



EXECUTIVE BOARD

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INDEXED

STUDY GROUP REPORT

The Director-General has the honour to communicate to the Executive Board in conformity with resolution EB17.R13,¹ operative paragraph 4, the attached report² of the following study group:

A Study Group on Health Education in Health Aspects of Family Planning was convened to help the Organization review some of the priority needs, objectives, and activities of health education in health aspects of family planning within the context of health services, and to suggest possible ways in which WHO might extend its assistance and contribution in this area. The Group also considered some of the needs and priorities for co-operative activities in health education with other relevant agencies and organizations engaged in various aspects of family planning.

The Report analyses the educational components that are fundamental to achieving the objectives of family planning services within the context of health programmes. The Report first describes the wide range of services on which family planning is dependent, the variety of educational needs related to voluntary decisions and actions by people, certain barriers to education, and the detailed objectives of education in the health aspects of family planning. Particular stress is laid on the integration of family planning with the basic health services, including particular reference to maternal and child health services.

Among the steps described to a systematic approach to education in the health aspects of family planning are the planning of curricula for a variety of educators and health workers and the education of community leaders, methods, materials, and teaching aids to be used by educators.

Attention is drawn to the need to co-ordinate the educational and informational efforts of a variety of national and international agencies contributing to programmes concerned with health and related aspects of population dynamics, family planning, and human reproduction. The Report also comments on the need for further studies and research on educational problems relevant to family planning services and contains a number of recommendations concerning ways of strengthening health education in health aspects of family planning.

¹ Handbook of Resolutions and Decisions, 11th ed., p. 166.

² Wld Hlth Org. techn. Rep. Ser., 1971, No. 483.