IV. How Can The Population Explosion Be Controlled?

Population Trends
Belsie, "How Many People Does it Take to Change the World?"  
1. What is the central demographic theme of the millennium (AD 1000-2000) and how did the Industrial Revolution accelerate the process?

2. Why has the 20th century been a "showstopper"?

3. What developing countries/regions have rapidly reduced their fertility rates and which regions have not?

4. What are the “productive” factors that influence a woman “reproductive” role?

LaFranchi, “UN Looks at Migration”  
1. According to Mr. Neuman and other experts, what changes are gradually reshaping the global view of migration in both developed (receiving) and developing (sending) countries?

2. According to Ms. Zlotnik, what is the "broader definition" of migrant's remittances to their countries—which is illustrated by programs such as the one linking Italy and Sri Lanka and the program that helped Afghans return home?

Francis, “How to Slow the Population Clock”  
1. According to Thomas Malthus’ “Essay on Population” (1798), what are the “positive” and “preventative” check that control population growth?

2. According to Mr. Flavin (President, Worldwatch Institute), what factors (3 examples) will break population growth?

Lamb, “In Some Nations, the Rise of Shortevity”  
1. What is the cause of the shortevity crisis in Russia/former Soviet block and Sub-Saharan Africa?

2. How is World Vision working to help African governments and people deal with the shortevity crisis?
Trescott, “Shorter Lives Lead to Short-term Goals in Zimbabwe”
1. According to Mr. Masunguere and Mr. Rondozai, what are 3 negative effects of the low life expectancy on Zimbabwean society?

2. According to a WHO report, what is responsible for the decline in life expectancy in Zimbabwe? What does and Mr. Masunungure say may also plays a part?

3. What is the Girl Child Network Trust doing to help young women build longer lives?

Francis, “Fuse on the ‘Population Bomb’ Has Been Relit”
1. According to Thoraya Obaid (UNFPA), why has the rate of progress (in reducing population growth) come down?

2. Why does Ms. Leahy--the author of a report to the PAC--say (her thesis) that between 1970 and 1990, 80% of all civil conflicts that caused at least 25 deaths occurred in countries in which 60% or more of the population was under age 30?

Consequences of Demographic Change
Fuchs, “Spain Labors to Bring Home Baby--and the Bacon”
1. What is Spain’s population problem and what incentives (2 examples) are being offered to solve it?

2. According to women's rights advocates, what economic and social/attitudinal/political factors contribute to Spain’s population problem (3 examples)?

Grant and Hoorens. “Consequences of a Graying World”
1. What are 2 probable impacts of an aging population?

2. What are the 2 driving forces behind population aging?

3. What are the 3 main options estrategies for mitigating the effects of population aging?

Francis, “Europeans Struggle with Idea of ‘Replacement Migration’”
1. Why do EU countries need “replacement migration”, but on the other hand are concerned about “cultural genocide”?
2. Why hasn't the fertility level in the Philippines dropped as rapidly as it has in neighboring Asian countries?

Francis, “Now Danger of a Population Implosion”
1. What is the cause of the population implosion, how many countries are facing a population implosion, and what measures are some governments (examples of 2 countries) taking to solve the problem?

2. While the U.S. is slightly below replacement fertility, why is its population expected to grow to 430 million by 2050?

3. What are the nations that account for one-half of the growth in world population and what's amazing about year 2003’s population growth in India vs. the EU?

Knickerbocker, “World First: Most People Live in the City”
1. According to the Worldwatch Institute’s 2007 Annual Report, what are ramifications/major challenges that are faced by growing urbanization in developing countries?

2. Why do advocates say that there a need to reassess global development priorities?

3. According to Mr. Flavin, for what dangers (examples) are the “abject and disgraceful poverty” that exists in many cities a breeding ground?

Peters, “A New Push to Clean Up the Slums”
1. Why are aid experts concerned about the growing number of rural poor migrating to cities around the developing world?

2. How is the Aga Khan Development Network helping to revitalize Darb al-Ahmar’s slum district and give residents hope?

Francis, “Birth Dearth Worries Pale in Comparison to Overpopulation”
1. What are the factors on which Mr. Erlick pins the downward trend in the world’s birthrate—from 6 per mother in 1972 to about 2.9 today?

2. What does the “global gag rule” do and who imposed it?
**Success Stories**
Holt, “Mexico's Dramatically Shrinking Families”
1. What is the little-noticed change that has occurred in Mexico?

2. What 2 changes since 1974 contributed to the success of Mexico's family planning program?

3. How will these changes benefit both Mexicans (2 examples) and the US (2 examples)?

**Tohid, “Bangladesh Clerics Back Family Planning”**
1. What 2 groups have teamed up to combat Bangladesh's burgeoning population?

2. Despite Bangladesh's success in reducing population growth & the fertility rate, why does Hussain (Deputy Director, FPAB) think that there is going to be another population explosion in Bangladesh?

**Marquand, “6 Billion People and a Countertrend”**
1. What is happening in Kerala that is remarkably different from the rest of India and what are 3 factors that explain this amazing trend?

2. For years, the debates on population control have swung between 2 factors. What are the 2 factors and what does Kerala's success show, regarding which factor is more important?

**Engleman, “Sustainable Population Minus the Control”**
1. Working on what 2 factors consistently and simultaneously are the key to long-term environmental stability?

2. What did almost all nations agree to reject at the UN Conference in Cairo (1994)? What did they accept instead and what is the evidence that suggests that this is an effective way to reduce population growth?

**Controversies**
Gerson, “Spain's Guest Worker Program Provides Test Case for EU”
1. What is Spain doing—in partnership with Senegal—to reduce illegal immigration? What is another mechanism that Spain has implemented with Mali to help meet Spain's labor demands?
Price, "Tighter Borders Won't Help the Desperate"
1. According to Price, why is it unlikely that President Bush's decision to post National Guard along the Mexican-US will stem the flow of illegal immigrants?

2. According to Price, what would stop the illegal migration from countries south of the U.S.-Mexico border?

Abend and Pingee, "Morocco's Biggest Export is People"
1. For Spain, Morocco's emigrant tides is both a boon and a threat. How is it a boon? What is the threat?

2. Why does the fact that so many Moroccans dream of leaving significantly threaten Morocco's economic development, social well-being, and political stability? What does Morocco gain from the illegal emigration?

Marquand, "China Faces Future as Land of Boys"
1. Three factors have contributed to China's gender imbalance—traditional values in rural areas, technology, and government policy. Give an example of each of these factors.

2. What are 2 things that the government of China is doing to try to reverse the gender imbalance?

Wheeler, "Gender Selective Abortion in India is on the Rise"
1. What is “gendercide” and why is this happening—in India, why (4 reasons) male children preferred over female children?

2. What initiatives (3 examples) has the Indian government developed to alleviate the problem (i.e., gendercide) and according Mr. Gogoi, what more (2 examples) is needed?

Francis, "Can Obama’s Family-Planning Policies Help the Economy?"
1. What did President Obama do on Friday that was strongly supported by advocates of family planning?

2. According to the UNPA, how many women worldwide would like to delay/prevent pregnancy & why aren’t they doing this?

Francis, "Is Population Growth a Ponzi Scheme?"
1. What notions does Joseph Chamie say are “Ponzi demography” and why does he say this (i.e., costs the public pays for bigger populations)?