

INTERNATIONAL SERVAS CONFERENCE

1974 - Aug. 23-26  
Campo Pestalozzi, Arcegno, Switzerland

Present: Australia	Ronald Golding
Austria	Sylvia Strassner
	Drs. Hans and Gertrude Sandbauer
Canada	Mildred Fahrni
Denmark	Birgitte Damsgaard
England	Barbara Acquah and Barbara Rosewarne
France	Joseph Girard
Germany	Antonie Fried and Elfriede Jeanes
India	Harivallabh Parikh
Israel	Joseph and Dina Abileah
Italy	Maria Soresina
	Lino and Rosellina Canepari
Japan	Masuo Amano
New Zealand	Nan Smith
Nigeria	Tunde Kumolo Johnson
Poland	Irena Wyrzykowska
South Korea	Dr. Sang Kook Bae
Switzerland	Denise and Ruedi Vollenweider
	Doris Bucher
United States	Martha and Sam Simon, Norma and Joe Rosenberg, Sheillah and Steven Wheatstone, Leonard Baron, Lydia Tabor, the Walsh family - Elizabeth, Celia, Erin, Joan, Michel and Thomas, Christine Taran.
Yemen	Hans-Werner Emrich

SERVAS-INTERNATIONAL President - Reva King

Visitors Members of World Citizens, SCI, and Bahai

- I. GREETINGS - The Conference was formally opened on Aug. 24 at 9:15 AM with a welcome by Denise Vollenweider, Vice-President and National Secretary of our host country, Switzerland. She noted that SERVAS is "twenty-five years young" and is still working toward its goal of helping educate new generations of tolerant and open-minded people. She said it must remain an "open" organization, not an assembly of privileged people already active in other peace movements.
- II. INTRODUCTIONS - Reva King, President and Presiding Chairman, welcomed everyone and thanked Swiss SERVAS for arranging the Conference.
- III. STANDING ORDERS -- Reva King presided. Norma and Joe Rosenberg took Minutes.
  - A. The Minutes of the 1972 Conference were unanimously approved by all official delegates who had attended.
  - B. Item IV on the Agenda, "Brief Historical Sketch", was deleted because none of the original founders of SERVAS were present. Item VCB was deferred for discussion in the "Administrative Small Working Group".
  - C. Participants in small working groups were instructed to select a group leader and recorder and to discuss first the most important Agenda items. They were asked to submit specific recommendations

and suggestions in a report to the Full Conference, including minority opinions, if any.

V. A & B DEVELOPMENTS SINCE 1972 International Conference - Reva King

Due to the resignation of Kurt Schmid, Reva King assumed the responsibility of being International President. She thanked the small group of SERVAS volunteers in USA and all others who have helped in efforts to carry out the decisions of the 1972 Conference. The following areas were highlighted:

a. After a brilliant beginning as Peace Secretary, Jim Ryding became ill and had to turn over his responsibilities to Mildred Fahrni, Canada, and Denise Vollenweider, Switzerland.

b. The Peace Diary failed to follow instructions about changes requested for our respective listing but has agreed to send us a copy of our listing this year before it goes to the printer.

c. SERVAS' work with the UN Economic and Social Council is summarized in a separate report for Working Group VI.

d. Barbara Acquah of Britain has been functioning as Editor of SERVAS INTERNATIONAL NEWS and has had two issues published.

e. Our expansion has been mostly in the area of hosts and development of SERVAS in new countries. There is now at least one SERVAS member in 65 countries.

f. Improvements in Host Lists have varied. We are still failing to give enough introductory information about our different cultures. Some countries still don't identify their nation and year on each page of their host list.

g. We still lack an approved SERVAS emblem design. (Several designs were passed around the Conference table, but none were voted acceptable.)

h. Most countries who could not send delegates to this year's Conference sent regrets and best wishes. Lack of funds was the main reason for non-attendance, but Syed Muhammed Husain of Bangladesh did not come due to his recent appointment to Justice in the High Court Division of the Supreme Court in his country. The Conference sends him CONGRATULATIONS.

i. Copies of the Annual Report sent out in June, together with some revised statistics for 1973, were distributed at this year's Conference.

V. C.2. PEACE SECRETARY - COOPERATION WITH OTHER PEACE ORGANIZATIONS -

Mildred Fahrni

Mildred Fahrni of Canada brought regards, suggestions and criticisms from Bob Luitweler, one of SERVAS' original founders. In a letter read to the delegates, he recommended that SERVAS applicants be divided into two groups: 1. those who are more serious travelers interested mainly in improving human relations and adding to the peace of the world; and 2. those interested in travel and in economical ways of getting around the world. He feels that in recent years, SERVAS has

been admitting more of the latter type, and should instead be referring them to other organizations that are primarily concerned with travel. Since he finds fewer and fewer SERVAS travelers who are really concerned with world problems and peace, he is withdrawing as a SERVAS host. His thoughtful comments were turned over to the small working group on "Host-Traveler-Membership System" for discussion.

Ms. Fahrni also spoke about SERVAS' cooperation with other peace organizations. Many other groups have no time to become involved with SERVAS and suggest that we can help them by joining their ranks and encouraging our members to work on their projects. Perhaps SERVAS could host members of other organizations who are holding conferences in areas where SERVAS has many host families. SERVAS might also take part in a practical project - like discouraging violence on television - that would demonstrate our concern and attract other organizations closer to us.

V. C.3. MOSCOW CONGRESS OF PEACE FORCES - Denise Vollenweider

Denise Vollenweider of Switzerland gave a report of her experiences as the SERVAS delegate to the Moscow Congress of Peace Forces held in October, 1973. There were 1223 organizations represented from 143 countries. China, however, did not attend. Russia's highest officials attended, and there was a cultural program in addition to day and evening discussion sessions. There were chances for personal contacts, but meaningful discussions during the Congress sessions were nearly impossible because the groups were too large. The Congress gave Ms. Vollenweider the opportunity to establish personal contacts for SERVAS that could lead to the expansion of SERVAS in Eastern countries in the future, but this possibility seems remote in the USSR. At present, the government agrees only with organized contacts in groups, and the people seem to suffer from the lack of personal contacts and from isolation. Ms. Vollenweider feels we must always keep trying to break this barrier.

V D. SERVAS-INTERNATIONAL NEWS - Barbara Acquah

Barbara Acquah, International News Editor, has published two editions so far - one in January, 1974, and another in July, 1974. She ordered 5,000 copies for the first edition, but still has 1500 left and ordered only 3,000 for the second edition. About 200 copies of the second edition were distributed at Conference. She suggested that Branches might pay the cost of printing and postage in the future. It was proposed that printing be done in New York rather than in Britain since it would reduce costs slightly. Japan suggested that one copy be sent to each country and then the country could duplicate it. It was suggested that we first decide whether we will have future newsletters at all - and then we should consider content, size, and frequency.

(To help Maris Golding (Australia) who is writing "The Story of SERVAS", her husband, Ron Golding, urged all the delegates to give him contributions about our history and experiences either in writing or on tape.)

P.T.O.

V E. TREASURY REPORT - Denise Vollenweider

Denise Vollenweider gave a financial report for the period January, 1974 to August, 1974. She asked that, in accordance with Swiss Law, two people be appointed to check the treasurer's bookkeeping. Joseph Abileah of Israel and Lino Canepari of Italy, volunteered and were approved. They will review the treasurer's books and financial report.

OTHER - The Japanese delegate, Masuo Amano, proposed that the song written by Barbara Acquah for the first International Newsletter be adopted as SERVAS official song. The delegates felt that since this song is in the western European style, it should be considered a SERVAS song, but not the SERVAS song. Other countries were encouraged to contribute songs that could be part of a SERVAS song collection.

SMALL WORKING GROUP REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

VI OUR COMMITMENT TO PEACE AND RELATION TO OTHER PEACE ORGANIZATIONS

Group Leader - Hans Werner-Enrich. Recorder - Elizabeth Walsh  
Participants: Mildred Fahrni, Christine Taran, Joseph Abiloah, Stephen Whetstone, Ruedi Vollenweider, Barbara Acquah, and Harivallabh Parikh.  
Guests: Tedy von Fellenberg, Gerald Meyer.

SERVAS members should inform and educate themselves on non-violence and its methods as a way to resolve conflicts. As individuals and through groups, we can exchange and spread information about military situations such as the one in the Middle East. We can encourage and promote peace building efforts through dialogue and communication.

SERVAS National Secretaries should be in touch with Peace organizations of Service Civil International as well as other peace organizations.

SERVAS should cooperate with other peace organizations and host delegates to other peace organizations' conferences if the branches and local offices of SERVAS approve.

SERVAS should continue contacts with the Congress for Peace, attend future meetings and speak, if possible, about SERVAS.

Our delegates to the NGO Section of ECOSOC of the UN should act in accordance with our specified aims and send brief reports to the International Newsletter.

SERVAS can strengthen its commitment to peace by improving communication (through frequent newsletters) among SERVAS Members. Present and future members should be re-informed about our aims.

The term "non-political" could not be defined.

The recommendations of the Peace Small Working Group were accepted by the full Conference on Aug. 25, 1974.

(The report submitted to the "Peace Working Group" by SERVAS delegates to the UN is attached as an addendum to the Conference Report.)

VIII. INTERNATIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS & UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM 1972 CONFERENCE  
SMALL WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS:

Leader: RE Golding. Recorder: Sheillah Whetstone. Participants: Reva King, Sam Simon, Tunde Kumolu Johnson, Masuo Amano, Doris Fucher.

SERVAS Funding:

A Finance Committee should be appointed that would prepare an annual budget of expenses for submission to the Executive Committee. On the committee would be the Treasurer, President, and two or three others.

Financial Help to new countries must be an item in this budget.

Branches failing to meet financial obligations to SERVAS International should be dealt with in two categories:

- (1) Those who can pay but who are delinquent should be contacted by personal letter to the Branch Secretary, then by a stronger letter if this fails. Next, the name of the country and amount of debt should be given in the Circular Letter and if still no results the Finance Committee could ask someone visiting the country to contact the Branch Secretary. Finally the Branch Secretary could be asked to resign or the Branch could be closed.
- (2) Those who can't pay either because of currency restrictions or because of no income should be dealt with at the Executive's discretion.

Financial resources might be increased as follows:

- (1) Fund appeals to SERVAS members.
- (2) Indirect fund raising through theatre parties, lotteries, etc.
- (3) Increase in traveler fees.
- (4) More fees from group travel.
- (5) A levy on each country related to host or traveler membership.
- (6) Paid advertising in SERVAS International News.
- (7) Appeals to charter-member countries for donations that are tax-deductible.
- (8) Establish language courses for SERVAS and non-SERVAS members - the profits of which would go to SERVAS International.
- (9) Each country should pay for its copies of the newsletter. The cost of publication and postage should be budgeted.

To help finance developing countries SERVAS International could contribute either an amount related to the number of SERVAS visitors to that country or an amount determined by the Executive. Where there are visa problems or problems taking money abroad the SERVAS Secretaries of receiving countries could consider providing a specific invitation to travelers:

International Executives: Members of the Executive Committee should serve for two years and elections should take place at each bi-annual conference. No officeholder should hold the same office for more than three consecutive terms (6 years).

The Executive Committee should prepare written directives for each office holder in SERVAS International and in the branches.

There should be one Vice-president, but the retiring President would remain a member of the Executive Committee for the next two years.

If any executive leaves his office during the term, the Executive shall appoint someone to replace him until the next election.

An assistant to each executive could be elected to each office other than President or Vice-President.

P.T.O.

An International Travel Secretary should NOT be officially designated at this time.

Nominations: Six months prior to conference elections, the membership should be asked to give nominations. A committee should prepare a list of the nominations and make sure that each one has been seconded and agreed to in writing by the nominee.

Future International Conferences - Length of conference: There should be three full working days plus time for arrival and leisure activities.

The next conference might be held in the USA since 1976 will be the year of the Bi-centennial celebration. The west coast would be more convenient for Asian countries. All members of SERVAS may attend as observers at their own expense. Official delegates who are unable to pay transportation expenses should apply to the Executive for assistance 6 months prior to Conference and the Executive Committee will decide whether SERVAS International can help.

Continental or other Regional Conferences may be called at the discretion of the Executive or Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee should explore all ways of establishing SERVAS in new countries. The Executive Committee should also try to help SERVAS countries which have problems receiving foreign visitors because of delicate political situations.

Japan suggested that hosts be canvassed in each country to see if any would receive SERVAS travelers, possibly on a paid basis who want to stay for extended periods to study or live. This information could be circulated by SERVAS International.

The Executive Committee should create a Publicity Committee which would prepare information for circulation to Branches or publicity media and other peace organizations.

When someone of outstanding reputation relating to SERVAS' ideas visits a SERVAS country, the Branch should arrange a special event involving the visitor.

International principles, policies, and procedures should be kept under continual review by the Executive Committee.

Most list amendments should be sent to the International President in August of each year.

**MOST IMPORTANT:**

The Executive committee should prepare detailed written directive to cover the duties of each officeholder.

Subcommittees should be created by the Executive to relieve the Pres., Finance, Publicity, Host-traveler relationship, Peace, Membership, Establishment of New Countries. These committees would be responsible to the full Executive Committee. The President would be an ex-officio member of all, and the Executive would have the power to co-opt non-executive members to sub committees. These committees should be set up as soon as possible.

THE FULL CONFERENCE accepted, in general the above recommendations as recommendations on Aug. 26, 1974. However, the following ideas were added:

New Zealand objected to the emphasis on money and advertising (suggested for the SI newsletter).. Other countries agreed that advertising in the newsletter might be the wrong way of raising funds, but SERVAS can't operate without financial help. Japan emphasized that the work-study proposal (for SERVAS travelers who have extended stays) is for all travelers, not only Japanese. Mildred Fahrni of Canada suggested regional conferences or fewer International conferences as an alternative to bi-annual international conferences in the future. Reva King said they might not be satisfactory substitutes for the international policy-making that goes on at a full international

The Host-Traveler Small Working Group met on August 24, 1974.

Chairperson - Martha Simon, U.S.A.

Recorders - Norma and Joe Rosenberg, U.S.A.

Participants: U.S.A. - C. Erin Walsh, Leonard Baron; France - Joseph Girard; England - Barbara Rosewarne; Switzerland - Denise Vollenweider; Germany - Antonie Fried, Elfriede Jeanes; New Zealand - Nan Smith; Poland - Irina Wyrzykowska; Denmark - Birgitte Damsgaard; Austria - Sylvia Strassner; Korea - Sang Kook Bae; Italy - Lino and Rosellina Canepari

The following are the recommendations (and suggestions) of the Host-Traveler Small Working Group. The referenced paragraph notations refer to the questions listed on pages 3, 4 and 5 of the Agenda.

VIIA 1,9,10 Servas travel applicants who seem more interested in travel than in deeper personal contacts should be directed by the interviewer to organizations geared for inexpensive travel.

VIIA 1,9,10 & VII B Hosts should be better oriented as to their duties and rights. They must be told to report any travelers who abuse Servas. When a traveler calls for the first time, the host should ask immediately for the traveler's name, country and the interviewer. When a traveler meets the host personally, the host should record this information from the letter of introduction. Should it become apparent that the traveler is taking advantage of Servas hospitality, the host will have sufficient information to report the traveler at once.

The United States suggested the idea of an annual Servas passport that would be carried by the traveler in addition to a letter of introduction which would be signed by each host after a satisfactory visit. If the visit is unsatisfactory, the host could retain the passport and notify the local coordinator. Some of the delegates did not like the passport idea.

VIIA 2,3,6 Hosts are not required to cater to the needs and habits of the younger generation. It is the responsibility of couples to notify hosts in advance if they are unmarried, so that the host may decide whether or not to accept them. It was suggested that hosts who are agreeable to unmarried couples sleeping together in their house, indicate "two persons", instead of one couple, in their listing.

VIIB 5 It was recommended that Servas encourage (but not require) hosts to distribute travelers whom they themselves cannot accommodate.

VIIA 4 It was suggested that we should strive to be more effective in dealing with variations of ethnic characteristics and traditions, particularly between East and West by 1) Articles in the International Newsletter; 2) Advising travelers to read in advance about countries they will visit and having a list of helpful books available; 3) Offering helpful hints on hosts lists; and 4) Analyzing reports from travelers who have encountered such situations due to variations of traits and customs.

VIIA 5 It was recommended that Servas travelers be approved only in their home countries, except for persons encountered outside of their country who are especially valuable to Servas. Travelers approved outside of their own country MUST agree to notify their Servas Coordinator or National Secretary after their return home. Coordinators and National Secretaries should be notified once a year about travelers accepted in other countries. Mexico and Japan disagree with any approvals outside of their countries.

The committee recommended that all countries require each traveler to pay a deposit for host lists. The deposit will be repaid only if the host lists and the travel report are returned within one month after the trip is completed.

VIIA 13 Instead of letters of introduction being sent for those travelers going to a specific country, (as is being done at present), a list of names of travelers going to each specific country should be forwarded twice a year by the country of origin.

VIIA 18 Travelers should not request host lists from the receiving country. Such letters of request should be returned to the coordinator or National Secretary of the traveler's country.

VIIA 20 Each country should continue to determine its own fees for travelers. The charge should be the same for non-home stay and home stay travelers.

VIIA 23 There is little that can be done once articles have appeared in print that have given wrong impressions about Servas. Requests for information resulting from such articles should be referred to organizations which are geared towards inexpensive travel.)

VIID Group travel should continue as at present only in response to an invitation from the receiving country. The committee strongly endorsed an Italian proposal that a group composed of individual Servas travelers from different countries should meet in one place. These travelers would stay with Servas hosts but also would meet the other travelers and other hosts in the area. This would be an international meeting of Servas members and could occur wherever and whenever the receiving areas are able to make such arrangements. Travel to and from this group meeting would be on an individual basis. Such group meetings should last long enough for the travelers to spend sufficient time with their own hosts, as well as meeting other hosts in the area. The travelers in each group, who will be from many different countries, will also get to know each other.)

VIIA 8 Limiting membership in Servas to pacifists violates the charter. The committee recommends the following: 1) An article in the International Newsletter restating the correct policy; 2) A policy statement in the Circular Letter; and 3) Specific letters to countries violating the charter should the first two recommendations fail to correct the situation.

VIIA 16 Efforts should be made to interview all travel applicants and hosts. Exceptions can only be made at the discretion of the Coordinators and National Secretaries.

VIIA 7 It is recommended that Coordinators and National Secretaries give travel interviewers a thorough training. Each country should have a travel interviewer handbook similar to the one used in the U. S. Denise Vollenweider will send a revised edition of the U. S. book to each country. Wherever possible, new interviewers should observe experienced interviewers before they act on their own. Complaints received about travelers should be used as additional criteria in future interviews.

VIIIB 1 Servas members and Secretaries should contact local newspapers and try to have articles published about Servas and the advantages of being a Servas host. The most effective technique is to have a journalist interview the Secretary. Returning travelers should be encouraged to be hosts and to invite their friends and families to be hosts. Students who cannot provide home stays should be encouraged to be guides.

VIIIB 6 The term "cultural hosts" is too vague and should be dropped. (no overnight stay)

Instructions should be included on the host list regarding unusual features of the telephone or postal systems of each country. Some countries would like more information about the hosts on the host list, including an indication of age.)

VIIIB 2,3 Orientation of new and old hosts should be as thorough as possible, including person to person contacts between host and coordinator, and also among the hosts themselves. The host is responsible for setting the tone and the spirit of the visit, and this should be emphasized during host orientation. Hosts must understand their rights as well as duties. When hosts resign from Servas, attempts should be made to find out the reasons.



IC Everyone agrees that the concept of membership (i.e. no distinction among host, 6c traveler and supporter) is a good one. Implementing this concept is not easy in all countries. In the United States, an annual registration fee of \$3.00 is now paid by everyone who wishes to become or continue as a member.

Members receive all mailings. In other countries, where there is a small Servas staff and little or no funds, mailings are not always possible. In these countries, contacts have been maintained primarily with the hosts, and to a lesser extent, with returning travelers. Thought should be given to setting up ways of using the membership concept to its best advantage in all countries.

#### FULL CONFERENCE - AUGUST 25, 1974

The recommendations of the Host-Traveler Small Working Group were accepted. The discussion that followed the Group's report added the following ideas;

VIIA 18 The host lists should, in general, be obtained in the traveler's country and not in the receiving country. Some countries, New Zealand for example, may have a problem estimating in advance how many host lists it will need for the next year. In these cases, it may be necessary for its travelers to request lists from the receiving country.

It was recommended that host countries, where it is feasible, may institute the host-coordinator system in lieu of the host-list system. All but New Zealand favored this motion.

Children of Servas member families should be oriented and interviewed before they travel with Servas.

It was recommended that Servas International check the minimum age of travelers in our charter, because some countries, Mexico, Bolivia, and Italy do not agree with the generally accepted minimum age of 18.

VIIA8 Israel suggested that although Servas membership cannot be limited to pacifists, hosts may say "prefer pacifists" on the host list.

conference but suggested that future consideration be given to the suggestion and respective revision of the SERVAS-INTERNATIONAL Charter, if so agreed.

Japan suggested that in the future, delegates come better prepared so that the same problems won't be discussed and repeated at the next Conference.

X RECOGNITION OF NEW BRANCHES - A motion was passed on Aug. 25, to elect the following new members into the corporate body: Canada, India, Israel, Korea, New Zealand, and Yemen. Nigeria was also elected to corporate membership on Aug. 26.

XI ELECTIONS - The following Executive Committee was elected:

- President - Reva King
- Vice-President - Harivallabh Parikh
- Treasurer - Denise Vollenweider
- Asst. Treasurer - Doris Bucher
- Secretary - Birgitte Damsgaard
- Asst. Secretary - Ronald Golding
- Peace Secretary - Hans Werner-Emrich *with: Kjeld and John*
- Newsletter Editor - Barbara Acquah
- Ass't Editor - To be selected by Barbara Acquah

XII REVIEW OF CONFERENCE MINUTES was not possible.

XIII NEXT CONFERENCES - Place & Date

The Full Conference moved that San Francisco be the preference for the 1976 Conference to be held the first week of August. It was agreed that these preferences would be followed if at all possible, but that the receiving country, USA, be permitted to make ultimate decision based on the West Coast City best able to host the Conference.

Recorders:  
Norma & Joe Rosenberg

FINAL SESSION OF CONFERENCE - Afternoon, Aug. 26, 1974

Participating Delegates for: Canada, Japan, India, Israel, Denmark, Yemen, Switzerland, Korea, Germany, France, Great Britain, Nigeria, New Zealand, and the U. S. A.

- A. THE QUESTION OF ELECTING POLAND AS A NEW SERVAS BRANCH was deferred for six months. At that time, upon information then available from Irena Wyrzykowska, such as the number of hosts, organizational structure, etc. in Poland, a ballot will be circulated among the Executive Committee for election as a SERVAS Branch.
- B. CONTINENTAL OR REGIONAL COORDINATORS - POLICIES  
The Executive Committee will formalize the duties of the Continental or Regional Coordinators. Nominations will be made by the Secretaries of the countries within the region itself. Elections for a period of 2 years will be by mail ballot to the Secretaries of the countries involved. It is suggested that there be an attempt to rotate the Regional Coordinators office among the countries involved.

C. ELECTIONS - Conference did elect the following Coordinators who have carried; all or some of the respective responsibilities:

1. SOUTH PACIFIC - John & Judy Ebner  
(Area includes Australia, New Zealand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, and all Pacific Islands South of the Equator\*)
2. LATIN & SOUTH AMERICA - Eduardo & Laura Langagne
3. AFRICA - Stephen Tettch Abenyegah
4. NEAR EAST - Hans Werner-Emrich  
(Area includes primarily the Arab countries - Iran, Oman, Aden, Yemen, Trucial Coast, Bahrain Island, Syria, Lybia, Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudia Arabia and possibly Turkey. Position of Israel will be arranged later.)

D. NOMINATIONS AND MAIL BALLOTS WERE DEFERRED FOR THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

1. East Asia - Area includes: Laos, Cambodia, Kongkong, Japan, North and South Korea, North and South Vietnam, Thailand, Burma, and The Philippines.)
2. West Asia - Afghanistan, Bhutan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

Conference adjourned at approximately 3:30 P.M., Aug. 26, 1974.

Recorder: Sam Simon

\*South Pacific Area had been outlined by previous Ass'T South Pacific Coordinator in correspondence which was not available at Conference

#### ADDENDA #1

Duties of Continental or Regional Coordinators as defined in 1972 SERVAS Conference: "Coordinators will coordinate SERVAS activities within their continent of responsibility; help develop or sponsor SERVAS in new countries within the continent of responsibility; maintain close communication with International Coordinator (President); provide material for the International Newsletter; organize Continental SERVAS conferences bi-annually (odd-numbered years). Associate Coordinators will also prepare and distribute host lists by Mar. 31 of each year for their continent of responsibility."

SERVAS-INTERNATIONAL President submits the following elaboration on the above duties for consideration and/or approval by the Executive Committee: In addition to consistent efforts toward promoting the GOALS of SERVAS, such Coordinators would be responsible for -

Implementation of SERVAS INTERNATIONAL policies, procedures and ideals throughout the continent or region wherever SERVAS is to exist.

Maintaining close positive working relationships with all existing SERVAS Secretaries in countries of the region; identifying needs of respective secretaries and assistance in resolving any difficulties.

In countries of the respective region lacking SERVAS Branches, study of the various countries and their readiness for SERVAS; selection of countries in terms of priorities, known potential leaders, and the country's interest to potential SERVAS travelers. For resulting selected countries lacking known appropriate volunteers, the Coordinator would initiate efforts to find volunteer leaders through peace organizations.

Sponsorship of SERVAS in new countries could mean ongoing orientation and consultation; evaluation of initial financial needs and forwarding resulting request to SERVAS-INTERNATIONAL for final recommendations.

ORGANIZING CONTINENTAL SERVAS CONFERENCES - involves many things such as finding the time and place convenient for the largest number of countries to send delegates; preparing an agenda in cooperation with all countries involved (similar to preparation for an International SERVAS Conference). Such an Agenda should attempt to include subjects of concern to all, and all countries should be encouraged to contribute ideas, questions, and subjects for discussion. It might also well include items about Regional implementation of International Policies and Procedures with close adherence to democratic processes.

Such Coordinators would also, of course, work closely with the Peace Secretary of SERVAS-INTERNATIONAL (see functions of Peace Secretary in International Conference Report - 1972).

ADDENDUM # 2

The following information was sent by Denise Vollenweider to Conference Recorders after Conference:

"1. If it is convenient, I shall remain as a kind of European Coordinator; store the lists, etc..

"2. In my summary of the Campo story in the Conference Brochure, it was not clearly stated that the founder of the Campo was a Swiss priest. His name is Julius Kaiser and he still lives in Arcegno in retirement."

ADDENDUM # 3

POSSIBLE NEED OF REGIONAL COORDINATOR FOR THE CARIBBEAN -

With new leadership emerging in the Bahamas and Costa Rica, there are now 8 islands or countries within the Caribbean in which SERVAS is developing. The diversity of cultural and language heritage in the Caribbean is recognized. At the same time, it is difficult, under present administrative limitations, to maintain the close personal contact needed to encourage development within the area. It is thus suggested that a Regional Coordinator should also be found within this area to supplement or replace the work of the Latin American Coordinator and/or International President.

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ADDENDUM # 4 - MINIMUM AGE OR TRAVELERS

President's review of prior Conference Reports reveals there has been no written International policy statement regarding minimum age.

ADDENDUM # 5

REPORT TO "PEACE WORKING GROUP" BY SERVAS-INTERNATIONAL DELEGATES TO THE UNITED NATIONS - ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL - NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION SECTION (NGO)

Much of the first year was devoted to becoming acquainted with the U.N., and especially other NGO's; learning various respective activities and the extremely complex problems with which the U N is confronted in efforts to work toward peace; acquainting the various groups with SERVAS; and attempting to determine how SERVAS can have the most effective input based on our developing insight, knowledge and capacity of SERVAS.

Among the NGO's, SERVAS appears to be almost the most international in respect to the number of participating countries with membership throughout the world.

Most other NGO's are now aware of SERVAS at the international level.

Among other NGO's, there seems to be a tendency toward excessive focus on their own organizations; limited ability to relate to broader issues or implications; and a lack of cohesiveness.

The impact of SERVAS is, as yet, unknown but our delegates believe they may have stimulated broader and deeper thought.

The extent of our effectiveness depends on our capacity for creative "input" and participation. As a member in Consultative Status, SERVAS has the right (and responsibility) for submitting recommendations to the Secretary of the NGO Section, Curtis Roosevelt.

SERVAS delegates believe that one of our major contributions may be our ability to stimulate or strengthen cohesion and joint approaches with other NGO's on issues of common concern.

SERVAS, like other NGO's, has responsibility for making activities of the U N better known.

In addition, SERVAS is requested to collaborate at a maximum in plans for "International Women's Year - 1975" and have representatives at the World Food Congress in Rome, Nov., 1974. (precise dates not yet known.)

In connection with INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR - 1975 for which planning is in process, SERVAS Delegate wants to know if SERVAS has any recommendations, and if, among other things, SERVAS can offer some home-stays for delegates to the Congresses anticipated in Bogota, Colombia; Nigeria, Kenya, and/or other countries (dates not yet known).

SERVAS delegates have focused participation in the following Committees:

1. World Population Year with emphasis on the quality of life.
2. Human Rights' Commission.
3. International Women's Year - 1975.
4. International Development Association - Economics of the World.

Delegates: Joseph Jiggetts & Jean Larkin

It was GREAT seeing those of you who could attend Conference. We hope funds will be...

SERVAS-INTERNATIONAL, c/o Reva King, 268 W. 12th St., New York, N.Y. 10014

October, 1974

Dear SERVAS Secretaries and Representatives Around the World,

Thanks very much for your patience in awaiting the 1974 SERVAS International Conference Report. A few of the many reasons for the delay include the time required for our Recorders to extract the most important items from the vast material discussed at Conference and activities in New York relating to the exciting visits by Ronald Golding, Devi Prasad, Mme. Andrea Gaymard-Rollet, Dr. Sang Kook Bae, and other very special people.

Also thanks to Swiss SERVAS for its efforts in providing such beautiful accommodations for our Conference. And thanks again to each of you who worked so hard to make our Conference so meaningful.

I am attaching the 1974 Conference Report, a questionnaire form for your evaluation and related information, and a supplement containing various address changes. Much additional information was discussed at Conference, and other helpful material was distributed such as "position papers" submitted by SERVAS Secretaries who could not attend Conference, host list supplements by France, Germany, India, Denmark and a few other countries. Later, I hope to have available a summary of Joseph Abileah's challenging presentation to Conference. Please tell me if you wish me to send you any of this additional material or clarification of any items in the enclosed report.

Because of the extensive material enclosed, this covering letter will be limited to the following:

SERVAS-INTERNATIONAL SPONSORS: In the list of Sponsors described in the SERVAS Orientation material sent you this spring, will you please delete the word Gupta after the name Devi Prasad. Also please add -

Dr. Peter Manniche (Denmark) was Founder of the International Folk High School at Elsinore and continues to conduct short Scandinavian Summer courses for students from all over the world. He is well-known throughout the world for his lectures in many countries and his books about social concerns or related issues. He has been a delegate to UNESCO in addition to doing other extensive work for international peace.

USE OF INNER-OFFICE MEMORANDUMS - At various times, some of you receive "Inner-Office Memos" from me with your Circular Letters. I have used these as a substitute for personal letters which cannot be sent with "Printed Matter". I hope this effort to save postage has not caused too much confusion and that you somehow know that such memos carry warm feelings even if they lack any "personal touch".

After you read the attached material, will you please complete the questionnaire and send it to me with your reactions, questions, requests or any Administrative information you wish circulated internationally. Articles of more interest to the general SERVAS Membership should, of course, be sent directly to Barbara Acquah, Editor of International News.

I hope this finds each of you very well and satisfied with progress in your fall activities. I look forward to hearing from you and will do my best to answer more promptly. In P E A C E,

Reva King, President, SERVAS-INTERNATIONAL

p.t.o.

## INTRODUCTION TO REPORT OF 1974 SERVAS-INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Perhaps the most unique aspects of our 1974 Conference included the largest and most representative attendance in our history; the unusually long hours of work; the use of small working discussion groups; and visits by members of other peace groups.

Most of you who attended the Conference have no doubt been evaluating your experiences. A few participants have given your president varied verbal reactions - both positive and negative. Some difficulties included the overly long Agenda which attempted to cover all submitted subjects; the brevity of the time scheduled for Conference which a) failed to allow sufficient time for finalizing decisions, and b) lacked adequate time for informal social periods; and the absence of those delegates whose attendance was prevented by lack of funds. Some of these deficiencies were considered by the Small Working Group - International Administrative Problems.....". Related recommendations are included in the Report by that group.

The Conference lacked opportunity for participants to react to the basically new innovations such as the use of small discussion groups, etc.

A Questionnaire is thus attached at the end of the Conference Report for your use in sending reactions to the 1974 Conference to use later in constructive planning for the 1976 Conference; and for help in implementing some of the 1974 Conference Recommendations NOW.

The questionnaire form includes follow-up of a few recommendations by the Administrative Working Group because of the particular need for more detailed thought to enable early implementation.

Members of the Executive Committee are especially asked to send suggestions about respective job duties. From all of you, we need offers or suggested volunteers to work on the various recommended sub-committees.

Your completion of the questionnaire and return to me at your earliest convenience will be most deeply appreciated.

THANK YOU