

**REPORT
of
BRASILIA
LATIN AMERICAN POPULATION CONFERENCE**

15-18 March 2001
BRASILIA, BRAZIL

805 Rotarians and guests visited Brasilia from 21 nations to discuss the challenges of population and development concerns as well as the transmission and control of HIV/AIDS.

Rotary International President Frank Devlyn, Vice Chairman of The Rotary Foundation and Past RI President Luis Giay, RI Director Hipolito Ferreira and Rotary Foundation Trustee Jose Alfredo Pretoni were joined by Deputy Executive Director Dr. Sethuriah Rao of the United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA) and a host of other Rotary and non-Rotary speakers from many Latin American nations plus England, Germany, Switzerland and the United States of America. The agenda with speakers is included at the end of this report.

Many unique topics were discussed from women's education to HIV/AIDS. A vast array of outstanding exhibits were present with examples of agencies with whom Rotarians can work. UNFPA provided a large exhibit with many information pieces that were so popular all were taken by interested parties before the weekend was completed.

Accomplishments never seen from Rotarians were examples of a video to be used by local television stations by an international tennis star from Argentina urging young men to be responsible in their sex lives and not spread diseases.

A program titled "Zero Adolescent Pregnancies" was available on computer discs, also from Argentina, which will be further updated in the future.

Rotaractors from around the world participated in the first ever "Virtual Conference" for Rotaract as over 600 messages were exchanged around the world.

HIV/AIDS was highlighted for the first time at an international Rotary conference by two discussion groups. Participants in the discussions came from Uganda, Costa Rica, Brazil and UNFPA's "Proposal for Action against HIV/AIDS" was developed during these sessions which will be sent to the Rotary International Board of Directors to be used as a guideline for Rotary clubs and districts as they develop programs against this deadly infectious disease.

A "Projects Fair" was held which received more than 55 projects to be distributed to clubs and districts around the world. It is noteworthy that already this Rotary year, more than 170 population and development projects have been matched soliciting funds from The Rotary Foundation.

The new CD-Rom supported, organized and developed by the Rotary Initiative for Population and Development and the Rotary Task Force for Population and Development was available for all to see. This outstanding resource giving tremendous information on population matters provides a Power Point presentation to be used for Rotary meetings and is available in Portuguese, Spanish, English, German, French and Japanese.

The enthusiasm of all Rotarians present is expressed in the "Declaration of Brasilia" which is a part of this report. The Brasilia Latin American Conference on Population and Development formally ended Sunday by a Mass in the Cathedral of Brasilia and a tree planting as a living tribute to the future families of the world.

Submitted by,
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