

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS  
FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES ASSISTANTS SOCIAUX ET DES ASSISTANTES SOCIALES  
FEDERACION INTERNACIONAL DE TRABAJADORES SOCIALES

# NEWSLETTER

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Basle, May 1974

1. Personal Address

Dear colleagues, dear friends,

in two months time, we will meet in Nairobi. This Newsletter is dedicated nearly entirely to the coming events in Kenya.

But first of all, let me tell you about what happened here in the secretariat. There is now one and a half year since the activities of IFSW have been taken over here in Switzerland. There is a considerable increase of work to notice, not only in view of the coming meetings in Nairobi. Letters from all over the world, requests from social workers from far and near have to be answered. Due to good collaboration and the increasing will of co-operation and greater interest in IFSW, we are the more and more in a position to answer such letters and requests.

The secretariat was visited from several colleagues. We had the pleasure to welcome Mrs. Kiani, president of the Pakistan Association of Social Workers; Dutch, German and French colleagues have been here, and next week, we are expecting the visit of representatives from the Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation in Germany.

In the last months, all this was hard work for me. You may remember that in the last Newsletter sent out in October, I told you about the car accident in which I was involved in Poland while making more and closer contacts with responsables in the social field. Not enough with me being handicapped until the end of 1973, I had to be transported to hospital the first of January suffering from an extremely heavy hepatitis caught in Poland. In spite of 5 long weeks in hospital and even more weeks I needed to recover, I was able to fullfill the work in the secretariat. This was possible only with the help and extremely good collaboration of our secretary. However, if things were neglected or delays in answering letters, do know that this was due to my illness, and I would like to apologise and ask to excuse who ever had to wait.

Very sincerely yours,



(Mrs. C. Chuard, Secretary-General IFSW)

## 2. Regional Activities

### Africa

Not only in the field of IFSW, our African colleagues have been extremely active. This was also the case for Social Welfare and Social Education. The following three events did take place:

- IASSW - From December 3rd - 12th, 1973, the Association for Social Work Education in Africa held its 2nd Conference in Lomé, Togo. The first one had been held in Addis Abeba in March 1971, when the Association was officially inaugurated. The Lomé Conference was attended by 53 participants from 17 African countries: social work educators and practitioners from member schools of social work, ministers of community development and social welfare, and other organizations interested in social development. The theme of this Conference - Relationship between Social Work Education and National Social Development Planning - was found very relevant and challenging by both educators and practitioners.
- ICSW - The First All Africa Seminar was held in Lagos, Nigeria, December 8-15th, 1973 with the theme "Integrated Rural Development and Participation - The Role of Social Welfare Agencies". Participants from over twenty countries came from all parts of Africa. This unique event was sponsored by the Regional Office of ICSW with the help of the ICSW Committees of Germany and Canada and the French Government. The Nigerian National Committee hosted the Conference.
- IFSW - From February 25th - March 2nd, the first All African Seminar, organized by the Kenyan Association of Social Workers, took place in Nairobi. Mrs. Martha Menya, Vice-Chairman of IFSW for Africa carried the overall responsibility for this Conference. We only can congratulate her to the results. The proceedings will be published shortly. The seminar was sponsored by the Friedrich-Ebert-Foundation and has proved to be a great success. There were about 400 - 500 participants from Kenya and about 30 delegates from other African countries attending it; the final report will be forwarded to you directly by Mrs. Menya.

### South Africa

The former Co-ordinating Agency (including black, coloured and white social workers) seated at Umtata changed its name and address. Please note the following:

The Co-ordinating Council for the Professional  
Associations of Social Workers in South Africa  
Dr. (Mrs.) G. Heydorn  
Honorary Secretary  
P.O. Box 3639  
Cape Town / South Africa

### Asia

- It was planned that the Asian Region of IFSW would held a meeting in Jerusalem/ Israel, from July 1th - 4th, 1974. Unfortunately, this biennial event of IFSW had to be postponed. It is hoped to realize it at a later date.
- Asian Training and Research Center: Miss Teresita L. Silva, President of IFSW, attended in February 1974 an UN-Experts Workshop. A report will be available for the Permenent Council Meeting in Nairobi.
- A first Newsletter for the Asian Region has been published this month by our Vice-President for Asia, Mr. Hui. We are eager to hear your comments.
- A new social workers association was inaugurated the 3rd March 1974: The Malaysian Association of Professional Social Workers. Its mailing address is: Malaysian Association of Social Workers, c/o Social Work Unit, Hospital University, Kuala Lumpur, Selango, Malaysia.
- The Vietnamese Association of Social Workers informed of the establishment of a Research and Training Center for Social Development. To provide research and training services for its members and related agencies, the Association of social workers needs a separate organization and full-time personnel. Therefore, the Executive Committee's decision on the establishment of a Research and Training Center was announced at the Association's General Assembly in November 1973. In order to avoid duplication, this Center will aim at short refresher training courses for social work personnel who have received basic training and will be oriented toward development.

### Europe

- The planned meeting of the Presidents of European Member Associations of IFSW could not be realized. Due to various difficulties in the economical and political field, only a few countries were able and willing to send delegates to this foreseen meeting. The regional meetings which will take place during our Permanent Council Meeting in Nairobi may indicate whether - at a later date - an European meeting of IFSW Presidents is desirable or not.
- From March 25th - 28th, the 5th Planning Conference on the European Social Development Programme was held in Geneva. Mrs. Seld was representing the Federation, the report will be available for the Permanent Council Meeting.
- European Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (USA), Munich:  
The European Chapter of NASW is very much concerned with social welfare issues, with social services, delivery system and with the alleviation of conditions which cause people to have social welfare problems.  
A Symposium of this European Chapter was organized from April 4th - 6th in the Munich Hilton Hotel and presided over by Dr. Daniel Lanier, jr. President. Mr. Herbert G. Spivack, Consul General of the United States, did welcome the participants. The main themes of the Symposium were: "Education of Social Workers for interdisziplinary, interprofessional and international practice", "Racial awareness and problems of racism in the practice of social work", and there was a day-long seminar for brief therapy, communication and crisis

intervention. Dr. Heinrich Schiller, IFSW Executive Committee Member, represented our Federation. It is the first time IFSW attended a meeting of the European Chapter of IFSW which has at present 150 members and which is very active. We are looking forward to further collaboration with this organization.

#### Latin America

Projects to be examined by the Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation, Germany (in view of eventual financial support) were prepared by some member associations of Latin America and the Carribean Region. It is IFSW's strong wish to realize, in collaboration with this Foundation, projects which can strengthen the professional associations in this region.

#### North America

There was close collaboration between the NASW and our Vice-President for North America, Miss M.C. Jennings as well as with the representatives of IFSW at UN and UNICEF. Their reports, as. e.g. re: "UN commission on status of women" and "World Population Year" will be available for our Permanent Council Meeting.

### 3. Collaboration with other International Organizations

UN Expert Group on Social Welfare Policy and Planning: An Expert Group on Social Welfare Policy and Planning was convened at the United Nations headquarters, September 10-19, 1973, in response to a proposal adopted by the Commission for Social Development.

The group consisted of ten invited individuals from as many countries, observers from ICSW, IASSW and IFSW and three members of the UN Secretariat headed by Assistant Secretary-General for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, Mrs. Helvi Sipilä. IFSW was represented by Miss M.C. Jennings, Vice-President for North America.

The Experts were asked to examine the recommendations of the International Conference of Ministers Responsible for Social Welfare, held in 1968, and those adopted by four regional conferences of Ministers Responsible for Social Welfare: for Africa in Cairo 1967, for Asia in Manila in 1970, for the Arab States in Cairo in 1971, for Europe at The Hague in 1972. The corresponding report based on the work of the Expert Group will be available in 1974. The report is intended for wide professional use. The plans for this publication have been strongly influenced by the value of the Expert Group's contributions to "broadening the conceptual framework of the growing field of development social welfare".

The Expert Group, after reviewing the progress achieved in strengthening and expanding social welfare measures and re-orienting them towards the goals

of national development, recommended that a Second International Conference of Ministers Responsible for Social Welfare be held, if possible, in 1976 but not later than 1978 and that such global meetings be held every five years thereafter. It further recommended that regional conferences of ministers be held regularly every two or three years; and that the United Nations, in consultation with the Economic Commission for Latin America, give priority to convening a regional meeting in Latin America and that a high degree of priority also be given by the United Nations to convening a regional conference of African States, in consultation with the Economic Commission for Africa.

#### 4. Permanent Council Meeting (8 - 10th July) and Symposium (10 - 13th)

Our colleagues in Nairobi are preparing very carefully the Permanent Council Meeting and Symposium. In case you need detailed or additional information, please contact

The Symposium Organising Committee  
Miss O. Jeremitsky, Chief Conference Officer  
P.O. Box 49742

Nairobi / Kenya

Tel. 27 501, cable address KASWA

Miss Jeremitsky is assisted by Miss A. Abdi, Secretary. National reports and documents are translated and copied in Nairobi. Therefore, only a few papers relating to our Permanent Council Meeting will be sent out by the Secretary-General before the meeting.

All those who didn't yet send their application form are kindly requested to do it immediately to the above mentioned address. We hope to welcome a large number of social workers from all over the world in Nairobi.

Some information concerning the country may be useful to you:

Weather: Due to its close proximity to the Equator, Nairobi experiences no real weather extremes. July is a comparatively "cool" month with temperatures not higher than 25°C (70 F) day-time and rarely below 7-10°C (45 F) during the night. The altitude is 1.663 m (5452') above sea level, air conditioning is not required, but available in most of the leading hotels.

Clothing: Ladies should bring a light coat, cardigan or wrap for evening wear. Normal midweight suits are customary in Kenya. A light rain-proof for upcountry, and beach wear for the coast should be included on the packing list. Cotton or light fabric dresses (both long and short) are ideal for the Coast, with a cardigan or stole suitable in Nairobi after sunset. Slacks and jeans are popular and acceptable.

#### Health

Nairobi enjoys an excellent standard of health. The city's piped water is entirely safe. Visitors must have valid certificates of vaccination against smallpox. Depending on the country of origin Cholera inoculation may be required and this should be checked in advance.

General: Additional information on Medical Care, Meals, Currency etc. will be given to participants on arrival. Tourist Offices also carry valuable information on Kenya and the official agents include this detail in their Tour brochures.

Visa Requirements: These vary greatly depending on the nationality of the participant. Please check with your Embassy, Consulate, High Commission or airline long before departure.

Please note once more the dates of the different meetings:

IASSW	4th - 9th July (in Nairobi, it had to be transferred from Ethiopia to Kenya)
IFSW	8th - 13th July
ICSW	14th - 20th July.

## 5. Various

May I draw your attention to the review "International Social Work", the official quarterly journal of ICSW, IASSW and IFSW. This publication is concerned with social policy, social welfare programmes and services, social work education and practice, and research. It addresses itself to all those aware of the importance of being kept informed about significant developments in the field of social welfare all over the world. This journal is the only one which deals with all facets of international social welfare. It brings you timely articles about experience in many countries, reports of regional and international meetings, book reviews and many other matters of interest. It can be ordered from: ICSW, Room 1016, 345 East 46th Street, New York, N.Y. 10017, U.S.A., and costs for one year \$ 7.-- and for two years US-\$ 12.--.

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