

Report on the CICRED General Assembly

IUSSP Conference

Tours, 20 July 2005

7 pm—8:30 pm

The General Assembly of CICRED Council was held on 20th July 2005 from 7 to 8.30 pm at Tours, France. An unusually large number of centres were represented at the General Assembly (see list below).

Presentations were made in English, but the discussions were held in French as well. Detailed reports for the Assembly prepared by the Chair and by the Executive Director are available on the CICRED's website.

Presentation by the Chair of the Council

The proceeding of the Assembly started with the introductory remarks by Prof. Gavin Jones, Chair of the Council. Prof. Jones introduced the purpose of the General Assembly and reviewed activities of the Council during the past four years. He also described the mission and future plans of the CICRED Council for better ties among its different research centres spread in Europe, Asia, Africa, North America and Latin America. Emphasis was laid on the collaborative research and on improving better collaboration among the CICRED Centres.

Presentation by the Executive Director of activities in 2001-2005

The Executive Director of the CICRED Council, Christophe Z. Guilmoto, took charge of the floor and initiated his presentation by welcoming the members. He gave an exhaustive picture of the structure and functioning of CICRED with historical perspectives on its activities during the last five years along with aims and objectives for the formation of CICRED. The main objective behind the creation of CICRED was to foster the development of cooperation among the National Demographic Institutes. Besides, the organization aims to establish linkage between National Research Centres and International Organizations namely, United Nations Population Division, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), World Health Organization (WHO) and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

Further the Executive Director reported that CICRED has presently a Governing Council presently Chaired by Prof. Gavin Jones. He gave a list of the member Centres spread in different countries viz., Germany, Canada, Brazil, Egypt, Morocco, South Africa and India. Besides IUSSP, UNFPA and United Nations Population Division are functioning as its ex-officio members.

The Executive Director reported that during the period 2001-05 CICRED was engaged in the following activities:

- a) Seminars
- b) Research Programmes
- c) Publications
- d) Monitoring of Centres and Research Programmes
- e) Capacity Building

CICRED organized seminars on the themes related to present needs and MDGs mentioned below:

- a) Reproductive Health and Poverty
- b) HIV/AIDS and Spatial Mobility
- c) Age Distribution
- d) Poverty and Mortality
- e) Female deficit in Asia

Most of these seminars were funded by UNFPA.

Further in his presentation the Executive Director discussed about the publications of CICRED, given as under:

- a) CICRED news letter
- b) On line publication
- c) Review of Population Reviews (discontinued)
- d) Revision of Population Thesaurus (interrupted)

In addition to above the other important functions of CICRED are:

- a) to monitor Population and Demographic Centres around the World.
- b) extend its help and cooperation in capacity building of the member Centres.
- c) explore the CICRED database and Website.
- d) census of Research Centres affiliated to CICRED.

His presentation also covered future development plans and accounts, source of income during 2000-05, presentation of the current activities of the organization mentioned below:

1. Seminars
2. Publications
3. PRIPODE Research Programmes
4. General Assembly and Council Elections
5. Pilot web based survey's on needs and capacity
6. Creation of new CICRED website

More detailed information on these activities is available in the activity report posted on the website.

Vote of approval

Before moving to CICRED's current and future projects, the Chair requested approval from the floor of the report by the Executive Director of the past activities and accounts of CICRED. The regular vote of approval of an organization's report and accounts is a central feature of organizations registered in France.

The report on activities and accounts for 2001-2005 was unanimously approved by the Assembly.

Presentation by the Executive Director of recent and forthcoming activities

The Executive Director discussed in detail the on going research projects. He shared with the General Assembly the preliminary results of the survey conducted in May 2005 by CICRED on the needs and capacities of centres in different continents and proportion of the centres having access to e-mail facility. The detailed analysis of this survey will soon be available.

Further guiding principles and future development plans of CICRED were also presented.

- a) CICRED as a cooperative platform
- b) CICRED strategy linked to the achievements of current demographic objectives (ICPD, MDGs)
- c) Capacity building and institutional development as a central component of its action.
- d) Built in evaluation tools in CICRED's procedures.
- e) CICRED's development to be based on diversified funds.
- f) Information and communication technologies essential for CICRED's redeployment strategy.

It was reported that future development plans of CICRED would focus on the following activities:

- a) Seminars
- b) Research
- c) Publications
- d) Capacity building

Capacity building activities were discussed in greater detail as they may represent a central component of CICRED's future activities towards demographic centres.

Discussion

In response to the presentations of the Executive Director, some of the participants belonging to the member Centres posed questions and sought clarifications related to the functioning and activities of the CICRED Council and also expressed their views for strengthening ties among the member countries.

It was suggested that necessary help and cooperation may be made available for capacity building particularly of the weaker and relatively lesser-developed centres. In addition, the following remarks were made by the participants;

- Population associations working in different countries may be considered as part of CICRED.
- Dissemination of research finding may be done more widely to enable the concerned persons in formulation of Population Policy.

- For better global representation CICRED should involve other small Developing Countries as well.
- CICRED may provide help to the lesser advanced member Centres in their capacity building particularly in terms of improving their computer and Internet facilities. Need for short surveys and training was also suggested.

Excerpts of the debate:

- K. Nacro (UNFPA, New York) wondered about the impact of CICRED seminars through the participants (representative of research centres) when they returned back to their respective countries and about the forthcoming Policy Papers. She also observed that post-seminar follow-up activities may help to evaluate the impact of meetings. She also reminded the GA that the publication of these Policy papers was the initiative of the UNFPA. In his reply, the Director stressed the role of UNFPA for this new series and indicated that two new PP should be published before the end of 2005 (based on the seminars held in Bangkok and Trivandrum). Reports on post-seminar activities by participants were received and examined by CICRED, but this procedure may not yet be the ultimate solution to monitor the seminar's actual impact.
- M. Cosio (Paris X University) thanked the Director for CICRED's recent activities and new developments.
- A. Miranda (UN Population Division) suggested that CICRED find ways to better disseminate and promote the output of its activities and publications. The Director agreed with these comments and said this is being done now more effectively through our new website.
- V. Shkolnikov (Max Planck Institute, Rostock) asked the new Director about his assessment on the good and less good activities of CICRED so far. The Director answered that CICRED activities in the past were satisfactory in principle, but the structure and the procedures were in great need of modernization.
- I. Pool (Waikato University, New Zealand) had several observations regarding the CICRED seminars. He noted in particular that it was agreed that participants to the CICRED seminar on Population Waves would send a follow-up report after returning to their country. For example, participant from Indonesia used the result as a basis to examine the population policy implications and to plan the social and economic development, especially to increase the quality of future human resources.
- Jacques van Zuydam (National Population Unit, South Africa) observed that UNFPA provides the topic of research seminar and CICRED implements the seminar organization. PRIPODE programme does stimulate activities and promote an interdisciplinary approach. In this regard, how did CICRED identified the participant countries for its PRIPODE programme on population and environment? Why select Paris for the concluding Conference? The Director replied by observing that each funding agency has specific demands and in case of PRIPODE, our partner is the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs that has its own

requirements, including the request that projects be selected from a list of underprivileged countries (Africa, and various countries in Asia, Middle East and the Caribbean).

- J. Véron (INED, France) wanted to know the difference between training and capacity building. The Director answered that training was an essential ingredient of capacity building and would be part of capacity building sessions.
- I. Badurashvili (Georgian Centre of Population Studies) thanked CICRED for inviting her to the meeting in Bangkok and expressed her hopes that CICRED will continue its collaboration with transitional countries (newly independent States).
- M. Karim (Aga Khan University, Pakistan) stressed the need for regional networking across demographic centres.
- H.C. Srivastava (IIPS, India) shared three points with the participants of the GA.: the importance of networking to gain efficiency, the need for support to weak centres (sometimes without even a computer) and the local socio-cultural constraints and needs.
- A. Pandey (ICMR, India) reminded the Assembly that national population associations can be instrumental in this respect.
- Aris Ananta (ISEAS, Singapore) made several observations on capacity building perspectives in the developing countries. In Indonesia for instance, computers are still very expensive and access to internet is also expensive. Moreover, doing research in demographic centres requires not only the researcher but also support from the boss to allow researchers to directly participate and to implement the ongoing research.
- Armindo Miranda stressed CICRED's importance as a unique network of centres. It knows better about the centres' local needs and should be able to identify local structures of adequate size to respond to capacity building needs. CICRED may for instance help the centres by organising training sessions to help them to better share their activities and findings with the media. Its potential for institutional development is important. CICRED can notably do what nobody else does: help to update skills, to identify donors and grant opportunities, to facilitate dissemination of results etc. Moreover, it may also be able to identify and promote the "best practices" and share "sunshine stories" of institutional development.

End of the meeting

The meeting ended at 8 45 pm with a vote of thanks proposed by Prof. Gavin Jones, Chair of the CICRED Council.

Report prepared by CICRED with notes taken by Prof. Srivastava (IIPS, Mumbai).

List of representatives of the Centres present at the meeting (not exhaustive)

	Country	Name & Centre
1.	Argentina	Elsa López, Instituto de Investigaciones Gino Germani, Facultad de Ciencias Sociales, Universidad de Buenos Aires
2.	Australia	Peter McDonald, Head, Demography and Sociology Program, RSSH, The Australian National University, Canberra
3.	Belgique	Dominique Tabutin, Institut de démographie, Université catholique de Louvain, 1, place Montesquieu, boîte 17, B-1348 Louvain-La-Neuve
4.	Belgique	Lois Lohlé-Tart, Association pour le Développement de la Recherche Appliquée en Sciences Sociales (ADRASS)
5.	Belgique	Wilma Goppel, UNFPA
6.	Bolivia	Rose Mary Salazar, Centros de Estudios de Población (CEP), Cochabamba
7.	Bolivia	Sandra Garfias, Consejo de Población para el Desarrollo Sostenible (CODEPO)
8.	Brazil	José Eustaquio Diniz Alves, Escola Nacional de Ciências Estatísticas (ENCE), Rua André Cavalcante, 106, Rio de Janeiro
9.	Brazil	Jose Alberto Magno de Carvalho, Centro de Desenvolvimento e Planejamento Regional (Cedeplar)
10.	Brazil	Laura Rodriguez Wong, Centro de Desenvolvimento e Planejamento Regional (Cedeplar)
11.	Brazil	Pery Teixeira, Universidade Federal do Amazonas (UFAM)
12.	Brazil	Elsa Berquó, Centro Brasileiro de Análise e Planejamento (CEBRAP)
13.	Brazil	Georges Martine, Brasilia
14.	Brazil	Maria Coleta Oliveira, Nucleo de Estudos de Populacao (NEPO), UNICAMP
15.	Brazil	Suzana Marta Cavenaghi, Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística (IBGE)
16.	Burkina Faso	Dieudonné Ouedraogo, Unité d'Enseignement et de Recherche en Démographie (JERD)
17.	Cameroon	Eliwo Akoto, Institut de Formation et de Recherche Démographiques (IFORD)
18.	Cameroon	Evina Akam, Institut de Formation et de Recherche Démographiques (IFORD)
19.	Canada	Roderic Beaujot, Population Studies Centre, University of Western Ontario
20.	Canada	Normand Thibault, Institut de la Statistique, Québec
21.	Columbia	Nubia Janeth Ruiz, Centro de investigaciones sobre dinamica social (CIDS)
22.	Côte d'Ivoire	Koffi N'Guessan, l'Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Statistique et d'Economie Appliquée (ENSEA), Abidjan
23.	Cuba	Esther María León Díaz, Universidad de La Habana
24.	Cuba	Sonia Isabel Catusus, Universidad de la Habana
25.	Cuba	Gilberto Javier Cabrera, Universidad de la Habana
26.	Cuba	Luisa Alvarez Vazquez, Instituto Nacional de Endocrinología
27.	France	Maryse Gaimard, Département de démographie, Université Victor Segalen Bordeaux 2, 33076 Bordeaux cedex
28.	France	Maria Eugenia Cosio, Centre de recherche Populations et sociétés (CERPOS)
29.	France	Patrick Gubry, Institut de recherche pour le développement (IRD)
30.	France	Françoise Gubry, Centre Population et développement (Ceped)
31.	France	Jacques Veron, Institut National d'Etudes Démographiques (INED)
32.	France	J.P. Sardon, Observatoire Démographique Européen (ODE)
33.	France	Pierre Cantrelle, Institut de recherche pour le développement (IRD)
34.	Georgia	Irina Badurashvili, Director of Georgian Centre of Population Research
35.	Germany	Vladimir Shkolnikov, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, Rostock
36.	India	Dilip C. Nath, Department of Statistics, Gauhati University, Guwahati 781 014, Assam
37.	India	Audinarayana, N., Department of Population Studies, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore - 641 046
38.	India	P.K. Bhargava, Population Research Center, Dharwad, Karnataka

39.	India	H.C.Srivastava, Professor and Head, Department of Development Studies, International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai-400088
40.	India	Pranati Datta, Population Studies Unit, Social Sciences Division, Indian Statistical Institute
41.	India	Pasanta Majumdar, Population Studies Unit, Social Sciences Division, Indian Statistical Institute, 203,B.T. Road, Kolkata - 700 108
42.	India	U.V. Somayajulu, TNS
43.	India	S.I. Rajan, Centre for Development Studies (CDS), Trivandrum
44.	India	Sabu Alujar, Centre for Development Studies (CDS), Trivandrum
45.	India	Arvind Pandey, Institute for Research in Medical Statistics, New Delhi
46.	India	B.S. Mipun, Department of Geography, North Eastern Hill University, Shillong 793 022
47.	India	Debendra Kumar Nayak, Department of Geography, North Eastern Hill University, Shillong 793 022
48.	Indonesia	Aris Ananta, The Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), Singapore
49.	Indonesia	Evi Nurvidya Arifin, The Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), Singapore
50.	Italy	Graziella Caselli, University of Rome 'La Sapienza', Department of Demography, Via Nomentana 41, 00161 Roma
51.	Japan	Toru Suzuki, Senior Researcher at Dept of International Research and Cooperation, Tokyo, Japan
52.	Japan	Hiroshi Kojima, National Institute of Population and Social Security Research, Tokyo
53.	Latvia	Peteris Zvidrins, Director, Centre of Demography, University of Latvia
54.	México	Yolanda Oliva Peña, Centre de recherches régionales Dr Hideyo Niguchi de l'Université Autonome du Yucatan
55.	México	Susana Lerner, El Colegio de Mexico
56.	México	Cecilia Gayet, Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO)
57.	New Zealand	Mansoor Khawaja, Statistics New Zealand
58.	New Zealand	Ian Pool, University of Waikato, Hamilton
59.	Nigeria	Aderanti Adepaju, Human Resources Development Center (HRDC), Lagos
60.	Philippines	Alan Feranil, OPS, University of San Carlos, Cebu City
61.	Philippines	Nimfa B. Ogena, UP Population Institute, Center for Women
62.	Puerto Rico	Ana Luisa Davila, Graduate School of Public Health, University of Puerto Rico
63.	Republic of South Africa	Jacques van Zuydam, Chief Director: Population & Development, Department of Social Development, Private Bag X901, Pretoria
64.	Romania	Cornelia Muresan, "Babes-Bolyai" University, Faculty of Sociology and Social Work, B-dul 21 Decembrie 1989 nr. 128, 400604 Cluj-Napoca
65.	Russia	Vladimir Melnikov, Siberian Independent Institute, Novosibirsk
66.	Spain	Joaquin Recano, Centre d'Estudis Demogràfics (CED) - Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
67.	Spain	Andreu Domingo, Centre d'Estudis Demogràfics (CED) - Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
68.	Spain	Albert Esteve, Centre d'Estudis Demogràfics (CED) - Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
69.	Togo	Dodji K. GBETOGLLO, Unité de recherche démographique (URD), Université de Lomé, BP 12971, Lomé
70.	Togo	Da Silveira Anyélé, Université de Lomé
71.	Togo	Gbenyon Kuakuvi, Université de Lomé
72.	Trinidad and Tobago	P. Watson, University of the West Indies
73.	USA	Gordon F. De Jong, Population Research Institute, Pennsylvania State University
74.	USA	Armindo Miranda, Population Division/DESA, United Nations, New York, NY 10017
75.	USA	Kourtoum Nacro, UNFPA
76.	USA	François Farah, UNFPA
77.	Viet Nam	Nguyen Thi Thieng, PhD, Vice-Director, Population Center, National Economics University, 207, Giai phong road, Hai Ba Trung dis., Hanoi

Other representatives registered in advance for the meeting:

78.	Canada	Richard.Marcoux, Département de sociologie, Pavillon Charles-De Koninck, Université Laval
79.	Nigeria	Akinyemi Akanni Ibukun, Obafemi Awolowo University
80.	Australia	Farhat Yusuf, Professor and Head, Department of Business, Division of Economic and Financial Studies, Macquarie University, Sydney NSW 2109, Australia.
81.	Australia	Professor Graeme Hugo, Department of Geographical and Environmental Studies, The University of Adelaide
82.	Australia	Jack C. Caldwell, Health Transition Centre, National Centre for Epidemiology and Population Health, Australian National University, Canberra ACT 0200, Australia.
83.	Austria	Wolfgang Lutz, Leader, World Population Program, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, Schlossplatz 1, A-2361 Laxenburg, Austria
84.	Bangladesh	Abdul Hannan Shaikh, Damien Foundation
85.	Cameroon	Mbouyap Kamtcha Yves-Malin, Ministère du plan
86.	Chile	Dirk J. Jaspers Fajjer, Director, CELADE - Division de Población / Population Division, CEPAL / ECLAC, Casilla 179-D, Santiago, Chile
87.	Chile	Jorge Bravo, Comisión Económica para Latinoamérica y el Caribe
88.	Chile	Jose Miguel Guzman, Comisión Económica para Latinoamérica y el Caribe
89.	Costa Rica	Luis Rosero-Bixby, Director, Centro Centroamericano de Población (CCP), Universidad de Costa Rica, San Jose 2060, Costa Rica
90.	Egypt	Laila Nawar (Ph.D), Research Advisor, Cairo Demographic Center, 78 (St.No.4) Mokattam, Cairo
91.	France	François Héran, Institut National d'Etudes Démographiques (INED)
92.	Germany	Dr. Charlotte Höhn, Director, Federal Institute for Population Research, Bundesinstitut für Bevölkerungs-forschung beim Stat. Bundesamt, Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 4, 65185 Wiesbaden, Deutschland
93.	India	Mari Bath, Director, Department of Development Studies,, International Institute for Population Sciences,, Mumbai-400088, India
94.	Lebanon	Marwan Khawaja, American University of Beirut
95.	Pakistan	Mehtab S. Karim, Ph.D, Head, Population & Reproductive Health Program , The N. P. Sheriff Professor of Demography , Department of Community Health Sciences , The Aga Khan University , Karachi
96.	Tunisia	Rym Esseghairi, Office National de la Famille et de la Population (ONFP), Tunis
97.	U.K.	Bill Gould, Department of Geography, The University of Liverpool, Liverpool, Merseyside, UK, L69 3BX
98.	U.K.	Heather Joshi, Director, Centre for Longitudinal Studies, Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London WC1H 0AL
99.	USA	Eileen Crimmins, University of Southern California, USA
100.	USA	John R. Weeks, Ph.D., Professor of Geography and Director,, International Population Center, Department of Geography, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA 92182-4493 USA