DEMOGRAPHIC SITUATION AND PROSPECTS IN AFRICA

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This paper represents an attempt to analyse the available data on the population of Africa in an organised and intelligible fashion.

The present study discusses recent demographic trends in Africa and the outlook until the year 2000.

It is hoped that analyses of the size, rate of growth, components of growth and structure of the current population; its changes in the recent past and its future trends may assist in the understanding of the processes underlying demographic changes in Africa.

Population Data:

In common with most developing countries of the World, Africa had long been characterized by lack of the up-to-date and reliable data required for demographic research.(1) Basic problems of data collection in Affecting the quantity

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and quality of results are the high costs of enumeration, prevailing illiteracy and ignorance of reasons for censuses, the inadequacies of enumerators and the system of enumeration, insufficient and inaccurate enumeration area maps, lack of vital registration, problems of communication of all sorts, fear and suspicion of enumeration, and also political intrigue.(2)

Countries have been stimulated to enumeration by the United Nations, by independence, by improvements in the methods of collecting data, and by the need to discover the relationships between population growth and economic growth.

In recent years a number of analytical techniques have been divised to overcome the deficiencies of data, so that reasonable, estimates of vital rates may be obtained for the study of population dynamics. Population models are used, which are mathematical constructions of demographic processes relying on certain characteristics in human behaviour, and data are corrected with reference to the models. Using inferior age data, methods have also been devised to ascertain fertility on the assumption

that age compositions are not very sensitive to changes in mortality; this quasi-stable population theory has been used to derive demographic measures from very broad age distributions even when there is very little additional evidence.(3) In additon, methods of measuring migrations have been devised to depict an accurate picture of the many forms of African population mobility.

There is every indication that improvements in enumeration and in techniques of demographic analysis will broaden and deepen our knowkedge of the population of Africa during this decade.

Population Size:

In view of defective data, estimates of the population total for Africa as a whole cannot claim any high degree of precision. It is generally assumed, but with no measure of certainity, that in the late eighteenth century and early part of the nineteenth century, the population of Africa was a little over 100 million and fairly stable, with vicissitudes through slavery, warfare,

disease, famine and natural calamities. This stability, which was particularly evident south of the Sahara, meant that the African proportion of the world's population total declined from about 10.9 per cent in 1800 to 8.7 per cent in 1850. The population size of Africa began to increase in response to successes in the medical combat against diseases, improvements in sanitation, hygiene and medical facilities, along with some economic progress. The initial effects were greatest in North and South Africa but gradually diffused through tropical Africa as well. By 1900 the total population of Africa was about 133 million, but since then the rate of growth has accelerated rapidly so that the population had more than doubled by 1960 when there were about 273 million. Then between 1960 and 1980 the population increased by 169 per cent, from some 273 million to about 461 million, which is about one-tenth of the world's population. Africa's population has thus grown steadily and its share of the world's population rose from about 8.1 per cent in 1900 to 10.5 per cent in 1980 (see Table 1 and Fig. 1)*Despite an increasing proportion of the world's population, Africa still has less than half of the population of either China or

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* All figures and tables are given at the end of the paper.

the Indian subcontinent. On the other hand Africa's population clearly exceeds that of either North America or Latin America.

Rate of Growth of Population:

The annual rate of increase of Africa's population was constant at 1.5 per cent during the period 1930-50[4] then it had jumped to 2.3 per cent in the 1950's and further increase to 2.5 per cent during the decade 1960-70. The rate of population growth continued to accelarate during the 1970's and is currently estimated at about 2.77 per cent annum, which is higher than in any other major area. Thus,Africa has now the highest rate of population increase among the world regions (Table 2).

A view of the trend in each region of Africa is provided by the estimates in Table 3 and mapped in Figure 2. The regions of fatest growth are those of Southern and Northern of Africa, with annual average growth rates ranging from about 2.4 to 2.9 per cent in the former, and from 2.4 to 2.8 per cent in the latter, during the 1950's 1960's and 1970's . On the other hand, Middle Africa has

the slowest growth rate during the period 1950-80 . The 30-years amounted to 18 million in Southern Africa 61 million in Northern Africa, 70 million in Eastern Africa, 68 million in Western Africa, and 25 million in Middle Africa.

Fertility:

Africa has the highest fertility among the continents; the estimate of crude birth rates for the period 1975-1980 being 45.7 per thousand as against a world average of 31.1 per thousand. General fertility rates are usually above 200 per thousand (Women aged 15-49), and the average gross reproduction rate for 1975-80 exceeds 3. Measures of fertility for Africa are, on the average,well above those in other regions of the world. Within Africa, the crude birth rates and the gross reproduction rates are higher in Eastern and Western regions than in the remainder of the continent (see Table 4). Indeed ,these two regions may mark the World's best of highest fertility in Africa, some biological and some social, (4) but the principal ones are :

(a) Most African women marry within a year or two of puberty, and marriage rates of women aged 15-19 are very high. It is not surprising that the fertility rates of this age group are sometimes over 200 per thousand.(5).

(b) Polygamy is specified as an important factor by Dorjahn and some other anthorpoligists, who stress that monogamous African Women produce more children than polygynous women.(6).

(c) The common custom prohibited cohabitation of husband and wife until the baby is weaned. This is very common in much of West Africa.

(d) The high value placed on having many children in order to ensure the survival of the family, clan or tribe in conditions of very high infant and child mortality.(8) In some countries, the Moslem and Christian religions have also reinforced this value (9).

(e) The standing of the family in the community depends largely on its numbers, a circumstance that encourages large families which tend to live close to and remain under the surveillance of the "in-laws".

(f) The segregation of male and female roles in the agrarian societies.

(g) The practice of labour migration, which mostly involves males, is also a key influence upon fertility, although seasonal migrations have less significance than long-distance migrations.(10).

A number of reasons have been given for variations in fertility levels within Africa. Bourgeois,-Pichat has examined direct factors affecting fertility levels in Africa and identified broad regional differences in the proportions married by successive ages. In tropical Africa, the per centage married at young ages is very high by comparison with North Africa.(11). There are also regional differences in the incidence of sterility after successive births. A combination of high marital age-specific fertility and patterns of sterility and marriage are sufficient to account for the major regional differences in crude birth rates.(12).

Significant differences in probable fertility trends are evident, as in Table 5 ,among the regions of Africa.

Fertility, as measured by the gross reproduction rate, is likely to remain relatively unchanged, according to the medium variant, in Africa taken as a whole up to 1980-85, but it is anticipated that its gross reproduction rate of 3.1 may fall to 2.7 by 1995-2000. It is also to be noted that significant declines in African fertility are expected mainly in Northern Africa and Southern Africa, where the gross reproduction rate would decrease according to the medium assumption, from 3.1 to 2.4 in the former and from 2.8 to 2.3 in the latter.

Mortality:

Africa has the highest average mortality of all the major geographic areas. Taking the continent as a whole it is estimated that in 1975-1980 the crude death rate is 18.0 per thousand, compared with a world average of 11.9 per thousand. The average life expectancy at birth for the whole continent, during that period, which is about 47.7 years less than the average for the world as a whole by about 12.8 years.

The crude death rate for Africa seems to have dec-

lined by about 32.6 per cent between the early 1950's and the late 1970' (see Fig.3).

Although current levels of life expectancy remain low in relation to those in the more developed regions (71.8 years), African nations have made substantial progress during recent decades. The life expectancy at birth for the whole of Africa, which is estimated at about 36.1 years in 1950-1955, has increased by 11.6 years in 1975.1980.

Table 6 portrays the trend in each of the five regions of Africa. As can be seen, the death rate is lowest and life expectancy highest in the Northern and Southern regions of the continent during the 25 years from 1950-55 to 1975-80. By contrast,the death rate is highest and life expectancy lowest in Western, Middle and Eastern Africa. While crude death rates in North and South Africa are usually below the continental average, corresponding to an expectation of life at birth in excess of the average of the continent as a whole, in tropical Africa death rates are usually above the

average, expection of life being generally less than the average for all the continent.

Between the early 1950's and the late 1970's there is, however, a relatively decline in the crude death rates whithin each region. The death rates have been reduced by about 76 per cent in Northern Africa, from 23.6 to 13.4 per thousand; 50.5 per cent in Eastern Africa, from 28.6 to 19.0 per thousand; 43.4 per cent in Middle Africa, from 28.4 to 19.8 per thousand ; 36.7 per cent in Western Africa, from 28.7 to 21.0 per thousand; and in Southern Africa, where mortality level was the lowest between the early 1950's and the early 1960's,the crude death rates have declined further, by about 27 per cent, from 18.4 to 14.5 per thousand. As a result, the estimated regional increases in longevity have varied from about 9 years in Middle Africa to about 12.5 years in Eastern Africa. At the beginning of the period the high and low regional life expectancies differes by about 11 years. By the late 1970's the difference has declined to 9.4 years. Throughout the period Western Africa has the highest crude death rate and the lowest life expectancy.

The meagre data available for mortality differentials according to urban and rural residence indicate that in recent mortality in rural areas have been higher than in Urban areas. (13) The relatively low levels of urban mortality in Africa have been explained in several ways. Modern medical and other health sustaining facilities are mostly situated in the cities, and water supplies are usually better in cities than in the countryside. In addition, migration to the cities is supposedly selective and draws from the healthiest members of a population. Urban residents , who work for wages and are usually paid better than workers elsewhere, are also assumed to be assured of more regular food supplies and consequently to be more healthy than people who live in rural areas.

As concerns the current levels of infant mortality in Africa, it is estimated that registration statistics cover less than one per cent of infant deaths, and these are from areas that cannot be considered representative (14) Consequently, the present state of knowledge regarding levels of infant mortality in Africa comes almost exclu-

sively from survey data and inference from theoretical models.[15]. These suggested that infant mortality rates are generally lower in Northern Africa than in the sub-Saharan regions. Almost all the surveys conducted in Northern Africa have placed the infant mortality rate above 100 deaths under the age of 1 per thousand live births.[16] Most estimates cluster around an average of about 150, and this figure may be taken as fairly representative for Northern Africa as a whole. A number of surveys conducted in other parts of Africa during the 1960's also pointed to an average infant mortality rate somewhere between 100 and 200, but when the data were later addjusted for underreporting of births and infant deaths, few of them produced infant mortality rates below 200 per thousand. Thus, although one cannot offer a figure for each region in sub-Saharan Africa, one may say that the infant mortality rate in 1970 probably exceed 200 per thousand in the regions of sub- Saharan Africa as a whole.[17] This means that at least one child in five died before its first birthday. Both this number and the figure of 150 offered for Northern Africa conceal a great deal of geographic, ethnic and annual variation in infant mortality rates. During the past two de-

cades important progress has been made in reducing infant mortality throughout the world. Absolute reductions in infant mortality have generally been largest in Africa.(18)

According to fertility and mortality levels within the regions of Africa between the early 1950's and the late 1970's, a tentative characterization of the regional demographic situation can be classified into two types, as adapted in Figure 4:

Firstly, high fertility and mortality, as in tropical Africa.

Secondly, high fertility and declining fairly mortality, as in Northern and Southern Africa.

Substantial declines in mortality level are foreseen for Africa as a whole. The medium variant projections assume that between 1975-1980 and 1995-2000, the crude death rate would decline from 18.0 to 11.3 per thousand, a decline of about 37 per cent during the next two decades. Life expectancy would increase correspondigly from about 47.7 years in 1975-1980 to about 57.4 years in 1995-2000 (see Table 7).

Between 1975-1980 and 1995-2000, it is estimated that the crude death rates would reduce within each of the five regions of Africa. According to the medium variant, the crude death rates would decline from 19.0 to 11.4 per thousand in Eastern Africa, fro, 13.0 per thousand in Middle Africa; from 13.4 to 8.9 per thousand in Northern Africa; from 14.5 to 9.0 per thousand in Southern Africa; and from 21.0 to 13.1 per thousand in Western Africa.Consequently, Eastern Africa would gain 9.8 years of life, from 47.2 to 57.0 years; Middle Africa 10.0 years, from 44.5 to 54.5 Northern Africa 9.0 years, from 53.0 to 62.0 ;Southern Africa 8.8 years, 53.2 to 62.0 and Western Africa, where mortality level is estimated to be the highest among the regions of Africa during the next two decades, would gain 10.0 years of life; from 43.8 to 53.8 years.

Age Structure :

Africa has the highest proportion of children under age 15 and the lowest proportion in the working ages among the world regions.(19) The " juvenility" of Africas's population is very apparent: some 44 per cent of

the population are children, well over half the population (53 per cent) are between 15 and 64 years old. At the other end of the age cycle, the proportion of the elderly aged 65 and older is only 3 cent. (20)

Africa is the only major area where, in the near future, the structural change in population will be unfavourable.(21) That is, the proportion of children is likely to increase form 44 per cent in 1975 to 44.8 per cent in 1985, and the proportion in the ages of economic activity is likely to decrease from 53 per cent to 52.3 per cent.

No important changes in the age structure are expected to take place in Africa between 1985 and the end of the present century. Although some decline in fertility is assumed from 1985 onward, it will be noticed in Table 8 that in the year 2000 the projected African age structure inclose to that of 1975.

An important aspect of age structures is the relative distribution of a population between the economically active and ages.(22) A commonly used measure for this distribution is the dependency ratio. Table 9 reveals the Africa stands

out for its very high dependency ratios. In 1980, it has an estimated ratio of 90 per 100 persons in the ages of economic activity, that is 19 points higher than the global Average and 11 points above the ratio for the less developed regions.

If the medium variant assumptions for Africa turn not to be true, mortality decline unaccompanied by fertility decline would worsen the already high dependency ration and raise it to what may be an unprecedented level. If this should happen, it would take to the end of the century before the dependency ratio , and the entire age structure for that matter, regained its initial value.

Future Population Growth

Particular attention needs to be drawn to the projected demographic situation in Africa where the anticipated delay in the onset of fertility decline implies that its current rate of population growth of 2.77 per cent may continue to increase to 3 per cent per annum, with only little decline anticipated before the end of century. It is implies that Africa may continue to have the world's highest rate of growth during the next two decades.

If the assumptions of the medium variant projections turn out to be true, the population of Africa, which is 461 million in 1980, would gain about 16 per cent in each quinquennium until 1995, and 15.7 per cent in the last quinquennium, becoming 834 in the year 2000, at which time Africa's share of the world population is expected to have increased to 13 per cent (see Table 10).

The high variant implies population growth at a rate of about 3.2 per cent per annual until 1990, followed by a gradual increase in the annual rate to 3.3 per cent during the last 10 years of this century. The low variant implies that Africa is expected to maintain until 1990 its very high growth rate of about 2.8 per cent per annual during the last decade of the present century (see Table 11).

According to the medium variant, the population total of Africa which is 461 million in 1980, is expected to increase by over 160 million during this decade and over 210 million during the last decade of this century- a total increase of about 370 million for the 20-year period.

The projected 20-year increases, according to the low and high variants, would amount to 307 million and 417 million, respectively.

Among the regions of Africa, the largest addition to the population during the projection period is expected in Eastern Africa, which currently contains 28.6 per cent of Africa's total population. As the data in Table 12 show, the population of this region is anticipated to increase from 132 million in 1980, to 246 million in the year 2000 according to the medium variant, and it may still reach 258 million if the assumptions of the high variant materialize. The projected 20-year increases, according to the low variant, would amount to 93 million. The next region of importance with respect to gain in population is Western Africa, which currently accounts for 28.8 per cent of the Africa population. It is ecpected, according to the medium variant of population growth to increase from 133 million in 1980 to 241 million by the end of the century- a total increase of 108 million for the 20-year period. The 20-year increases, according to the low and high variants, would amount to 88 million and 119 million, respectively. Sizable in-

creases in population are also expected in Northern Africa, which currently supports about 25 per cent of population total of Africa. According to the medium varant, the increase would be from 113 million in 1980 to 202 million in 2000, and it may continue to grow to 216 million according to the high variant of the projections. In Middle Africa, the increase would be from 51 million in 1980 to 89 million in the year 2000 according to the medium variant. In Southern Africa the corresponding increase is from 32 million to 56 million.

The differential increase can be summarized as follows. According to the medium variant of the projections, between 1980 and 2000, the population of Eastern Africa would increase by 86 per cent, Western Africa would add 81 per cent to its population, and the increases in Middle and Southern Africa are expected to amount to 75 per cent.

Conclusion:

Africa's demographic context, as outlined in this study, indicates that Africa is still in the early transitional stage of demographic transition with high fertility and declining mortality causing an increasing rate of growth.

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(17) Loc.Cit.

(18) Bourgeois-Pichat,J." Future Outlook for Moratality Decline in the World." Population Bulletin of the United Nations,No.11 New York,1978, PP. 12-41.

(19) United Nations, Demographic Yearbook,1977, New York, 1978, Table 2 PP. 138-139.

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(21) United Nations Secretariat, " World and Regional Po-

pulation Prospects," Paper submitted to the World Population Conference, Bucharest,1974, Table 4.

(22) Trewartha, G.T. A Geography of Population. World Patterns, New York,1969,PP. 123-124.

FIG. 1. MEDIUM ESTIMATES OF POPULATION GROWTH IN AFRICA, 1950 - 2000

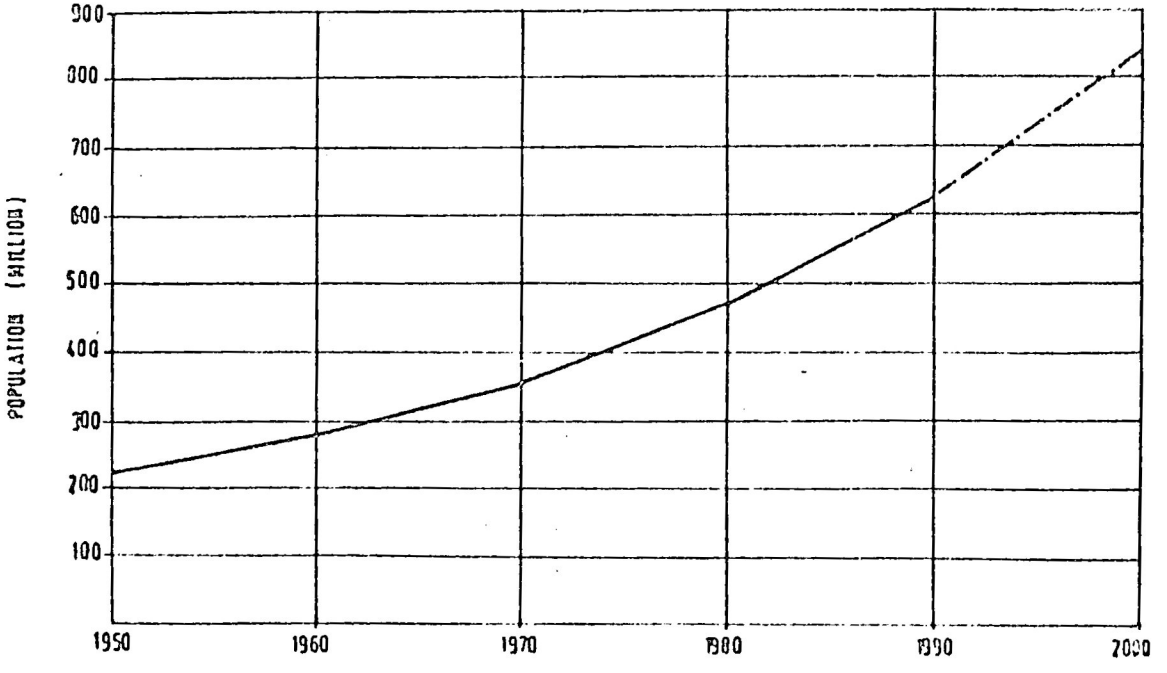


FIG. 2. ANNUAL RATES OF POPULATION GROWTH, BY REGIONS, AFRICA, 1950-2000.

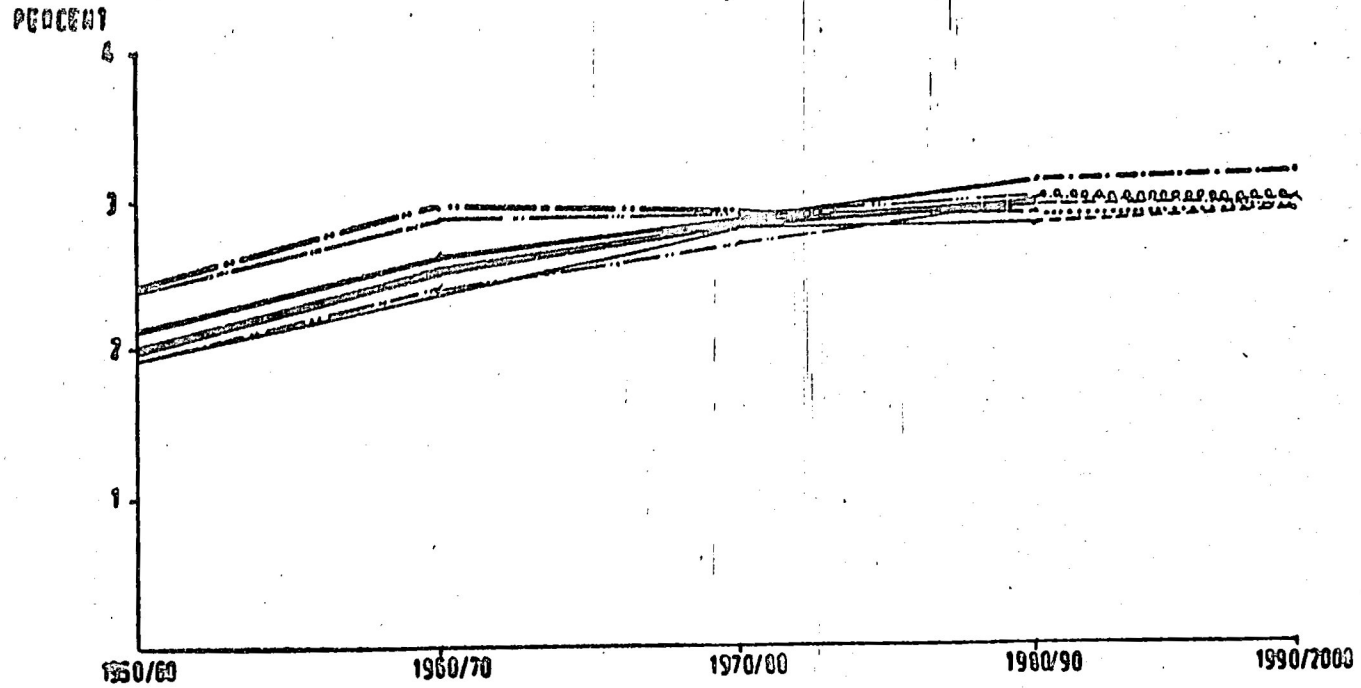
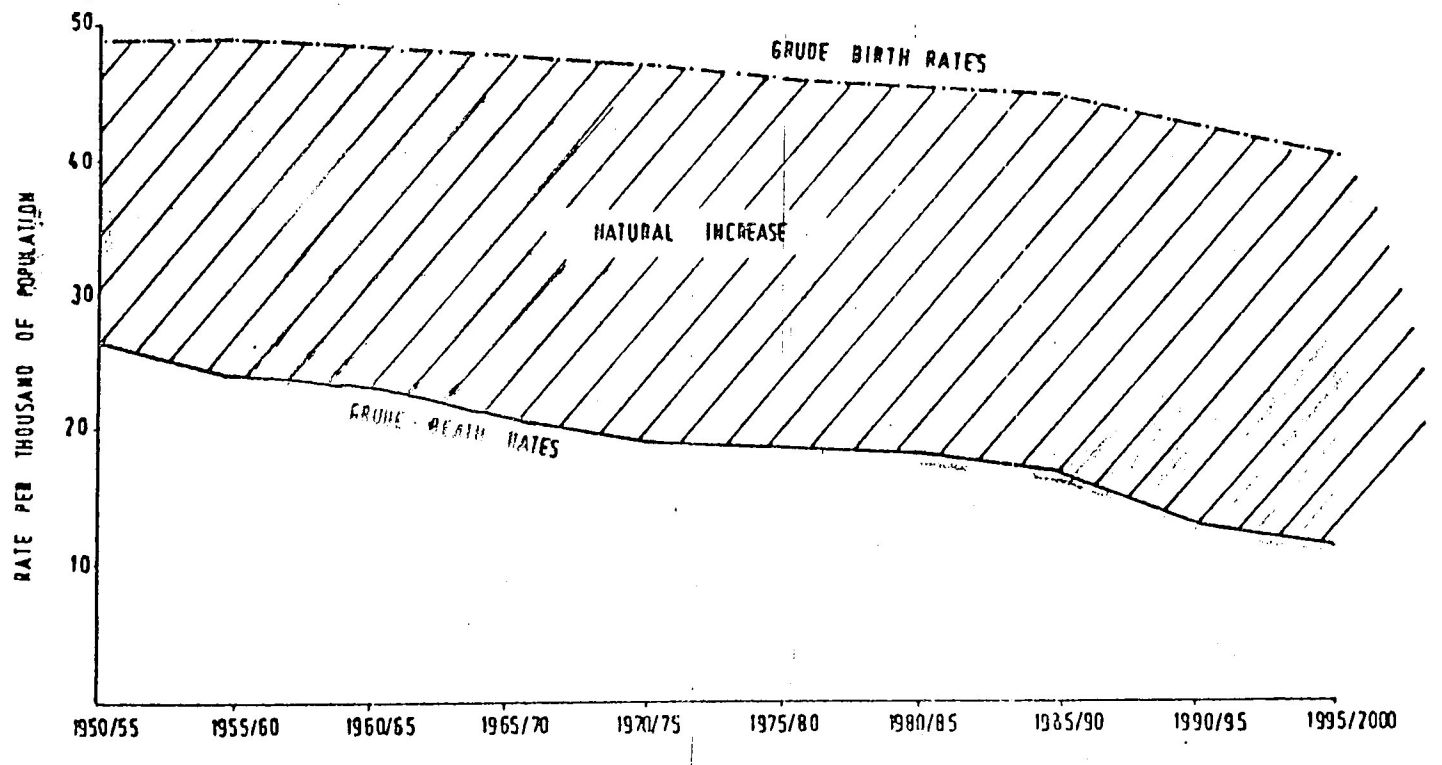


FIG. 3 . VITAL RATES IN AFRICA , 1950 - 2000



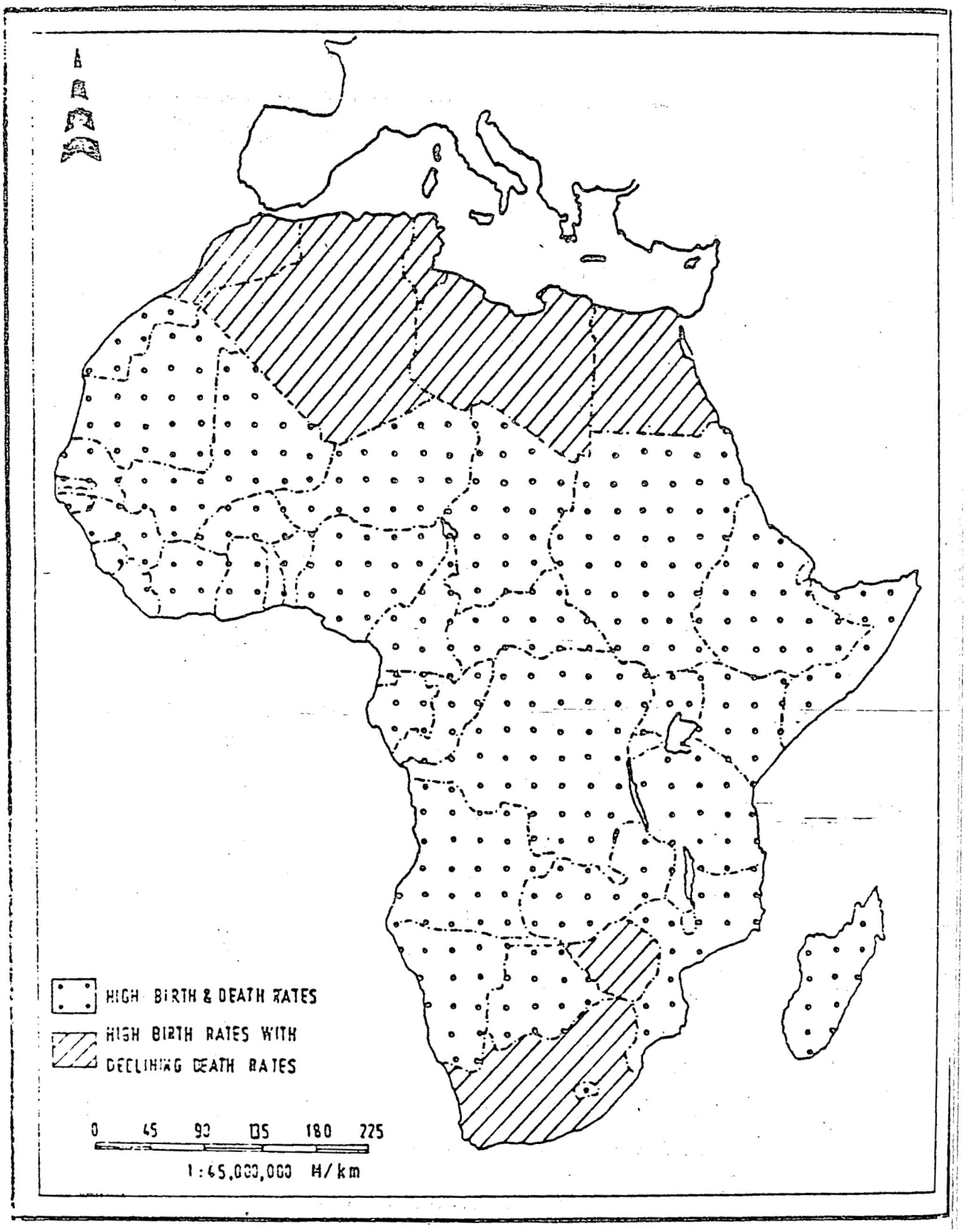


FIG. 4 . TYPES OF POPULATION GROWTH IN AFRICA

Table (1)

Estimated of the Population of Africa,
1750 - 1980

Year	Population (millions)	Percentage of World Population
By half-centuries		
1750	100	13.4
1800	107	10.9
1850	111	8.7
1900	133	8.1
1950	219	8.8
By decades		
1950	219	8.8
1960	273	9.1
1970	352	9.8
1980	461	10.5

Source:

(a) Durand, J.D., "The Modern Expansion of World Population", Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society, Vol. 111, No. 3, 1967, P. 137.

(b) United Nations, World Population Trends and Policies, Vol. 1, New York, 1980, P. 170.

Table (2)

Growth of Population in Regions of the World, 1950-1980

Region	1950-1955	1955-1960	1960-1965	1965-1970	1970-1975	1975-1980
Africa	2.12	2.29	2.48	2.60	2.64	2.77
Latin America	2.70	2.78	2.75	2.70	2.71	2.74
North America	1.80	1.78	1.49	1.12	0.90	0.99
East Asia	1.54	1.56	1.62	1.63	1.65	1.56
South Asia	1.92	2.30	2.51	2.53	2.53	2.65
Europe	0.78	0.84	0.91	0.62	0.60	0.56
Oceania	1.18	1.48	1.77	1.35	0.84	0.60
USSR	1.71	1.77	1.49	1.00	0.99	1.00
World	1.69	1.85	1.93	1.87	1.89	1.95

- Computed by the following formula:

$$\text{Annual rate of increase} = \left(\sqrt[t]{\frac{P_1}{P_0}} - 1 \right) \times 100$$

Table (3)

Growth of Population in Regions of Africa, 1950-1980

Region	Population (millions)(1)				Annual rates of growth (percentage)(2)			Percentage gain in population(3)
	1950	1960	1970	1980	1950-1960	1960-1970	1970-1980	1950-1980
Eastern Africa	62	77	100	132	2.1	2.6	2.8	113
Middle Africa	26	32	40	51	1.9	2.4	2.7	96
Northern Africa	52	66	86	113	2.4	2.8	2.8	117
Southern Africa	14	18	24	32	2.4	2.9	2.8	129
Western Africa	65	80	102	133	2.1	2.4	2.7	105
Africa Total	219	273	352	461	2.3	2.5	2.7	111

(1) United Nations, World Population Trends and Policies, Vol. 1, New York, 1980, P. 170

(2) Computed by the following formula:

$$\text{Annual rate of the increase} = \left(\sqrt[t]{\frac{P_1}{P_o}} - 1 \right) \times 100$$

(3) Computed by the following formula:

$$\text{Percentage gain in population} = \frac{(P_1 - P_o)}{P_o} \times 100$$

where P_o is the population at the beginning of the period, and P_1 is the population at the end of the period.

Table (4)

Crude Birth and Gross Reproduction Rates, by Regions, 1950-1980

Region	Crude Birth Rates[1] (per 1,000 population)						Gross Reproduction Rates[2]	
	1950-1955	1955-1960	1960-1965	1965-1970	1970-1975	1975-1980	1970-1975	1975-1980
Eastern Africa	49.3	49.0	48.7	48.5	48.1	47.4	3.19	3.20
Middle Africa	46.7	46.5	45.9	45.6	44.4	44.2	2.92	2.92
Northern Africa	48.0	47.8	46.9	45.3	43.3	42.0	3.07	3.00
Southern Africa	41.7	42.0	43.0	43.1	43.0	43.2	2.76	2.76
Western Africa	49.0	49.0	49.3	49.0	48.7	48.5	3.25	3.24
Africa	48.1	48.0	47.7	47.2	46.3	45.7	3.11	3.10

Source:

(1) United Nations, World Population Trends and Policies, Vol. 1, New York, 1980, P. 181.

(2) United Nations Secretariat, "World and Regional Population Prospects", Paper submitted to the World Population Conference, Bucharest, 1974, Table 3.

Table (5)

Crude Birth and Gross Reproduction Rates, Regions of Africa, 1980-2000

(Medium Variant)

Region	Crude Birth Rates (per 1,000 population)				Gross Reproduction Rates			
	1980-1985	1985-1990	1990-1995	1995-2000	1980-1985	1985-1990	1990-1995	1995-2000
Eastern Africa	46.9	45.9	44.3	42.1	3.17	3.09	2.97	2.78
Middle Africa	44.5	43.5	42.4	40.9	2.94	2.89	2.82	2.70
Northern Africa	42.2	40.8	38.5	35.4	2.91	2.79	2.60	2.36
Southern Africa	41.4	38.9	37.6	36.2	2.71	2.63	2.51	2.34
Western Africa	47.9	46.7	45.0	42.8	3.22	3.15	3.03	2.84
Africa	45.4	44.1	42.4	40.1	3.06	2.98	2.85	2.65

Source:

United Nations Secretariat, "World and Regional Population Prospects", Paper Submitted to the World Population Conference, Bucharest, 1974, Table 2 and Table 3.

Table (6)

Crude Death Rates and life Expectancy at Birth, Both Sexes, Regions of Africa, 1950-1980

Region	Crude Death Rates[1] (per 1,000 population)						Life Expectancy[2] (in years)	
	1950-1955	1955-1960	1960-1965	1965-1970	1970-1975	1975-1980	1950-1955	1975-1980
Eastern Africa	28.6	26.4	24.1	22.3	20.7	19.0	34.7	47.2
Middle Africa	28.4	26.9	25.3	23.4	21.7	19.8	35.2	44.5
Northern Africa	23.6	21.2	19.1	17.0	15.2	13.4	42.0	53.0
Southern Africa	18.4	18.1	17.9	17.3	16.2	14.5	43.0	53.2
Western Africa	28.7	27.2	25.7	24.4	23.0	21.0	32.0	43.8
Africa	26.7	24.9	23.1	21.4	19.8	18.0	36.1	47.7

Source:

(1) United Nations, World Population Trends and Policies, Vol. 1, New York, 1980, P. 178.

(2) United Nations Secretariat, "World and Regional Population Prospects", Paper submitted to the World Population Conference, Bucharest, 1974, Table 3.

Table (7)

Crude Death Rates and Life Expectancy at Birth, Both Sexes, Regions of Africa, 1980-2000 (Medium Variant)

Region	Crude Death Rates (per 1,000 population)				Life Expectancy (in years)			
	1980-1985	1985-1990	1990-1995	1995-2000	1980-1985	1985-1990	1990-1995	1995-2000
Eastern Africa	16.3	14.5	12.9	11.4	49.8	52.3	54.7	57.0
Middle Africa	18.0	16.2	14.5	13.0	47.0	49.5	52.0	54.5
Northern Africa	12.7	11.3	10.1	8.9	55.5	57.8	60.0	62.0
Southern Africa	12.8	11.3	10.0	9.0	55.6	57.9	60.0	62.0
Western Africa	18.6	16.8	14.9	13.1	46.3	48.8	51.3	53.8
Africa	16.0	14.3	12.7	11.3	50.3	52.7	55.1	57.4

Source:

United Nations Secretariat, "World and Regional Population Prospects", Paper submitted to the World Population Conference, Bucharest, 1974, Table 2 and Table 3.

Table (8)

Percentage Distribution of Population
by Major Age Groups, 1975, 1985 and 2000

Age groups	1975	1985	2000
0- 4	18.0	18.1	16.8
5-14	26.0	26.7	27.0
15-64	53.0	52.3	53.0
65+	3.0	2.9	3.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Source:

(1) Figures for 1975 according to:
United Nations, World Population Trends and Policies, Vol. 1, New York, 1980, P. 125.

(2) Medium variant projections for 1985 and 2000 according to:
United Nations Secretariat, "World and Regional Population Prospects", Paper submitted to the World Population Conference, Bucharest, 1974, Table 4.

Table (9)

Dependency Ratios, 1980-2000
(Medium variant)
(Percentage)

Area	1980	1985	1990	1995	2000
World Total	71	71	70	68	66
More developed regions	54	53	54	55	54
Less developed regions	79	78	75	72	69
Africa	90	91	92	91	89

Source:

United Nations Secretariat, "World and Regional Population Prospects", Paper submitted to the World Population Conference, Bucharest, 1974, Table 5.

Table (10)

Population Growth in Africa,
1980-2000
(Medium variant)

(a) Population Size

Year	Population (millions)	Percentage of World Population
1980	461	10.5
1985	536	11.0
1990	622	11.6
1995	721	12.3
2000	834	13.0

(B) Annual Rates of Growth

Period	Percentage
1980-1985	2.9
1985-1990	3.0
1990-1995	3.0
1995-2000	2.9

Source:

United Nations Secretariat, op. cit., Table 1.

Table (11)

African Population, 1980, and According to Low and High Variant of Population Projections for 1990 and 2000

(a) Population Size

Year	Population (millions)	
	Low variant	High variant
1980	461	461
1990	605	634
2000	768	878

(B) Annual Rates of Growth

Period	Percentage	
	Low variant	High variant
1980-1990	2.8	3.2
1990-2000	2.4	3.3

Source:

United Nations, World Population Prospects, New York, 1973.

Table (12)

Population Growth By Regions, According to low, Medium and High Variant of Population Projections for 1990 and 2000

Region	Population (million)							Annual Rates of Growth					
	1980	Low variant		Medium variant		High variant		Low variant		Medium variant		High variant	
		1990	2000	1990	2000	1990	2000	1980-1990	1990-2000	1980-1990	1990-2000	1980-1990	1990-2000
Eastern Africa	132	176	225	180	246	183	258	2.9	2.5	3.2	3.2	3.3	3.5
Middle AAfrica	51	66	84	67	89	68	93	2.6	2.4	2.8	2.8	2.9	3.2
Northern Africa	113	149	188	154	202	158	216	2.8	2.3	3.0	2.8	3.2	3.2
Southern Africa	32	41	51	42	56	43	59	2.6	2.3	2.9	2.8	3.1	3.1
Western Africa	133	174	224	179	241	181	252	2.8	2.4	3.0	3.0	3.1	3.4
Africa Total	461	605	768	622	834	634	878	2.8	2.4	3.0	3.0	3.2	3.3

Source:

United Nations, World Population Prospects, New York, 1973.