



# World Chronicle

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**PROGRAMME:** No. 602, recorded 20 October 1995

**GUEST:** Dr. Nafis SADIK  
Executive Director  
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

**JOURNALISTS:** Ian Williams, *Tribune* (London)  
Barbar Crossette, *The New York Times*

**MODERATOR:** Michael Littlejohns

## WORLD POPULATION

Dr. Nafis SADIK, Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), discusses population and women's issues. Investment in people is the key to sustainable economic growth and development and to sustainable, balanced population growth. Education is a vital element in large families and poverty. Reproductive and sexual health needs should be an integral part of family planning programmes. The fertility rate in developing countries has declined from 6.1 children per family in the 1950s to 3.7 today. The AIDS epidemic has adversely affected health care systems in many developing countries. Dr. Sadik believes that, in spite of the progress made, women continue to be under-represented in the political process. Dr. Sadik also pointed out that UNFPA enjoys strong financial support from the donor countries.

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