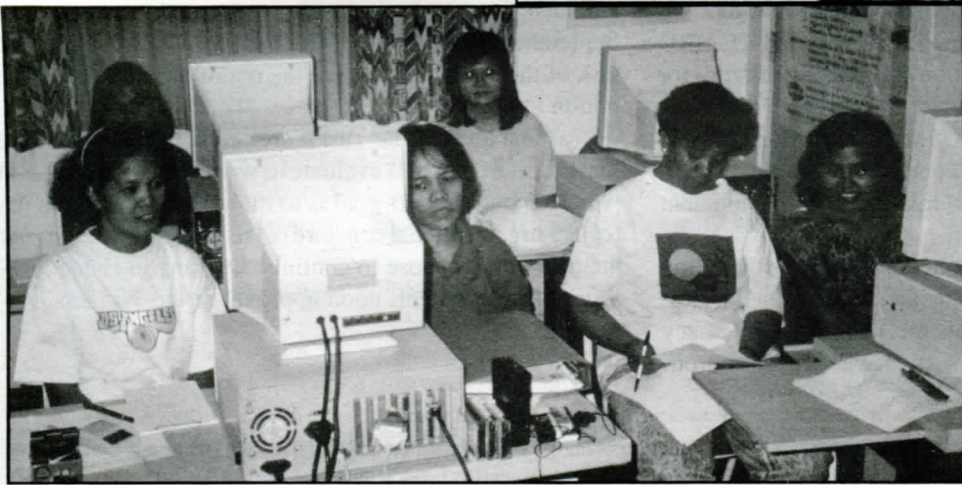
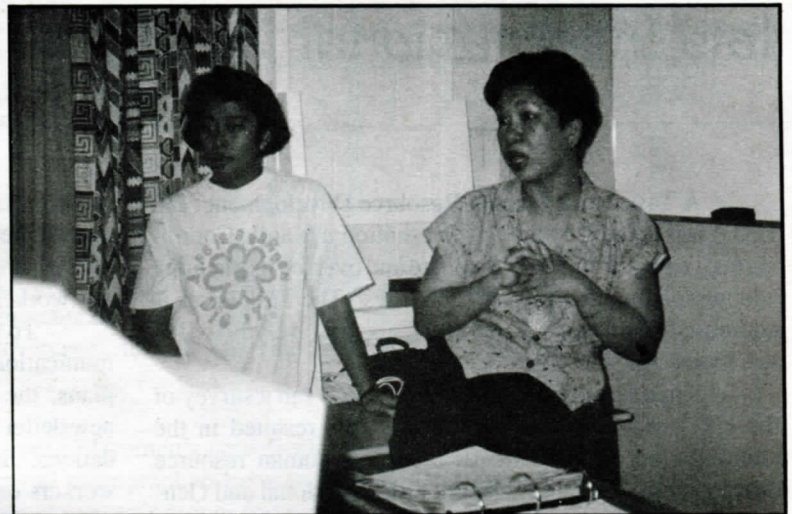


Ms. Vina Pascua-Cruz, ably assisted by Isis International worker Em Salang, introduced the CDS-ISIS database program.



Isis International workers were eager to learn the different ways CDS-ISIS can help them in their everyday work.



Isis International workers learn database management

Eight workers of the Isis International Team in Manila attended an in-house training in CDS-ISIS (Computerized Documentation System-Integrated Set of Information Systems) held from October 15 to 19, 1991. CDS-ISIS is a database computer program designed for the management of a non-numerical database. It was developed and distributed internationally by UNESCO. Currently it is a popular database program for institutions and organizations which maintain and develop huge volumes of data such as libraries and resource centers.

Isis International chose to use CDS-ISIS because it is designed to accommodate and arrange an unlim-

ited variety of data yet is flexible enough to fit the specific needs of the Isis International programs.

Upon its installation and implementation all the programs shall maintain only one master file for the use of ISIS International programs: the Resource Center's human resources database, the Communication and Networking Program's Women in Action mailing list, the Health Networking Program's networking database and the Administration Program's day-to-day work. They shall store, sort, retrieve and output data using a unified database. In doing so, Isis International hopes to serve the needs of its extensive network of women faster, more easily and more efficiently.

Each program was represented in the training and these participants are expected to pass on training to the rest of the members of the program. All the workers will then work together to design and encode the unified database.

The training, designed and developed specially for the needs of Isis International, was conducted by Ms. Vina Pascua-Cruz, professor of Library Science from the University of the Philippines and president of the Philippines CDS-ISIS users' association.

Isis International in Santiago, Chile also uses the CDS-ISIS database program.

Isis International builds its human resources

by Belinda U. Calaguas

A Task Force Human Resource Development (TF-HRD) was created by the Isis International Manila Coordinating Team last July to coordinate and oversee its planning and implementation of HRD activities. The Task Force is composed of Luchie Ticzon, Bel Calaguas, Belyn Arcilla, and Doms Anosan.

Since its organization, the TF-HRD ran a survey of the HRD needs of the workforce. This resulted in the identification of three major areas for human resource development: Feminist Education, International and General Education, and Work-related Skills Training. In compliance with the results of the survey, the TF-HRD organized the following education and training sessions for Isis International workers: Gender Sensitivity Workshop, International Political and Economic Situation, Project Development with a Women's Perspective, National Political Situation, and two Feminist Organization Development (FOD) sessions.

The Task Force also recommended the participation of Isis International workers in the International Peace Festival in the Philippines and the People's Diplomacy Training where international issues such as peace, environ-

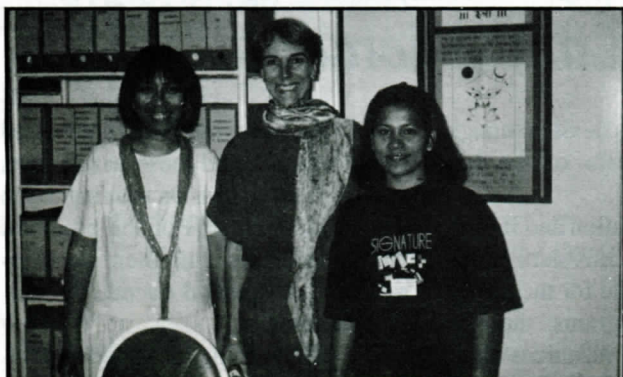
ment, sustainable development, indigenous people's rights and women's rights were discussed. Task force members also ensure that key activities and conferences attended by any worker are echoed to other workers and reflected upon.

To provide a channel for regular updates and communication of Task Force Human Resource Development plans, the TF-HRD also publishes **The Isis Brew**. The newsletter carries news on TF-HRD plans and recommendations. It also features reflections of Isis International workers on HRD activities, trainings and fora they have attended. Two issues have been published for August and September. The slogan of **The Isis Brew** says it all for the task of the TF-HRD: "Make the pot of our ideas brew the potion of sisterhood."

The term of the Task Force ends in December. At that time the team will evaluate its work and submit an HRD plan for next year. Its goal is to integrate its tasks into the regular organizational structure of Isis International. Present members may choose to continue working in Human Resource Development, upon approval at the Workers' Assembly.

Isis International visitors

Many visitors have come to the Isis International office in Manila since it opened last April 1991. They include: Jane Cottingham, co-founder of Isis International and working with WHO in Geneva (upper left photo); Kamla Bhasin, Isis International associate, and working with FAO and Ritu Menon of Kali for Women (lower left photo); and Sharidah Zarah Syed Ahmad and Indahsah Hj Sidek from Malaysia, who came on a study tour (bottom photo).



Isis International is an international non-governmental women's organization providing information and communication services to women worldwide. Since 1974, Isis International has been working to promote women's empowerment through information, communication, networking and skills sharing.

Isis International Resource Center

Our Resource Center houses a unique collection of information and resource materials, most of it coming from women's groups, organizations and networks and from people's and development organizations. It documents the history and growth of the women's movement worldwide, its strengths and achievements, its problems and debates, and the many ways women are organizing.

The resource collection contains: over 830 women's periodicals; books, pamphlets, reports, bibliographies, directories; posters and other graphics by women; a Human Resources Data Base with 4000 names and addresses of women's groups and networks and of individuals and institutions supporting women's activities around the world.

The Resource Center offers: computerized library services for efficient and fast information access and retrieval. You may use these services by visiting the resource center or by writing for information on a specific issue; information packets on key issues; bibliographies and reading lists; training in computer literacy and use of new technologies; and training and assistance in setting up and organizing women's resource centers.

Isis International Publications

Women in Action is a quarterly magazine about women's experiences, ideas, organizing activities, resource materials, groups, meetings and conferences. It is a communication channel for women to share and network with each other, to learn how women are organizing and taking action. It gives women the space to tell their stories, define their issues and agendas, and learn how other women are organizing and taking action.

The Isis International book series focus on key issues that lead to women's empowerment. Each book brings together contributions from women around the world.

Health Networking

Because health is a key issue for women, Isis International's health networking program:

- promotes networking, consultations and meetings among women's health groups, organizations and networks;
- provides information and bibliographies on health issues from the Isis International special collection of resource materials on health;
- promotes regional and interregional health information campaigns;
- publishes an international **Women and Health Journal** with features and highlights of health research; interviews and discussions with women on their experiences, reflections and positions on women and health issues; sharing of women's experiences in organizing health groups and activities; resource listings; information on conferences and meetings; health campaign information.

Skills Sharing

Isis International provides opportunities for sharing information and communication skills through: internships, in-service training and worker exchanges with other women's groups, organizations and networks; training courses; organization of meetings and consultations; and technical assistance.

