up, as their primary goal, professional standards of the particular field their members belong to.

1) Japanese Association of Social Workers, established in 1960, present member about 2,300, the only organization to consolidate social workers in various fields, a member of International Federation of Social Workers have 17 branches.

2) Japanese Association of Psychiatric Social Workers, established in 1964, present members about 200, have 4 branches. This organization makes itself a special division of Japanese Association of Social Workers.

3) Japanese Association of Medical Social Workers, established in 1953, present members about 1,200, have 32 branches.

4) National Association of Public Assistance Workers, established in 1964, present members about 350.

5) National Association of Probation Officers of Family Courts, established in 1966, present members about 950.

The present trend in Japan, I admit, that more interest and energetic action is directed toward professional development of each specific field such as those of the above organizations except 1), rather than cencious integration of the over-all social workers which is the aim of the JASW. For instance, the Associations 1 to 3 cooperate in attempting to introduce a bill for establishing "Registered Medical Social Workers". To establish registered social workers in general would be ideal but it is not considered practical at the present circumstances. Through introducing the new law on status of social workers in this specific field, we attempt to make it a bridgehead to lead to that of the professionals in general.

2. National Council of Social Welfare, coordinating body of various social welfare organizations and activities, holds biennially National Assembly of Social Welfare. The problems identified in Part I have been discussed at great deal in its commissions and study groups and measures against them have been suggested. The Council organizes every year a strong committee to put influence to the National Government for increasing governmental budget for social welfare activities. This committee is active almost year – round, and several years' experiences have shown that this type of social action has been fruitful.

3. Resources needed for expanded development of social services are identified in three–folded as follows:

1) Human resource – there must be better treatment of trained social workers, development of much more facilities for training students and in – service workers. Professional organizations should be established in the fields, other than already formed to promote status of the workers, and also direction toward integration of those professionals in the various fields must always be kept in mind as their goal.

2) Monetary resource–People tend to insist more and more responsibilities of national government on social welfare services both on the sides of materials and workers. It is true that national governmental grant is increasing year by year, although not satisfactory. We have also need to explore more of private financial resource. The most serious problem in this regard is that there is not yet social appreciation and recognition on professional service, and we encounter difficulties when we need financial aid in social workers' salary, whether from public or private source. To convince the society–at–large of the worthiness of professional service though practical work will result in finding big financial resource.

3) Legal system—We know it is very useful and necessary means for levelling up of social work standards to work out change of legal system and social institute in regard to social work, at national and local level.

First we should all make effort to establish classification of social workers among governmental employees, as I said before more than once. It would start from launching special employment examination for social work fields as already done in some of specific fields such as family court probation officer and parole officers or at some local governments. Second we must influence the legislature so that laws on structure of educational, medical, and judicial setting, for instance, be amended to necessitate installment of social workers in the respective organs concerned.

THE ROLE OF SOCIAL WORK ORGANIZATIONS IN SOCIAL ACTION

by

E. Hamilton–Smith, A.U.A.

Australian Association of Social Workers

PREAMBLE:

In this paper, I have endeavoured to discuss general principles and concepts, but inevitably, my comments will be coloured by my Australian experience. I hope that I do not focus too much upon Australian issues.

On the other hand—it may be useful if I do err in this direction. It appears to me that social planning in Asian countries is suffering from a bit of folklore that says "we are developing countries and our social problems are different in kind from then of developed countries". In the first place, I cannot accept the hypothesis that our problems are so very different, although their relative scale and priority may be. In the second place, most countries in this region have rapidly increasing secters of their population living in the social environment of a developed and or industrialized society—but these "islands of development" are often overlooked in social planning. Yet planning for the social needs of these secters should be done now—not when crisis develop in ray, eight years time.

Perhaps I should also admit in this preamble that I have made no attempt to present current Australian thinking. This is purely a series of personal comments on Social Action. I trust none of my colleagues would seriously disagree with me, but I do not hold any of them responsible for my statements.

Also I do not pretend to have given a comprehensive review of the topic, but merely put forward a number of almost random ideas as a basis for discussion.

PART I – Introduction

1. The Nature of Social Action

Purely as a working definition for the purposes of this paper, I will define Social Action as 'conscious action, usually on a planned basis, which is intended to positively influence the Social Environment'. Thus, Social Action may either be concerned with the fostering of change or with attempts to prevent change which is considered undesirable.

Perhaps one of the basic things which must be said is that all Social Work has a Social Action component, and that, if we are able to significantly improve the adjustment or happiness of one individual, so we will have an effect, albeit small, on the social environment. This kind of Social Action can be of considerable significance. If our programmes for the care of deprived children are adequate ones, then we are likely to find that the children for whom we have taken responsibility will be adequate parents and the usual vicious circle of deprived children growing into depriving parents will have been broken.

However, we usually think of Social Action in more specific terms than this, and conceive of it as deliberate action taken to improve social policy or its implementation. If anything, I suspect we tend to think of it in terms which are too narrow and to concern ourselves too much with acting as a pressure group upon the decision makers in social policy. At least in Australia, I am sure we sometimes fall too readily into this role when other approaches to action may not only be more effective, but may in fact be available.

Certainly, acting as a pressure group is an important tool in Social Acting. Let me say I imply nothing unethical by the term "pressure group" – rather I see pressure group activity an essential part of democratic government. As a pressure group we may provide factual evidence through research studies or through our everyday contacts with clients. However, we will inevitably introduce value judgements based upon our own ethical principles. We must be aware that we do this, but I am certain that we must continue to do so. Our own ethical principles are based upon a particular regard for human well–being, and it is not only import that we endeavour to establish a wider acceptance and understanding of such principles in society, but these principles are in fact the basis of our justification for Social Action.

It is also, of course vital that we adhere to these ethical principles, and that we do not abandon our responsibility for human well – being in being seduced by national ideologies.

However, If we are to be truly effective in Social Action, acting as a pressure group is not enough. We must also engage in long–term programmes of community education. For instance, in issues involving discrimination or prejudice, pressure –group action may change legislation or services, but only long–term education will effect any real change in social attitudes. We must also endeavour to share and participate in social planning far more sidely than we do at present.

2. The Justification for Social Action

Perhaps one should not have to justify the reasons for our profession indulging in Social Action, but examining some of the reasons assists in the assigning of priorities to action, and helps us to more clearly see our own role. Obviously our ethical principles as a profession are involved here. My own personal understanding of the ethical principles upon which I work as a professional person says that we have a responsibility (as contrasted with merely having a right) to endeavour to secure action in any situation where basic human rights are being infringed. In other words, we are ethically committed to the opposition of discrimination or deprivation in any form. Perhaps not all social workers would agree with me, and I believe it would be constructive for our profession to examine our internal disagreements on such matters, rather than allowing them to remain unspoken.

Specifically, we often have a special responsibility in relation to the client population whom we serve. Many of us will be working with a client population who are suffering from inadequacies in the present social environment. Our own services will often be nothing but palliative unless positive steps are taken to repair the environment. Because our clients are so often unable to be vocal on their own

account, politically or otherwise, we must then either enable our clients to become more effectively vocal or must be vocal on their behalf.

3. Barriers to Social Action

A. In general, it is fair to admit that the Social Work profession has been ineffectual in the area of Social Action or social policy-making. We have been over-concerned (for Social Action purposes) with individualisation of the client. There is no question that adequate consideration of the individual as a unique person is essential in a case work programme, but equally, there is no question that we must also learn to make adequate generalisations if we are to be effective in Social Action and policy-making.

We must also not let our concern with individuals distort our perspective. It is all to common to find social workers playing about with small scale programmes which are quite incapable of expansion to adequately meet problems on a national level.

B. The focus upon client self-determination in our general programmes also is somewhat out of keeping with Social Action Decision-makers at State (and other) levels are pressed upon from a variety of points of view, often by persons who communicate more directly than the way in which we are accustomed to do. Decisions which we regard as faulty may well result purely because we have been ineffective in our own communication with decision-makers, and I am sure this is often because we are unwilling to be direct in own approach. Thus, other persons with far less knowledge of social needs and problems than ourselves come to be regarded as experts just because they communicate more clearly.

C. Our comparatively recent development as a profession and the comparatively low status in which we still tend to be held probably has some adverse effects upon our effectiveness, more because of the way in which we regard ourselves than because of the way in which others regard us. We are over-cautious, afraid of making mistakes ("the man who never made a mistake never made anything"), and afraid of disgreement, either within or without our own circle.

D. I am certain we also fail because we see social work as a therapeutic profession, or in our optimistic moods, as a preventive profession. Both of these are inadequate and too negative as a basis for real social development. Might I suggest that we will only be effective if we come to see our role as being that of creating or developing an optimal social enviroment for human growth in its widest sense? I think too we must learn to approach our own difficulties in a much more positive way. I hope we reach the point of being able to adopt an approach such as that of one of Israel's leaders who believe that "there are no problems but only opportunities; all that matters is that we are able to perceive them and to utilize them".

E. One might speculate on whether the profession produces its pattern of education or the pattern of education produces the profession. Which ever is the most true is unimportant, but it is reasonable to suggest that social work education continues to focus upon individual treatment and the enabling process rather than upon

broad questions of social planning and related processes of Social Action.

4. Some Conceptual Issues

Reference has already been made to the way in which concepts of individualisation and client self-determination, essential to certain social work processes, may in fact retard effective Social Action. It seems reasonable to suggest that Social Work has a well-developed conceptual framework for such activities as casework, social work with groups, community development or consultation, but that our concepts in other areas are less well developed.

It appears to me that we have so far tended to neglect the fact that the Social Work task involves the use of a number of different kinds of processes. The central functions of social work certainly are enabling processes, focussing upon the growth and development of the client. However, the other processes in which we are inevitably involved, such as administration, public education, social work education, social action, public relations and the like are primarily focussed upon goal-attainment. These certainly have an enabling component, but I would suggest that we must learn to use other kinds of method more appropriate to these processes.

This appears to be a conceptual problem. We need to develop an adequate frame of reference within which we can see clearly the relationships between all the processes which we use and at the same time differentiate clearly between these. Of course, examination of these sort of conceptual issues has been proceeding for some time, but I am sure we must refine our thinking much further than we have so far.

A series of papers presented recently at our National Conference, highlighted the need for us to re-examine even our concept of the nature of Social Work within the social structure; rejecting the treasured concept of Social Work as an institution rather thinking of it as a social system.

5. Professional Development through Professional Organization

I assume we would all agree that professional development is one of the primary responsibilities of any professional organization. But I wonder how often we ask ourselves just what sort of professional development we need.

The profession's lack of self-confidence has already been referred to above. The obvious implication is that part of a professional development programme must be directed towards the achievement of greater corporate self-confidence. I suspect that the extent to which professional conferences (including many aspects of this one) are concerned with self-examination tends to be a negative force in this matter. I have heard it said that "Social Work tends to be a sickly plant because people insist on pulling it up to look at its roots!" Perhaps we should look more at social issues and less at ourselves.

Another aspect of professional development programmes should be the examination of those areas of social welfare in which we are least experienced and least knowledgeable. I suspect we talk most about those things with which we feel comfortable so we have seminars teaching us more about what we know rather than something about those things we do not know.

Particular attention must be given to the development of real leadership in social programming from those workers engaged in the field. We tend to rely upon our academics for leadership, and I would be the last to decry the wonderful leadership which has been given to the profession by many of our teachers. But we must also have leaders of thinking who are engaged in the field of social welfare. I am sure this can be done and I am sure part of the answer lies in the programming of our conferences and seminars-increased opportunities must be given to practitioners for speaking and writing

6. Providing an Avenue for Expression of Thinking

Again, we probably all accept that a professional organization may provide an avenue for its members to discuss issues together, to formulate and to give expression to their joint thinking. Here I think we need to ask ourselves how this process can be widened to give opportunities to the greatest possible number of our members. Any organization tends to present excellent opportunities to its vocal and dominant members, but little or no opportunity to less vocal or less experienced member. This is the natural way in which organizations behave. I believe it is vital that we take deliberate steps to involve the highest possible proportion of our membership in this process, probably through wide use of sub-committees or other small groups.

Sometimes we tend to inhibit organizational expression of opinion by seeking wide agreement on issues before being vocal. Certainly this is valid when we are seeking to make statements of overall policy on behalf of our organization

(although even here complete unanimity is unrealistic) but I also believe that our organizations should accept the responsibility of providing an avenue for the expression of thoughtful ideas by any of its members, even though these ideas may not be representative of our total membership I would go so far as to say we must encourage and foster the public expression of individual opinion on social issues. Real community consciousness of social welfare issues will only come from a widely informed community, and this will only come if we as professionals use every avenue of communication as widely as possible. We cannot afford to stifle expression of ideas, even if these are dissident or unconventional. It is to be regretted that social issues are not more widely argued in the general community.

One aspect of this matter which perhaps warrants reference is that many workers in Social Welfare may be silenced within the framework of their agencies and unable to speak publically on issues related to agency policy or programme. Again, I believe that a professional organization must retain its freedom of expression if it is to justify its name of being 'professional' and this means that it should be able to provide an avenue for public expression of opinion by those who must be otherwise silent.

7. Aspects of Professional Education

Educators will recoil from any suggestion that additional material should be added to our training programmes, already intensive enough. However, if we are to become more effective in Social Action, our educational preparation must include an adequate foundation in such areas as social planning, political science, economics

and philosophy. Similarly, our study of Social Work method must become more generic, with less of a focus upon casework as a central method. We must also look in more detail at the other related processes, such as administration, which are increasingly becoming our responsibility, and which we have not adequately distinguished from the enabling kind of process.

I do realize that such a programme can always become nothing more than a very thin veneer of knowledge, spread over an impossibly wide field, and agree that we must have real depth in our education. But professional education to me implies breadth also. I venture to suggest that there are few courses in which greater breadth could not be introduced with no harmful effects, but merely by more adequate teaching methods being developed and by elimination of irrelevancies or any of the other time-wasting demands which are made upon students. Perhaps one implication is that some of our present students need what is better described as a technological training, in which a narrower field is studied in depth - such a course might quite legitimately focus only upon the casework process and the necessary background knowledge for effective casework practice.

8. General Community Education

I have already referred to long-term community education as one of the essential methods of Social Action. Perhaps we sometimes overlook this in our impatience for action and the extent to which limitation of resources force us to give priority to urgent matters. Perhaps, too, we tend to leave this aspect to such bodies as Councils of Social Service, concentrating our own efforts on specifically professional matters.

However, as in all aspects of Social Action, it is unrealistic to look towards single-channel communication. The greater use is made of all possible avenues for action or communication, the more effective impact is likely to be obtained. So I would suggest we cannot continue to ignore our responsibilities in this matter. Time and time again when we enter into issues of immediate priority, we find action to be impeded by the lack of previous thoughtful information on the part of those whom we try to influence. So, even if our primary focus in Social Action is to be on immediate issues, we will be more successful if there has been an ongoing programme of general public education about the issues concerned for some previous years.

9. Involvement in Social Planning

Few social workers are employed as planners or as advisors on policy. Perhaps this is one of the problems which we face by contrast with some other professions, e.g., engineering. Engineers are often employed to plan developments and to advise on policies in, say, water conservation. Social Planning is all too often an amateur or part-time matter. This, of course, is a reflection of overall social priorities, in which Social Welfare tends to be seen as residual function rather than a primary one. (Perhaps this is a problem which is particularly strongly felt in Australia.)

Professional organizations, by providing an avenue for the expression of professional knowledge and opinion, do provide the structure through which members may become involved in planning. However, I suggest that we must learn a great deal more about how to achieve real effectiveness in this. Being a pressure group may often be neces-

sary, but entering into real dialogue with other members of an overall planning team would be far more effective. Professional organizations should seek out ways of ensuring representation on planning bodies or of being consulted or involved in other forms of effective communication with planners. Perhaps attention should be also given to fostering the employment of social workers in planning or policy-advisory roles.

10. The Distinctive Function of the Professional Organization

Many of the suggestions outlined above might be, and in fact are, acted upon through avenues other than the professional organization. Perhaps it is, therefore, appropriate to make some suggestions about the unique role of the professional organization.

The greater freedom of expression which should be inherent in the very nature of professional organization has already been mentioned, and is perhaps one of the more important factors. However we must also remember that only the professional organization can normally provide a forum where all members of the profession can join together, no matter what their employment or field of work, and this provides for a true breadth of overall professional communication and development of thinking. Similarly, the psofessional organization provides a forum for the unique contribution of the professional worker, which may be vital in certain issues. Although not generally thought of as Social Action, the professional body is an essential component of normal patterns of negotiation in the field of salaries and working conditions. There is no question that adequate development in this aspect of our function can have a positive effect on the social environment through helping to ensure adequate staffing of programmes.

Perhaps the most obvious problem facing the professional organization as such in Social Action is its limitation of resources. Most professional organizations have a minimum of staff, or often no staff at all, relying on the voluntary efforts of elected officers. This means that priorities in programme must be considered, and Social Action is all too likely to find a minor place. I can only comment that I believe if we are sufficiently clear about our relative priorities and the importance of each of these, resources can be found to pursue specific facets of our programme.

Perhaps the one other comment which may be made is that sometimes in our pursuit of resources to carry out a task, we accept help which serves also to limit our freedom of expression. I would not accept such help (some of my colleagues may disagree with me) because I believe strongly in the importance of free expression. However, this does not to my mind mean, for instance, that governmental finance would be excluded, but only that it would be excluded if conformity of opinion were an explicit or implicit condition of such assistance.

A colleague has suggested that the Central Nervous System might be a useful model for thinking about the role of the professional organization, in that we should be receiving communication from our own members, from the general social environment, and from decision–makers, facilitating interchange of these separate pieces of information, and re–routing further communication from each to the other. Certainly this is a far more useful model than the "pressure-group" one, and the idea might be profitably explored further.

Final Report of the Conference

Topic I — Main challenges in social welfare in changing Asia

1. The basic framework for the discussion groups was provided by the position paper presented by Miss Silva from the Philippines. It drew attention to the demographic, economic and social trends at work in the region and the impact that they have had on thought and action in a number of fields, such as health and nutrition, education, labour, employment and training, housing and recreation, land reforms, welfare of women, youth and children.

2. While there seemed to be a hard core of social problems that were common to most countries in the region, many countries also possessed their own distinctive social problems which could be traced back to certain special handicaps. Each country has attempted in its own way to mobilise resources to resolve these problems. To cite a few examples from among the countries in the region, Hong Kong has shown energy and imagination in dealing with an influx of refugees and in finding them jobs and houses within the severely limited confines of the island. Viet Nam has had to provide for the social disorganisation that arises inevitably from a continuing war. India has built up special programmes for wide segments of the community that suffer from traditional social handicaps, the numbers involved running into as many as 95 million people or say 20% of the total population. Australia has to provide a network of social services for a widely-scattered population and makes use of the latest equipment in keeping in touch with them.

This partial statement is only intended to drive home the point that it would be futile to attempt any generalisations for the region as a whole.

4. As problems become more complex and programmes become more ambitious, it is logical that national programmes are strengthened and supported by the efforts of international welfare agencies. If these programmes are to be effective, then the details of co-ordination will have to be worked out carefully, the results achieved will have to be evaluated and the donor countries must be kept informed of what use has been made of their generosity. A number of specialised U.N. agencies have played and continue to play a special role in achieving this co-ordination. It was noted that relief was not the only end of such programmes and in some countries, a deliberate effort has been made to build up permanent community assets by using these relief supplies in "food for work" projects, wherever this is possible.

5. The high rate of growth of populations was regarded as one of the most challenging problems in this region. Since the pace and standard of welfare services were vitally dependent on the size of the population to be served, social workers ought to take a more effective part in the formulation of policies and in the implementation of programmes designed to meet the problem.

All countries in the region ... though they may be at different stages of economic development ... are faced with the problems of rapid urbanisation. It

can be expected that in the coming years, this process will be accelerated and so it is necessary for social workers to study these problem areas and help evolve suitable solutions.

6. It seems to be generally accepted that the social worker can no longer think of providing only a direct client service in a setting of his or her choice; in a number of countries, the role of the social worker has been steadily modified and expanded. It is only appropriate that he or she is drawn into the process of change and development and with their special training and expertise should play an active part in decision—making.

7. It is the general complaint that social workers are seldom heard with sympathy by planners and policy-makers and except in a few countries, they do not find a seat in these vital discussion. Perhaps, the best way to earn the right to be consulted and to share in decision-making would be for the social workers to think in terms of providing certain effective solutions for knotty problems that remain outstanding.

8. Quite often one hears the complaint that the land reforms programme has made rather disappointing progress. In one such situation, local leaders helped in building up a climate of social opinion against the system of absentee-landlords and followed this up to the logical conclusion by assisting in the voluntary surrender of all land holdings above a certain ceiling.

9. Another instance has been cited where social workers have taken the lead in getting tenants to care for the health and hygiene standards of a housing settlement; in other cases, parents have joined hands in running a school—feeding programme and in a number of note—worthy instances, have helped in raising productivity in industry and agriculture. There are a number of areas where such initiative has been displayed and the credit has been given to the social worker in gathering the basic data, in organising popular participation and in implementing the individual programme.

10. A short list (which is not intended to be exhaustive) of the main challenges in social welfare that can be identified in changing Asia would include:

1. Development of child and youth welfare services, with special reference to the provision of educational and vocational facilities linked with job opportunities;

2. Community development programmes, with separate programmes for rural and urban communities ;

3. Manpower programmes, with particular attention paid to recruitment, training and employment placement ;

4. Family planning, with a special role assigned within the programme to the soical worker ;

5. Programmes intended to cope with the problems of rapid urbanisation, and

6. Programmes that attempt to understand and deal with the changing family pattern, and can anticipate the increasing need to care for the aged.

Topic II—A critical analysis of current action programmes in social welfare

1. A country–by–country review of the current action programmes in social welfare operating in the region revealed that the most important common feature was the low priority attached to social welfare in the development plans. While part of the reason lay in the limited resources the Governments could spare, it was felt that there was a basic lack of conviction on the part of the national planners about the importance of social welfare in the context of growth and change. It was also realised that if the contribution of social welfare to national development was not fully appreciated by the planners, the social workers and their professional bodies were also partly responsible. The traditional preoccupation of social work with ameliorative measures, absence of proper conceptualisation of the newer and more positive dimensions of social action, insufficient or inadequate organised communication between social workers and the power structure and absence of distinct and demonstrable results of the professional approach were among the main reasons for the low priority given to social welfare.

2. Even though social welfare had been included as a sector in the development plans of most countries, it did not necessarily imply a planned approach to programming and implementation. The ad hoc organisation of programmes to meet whatever happens to be the current emergency still seemed to characterise social welfare. A stable pattern of minimum welfare services and a perspective of expansion was not generally discernible in most countries. Such a pattern and perspective could undoubtedly provide for emergency relief and curative services as well. Examples were cited from various countries to show how the approach ranged from sporadic to planned effort. Sometimes even within the same countries, some programmes were carefully planned and others were not. This was particularly noticeable among the national, provincial and local levels and between different provinces and local authorities.

3. Another common shortcoming of social welfare programmes in most countries of the region was that they were predominantly urban–centred. With the extension of the programmes of community development to the rural areas, some headway was being made in introducing social welfare in the villages but by and large, the efforts were uneven, grossly insufficient and qualitatively poor.

4. One of the important reasons for the lack of adequate progress in social welfare was the shortage of trained social workers, both in overall numbers as well as in different specialist categories, especially in fields such as rural and urban community development and advanced services for groups in need of special care. Most countries were trying to make good the shortages of welfare personnel by accelerating and diversifying the training programmes. However, these efforts were not based on comprehensive and accurate manpower estimates. It was necessary to urgently undertake manpower planning in social

welfare and to relate these estimates to graded and standardised training programmes.

5. Lack of co—ordination was cited by almost all countries as an important shortcoming of social welfare programmes. This was as much a common feature between governmental and non-governmental services as it was also within themselves. At the same time, examples were cited of projects and programmes in which co—ordination had been effected with a measure of success. This had happened in instances where the projects were either local or specific, the autonomy of each participating agency had not been compromised and where co-ordination was attempted not by any 'external authority, but rather by representative bodies.

6. It was observed that in most countries little or no effort had been made to settle priorities among the social welfare programmes themselves. Given the limited resources, such an ordering of priorities was very essential. Social workers ought to help in deciding priorities between the handicapped groups and the underprivileged, between the young and the old, between the preventive and curative services. Wherever priorities in sequence were not possible, at least a proper balance needed to be introduced between various urgent programmes.

7. The crucial impact of the development process was also being felt on the family. In most social welfare programmes in Asia, there was an awareness of the weakening of the family structure. However, the services so far introduced or planned in response fell far short of the requirements. As a result, one can only list the rising incidence of broken homes, neglected children, juvenile delinquency, vagrancy, beggary, crime and prostitution. A comprehensive family welfare service, need—based and providing for organised social or public assistance (sometimes through charitable trusts and endowments) coupled with counselling and enabling assistance was generally lacking in the region. Experiments in a few countries have drawn attention to the potential benefits that can be gained by providing such a service.

8. Among the child welfare services, it was noticed that the age group between 1–6 years was largely neglected in the planning of social services. After the end of post—natal care and before entry into the primary school, children were not exposed to any organised influence from the established social services like health, nutrition, physical care, play and informal education. Wherever preschool services were established in the form of expensive kindergartens, there was a sharp contrast between their standards and those of the average primary schools. Such disparities need to be avoided. In this context, the organisation of day—care centres, creches or day—care with families were found to have relieved the burden in the case of families where both parents worked outside the home and also made it possible for older children to attend schools with greater freedom.

9. It was observed that in spite of their numerical and functional importance, most Asian countries lacked a well-defined national youth policy. Youth were treated either as children or as adults, but never as developing young people. They were also looked upon as a resource to be harnessed for community service. Little or no thought was given to their own needs and problems.

The few youth programmes that were in operation did not give sufficient priority to the needs of under-privileged youth, rural youth or young persons among the urban poor.

10. In this context, the inadequacies of the educational and training programmes that could prepare youth for life and work in the developing countries was conspicuously noted. It was felt that the social welfare sector had a special responsibilty to improve the employability of youth, particularly those who had fallen out of the educational system. Problems of unemployment and under-employment should cause grave concern to social workers and they should accept them as challenges which call for bold and constructive service solutions.

11. The over-emphasis on institutionalisation of social welfare services needed correction. Alternatives through strengthening the family, organisation of (non-residential) community services, foster-care, etc. need to be explored actively. It was noticed that sometimes programmes or services were copied from other countries without a thought as to whether they had even succeeded in the country of origin or whether they were really suited to the changed local conditions.

12. Finally, it was emphasised that the social work profession had not given sufficient thought to the wider social challenges that had been thrown up by the development process. It was vital for the social work profession to broaden its mental horizons, take a specific stand on the current social issues, to make itself acceptable to planners and policy-makers as equal partners in the enterprise of development and lastly, to improve its own competence in discharging its growing responsibilities.

Topic III – The Role of social Work Organisations in Social Action.

1. Social work organisations in some Asian countries participate in various aspects of social planning and action through direct participation and involvement with others in :

1. The development of social legislation and its passage affecting urban and rural population.

2. The initiation of research and demonstration projects as well as of continuing research.

3. The holding of seminars and other educational programmes for the benefit of practitioners and the public in providing better services.

4. The establishment of pressure groups for the purpose of promoting solutions to some problems considered urgent.

5. The development of leadership by encouraging and stimulating people to involve themselves in co-operative action.

6. The recognition of the professional and technical base necessary for sound action.

2. It was generally agreed by all discussion groups that the sound basis for the preparation of social workers depended upon a professional education system in a school of social work with knowledge and experience with related systems and the social sciences.

It was suggested that continuing education through a variety of methods was desirable and necessary for the development of social policy and action.

Groups recommended that schools should periodically review their curricula in order to keep pace with current requirements in the field of practice.

It was noted that education in some Asian nations was patterned after systems in more developed countries which did not fit the special needs of developing nations. Where this occurs social workers are ill equipped to meet the needs of these countries.

3. To be effective as individual practitioners and in organisations, social workers must be prepared to learn from and associate with representatives of such systems as public health, land reform, government, agriculture, education, physical planning and others. It was not reported that much of this association is being done at present.

4. Considerable attention was given to the status of the social work profession and its capacity to affect, change and influence planning based upon its image.

1. Some delegates stated that the basic term "social work" was considered a barrier to the professional image but that alternative classifications were of less value.

2. Others felt it was difficult to prove the importance of social work in their countries.

3 The unification of all social workers in one organisation in nations was suggested as vital to the strengthening of the profession and the im-provement of its image. It could then speak with one voice, where necessary, on programmes of importance.

4. Basic to the above idea is the importance to the individual social worker of his own professional identity.

5. There is the need for a strong International Federation of Social Workers which can help by facilitating communication, setting standards and clarifying goals and objectives in member countries.

Ways need to be found to be more efficient through the interchange of experience, including personal contacts with colleagues in other countries and opportunities for visits by officials of the Federation.

6. Basic to the improvement of the "image" is the necessity for the establishment of codes of ethics, salary classification and pay plans, and the improvement of working conditions. It was felt that IFSW could help with this activity.

5. A number of ideas were stressed noting the role of the social work organisation — —

1. It should associate itself with the community and its problems.

2. The recruitment of new, young leadership is a requirement for continued activity.

3. The association should be an innovator, and not a reactor to the development of social change — — It should be a leader and not a follower.

55

4. It should seek a planning role at all levels where social work concerns are evident.

5. There must be technically competent persons within the association who can convince other planners of the contribution social work can make to diverse social development questions and to convince decision makers that a certain decision is the best one for a particular situation.

6. The general consensus of the discussion groups was that the development of social action depended upon a continuing examination of the educational systems of social work; the strengthening of social work organisation; and the rededication of individual members to the profession.

They agreed that social blanning and action required a partnership between social workers and many groups which must be continually cultivated.

Report on Executive Committee Meeting
by Nelson C. Jackson
IFSW Secretary General

I should like to personally add my gratitude and thanks to the members of the Organizing Committee and the president and officers of IFSW for helping to make this first Regional Meeting in Asia a success. There is no question at all in my mind that this has been a momentous conference and will stimulate action of greater magnitude among members from the Asian nations in attendance here.

It has been previously noted that the Executive Committee and Permanent Council meeting in Washington, D.C. in 1966 recommended the holding of a Regional Conference for Asia. Mrs. Renu Jotidilok of the Executive Committee graciously extended an invitation on behalf of the Social Workers Association of Thailand to hold the conference in Bangkok.

Subsequently guidelines were developed and sent to member association and other nation in Asia requesting that they write papers. Speakers were selected; physical arrangements worked out; delegates invited, including official agencies; members of the Executive Committee around the world alerted and the trek was made to Bangkok.

IFSW

The International Federation of Social Workers is an association of professional social work organizations in 32 countries. There are 9 members in Asia, 15 in Europe, 4 in Latin America, 2 in North America and 2 in Africa. There is an Executive Committee of 15 members.

The president is from Greece, the secretary general is from the United States of America and the treasurer from Canada. There are vice presidents for Asia, Europe and Latin America.

In addition, the other members of the Executive Committee are from Italy, Denmark, Singapore, Thailand, Finland, Switzerland, New Zealand, Germany and the United Kingdom. This network of country representatives can mean a great deal in strengthening the fabric of social work in the world. As other members are added to the roster, greater services can be provided for the needs of the world population. Our newest member, accepted at this meeting of the Executive Committee is Hong Kong with approximately 500 members. We are indeed happy to have them a part of the International Federation of Social Workers.

Cooperation with Other Organizations

The international federation of Social Workers cooperates with a number of world bodies. The Executive Committee heard reports on cooperation with UNICEF; on attendance at the Social Commission meetings held in New York; were made aware of the importance of the Conference of Welfare Ministers to be held in New York in September of 1968, and urged each country representative to confer with his welfare minister on the goals of welfare in his country based upon assessment by representatives of IFSW; heard a discussion

of the representation at the United Nations in Geneva through the possible joint use of the International Council on Social Welfare representative who would also represent IFSW.

A report was given of the Executive Committee meeting of the International Association of Schools of Social Work and plans were discussed for greater cooperation with the International Association of Schools. It could mean joint sponsorship of future regional meetings and collaboration with IASSW in the Professional Symposium for 1971.

A considerable amount of time was given to the discussion of the International Council of Social Welfare of which IFSW is a member of the Executive Committee as is International Association of School of Social Work. A report of the Executive Committee was made describing the conference to be held next year in Helsinki, Finland. The theme of the 14th International Council on Social Welfare is **Social Welfare and Human Rights**. The IFSW Executive Committee urges all members of this conference to attend.

In that connection, the IFSW Executive Committee will hold its sessions August 7 to 8 in Stockholm, Sweden. The Permanent Council will meet August 9 to 11 in Helsinki as well as a Symposium August 12 to 14 to be sponsored by the French Association in collaboration with the associations in Germany and United Kingdom for program and with Finland for physical arrangements.

The Executive Committee received a report from Mr. Yuichi Nakamura of Japan who had been asked to represent IFSW at the Regional Seminar of the International Council on Social Welfare held in Tokyo September 18 through 22. The theme of that meeting being, **Meeting the Social Welfare Manpower Needs in Southeast Asia and the Western Pacific**. Three commissions were set up to discuss the theme, the first was on the Impact of Social Change Affecting the Demand and Supply of Welfare Personnel and Categories of Welfare personnel. Commission 2, Recruitment in Working Conditions of Welfare Personnel and Commission 3, Training Programs (level of training, in-service training, role of universities, other training programs). It was observed that almost every country in the region is suffering from the problems of rural reconstruction, families in transition, housing and education problems, poverty and dependency, delinquency, etc., and also the shortage of welfare personnel to man the welfare programs to deal with these problems. Social welfare is not given a high priority and is not understood by the general public. These comments are similar to those voiced in our own Regional Conference in Bangkok.

The official proceedings of this meeting will be published by the ICSW Regional Office for Southeast Asia and the Western Pacific in Bombay.

Reports - the Vice Presidents and Executive Committee Members

There were reports from the vice presidents for Europe, Latin America and Asia. Each of these reports indicated that progress was being made. Latin America is faced with a conference which might serve to disrupt plans for expansion of membership and it was agreed that efforts would be made to work with this conference to develop communication with those countries in Latin America which presently are not members of the Federation.

The vice president for Asia reported on the countries in Asia not now members with a view towards strengthening the membership possibilities on this continent. It was felt that this Asian conference would be an enabling force. The report of the vice president for Europe where there are most members, indicated further development and cooperation between member associations in contiguous countries as a basis for beginnings of the development of a regional conference for Europe.

The treasurer sent in a report recommending that the future dues rate be computed on the basis of a per capita cost of one Swiss Franc per member regardless of size of organizations. This is to be sent to each of the countries for their review and recommendations with final approval to be given for a better financial plan in Helsinki.

The Executive Committee expressed ways for improving communication and discussed at length "The Social Worker" the official magazine of IFSW and the "International Journal of Social Work." Suggestions were made that writings from the associations be sent to the Swiss Association with a listing of publications to be carried in "The Social Worker."

The Executive Committee extended its thanks to the Thai Association for arranging the meetings and looked forward to a very important and profitable conference at Helsinki.

IFSW President's Closing Remarks*

Miss Litsa Alexandraki, IFSW President observed in her closing remarks that it had proved immensely valuable to hold the regional conference under the IFSW auspices. In fact, encouraged by the success of this first regional conference, the IFSW would plan more such conferences in other regions as well. She thanked the leader of the Israel delegation for having extended an invitation to held the second Asian regional conference in Israel sometime in 1969 and promised that the proposed would be placed before the next meeting of the executive committee of the IFSW. She noted that other delegates wanted the next conference held at a centrally located venue in the region.

Miss Alexandraki took the opportunity to thank, on behalf of the IFSW and her own behalf the Government of Thailand and all organisations agencies and individuals who had contributed towards making the conference success.

It is regretted that owing to unforeseen circumstances it has not been possible to get the full text of the IFSW President's closing remarks.

Closing Address

by

Mr. Suwan Ruenyote

Chairman, IFSW Social Workers Regional Conference for Asia

Fellow Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I consider it a privilege to have the honour of presiding over the concluding session. I share this honour with the Organizing Committee and others who made this Conference possible. The deliberations of the Conference have covered a vast area of Asian social welfare.

Some of the Challenges faced by Countries in this region have been discussed and new experiences gained in meeting them have been shared with delegates. This sharing of experiences given strength and support to our work. We carry with us the belief that in working for and with people we aid in their well-being. It is true that as the problems arise in the field of social welfare we try to meet them with the cooperation of other organizations and individuals. But in the final analysis what is necessary is to strengthen some of the social institutions which meet pressures of changing times and create new ones which could help in meeting the new demands of life.

We need to keep before us the organizational set up suitable for meeting the challenges of social welfare. In most of the developing countries like ours the State has to assume major responsibilities of providing welfare services. We require also the active participation of voluntary organizations.

The professional organizations for social welfare too have an important con- tribution to make in terms of scientific knowledge, training and discipline. Thus there is the necessity for partnership between all secters mentioned above.

The conference rightly emphasized the role of the professional organizations although most are in the early stage of development in this region. They need to be supported and strengthened. The social obligations of the profession have been acknowledged by all concerned. It is there- fore necessary that they develop programmes of social action as an integral part of their responsibilities on an extensive scale. Social action, however, has to be based on study, research and an effective system of com- munication conveying the needs and the programmes of social welfare.

The development of the profession is interwoven with programmes of social work education and training. It is this area that requires immediate attention. Let our efforts result in developing the programme of social work education on scientific lives. Let the training contents relate more effectively to the cultural and social life of the countries in this region.

This brings me to the important problem of participation. No programme of social welfare, can prove effective without active national, state, or local cooperation. Every programme of social welfare has to be related to the needs and aspirations of people. Possibly it is in this area of making

the programme of services closer to people that we need to give our greatest attention.

The success of the Conference depends upon what we do when we return home. The message of the Conference will be measured in terms of the action programme that fellow delegates will develop. I am confident that the delegates will carry out Conference recommendations.

Before I conclude I would like to thank, once again, the Local Organizing Committee and especially Chairman, Mr. Pakorn Angsusingha, for his leadership and wisdom. I also want to thank the delegates for accepting our invitation to come to Bangkok. You have made our effort fruitful by your effective deliberations. I also want to thank the Executive Committee of the International Federation of Social Workers, especially its President, Miss Litsa Alexandraki and its Secretary-General, Mr. Nelson C. Jackson for their very valuable cooperation in making this Conference a success.

I thank you all once again for your very valuable cooperation.

Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the International Labour Organisation, I would like to convey most cordial greetings to the participants in this Social Workers Regional Conference for Asia.

Social Welfare is today a specialised function which plays a complementary or supplementary role in various areas of broader social programmes which are the special concern of the I.L.O. and recognise the need for social welfare measures to strengthen or supplement programmes designed to ensure adequate protection to the workers and their families and to promote the development of human resources.

In countries in this region, social workers have today to take into account certain broad premises. The first is that populations have increased in Asian countries, and so have the numbers and varieties of demands on social workers. Secondly, almost all countries have taken to planned development, and social welfare forms part of these plans. Thirdly, the line of demarcation between social assistance and social security is being blurred by the increasing coverage being provided through social security schemes.

Even though the modern States are moving towards the ideal of the welfare state, the self-chosen task or mission of the social worker in Asia has become, if anything, more challenging and more sophisticated. I would like, therefore, to congratulate the organisers of this meeting for including a challenging item as the very first topic for discussion for this regional conference. In the situation in which we find today, and which is taking shape before our eyes every day, it is indeed essential that social workers should identify main challenges in social welfare in changing Asia, and by concentrated application make maximum contribution in the most vulnerable areas.

Even thirty years back, it might have been accepted that social workers, like managers, were born. But today, when social work needs multi-disciplinary approach, one cannot accept that proposition. The first challenge of the Asian situation today is, therefore, the challenge of training of the social workers, challenge of equipping them to undertake scientific study, observation and identification of social problems.

The functions or areas in which social welfare measures may be desirable may be identified as the examination of social problems on the basis of direct observation and case studies, measures to improve conditions of work and life of broad categories of young and adult workers, assistance to young people from rural areas in vocational adjustment as part of vocational guidance services, helping in the rehabilitation of the disabled, provision of social services and voluntary workers in areas which lack basic facilities, services for assisting women workers with home responsibilities, recreational and cultural facilities for a better utilisation of leisure time by workers, facilities and services required to complement workers, housing schemes, social assistance to workers and protecting them against certain contingencies, supporting action concerning the development of appropriate labour relations systems and institutions, inclusion of social welfare components in integrated programmes for the raising of the levels of living of rural, indigenous and tribal populations, and so on.

I have given an idea of the areas which are allied to matters of concern to the I.L.O. However, I would like to identify two areas which pose a challenge for the social workers in Asia. These are : assistance that needs to be provided for vocational training and guidance to rural youth and the under–privileged youth in urban areas, which is tied up with the problem of delinquency among teenagers, and the vocational rehabilitation of the handicapped and the disabled. I need not spell out the latter to this group of distinguished social workers. The I.L.O. has provided assistance in this field during the last decade to Burma, Ceylon, India Indonesia, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand and the Republic of Vietnam. Through these projects the I.L.O. has tried to show that the disabled need not be a burden on the community and that in most cases, thanks to modern rehabilitation techniques, the earning power and human dignity can be restored to the afflicted. This is a problem of great interest in many countries in the process of development. But whatever the Governments or the international agencies may do will not be enough in the face of the vast problems of rehabilitation and placement of those who are retarded mentally, handicapped physically or disabled through industrial accidents. It is in this area, among others, that the social workers of Asia can make valuable contributions.

Thank you, Mr, President.

STATEMENT BY ECAFE REPRESENTATIVE

Mr. Chairman and distinguished participants,

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to say a few words on behalf of ECAFE.

I just would like, very briefly, to join my colleague from ILO who spoke yesterday, to extend to this august audience greetings from the Executive Secretary of ECAFE and from Miss Moses, Chief, Social Development Division, and best wishes for the success of this Conference. Miss Moses would have very much liked to be present herself but unfortunately she had to go away for a mission to Nepal.

As you know, Mr. Chairman, ECAFE is very much interested in this meeting, considering the theme of the conference, "Action Programmes of Social Work Organizations in Meeting Present and Emerging Social Welfare Problems in Changing Asia," which is in fact also the core of the work programme of ECAFE in the field of social development. We have therefore not hesitated to take active part in the work of the local organizing committee in undertaking preparations for this important meeting, in a technical as well as substantive sense.

We have just heard an excellent presentation made by Mr. Miyano on a critical analysis of current action programmes in social welfare in our region, with special reference to Japan. With your permission, Mr. Chairman, Sir, I just would like to touch upon one aspect of action programmes, which has been mentioned frequently both yesterday and today, namely, international assistance in social welfare operating in our region, including that provided by the United Nations and ECAFE.

Mr. Chairman, in this connexion I would like to point out that ECAFE strongly believes that the primary purpose of any type of international assistance, be it multilateral as in the case of UN or ECAFE programmes, or bilateral between countries or non-governmental in nature, is the development of professional leadership and available resources, to enable the countries to continue to work on their own initiative and using their own resources, when the time is ripe for international assistance to be withdrawn. We believe it is not correct for international programmes to take over full responsibility over a long period of time, without sufficient attention to preparing local counterparts for taking over responsibilities when the time is ripe and thus making the country too much dependent on outside assistance and kill national and local initiative. I think it should be very useful for this meeting to suggest appropriate ways and means in utilizing and coordinating the various international assistance in social welfare, which are being made available in substantial quantities to many countries in our region. I believe that professional association of social workers can play an important role in this.

In the past ECAFE has organized the following meetings to emphasize the importance of training and employment of welfare personnel and for improving the standards of training in the region:

1) A Seminar on Training for Family and Child Welfare in 1962.

2) An Expert Working Group on the Development of Indigenous Teaching Material for Social Work (1964)

3) A Regional Training Centre for Social Work Educators and Field Work Supervisors (1966)

ECAFE assisted in conducting national workshops on professional education in social work and community development in Hong Kong, China (Taiwan), Korea and Thailand. I may mention here also that ECAFE in co-operating closely with UNICEF in the majority of the countries in the region in assisting Governments to improve the standards of their welfare services through training programmes designed to improve the professional and technical skill of workers who are already employed.

As a next step, Mr. Chaisman, Sir, and in line with our primary emphasis in assisting Governments in the region in developing professional leadership and training of the manpower needed for action programmes in social welfare, we are planning to have a seminar in January next year here in Bangkok, on a theme which is closely related to the theme of the present Conference, namely on the relationship of social work education to developmental needs and problems in the ECAFE region, towhich social work educators, social welfare administrators and planners will be invited to participate.

Another field of action programme for which ECAFE is making advisory services to Governments available, is the field of social planning and development. One important aspect of ECAFE's advisory missions is to impart a development orientation to social welfare, a question which is, I am sure, also of concern at this Conference. This year, Thailand and Iran have availed themselves of this advisory services and similar requests have also been received from Korea, Philippines and China (Taiwan).

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to stress that ECAFE very much appreciates the valuable work that is being done by the NGO's like the IFSW in pursuit of the common cause of the development and welfare of the people.

THEME

ACTION PROGRAMMES OF SOCIAL WORK ORGANIZATIONS
IN MEETING PRESENT AND EMERGING SOCIAL WELFARE
PROBLEMS IN CHANGING ASIA

The theme is divided into three topics for the purpose
of facilitating discussions during the Conference, namely:

Topic 1. Main Challenges in Social Welfare in Changing Asia

Topic 2. A Critical Analysis of Current Action Programmes in Social Welfare

Topic 3. The Role of the Professional Social Work Organizations in Social Action

Topic 1. Main Challenges in Social Welfare in Changing Asia

1. Identification and description (with supporting data) of major social problems of urgent significance as considered by each country.

2. Specification of the determinants of identification of these problems. Specifically.

    a) How and by what process and what determinant factors were considered arriving of the social welfare problems of urgent significance. For example: cultural, economic, political, philosophical, ethnic, local–regional factors, historical, and or other relevant characteristics.

    b) What agencies, authorities and interested groups, etc. are associated with this process and in what manner?

3. Summary of the Major Social Welfare Problems in Changing Asia as Seen by Participants.

Topic 2. A Critical Analysis of Current Action Programmes in Social Welfare

1. A critical analysis of what each participating country has done and is doing to solve the particular social welfare problems it has identified and described in Topic 1. (This presentation ideally should be given as a case study, and analyzed in terms of the positive and negative features of its solution.)

Topic 3. The Role of the Professional Social Work Organizations in Social Action

1. Status of social welfare and social work development, rosources, and organization for collective social action in various countries.

2. The role of: 1) the profession of social work, and 2) associations of social workers in promoting social action, social work practice and education in changing Asia.

3. How to strengthen the prevailing social work organizations in the Region in their respective roles.

AGENDA

November 6, 1967

    8.30 a.m.   Registration

    9.15 a.m.   Guests, Delegates, Observers, Press seated in Conference Auditorium

    9.30 a.m.   Opening Ceremony

                       Introduction of the IFSW's President by Mr. Pakorn Angsusingha

                       Address by Miss Litsa Alexandraki President IFSW

                       Address by Mr. Pakorn Angsusingha

                       Chairman, Local Organizing Committee

                       Dean, Social Administration Faculty, Thammasat University

                       Under Secretary of State for National Development

                       Address by His Royal Highness Krommun Narathip Bongsprabandh

                       Vote of thanks by Miss Teresita L. Silva, President

                       Philippine Association of Social Workers

   10.15 a.m.   Leave for Chitrladda Palace

   11.00 a.m.   Audience with Their Majesties the King and Queen

    2.00 p.m.   **Plenary Session**

                       Election of Chairman, two Vice Chairmen, General Rapporteur

                       Mr. Pakorn Angsusingha Presiding

                       The elected Chairman Presides

                       Approval of Conference Agenda

                       Appoinment of Drafting Committee

    2.15 p.m.   Conference Orientation—Mr. Nelson C. Jackson, Secretary—General IFSW

    2.25 p.m.   **Current Trends in Social Welfare in Changing Asia**

                       Mr. M.C. Nanavatty

                       Vice President for Asia (Introduction of Conference Theme)

    2.45 p.m.   **Plenary Session**

                       Introduction of Topic I

                       Main Challenges in Social Welfare in Changing Asia

                       Miss Teresita L. Silva, President

                       Philippine Association of Social Workers

    3.30 p.m.   Recess

    3.45 p.m.   Group discussion Topic I

                       Election of Group Chairmen

Convenors		**Rapporteurs**

Convenors

Miss Litsa Alexandraki–IFSW

Mr. Nelson C. Jackson

Mr. M.C. Nanavatty

    5.00 p.m.   Adjournment

    6.30 p.m.   Reception

Rapporteurs

(subject to acceptance)

Mrs. Nava Arad–Israel

Mr. Cheng Siew Hon–Singapore

Mr. Colin Clague–Australia

November 7, 1967

    9.30 a.m.   Continuation of Group Discussion Topic I

   11.00 a.m.   **Plenary Session**

                      Conference Chairman – Presiding

                      Introduction of Topic II

                      A Critical Analysis of Current Action Programmes in Social Welfare

                      Mr. Seiho Miyano, Board Member

                      Japan Association of Social Workers

   11.45 a.m.   Recess

    2.00 p.m.   Group discussion Topic II

                      Election of Group Chairmen

Convenors   **Rapporteurs**

Mr. Thomas Chun – Yon Lee – Hong Kong

Miss Rona Frame – New Zealand

Mr. P. Balasubramanian – Singapore

    3.30 p.m.   Recess

    3.45 p.m.   Continuation of discussion Topic II

    5.00 p.m.   Adjournment

November 8, 1967

    9.30 a.m.   **Plenary Session**

                      Conference Chairman Presiding

                      Introduction of Topic III

                      The Role of the Professional Social Work Organizations in Social Action

                      Mr. E. Hamilton–Smith, President

                      The Australian Association of Social Workers

   10.15 a.m.   Recess

   10.30 a.m.   Group Discussion Topic III

                      Election of Group Chairmen

| Convenors | Rapporteurs |

Khunying Suparb Visessurakarn – Thailand

Mr. Huynh – Thanh – Hung – Vietnam

Dr. Moshe Arie Kurtz – Israel

2.00 p.m.	Continuation of Group Discussion Topic III
3.30 p.m.	Recess
3.45 p.m.	Review of Conference Discussion
5.00 p.m.	Adjournment
7.00 p.m.	Fellowship Night

November 9, 1967

9.00 a.m. – 2.00 p.m.	Field trips
10.00 a.m.	Drafting Committee Meeting at the Conference Room of the Department of Public Welfare
7.00 p.m.	Farewell Dinner

November 10, 1967

10.00 a.m.	**Plenary Session**
	Conference Chairman Presiding
	Report on the Discussion Groups by General Rapporteur, Mrs. Renu Jotidilok
11.00 a.m.	Discussion of Future Roles for Asian Associations
2.30 a.m,	**Plenary Session**
	Report on IFSW Executive Committee Meeting by Secretary – General of IFSW, Mr. Nelson C. Jackson
2.45 p.m.	Address by President IFSW, Miss Litsa Alexandraki
3.00 p.m.	Vote of thanks by Mr. Kim Un Cho, Pusan Social Workers Association
3.15 p.m.	Closing Address by Mr. Suwan Ruenyote President of Social Workers Association of Thailand
3.30 p.m.	Adjournment
4.00 p.m.	High Tea

Members of the I.F.S.W. Executive Committee
Attending the Conference

_____

Persons in Attendance:

Miss Litsa Alexandraki, President

Mr. Nelson C. Jackson, Secretary General

Mr. Meher C. Nanavatty, Vice President, Asia

Miss Maria Teresa Gnecco, Vice President, Latin America

Miss Kaethe Rawiel, Germany

Miss Rona Frame for Rev. Fr. L.V. Downey, MBE, New Zealand

Mrs. Renu Jotidilok, Thailand

Mrs. Rosli Stahel for Mrs. Catherine Churard, Switzerland

Mr. P. Balasubramanian for Mr. Pung Eng Huatt, Singapore

Mr. Cheng Siew Hon, Alternate

Absent: Mr. M. Bruce McKenzie, Treasurer

Mll. A. de Laage, Vice President for Europe

Mr. M. Cocchi, Italy

Mrs. Eva Gredal, Denmark

Miss Liisa Hakola, Finland

Mr. Hugh Sanders, United Kingdom

_____

Members of the Local Organizing Committee

Chairman	Mr. Pakorn Angsusingha
Vice Chairman	Mr. Suwan Ruenyote
Executive Coordinator and Programme	Mrs. Renu Jotidilok
Evaluation, Resolution and Report	Khunying Suparb Visessurakarn
	Mr. Nikom Chandravithun
Arrangement	Miss Nuannard Amatayakul
Publicity	Mr. Prasong Hongsanand
	Mr. Phrot Phuttinan
Hospitality	Mr. Chamnien Kantasewe
Accommodation	Mr. Wattana Nualsuwan
Finance	Mr. Boonchanaichol Mahaniranond
Secretariat	Mr. Sayom Ratanavichit
Members	Mrs. Sakarnta Tamthai
	Mrs. Arun Bhruksasri
	Mr. Sompong Piamsilpa
	Miss Siriporn Moolasatra
	Mrs. Wannee Cheunsomchit
	Miss Nantanee Jayasuta
	Mr. Boonchua Thinnakorn
Consultants	Miss Dorothy Moses
	Mr. Victor J. Baltazar
	Miss Frances Yasas
	Mr. P.D. Kulkarni
	Mr. I.P. Kamayana
	Mrs. Usha Narayanan

NAMES OF DELEGATES

COUNTRY	NAME	ORGANIZATION
Australia	Mr. E. Hamilton–Smith	Australian Association of Social Workers
	Mr. Colin Clague	Australian Association of Social Workers
Hong Kong	Mr. Thomas Chun–Yon Lee	Hong Kong Social Welfare Department
	Miss Susan A. Dinklage	Hong Kong Social Work Association
India	Mr. I.E. Soares	The Indian Association of Trained Social Workers
	Mrs. Usha Narayanan	– do –
Israel	Dr. Moshe Arie Kurtz	Social Welfare Ministry
	Mrs. Nava Arad	Israel National Association of Social Workers.
Japan	Mr. Seiho Miyano	Japanese Association of Social Workers
	Mr. Kiyoichi Okasaki	Japanese Association of Social Workers
Korea	Mr. Kim Un Cho	Pusan Social Workers Association
New Zealand	Miss Bertha Zurcher	New Zealand Association of Social Workers
	Miss Rona Frame	New Zealand Association of Social Workers
	Miss Mary Bush	Child Welfare Department
Philippines	Miss Teresita L. Silva	Philippine Association of Social Workers
	Mrs. Josefina D. Pineda	Philippine Association of Social Workers
Singapore	Mr. P. Balasubramanian	The Association of Professional Social Workers of Singapore
	Mr. Cheng Siew Hon	The Association of Professional Social Workers of Singapore

73

COUNTRY	NAME	ORGANIZATION
Thailand	Mr. Suwan Ruenyote	Chief Delegate
	Mr. Nirut Chaikool	Department of Public Welfare
	Mrs. Renu Jotidilok	Department of Public Welfare
	Mr. Sayom Ratanawichit	Department of Public Welfare
	Miss Nuannard Amatayakul	Faculty of Social Administration, Thammasat University
	Miss Nantanee Jayasuta	Faculty of Social Administration, Thammasat University
	Khunying Suparb Visessurakarn	National Council of Social Welfare of Thailand
	Mr. Nikom Chandravithun	National Council of Social Welfare of Thailand
	Mr. Chamnien Kantasewe	Social Workers Association of Thailand
	Mr. Sompong Piamsilpa	Social Workers Association of Thailand
Vietnam	Mr. Huynh–Thanh–Hung	Chief Delegate, Social Welfare Ministry
	Miss Nguyen Thi Tu	Social Welfare Ministry
	Miss Mac Thi Gam	Social Welfare Ministry
	Mr. Tran Van Liem	Vietnamese Council of Social Service
	Mr. Phan Van Nhan	Vietnamese Council of Social Service

UN. AGENCIES AND EMBASSY

Mr. Victor J. Baltazar	UN. Advisor
Mr. N.N. Kaul	I.L.O.
Mr. I Gde Putra Kamayana	ECAFE
Mr. P.D. Kulkarni	ECAFE
Mr. P.K. Ghosh	UNICEF
Dr. J.J. Alcocer	WHO
Mr. Albert Walter Stahel	UNDP Vietnam
U Hla Yi	Embassy of the Union of Burma
Mr. Hofing-Jen	Embassy of the Republic of China

OBSERVERS

Miss Somnuck Rodprasert	Ministry of Education
Mr. Chamgad Ruensiri	Department of Corrections
Mrs. Chariya Khandhawit	Department of Labour
Mr. Saneh Vadanathorn	Department of Community Development
Mr. Adul Sukakul	The Central Juvenile Court
Miss Laddavalaya Kwansong	Srithunya Hospital, Ministry of Public Health
Mr. Natchai Tantisuk	Maternal and Child Health Centre
Sub Lt. Pakorn Kongtong	Juvenile Aid Sub-Division, Police Department
Miss Lavan Valyasevi	National Youth Bureau
M.L. Chintana Navawongs	Mental Health Association of Thailand
Dr. Krasae Vajarapana	The National Council of Women of Thailand
Mrs. Chandhanee Santaputra	The National Council of Women of Thailand
Mrs. Wimolphan Naranong	Thai Women's Culture Club
Mr. Murray E. Faulkner	Y.M.C.A.
Mrs. Boonchuan Hongsakrai	Y.W.C.A.
Mrs. Charles Stockman	Y.W.C.A.