

IFA NEWS

IFA Receives UN Award

The International Federation on Ageing (IFA) has received one of the two testimonials for distinguished service in the field of aging and in support of the United Nations program on aging given by **Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali** in 1992. The second recipient is the International Association of Gerontology. The awards were announced during the special plenary sessions on aging held by the UN General Assembly on October 15-16, 1992.

IFA Membership Adopts New Vision for IFA

At its general membership meeting in India immediately preceding the global conference, IFA's member organizations adopted an expanded mission statement for the IFA commensurate with its vision for "*working together to advance the well-being and active involvement of all persons in an aging world.*" IFA's mission is "to become a well-recognized, highly credible, broadly based international forum for sharing information on policy, programs and services and for advocacy on behalf of aging persons all over the world."

Major goals include to:

- provide a worldwide forum for the exchange of information and experience among all organizations and individuals concerned with the well-being of aging persons;
- promote cooperation among international organizations;
- facilitate development of international policy on aging by involvement of older people and their representatives and to act as an advocate for and disseminator of the results, and
- foster development of strong local, national, regional and international organizations concerned with aging.

Julia T. de Alvarez Receives IFA Award

During its first global conference on aging held in Bombay and Pune, India, August 30-September 2, 1992, IFA honored **Ambassador Julia T. de Alvarez** for



her outstanding leadership in the field of aging by conferring upon her the IFA President's Award. Amb. Alvarez, who serves as the Alternate Representative of the Dominican Republic to the UN, has advanced the cause of aging within the UN for well over a decade.

Most recently, she was responsible for safely shepherding through the UN what became the UN Principles for Older Persons in 1991. These Principles are based on an International Declaration of Rights and Responsibilities developed first by the IFA. The Principles represent the first international human rights instrument for older persons and constitute the basis for all future work related to human rights for the elderly at the international level.

IFA's First Global Conference Held in India

IFA's first global conference on aging attracted some 400 practitioners, researchers, policy-makers and advocates for the elderly from 32 countries on five continents. The conference, meeting in Bombay and Pune, India, August 30-September 3, 1992, adopted as its theme "New Century, New Hopes, New Thinking About Aging Policies and Programs." Sub-themes included, economic security, health and allied services, caregiving, and new roles for the elderly. Thematic presentations were complemented by country reports from both developed and developing countries and discussion groups. Special plenary sessions were devoted to the IFA Declaration of Rights and

Responsibilities for Older Persons and the UN Principles for Older Persons, and to the 10th anniversary of the World Assembly on Aging.

Satellite meetings taking place in conjunction with the global conference included an expert group meeting on local policy development as a result of population aging in Asia and the Pacific held under the auspices of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and a meeting of representatives of Commonwealth countries with the President of the Commonwealth Foundation. The latter agreed on the establishment of a special interest group on aging amongst the Commonwealth countries. (A full conference report will appear in a later issue of *Ageing International*.)

IFA Headquarters Moving to Canada

At the start of 1993, IFA's headquarters will move from Washington, D.C. in the United States, where it has been housed for the past three years, to Montreal,

Canada, at the invitation of IFA member, One Voice. IFA's journal, *Ageing International*, however, will continue to be published from Washington, D.C., thanks to the support of another IFA member, the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP). IFA's new headquarters mailing address is: International Federation on Ageing, 380 St. Antoine St. W., Suite 3200, Montreal, Quebec H2Y 3X7, Canada. *Tel:* 514-987-8191, *Fax:* 514-987-1948.

Inquiries about *Ageing International* and other publications should continue to be addressed to: International Federation on Ageing, Publications Division, 601 E St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20049, U.S.A.

Posters of UN Principles Available from IFA

Posters of the UN Principles for Older Persons are now available in English, French and Spanish in limited quantities from the IFA. For your copy, please write: International Federation on Ageing, UN Poster, 601 E St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20049, U.S.A.

INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATIONS NEWLY AVAILABLE

The World Ageing Situation, 1991. This publication produced by the UN every six years focuses on policy formulation in aging for developing countries in areas such as employment and income security, family support, blindness with age and the problems of older women. Published by the UN Center for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, Vienna. *Write:* Aging Unit, UNOV/CSDHA, P.O. Box 500, A-1400 Vienna, Austria.

The United Nations World Population Monitoring, 1991. Focuses on the age structure of populations. Published by the Population Division, UN Department of Economic and Social Development, New York. (ST/ESA/SER.A/126). *Write:* UN Population Division, UN Secretariat, New York, NY 10017, USA.

Self-Care Guides for Healthy Aging, 1992. These form part of a continuing series of guides published for use by individuals and families and to assist professionals in counseling patients. Produced by the European Regional Office of the World Health Organization, Copenhagen. *Write:* WHO, European Regional Office, 8, Scherfigsvej, DK-1200, Copenhagen, Denmark.

Social Security Programs Throughout the World, 1991. Provides, concise descriptions of social security programs internationally. Produced by the Office of International Policy, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Social Security Administration, Washington, D.C. Stock No. 017-070-0054-7. Price: \$20. *Write:* Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402-9325, USA.

INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATIONS TO WATCH FOR

Special Issue on Population Ageing and the Situation of Elderly Persons, to be published in 1993 as a supplement to the 1991 **Demographic Yearbook**. Published by the Statistical Office, UN Department of Economic and Social Development, New York. *Write:* UN Statistical Office, UN Secretariat, New York, NY 10017, USA.

Population Ageing in Europe and North America, Parts I and II. These volumes will report on the research findings of a large study undertaken by the Population Activities Unit of the UN Economic Commission for Europe on the socio-economic implications of population aging in Europe and North America. *Write:* UN Economic Commission for Europe, Palais des Nations, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland.