'Expert' agrees: Cairo is about eugenics

by Torbjörn Jerlerup

On June 14-15, the German chapter of the World Population Foundation, together with the German Foundation for the United Nations and the German World Famine Aid organization, held public hearings in Bonn on the U.N. International Conference on Population and Development, scheduled for Cairo in September. Leading European politicians were set to speak at the hearings in favor of population control measures.

In addition to the Bonn event, the London branch of the World Population Foundation will sponsor a conference. The Swedish chapter of the World Population Foundation, founded one year ago, has already sponsored several conferences, one of which took place at the Swedish Parliament at the end of last year. This organization is very influential in the Swedish racist community of "population experts."

It is very difficult to find out anything about the World Population Foundation, because it operates under great secrecy. EIR contacted the Swedish branch of WPF, following a population conference that the Swedish government had sponsored at the end of March. Rigmor Allbaeck, who is on the board of Sweden's World Population Foundation, revealed that she thought the focus of the conference had been too much on "economics," although, in fact, there had been no discussion at all about economic development (see EIR, April 8, 1994, "How Swedish Race Hygienists Became the U.N.'s Top 'Population Experts' "). She also explained how disturbed she was over the fact that the LaRouche movement, which is mobilizing internationally to stop the Cairo conference, had demonstrated outside the WPF conference, and had later, in her words, "tried to take over the event."

A mecca for demographers

On May 10, *EIR* had the opportunity to gather more information about the foundation, when it organized a public forum in Stockholm, co-sponsored by the Swedish Institute for International Affairs. The featured speaker was Mayone Stycos, professor of demography and sociology at Cornell University in New York, who has previously worked as a "population expert" at the United Nations. Stycos spoke after a short introduction from the foundation's Maylie Anderson,

who explained that the World Population Foundation (founded seven years ago and based in the Netherlands) specializes in concrete "population projects." Stycos began his presentation by praising Sweden as a demographers' "mecca."

He emphasized the role of Gunnar and Alva Myrdal and their ideas about "social legislation." He also praised Sweden's 1958 Ceylon project, when the Swedish government became the first government in the world to give foreign aid to another country in the form of family planning.

He proceeded to detail his world view. He said that Europe already had its "population explosion" around the turn of the century, but the difference between then and the current "explosion" in the Third World, is that today there are many more people on the planet; therefore, he concluded, we need to take another approach. "If every Chinese had a refrigerator, it would be a disaster," he raved. Family planning is more important than economic development, he said.

He said that a "scientific and technological" revolution had taken place since the 1960s—a "contraceptive revolution"—and that China was the best example of this. The Chinese reduced the number of children per family from 6 to 3.5 in eight years, he crowed, adding, "If this had been a race, China would have won it." Stycos emphasized that the process must be speeded up even more. He again praised Sweden, which devotes 2% of its foreign aid from Sweden to so-called family planning. "The Nordic countries give the most per capita. Sweden gives \$4 per capita, the United States, \$1.40, and Japan, 51¢ per capita—but Norway gives most: \$12 per capita!"

'We're more efficient now'

In the question period, EIR asked if he would agree with the observation that Cairo '94 is a continuation of the 1932 Eugenics Conference at the New York Museum of Natural History, and that the whole population movement was founded by racist eugenicists such as Gunnar and Alva Myrdal. He was pleased with the question and expressed his full concurrence with the point. The eugenics movement did accomplish a lot of important things, he said, and added that it has developed further, thanks to "scientific and technological breakthroughs"—i.e., better contradeptives and sterilization techniques. "If you attend the 1994 Cairo conference, you will find that the focus is very much on eugenics," he concluded.

Stycos then answered a question from a follower of Malthus: The malthusian solution was to increase the death rate, he said, through disease and famine, but "there are more efficient ways now. . . . It is much more efficient to decrease the birth rates than to increase death rates."

The executive of the Institute of International Affairs, who chaired the conference, Christer Söderlund, later revealed that he himself is active in the World Population Foundation. (Söderlund also denounced *EIR*'s reporter as a "Nazi," because he was "nasty.")

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