

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. cable	Re: [Cuba - PRC - UN/Relations] (4 pages)	11/02/1995	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
Jan 1995 - Dec 1996 ([Bejing Women's Conference])
OA/Box Number: 510000

FOLDER TITLE:

[11/02/1995 - 11/30/1995]

2012-0094-F
ke3955

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
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b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Cable

PREC: PRIORITY
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: PAAUZYUW RUEHACA3620 3061419-UUUU--RHEHAAA.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: P 021419Z NOV 95
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
OSRI: RUEHAC
DTG: 021419Z NOV 95
ORIG: AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5810
INFO: RHEHAAA/WHITE HOUSE WASHDC
SUBJ: FIFTH FIRST LADIES OF THE AMERICAS SUMMIT,
OCTOBER 16-19: DECLARATION OF ASUNCION

TEXT:

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 04 ASUNCION 003620

STATE PASS ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

WHITE HOUSE FOR PATTI SOLIS, OFFICE OF THE FIRST LADY

STATE FOR ARA/BSC DON PLANTY

STATE PASS USAID FOR MARK SCHNEIDER

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: KWMN, OVIP (CLINTON, HILLARY RODHAM), PREL, PA
SUBJECT: FIFTH FIRST LADIES OF THE AMERICAS SUMMIT,
OCTOBER 16-19: DECLARATION OF ASUNCION

REF: ASUNCION 3110

SUMMARY

1. THE DECLARATION OF ASUNCION, SIGNED BY 26 FIRST LADIES AND SPECIAL ENVOYS, IS A CLEAR COMMITMENT TO WORK FOR BETTER WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S EDUCATION AND HEALTH CARE, PARTICULARLY IN RURAL AND URBAN-MARGINAL AREAS. AN IMPORTANT GOAL IS THE ERADICATION OF MEASLES BY THE YEAR 2000. ANOTHER IS THE ELIMINATION OF SPOUSAL AND CHILD ABUSE. THE DOCUMENT STRESSES THAT EFFORTS WILL BE MADE TO IMPLEMENT, ACCORDING TO EACH COUNTRY'S NATIONAL INTEREST, THE AGREEMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS STEMMING FROM PRIOR SUMMITS OF FIRST LADIES OF THE AMERICAS, AS WELL AS FROM THE MIAMI SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS AND RECENT REGIONAL AND UN CONFERENCES IN COPENHAGEN, CAIRO AND BEIJING. END SUMMARY.

2. FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON SET THE TONE FOR

THE CONFERENCE IN HER OPENING SPEECH ON OCTOBER 16. SHE ADVOCATED A MORE EGALITARIAN COMMUNITY BASED ON RESPECT FOR AND PROMOTION OF WOMEN. SHE TALKED ABOUT HOUSEHOLD VIOLENCE, PRODUCTIVITY, AND THE POSITIVE RESULTS THAT ASSISTANCE TO RURAL WOMEN YIELDS. SHE EMPHASIZED THAT THERE WILL BE NO DEVELOPMENT AS LONG AS WOMEN ARE LEFT ASIDE. ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE CONFERENCE, MRS. CLINTON SPOKE ABOUT A THREE-POINT AGENDA IN CHILDREN'S AND WOMEN'S HEALTH AND EDUCATION:

-- THE ELIMINATION OF MEASLES FROM THE AMERICAS BY THE YEAR 2000 WITH A MASSIVE VACCINATION CAMPAIGN;

-- THE REDUCTION OF MATERNAL MORTALITY BY FOCUSING ON PRIMARY PRENATAL CARE AND EMERGENCY OBSTETRIC CARE; AND

-- THE URGENT NEED TO UPGRADE CHILDREN'S EDUCATION BY UPGRADING THE OVERALL QUALITY OF TEACHING, IN CONFORMITY WITH THE MIAMI SUMMIT GOAL OF A ZERO DROPOUT RATE IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND A HIGH RATE OF HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENT BY 2010.

OFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF THE ASUNCION DECLARATION

3. THE FOLLOWING IS THE OFFICIAL ENGLISH VERSION OF THE ASUNCION DECLARATION, ALSO KNOWN AS THE DECLARATION OF PARAGUAY:

WE, THE WIVES OF HEADS OF STATE AND OF GOVERNMENT AND REPRESENTATIVES OF GOVERNMENTS AND OF FIRST LADIES OF THE AMERICAS GATHERED IN THE CITY OF ASUNCION, CAPITAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF PARAGUAY, ON OCTOBER 16-19, 1995, TO EXCHANGE IDEAS AND STRATEGIES CONCERNING THE "HEALTH AND EDUCATION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN" IN OUR REGION, AS A FOLLOW-UP TO THE 4TH CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF HEADS OF STATE AND OF GOVERNMENT OF THE AMERICAS HELD IN SAINT LUCIA ON OCTOBER 11-13, 1994 AND TO THE SYMPOSIUM ON CHILDREN OF THE AMERICAS HELD IN MIAMI LAST DECEMBER 10,

WE RECOGNIZE THAT OUR COUNTRIES FACE COMMON CHALLENGES REGARDING THE HEALTH AND EDUCATION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN AND THAT BY SHARING EXPERIENCES AND PROMOTING REGIONAL ACTIONS THROUGH THESE CONFERENCES, WE CAN FOSTER THE DEVELOPMENT AND THE WELL-BEING OF OUR NATIONS.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THESE CONSIDERATIONS, WE DECLARE THAT WE WILL:

1) WORK IN FAVOR OF THE HEALTH AND EDUCATION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN, UNDER THE PRINCIPLES OF: COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT, EQUALITY, DEMOCRATIZATION OF INFORMATION AND AWARENESS, AND FAMILY AND SOCIAL PARTICIPATION.

2) SUPPORT ACTIONS THAT IMPROVE THE HEALTH OF CHILDREN AND WOMEN THROUGHOUT THEIR LIFE CYCLES BY PROMOTING UNIVERSAL AND QUALITY HEALTH CARE, THUS CONTRIBUTING TO

THE REDUCTION OF MATERNAL MORBDITY AND MORTALITY.

3) ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION - WHILE
RESPECTING THE NATIONAL INTEREST AND LEGISLATION OF E
ACH
COUNTRY - OF THE AGREEMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS REACHED
AT THE WORLD SUMMIT ON CHILDREN, THE UNITED NATIONS
UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 04 ASUNCION 003620

STATE PASS ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

WHITE HOUSE FOR PATTI SOLIS, OFFICE OF THE FIRST LADY

STATE FOR ARA/BSC DON PLANTY

STATE PASS USAID FOR MARK SCHNEIDER

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: KWMN, OVIP (CLINTON, HILLARY RODHAM), PREL, PA
SUBJECT: FIFTH FIRST LADIES OF THE AMERICAS SUMMIT,
OCTOBER 16-19: DECLARATION OF ASUNCION

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT,
THE SUMMIT OFH ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, AND THE UNITED NATIONS
FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN.

4) CONTRIBUTE TO THE ATTAINMENT OF THE GOAL TO ELIMINATE
MEASLES IN THE AMERICAS BY THE YEAR 2000.

5) PROMOTE STRATEGIES AND ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE THE
HEALTH AND EDUCATION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN, PARTICULARLY
IN POOR RURAL AREAS AND MARGINALIZED URBAN AREAS.

6) PROMOTE WOMEN'S AND GIRLS' ACCESS TO FORMAL AND NON-
FORMAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, TO ENSURE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
FOR FULL PARTICIPATION IN SOCIETY AND THEIR ACTIVE
CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR COUNTRIES.

7) PROMOTE A HEMISPHERIC DIALOGUE TO SHARE INFORMATION
AND EXCHANGE EXPERIENCES ON EDUCATION REFORM EFFORTS
WHICH INCREASE SCHOOL ENROLLMENT RATES AND COMPLETION
RATES, IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY
EDUCATION AND EXPAND COVERAGE OF NON-FORMAL FAMILY AND
COMMUNITY BASED EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION.

8) CONTRIBUTE TO THE PREVENTION AND ELIMINATION OF ALL
FORMS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN THROUGH THE
PROVISION OF NORMS AND ADOPTION OF NECESSARY MECHANISMS,
AS WELL AS FOSTERING RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS.

IN ADDITION:

WE AGREE TO EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE TO INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER ENTITIES FOR THE INTEREST AND
SUPPORT MANIFESTED AT THE CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF HEADS OF
STATE AND OF GOVERNMENT AND REPRESENTATIVES OF
GOVERNMENTS AND OF FIRST LADIES OF THE AMERICAS.

WE AGREE TO HOLD THE 6TH CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF HEADS OF STATE AND OF GOVERNMENT OF THE AMERICAS IN THE REPUBLIC OF BOLIVIA IN 1996; AGREE TO HOLD THE 7TH CONFERENCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA, AND FORM THE NEW PRO-TEMPORE SECRETARIAT COMPOSED OF THE OFFICES OF FIRST LADIES OF BOLIVIA, PARAGUAY AND PANAMA.

WE CONGRATULATE AND THANK OUR HOST, MRS. MARIA TERESA CARRASCO DE WASMOSY AND THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF PARAGUAY FOR THEIR WARM HOSPITALITY AND CONGRATULATE THE PRO-TEMPORE SECRETARIAT AND THE GENERAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE FOR THE SUCCESSFUL CULMINATION OF THE CONFERENCE.

SIGNED IN ASUNCION, CAPITAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF PARAGUAY ON THE NINETEENTH DAY OF THE MONTH OF OCTOBER OF THE YEAR NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-FIVE BY JANICE COMPTON, SAINT LUCIA; MADELEINE M. KUNIN FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON, U.S.A; MARIA TERESA CARRASCO DE WASMOSY, PARAGUAY; XIMENA ITURRALDE DE SANCHEX DE LOZADO, BOLIVIA; ALINE CHRETIEN, CANADA; MARTA LARRAECHEA DE FREI, CHILE; JOSETTE ALTMANN DE FIGUERES, COSTA RICA; JOSEFINA VILLALOBOS DE DURAN BALLEEN, ECUADOR; MA. EUGENIA MORALES DE DE LEON, GUATEMALA; JANET JAGAN, GUYANA; BESSIE WATSON DE REINA, HONDURAS; LADY IVY SYLVIA LUCILLE COOKE, JAMAICA; NILDA VELASCOL DE ZEDILLO, MEXICO; DORA BOYD DE PEREZ BALLADARES, PANAMA; LIESBETH VENETIAAN VANENBURG, SURINAM; ZALAYHAR HASSANALI, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO; ZELMIRA MIREYA REGAZZOLI, ARGENTINA; VERA QUEIROZ DA COSTA E SILVA, BRAZIL; MARIA CRISTINA DUSSAN, COLOMBIA; VILMA ESPIN GUILLOIS, CUBA; CLAUDIA MARIELA AVILA, EL SALVADOR; MARIA AUXILIADORA MATUS, NICARAGUA; MARTHA CHAVEX COSSIO, PERU; YOCASTA MORALES DE AYBAR, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC; LAURA ALBERTINI, URUGUAY; BEATRIZ RODRIGUEZ DE WALTER, VENEZUELA.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROGRAMS OF THE 5TH CONFERENCE OF

WIVES OF HEADS OF STATE AND OF GOVERNMENT OF THE AMERICAS

AS ADVOCATES FOR THE HEALTH AND EDUCATION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN WITHIN A FRAMEWORK OF EQUALITY, PEACE, FREEDOM, SOLIDARITY, SOCIAL PROGRESS AND SUSTAINABLE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, WE RECOMMEND CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMS:

A. CONCERNING WOMEN'S HEALTH:

UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 04 ASUNCION 003620

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STATE FOR ARA/BSC DON PLANTY

STATE PASS USAID FOR MARK SCHNEIDER

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: KWMN, OVIP (CLINTON, HILLARY RODHAM), PREL, PA
 SUBJECT: FIFTH FIRST LADIES OF THE AMERICAS SUMMIT,
 OCTOBER 16-19: DECLARATION OF ASUNCION

1. A. SUPPORT THE RESOLUTION OF PAHO'S XXII PAN AMERICAN
 SANITARY C

ONFERENCE WHICH ENCOURAGES GOVERNMENTS OF THE
 AMERICAS TO ESTABLISH "POLICY OF COMPREHENSIVE ATTENTION
 OF WOMEN'S HEALTH FOR THE PREVENTION OF MORBIDITY AND THE
 REDUCTION OF MATERNAL MORTALITY BY AT LEAST 50 PERCENT,
 TO BE ACHIEVED BY THE YEAR 2000".

- B. PROMOTE THE ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES TO ALLOW FOR
 THE ADEQUATE IMPLEMENTATION AND FOLLOW-UP OF THE
 "NATIONAL PLANS OF ACTION TO ACCELERATE THE REDUCTION OF
 MATERNAL MORTALITY AND MORBIDITY IN THE AMERICAS,"
 ELABORATED IN COLLABORATION WITH PAHO AND OTHER
 INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

- C. PROMOTE THE DISAGGREGATION OF MORBIDITY AND
 MORTALITY RATES BY SEX.

2. CREATE MECHANISMS IN THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH ARE ENGAGED
 IN THE UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND (UNFPA) PROJECT,
 "PREVENTION OF ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY," TO CONTRIBUTE TO
 MORE EFFICIENT IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PROJECT IN RESPONSE
 TO THE FOLLOWING NEEDS:

- A. ENCOURAGE THE PARTICIPATION OF LOCAL UNFPA OFFICES
 IN THE ELABORATION, IMPLEMENTATION AND FOLLOW-UP OF THE
 LOCAL COMPONENTS OF THE PROJECT, SO AS TO GUARANTEE THE
 COORDINATION OF THIS INITIATIVE WITH SIMILAR PROJECTS
 FUNDED BY OTHER INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCIES, BOTH
 BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL.

- B. WIDEN THE SCOPE OF ACTION OF THE PROJECT, WHENEVER
 NECESSARY, SO AS TO INCLUDE ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE
 REDUCTION OF MATERNAL MORTALITY.

- C. ANALYZE THE POSSIBILITY OF REDISTRIBUTING
 UNALLOCATED FINANCIAL RESOURCES, AMONG THOSE COUNTRIES
 WHICH ARE ALREADY IMPLEMENTING THE PROJECT AND NEED
 ADDITIONAL RESOURCES.

- D. ADJUST THE PROJECT IN ORDER TO SUPPORT, WHILE
 RESPECTING THE NATIONAL INTEREST OF THE COUNTRY, THE
 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE UNITED
 NATIONS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR POPULATION AND
 DEVELOPMENT AND THE UNITED NATIONS FOURTH WORLD
 CONFERENCE ON WOMEN.

3. SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL OF THE ASSOCIATION OF IBERO-
 AMERICAN LEAGUES AGAINST CANCER (ALICC) TO CONTINUE AND
 EXPAND THE PROGRAM "LATIN AMERICA IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST
 CANCER" TO COUNTRIES IN THE REGION.

B. CONCERNING WOMEN'S EDUCATION/TRAINING:

1. RECOMMEND THE DISAGGREGATION OF DATA BY SEX AND ANALYZE THESE DATA IN SUCH A WAY AS TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE CONDITION AND POSITION OF EACH SEX WITHIN SPECIFIC SOCIAL CONTEXTS.
2. PROMOTE MECHANISMS THROUGH WHICH WOMEN CAN BE ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS IN THE DESIGN, IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION OF PROJECTS THAT PROMOTE SOCIAL EQUALITY OF WOMEN.
3. BASED ON THE EXPERIENCES OF THE PROJECTS, "RURAL WOMEN IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN" IMPLEMENTED THROUGH IICA AND "PROMOTION OF WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN DEVELOPMENT," REQUEST THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (IDB) TO EXPAND AND CONTINUE, RESPECTIVELY, THE PROJECTS TO OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE REGION.
4. REQUEST THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (IDB) TO STUDY THE POSSIBILITY OF CREATING A FUND TO FINANCE SPECIFIC PROJECTS THAT IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF RURAL WOMEN.

C. CONCERNING CHILDREN'S HEALTH:

1. PROMOTE AND FOLLOW-UP ON PROGRESS MADE TOWARD ACHIEVING THE GOALS OF THE WORLD SUMMIT FOR CHILDREN BY THE YEAR 2000.
2. WORK WITH MINISTRIES OF HEALTH, THE PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION (PAHO) AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ON THE CAMPAIGN TO ELIMINATE MEASLES TRANSMISSION FROM THE AMERICAS BY THE YEAR 2000 AND STRENGTHEN THE SURVEILLANCE OF PREVENTABLE DISEASES BY VACCINATION.

UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 04 ASUNCION 003620

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E.O. 12356: N/A

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3. REQUEST THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO) TO EXTEND THE "PROGRAM ON SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND STREET CHILDREN IN THE AMERICAS" AND URGE THE MENTOR FOUNDATION TO CONTINUE FUNDING THIS PROGRAM.
4. URGE MASS MEDIA TO DEDICATE PRIME TIME ON A DAILY BASIS TO THE DISSEMINATION OF HEALTH EDUCATION INFORMATION.

D. CONCERNING CHILDREN'S EDUCATION:

1. PROMOTE ACTIVITIES THAT CONTRIBUTE TO INVESTMENT IN THE EDUCATION OF GIRLS AND WOMEN OF THE AMERICAS, AS WELL AS THE REDUCTION OF SCHOOL REPETITION AND DROP-OUT RATES, BY ENCOURAGING GOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONS AND CIVIL SOCIETY TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF PRIMARY EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS BY:

A. SUPPORTING MORE ACTIVE CHILD-CENTERED TEACHING PRACTICES, WHICH INCREASE AND IMPROVE THE AVAILABILITY AND USE OF NON-SEXIST TEXTBOOKS WHILE ENSURING EFFECTIVE TIME FOR LEARNING IN SCHOOLS.

B. SUPPORTING NON-FORMAL COMMUNITY AND FAMILY-BASED CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND ENHANCING THE LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE OF PARENTS AND CARE GIVERS.

C. PROMOTING, DISSEMINATING AND MONITORING THE "CHILD-FRIENDLY SCHOOL INITIATIVE"

E. CONCERNING THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN:

PROMOTE THE IMPLEMENTATION, --ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL INTEREST AND THE LEGISLATION OF EACH COUNTRY, -- OF THE COMMITMENTS MADE AT THE UNITED NATIONS FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN, HELD IN BEIJING, CHINA, DURING SEPTEMBER OF THIS YEAR.

F. CONCERNING THE TOPIC OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:

1. PROMOTE THE RATIFICATION AND/OR ADHERENCE AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION, PUNISHMENT AND ERADICATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, ADOPTED IN BELEM DO PARA ON JUNE 9, 1994.

2. PROMOTE THE JOINT PAHO/IDB INITIATIVE WHICH IS DESIGNED TO IMPLEMENT THE REGIONAL PROGRAM ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN: "ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNITY NETWORKS".

3. URGE MASS MEDIA TO PROMOTE AWARENESS AND EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGNS TO PREVENT AND COMBAT VIOLENCE.

G. CONCERNING THE U.N. CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD:

1. A. PROMOTE THE FULFILLMENT OF THE AGREEMENTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD.

- B. PROMOTE THE ELIMINATION OF SOCIAL AND FAMILY VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN AND PUT THE TOPIC OF VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN ON THE POLITICAL AGENDA OF COUNTRIES.

- C. PROMOTE THE ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOR FOR GIRLS AND BOYS UNDER 12 YEARS OLD.

COMMENT

4. THE SUMMIT ENDED ON OCTOBER 19, ONE DAY AHEAD OF SCHEDULE. IT WAS DEEMED A GREAT SUCCESS BY PARTICIPANTS AND THE LOCAL MEDIA, IN NO SMALL PART DUE TO THE DYNAMIC PRESENCE AND PRESENTATIONS OF MRS. CLINTON. THE ASUNCION CONFERENCE, COMING SO SOON AFTER THE BEIJING CONFERENCE ON WOMEN, SHOULD SERVE TO MAINTAIN REGIONAL ATTENTION ON WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S ISSUES THROUGH NEXT YEAR'S CONFERENCE IN LA PAZ.

SERVICE
BT
#3620

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SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 04
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SSN: 3620
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<^TOR>951102092726 M1932304

DIST: SIT: NSC
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Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

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Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
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OA/Box Number: 510000

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[11/02/1995 - 11/30/1995]

2012-0094-F
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CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: PAAUZYUW RUEHGVA8284 3061652-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: P 021652Z NOV 95
LINE4: FM USMISSION GENEVA
OSRI: RUEHGV
DTG: 021652Z NOV 95
ORIG: USMISSION GENEVA
TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7918
INFO: RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 4265
SUBJ: UNHCR: OMNIBUS REFUGEE RESOLUTION AT THE U.N.
TEXT:
UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 GENEVA 008284

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: PREF, UNGA, UNHCR
SUBJ: UNHCR: OMNIBUS REFUGEE RESOLUTION AT THE U.N.
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. FOLLOWING PROVIDES THE DRAFT TEXT OF OMNIBUS REFUGEE RESOLUTION FOR 50TH U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY. GENEVA-BASED HUMANITARIAN LIAISON WORKING GROUP (HLWG) MET AT THE TECHNICAL-LEVEL ON OCTOBER 31 TO DISCUSS AND AGREE UPON TEXT (CONTAINED IN PARA 2; ALSO FAXED 11/2 TO DEPARTMENT/PRM) TO BE SUBMITTED IN NEW YORK BY DENMARK. DENMARK IS CURRENTLY CONSULTING WITH G-77 AND OTHER NON-HLWG PERMANENT MISSIONS IN GENEVA. TEXT REPRESENTS EFFORTS BY U.N. HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR) AND DENMARK TO AVOID REPETITION OF LAST YEAR'S RESOLUTION AND SHORTEN OVERALL LENGTH (E.G. AVOIDING DISCUSSION OF REGIONAL REFUGEE SITUATIONS).

2. BEGIN TEXT OF DRAFT OMNIBUS REFUGEE RESOLUTION --

- THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

- HAVING CONSIDERED THE REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES ON THE ACTIVITIES OF HER OFFICE AND THE REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE PROGRAM OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER ON THE WORK OF ITS FORTY-SIXTH SESSION, AND TAKING NOTE OF THE STATEMENT MADE BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER -- NOVEMBER 1995, (EVERY YEAR GA)

- RECALLING ITS RESOLUTION 49/169 OF 23 DECEMBER 1994, (EVERY YEAR GA)

- EMPHASIZING THE PRIMACY OF THE 1951 CONVENTION AND THE 1967 PROTOCOL RELATING TO THE STATUS OF

REFUGEES AS FORMING THE INTERNATIONAL LEGAL BASIS FOR THE PROTECTION OF REFUGEES, AND NOTING WITH SATISFACTION THAT 130 STATES ARE NOW PARTIES TO ONE OR BOTH INSTRUMENTS (EXCOM95,19C)

- REAFFIRMING THE PURELY HUMANITARIAN AND NON-POLITICAL CHARACTER OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER, AS WELL AS THE CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER'S FUNCTIONS OF PROVIDING INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION TO REFUGEES AND SEEKING SOLUTIONS TO REFUGEE PROBLEMS, (GA94,PREAMBLE5)

- COMMENDING THE HIGH COMMISSIONER AND HER STAFF FOR THE COMPETENT, COURAGEOUS AND DEDICATED MANNER IN WHICH THEY DISCHARGE THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES, PAYING TRIBUTE TO STAFF MEMBERS WHO HAVE ENDANGERED OR LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE COURSE OF THEIR DUTIES AND EMPHASIZING THE URGENT NEED FOR EFFECTIVE MEASURES TO ENSURE THE SECURITY OF STAFF ENGAGED IN HUMANITARIAN OPERATIONS, (GA94,PREAMBLE9; GA94,0P.17)

- DISTRESSED AT THE CONTINUED SUFFERING OF REFUGEES FOR WHOM A SOLUTION HAS YET TO BE FOUND; AND NOTING WITH DEEP CONCERN THAT REFUGEE PROTECTION CONTINUES TO BE JEOPARDIZED IN MANY SITUATIONS AS A RESULT OF DENIAL OF ADMISSION, UNLAWFUL EXPULSION, REFOULEMENT, UNJUSTIFIED DETENTION, OTHER THREATS TO THEIR PHYSICAL SECURITY, DIGNITY AND WELL-BEING, AND FAILURE TO RESPECT AND ENSURE THEIR FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS AND HUMAN RIGHTS, (EXCOM95,19A;GA93,PREAMBLELO).

- WELCOMING THE CONTINUING STRONG COMMITMENT OF STATES TO PROVIDING PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES AND THE VALUABLE SUPPORT EXTENDED BY GOVERNMENTS TO THE HIGH COMMISSIONER IN CARRYING OUT HER HUMANITARIAN TASKS, (GA94,PREAMBLE6).

- CONCERNED THAT STATELESSNESS, INCLUDING THE INABILITY TO ESTABLISH ONE'S NATIONALITY, MAY RESULT IN DISPLACEMENT, AND STRESSING, IN THIS REGARD, THAT THE PREVENTION AND REDUCTION OF STATELESSNESS AND THE PROTECTION OF STATELESS PERSONS ARE IMPORTANT ALSO IN THE PREVENTION OF POTENTIAL REFUGEE SITUATIONS. (EXCOM95,20 PREAMBLE).

1) STRONGLY REAFFIRMS THE FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE OF THE FUNCTION OF THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES OF PROVIDING INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION TO REFUGEES AND SEEKING SOLUTIONS TO REFUGEE PROBLEMS, AND THE NEED FOR STATES TO COOPERATE FULLY WITH UNHCR IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE EFFECTIVE EXERCISE OF THAT FUNCTION; (EVERY YEAR GA)

2) CALLS UPON ALL STATES WHICH ARE NOT YET PARTY TO ACCEDE OR DECLARE SUCCESSION TO, AND ALL STATES TO IMPLEMENT FULLY, THE 1951 CONVENTION AND ITS 1967 PROTOCOL RELATING TO THE STATUS OF REFUGEES, AND RELEVANT REGIONAL REFUGEE INSTRUMENTS, AS APPLICABLE, FOR THE PROTECTION OF REFUGEES; (EVERY YEAR GA)

3) ALSO CALLS UPON ALL STATES TO UPHOLD ASYLUM AS AN INDISPENSABLE INSTRUMENT FOR THE PROTECTION OF REFUGEES; TO SAFEGUARD THE RIGHT TO SEEK AND ENJOY IN OTHER COUNTRIES ASYLUM FROM PERSECUTION; TO ENSURE UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 03 GENEVA 008284

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PREF, UNGA, UNHCR

SUBJ: UNHCR: OMNIBUS REFUGEE RESOLUTION AT THE U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

RESPECT FOR THE PRINCIPLES OF REFUGEE PROTECTION, INCLUDING THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE OF NON-REFOULEMENT, AS WELL AS THE HUMANE TREATMENT OF ASYLUM-SEEKERS AND REFUGEES IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL RECOGNIZED HUMAN RIGHTS AND HUMANITARIAN NORMS; (GA93,5; EXCOM95,19A)

4) REITERATES THE CONTINUED IMPORTANCE OF RESETTLEMENT AS AN INSTRUMENT OF PROTECTION; (EXCOM95,19P)

5) ALSO REITERATE SUPPORT FOR UNHCR'S ROLE IN EXPLORING FURTHER MEASURES TO ENSURE INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION TO ALL WHO NEED IT, CONSISTENT WITH FUNDAMENTAL PROTECTION PRINCIPLES REFLECTED IN INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS, AND LOOKS FORWARD TO UNHCR'S INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON THE SUBJECT; (GA94,7 AND EXCOM95,19F)

6) REAFFIRMS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE SAFEGUARDING HUMAN RIGHTS AND PREVENTING REFUGEE SOLUTIONS; RECOGNIZES THAT FOR STATES TO FULFILL THEIR HUMANITARIAN RESPONSIBILITIES IN REINTEGRATING RETURNING REFUGEES, AND IN ADDRESSING SOME OF THE CAUSES OF REFUGEE MOVEMENTS, AN EFFECTIVE HUMAN RIGHTS REGIME IS ESSENTIAL, INCLUDING INSTITUTIONS WHICH SUSTAIN THE RULE OF LAW, JUSTICE AND ACCOUNTABILITY; AND IN THIS CONNECTION CALLS ON UNHCR TO STRENGTHEN ITS ACTIVITIES IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL LEGAL AND JUDICIAL CAPACITY-BUILDING, WHERE NECESSARY, IN COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS; (GA94,21;EXCOM95,19I)

7) CONDEMNS ALL FORMS OF ETHNIC VIOLENCE AND INTOLERANCE, WHICH ARE AMONG THE MAJOR CAUSES OF FORCED DISPLACEMENTS AS WELL AS IMPEDIMENT TO DURABLE SOLUTIONS TO REFUGEE PROBLEMS; AND APPEALS TO STATES TO COMBAT INTOLERANCE, RACISM AND XENOPHOBIA AND TO FOSTER EMPATHY AND UNDERSTANDING THROUGH PUBLIC STATEMENTS, APPROPRIATE LEGISLATION AND SOCIAL POLICIES, ESPECIALLY WITH REGARD TO THE SPECIAL SITUATION OF REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS; (EXCOM95,20H)

8) WELCOMES THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION ADOPTED AT THE BEIJING FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN, PARTICULARLY THE STRONG COMMITMENT MADE BY STATES IN THE PLATFORM TO

REFUGEE WOMEN AND OTHER DISPLACED WOMEN IN NEED OF INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION; AND CALLS UPON THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO SUPPORT AND PROMOTE EFFORTS BY STATES TOWARDS THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES ON RESPONSES TO PERSECUTION SPECIFICALLY AIMED AT WOMEN, BY SEARING INFORMATION ON STATES' INITIATIVES TO DEVELOP SUCH CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES, AND BY MONITORING TO ENSURE THEIR FAIR AND CONSISTENT APPLICATION; (EXCOM95,19G;BEIJING)

9) REITERATES THAT, THE GRANT OF ASYLUM OR REFUGE BEING A PEACEFUL AND HUMANITARIAN ACT, REFUGEE CAMPS AND SETTLEMENTS MUST MAINTAIN THEIR EXCLUSIVELY CIVILIAN AND HUMANITARIAN CHARACTER, AND ALL PARTIES ARE OBLIGED TO ABSTAIN FROM ANY ACTIVITY LIKELY TO UNDERMINE THIS; CONDEMNS ALL ACTS WHICH POSE A THREAT TO THE PERSONAL SECURITY OF REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS, AND ALSO THOSE WHICH MAY ENDANGER THE SAFETY AND STABILITY OF STATES; CALLS ON STATES OF REFUGE TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY MEASURES TO ENSURE THAT THE CIVILIAN AND HUMANITARIAN CHARACTER OF REFUGEE CAMPS AND SETTLEMENTS IS MAINTAINED; AND FURTHER CALLS ON STATES OF REFUGE TO TAKE EFFECTIVE MEASURES TO PREVENT THE INFILTRATION OF ARMED ELEMENTS, TO PROVIDE EFFECTIVE PHYSICAL PROTECTION TO REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS, AND TO AFFORD UNHCR AND OTHER APPROPRIATE ORGANIZATIONS PROMPT AND UNHINDERED ACCESS TO THEM; (EXCOM87-CONCLUSION NO.48 - AND EXCOM95,19Q)

10) ENCOURAGES THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO CONTINUE HER ACTIVITIES ON BEHALF OF STATELESS PERSONS, AS PART OF HER STATUTORY FUNCTION OF PROVIDING INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION AND OF SEEKING PREVENTIVE ACTION, AS WELL AS HER RESPONSIBILITIES, UNDER GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS 3274 (XXIV) OF 10 DECEMBER 1974 AND 31/36 OF 30 NOVEMBER 1976; (GA94,20 AND EXCOM95,20A)

11) REQUESTS THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER, IN VIEW OF THE LIMITED NUMBER OF STATES PARTY TO THESE INSTRUMENTS, ACTIVELY TO PROMOTE ACCESSION TO THE 1954 CONVENTION RELATING TO THE STATUS OF STATELESS PERSONS AND THE 1961 CONVENTION ON THE REDUCTION OF STATELESSNESS, AS WELL AS TO PROVIDE RELEVANT TECHNICAL AND ADVISORY SERVICES PERTAINING TO THE PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONALITY LEGISLATION TO INTERESTED STATES; (EXCOM95,20C)

UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 03 GENEVA 008284

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PREF, UNGA, UNHCR

SUBJ: UNHCR: OMNIBUS REFUGEE RESOLUTION AT THE U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

12) CALLS UPON STATES TO ADOPT NATIONALITY LEGISLATION WITH A VIEW TO REDUCING STATELESSNESS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, IN PARTICULAR BY PREVENTING ARBITRARY DEPRIVATION

OF NATIONALITY, AND BY ELIMINATING PROVISIONS WHICH PERMIT THE RENUNCIATION OF A NATIONALITY WITHOUT THE PRIOR POSSESSION OR ACQUISITION OF ANOTHER NATIONALITY; (EXCOM95,20B).

13) REITERATES THE RIGHT OF ALL PERSONS TO RETURN TO THEIR COUNTRY, AND EMPHASIZES IN THIS REGARD THE PRIME RESPONSIBILITY OF COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN FOR ESTABLISHING CONDITIONS, WHICH ALLOW VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION OF REFUGEES IN SAFETY AND WITH DIGNITY AND, IN RECOGNITION OF THE OBLIGATION OF ALL STATES TO ACCEPT THE RETURN OF THEIR NATIONALS, CALLS ON ALL STATES TO FACILITATE THE RETURN OF THEIR NATIONALS WHO ARE NOT REFUGEES; (EXCOM95,19K)

14) CALLS UPON ALL STATES TO PROMOTE CONDITIONS CONDUCIVE TO THE RETURN OF REFUGEES AND TO SUPPORT THEIR SUSTAINABLE REINTEGRATION BY PROVIDING COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN WITH NECESSARY REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE IN CONJUNCTION, AS APPROPRIATE, WITH UNHCR AND RELEVANT DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES; (EXCOM95,19J)

15) RECALLS ECOSOC RESOLUTION 1995/56 ON THE STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF EMERGENCY HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE AND WELCOMES THE DECISION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO REVIEW IN THE COURSE OF 1996 ASPECTS OF THAT RESOLUTION RELEVANT TO THE WORK OF UNHCR; (EXCOM95,23)

16) REAFFIRMS THE IMPORTANCE OF INCORPORATING ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS INTO THE PROGRAMS OF THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER, ESPECIALLY IN THE LEAST DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE HOSTED REFUGEES OVER LONG PERIODS OF TIME, WELCOMES EFFORTS BY UNHCR TO MAKE A MORE FOCUSED CONTRIBUTION TO RESOLVING REFUGEE-RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS, AND CALLS ON THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO PROMOTE AND ENHANCE COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION WITH HOST GOVERNMENTS, DONORS, RELEVANT UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER ACTORS CONCERNED TO ADDRESS REFUGEE-RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS IN A MORE INTEGRATED AND EFFECTIVE MANNER; (GA94,22 AND EXCOM95,25)

17) RECOGNIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF THE INTRODUCTION OF RUSSIAN AS AN OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER'S PROGRAM IN FACILITATING THE WORK OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE 1951 CONVENTION RELATING TO THE STATUS OF REFUGEES, NOTABLY IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES; (EXCOM95,33B)

18) CALLS UPON ALL GOVERNMENTS AND OTHER DONORS TO SHOW THEIR INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY AND BURDEN-SHARING WITH COUNTRIES OF ASYLUM, IN PARTICULAR THOSE WITH LIMITED RESOURCES, AND TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE PROGRAM OF THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER AND, TAKING INTO

ACCOUNT THE EFFECT ON COUNTRIES OF ASYLUM OF THE
INCREASING REQUIREMENTS OF LARGE REFUGEE POPULATIONS,
AND THE NEED TO WIDEN THE DONOR BASE AND TO ACHIEVE
GREATER BURDEN-SHARING AMONG DONORS, TO ASSIST THE HIGH
COMMISSIONER IN SECURING ADDITIONAL INCOME FROM
TRADITIONAL GOVERNMENTAL SOURCES, OTHER GOVERNMENTS AND
THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT THE NEEDS OF
REFUGEES, RETURNEES, AND OTHER DISPLACED PERSONS OF
CONCERN TO THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER ARE
MET. (EXCOM95,190; EVERY YEAR GA). END TEXT. SPIEGEL
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SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 03
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RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 9471
SUBJ: UNGA SECOND COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS
TEXT:
UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 004345

FOR OES/EGC, IO/T, IO/S, IO/ESA

SENSITIVE

E.O.12958: N/A
TAGS: UNGA50, SENV, EFIN, PREF, KSCA
SUBJECT: UNGA SECOND COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS

REF: STATE 0254844 AND OTHERS

1. SUMMARY: IN INFORMAL MEETINGS OF THE EXTENDED BUREAU FOR THE SECOND COMMITTEE HELD OCTOBER 30 AND 31, DELEGATIONS INDICATED THE RESOLUTIONS THEY EXPECTED THE COMMITTEE TO NEGOTIATE THIS GA. THE CHAIR URGED DELEGATIONS TO TABLE RESOLUTIONS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE TO KEEP THE COMMITTEE ON SCHEDULE. IN A FOLLOW-UP CONVERSATION WITH USDEL, BRAZIL SUGGESTED THAT OUR TWO MISSIONS WORK TOGETHER TO IMPROVE THE NATURE OF DISCUSSION OF FINANCE AND TRADE ISSUES AT THE UN, PARTICULARLY BY HOLDING HEARINGS AND BRIEFINGS ON THOSE ISSUES WITH THE HELP OF DESIPA, UNCTAD AND THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS (SEE PARAS 10-12). END SUMMARY.

2. IN INFORMAL MEETINGS OF THE EXTENDED BUREAU FOR THE SECOND COMMITTEE HELD OCTOBER 30 AND 31, DELEGATIONS INDICATED THE RESOLUTIONS THEY EXPECTED THE COMMITTEE TO NEGOTIATE THIS GA. THE G-77 INDICATED THAT IT WOULD SPONSOR RESOLUTIONS ON THE FOLLOWING ISSUES:

-- DEBT
-- THE GLOBAL FINANCIAL SITUATION

-- SOURCES OF FINANCING DEVELOPMENT
-- MIGRATION
-- POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT
-- BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
-- TRIENNIAL POLICY REVIEW
-- TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT
-- SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
-- RENEWAL OF PARTNERSHIP FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
-- SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT
-- CLIMATE CHANGE CONVENTION
-- DESERTIFICATION CONVENTION
-- FOLLOW-UP TO UNCED

3. GERMANY WILL TABLE TWO RESOLUTIONS: ONE ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND ANOTHER ON EARLY WARNING CAPACITIES WITHIN THE UN SYSTEM RELATING TO DISASTER REDUCTION (IDNDR). THE IDNDR-RELATED DRAFT RESOLUTION WAS FAXED TO IO/ESA NOVEMBER 1. WHEN DELEGATIONS SUGGESTED THAT THE GERMAN IDNDR RESOLUTION BE COMBINED WITH A PROPOSED ECOSOC RESOLUTION ON THE SAME SUBJECT, THE GERMAN DELEGATE INSISTED THAT HIS INSTRUCTIONS ARE TO KEEP HIS RESOLUTION UNDER THE UNGA ENVIRONMENT SUB-ITEM.

4. SPAIN, ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION, SUGGESTED THAT THE EU AND G-77 CONSULT TO COMBINE PROPOSED TEXTS FOR A TRIENNIAL POLICY REVIEW RESOLUTION. IT WAS INFORMALLY AGREED THAT THE TW WOULD WORK TOGETHER TO PRODUCE A TEXT INTRODUCED BY THE VICE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE. IT WAS ALSO AGREED THAT PRIOR TO TABLING THE RESOLUTION, INFORMAL-INFORMAL-INFORMALS AMONG INTERESTED DELEGATIONS WOULD BE HELD (NORWAY'S SUGGESTION).

5. PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MEETING AGREED THAT THERE SHOULD BE ONLY ONE RESOLUTION ON THE BEIJING WOMEN'S CONFERENCE. IT WAS NOTED WITH DISMAY THAT THE ITEM IS SCHEDULED FOR DEBATE IN BOTH THE SECOND AND THIRD COMMITTEES AS WELL AS IN THE PLENARY.

6. CSD: DPCSD REPRESENTATIVE SUGGESTED THAT THE UNCED APPRAISAL RESOLUTION BE PROCEDURAL CONTAINING:

-- DATES FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION
-- SUGGESTION OF THE LEVEL OF PRESENTATION
-- NOTE OF THE REPORTS
-- ARRANGEMENTS FOR NGOS
-- REFERENCE TO PARTICIPATION BY THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION
-- REFERENCE TO THE 1997 EARLY UNEP SESSION
-- INVITATION FOR RELEVANT UN SYSTEM INPUT
-- RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO THE KINDS OF REPORTS NEEDED FOR THE SESSION
-- REFERENCE TO AN AOSIS RESOLUTION
-- PROPOSAL FOR STRENGTHENING UNEP.

(FYI: DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE REGARDING THE ABOVE WAS RECEIVED AFTER THIS MEETING. END FYI)

7. USDEL NOTED THAT FISHERIES ITEMS FORMERLY IN THE SECOND COMMITTEE HAD BEEN MOVED TO PLENARY. SHE SAID WE WOULD PROBABLY HAVE AMENDMENTS FOR THE OMNIBUS RESOLUTION UNDER THAT ITEM.

8. THE PLENARY WILL ALSO ADDRESS FOLLOW-UP TO THE UN NEW AGENDA FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AFRICA (UN-NADAF) THIS YEAR, INCLUDING A REPORT FROM THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, THE NOTION OF FINANCIAL INTERMEDIATION, AND THE UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 004345

FOR OES/EGC, IO/T, IO/S, IO/ESA

SENSITIVE

E.O.12958: N/A

TAGS: UNGA50, SENV, EFIN, PREF, KSCA

SUBJECT: UNGA SECOND COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS

TYPE OF REVIEW MECHANISM NEEDED FOR THE REVIEW OF UNNADAF IMPLEMENTATION.

9. INDONESIA HAS PROMISED TO WORK CLOSELY WITH USDEL ON THE "PARTNERSHIP" RESOLUTION, SHARING PRELIMINARY ELEMENTS OF ITS DRAFT BEFORE IT IS DISCUSSED BY THE G-77.

10. BRAZIL HAS SHARED ITS TEXT ON THE GLOBAL FINANCIAL SITUATION WITH USDEL. (THE DRAFT HAS BEEN FORWARDED TO IO/ESA.) IN A FOLLOW-UP MEETING WITH USDEL, THE BRAZILIAN COUNSELOR STRESSED THAT THE BRAZILIAN MISSION WANTS TO REVITALIZE DISCUSSION OF SUBSTANTIVE FINANCIAL ISSUES IN THE UN SYSTEM. BRAZIL HAS NO USE FOR STANDARD NORTH/SOUTH DEBT RHETORIC OR "NEW AND ADDITIONAL RESOURCES" POLEMICS. THE MISSION WOULD LIKE FOR THE UN TO BE CONSIDERED AN APPROPRIATE BODY TO OPINE ON FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENTS AND POSSIBLY TO INFLUENCE DECISIONS MADE IN THE IMF, BRETTON WOODS AND WTO INSTITUTIONS CHARGED WITH THESE ISSUES. CONSEQUENTLY, BRAZIL WILL FLOAT A DRAFT RESOLUTION CALLING FOR IN-PUT FROM UNCTAD, STRENGTHENING OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS TO ENABLE THEM TO PROVIDE IN-PUT, AND BROADER UN DISCUSSION OF TRADE AND FINANCE. THE BRAZILIAN MISSION WOULD LIKE THE UN TO HAVE TECHNICALLY-ORIENTED DEBATES INVOLVING A BROADER SPECTRUM OF ACTORS, INCLUDING ACADEMICS, PRIVATE SECTOR AND NGOS HELD IN FORA SUCH AS "HEARINGS", BRIEFINGS AND SPECIAL SESSIONS. THEY WOULD LIKE THE DEBATES TO BE COORDINATED BY DESIPA, THE UN OFFICE CHARGED WITH MACRO-ECONOMIC ISSUES. EMPHASIZING THAT THE IDEA IS NOT TO SPEND MONEY BUT TO TALK ABOUT FINANCES, THE COUNSELOR SUGGESTED THAT UNCTAD'S IN-PUT COULD BE PROVIDED TO DESIPA VIA THE INTERNET. THE RESULTS OF THE GA DISCUSSIONS COULD THEN BE REPORTED TO THE ECOSOC. ISSUES HIGHLIGHTED AS CONCERNS FOR BRAZIL WERE: "TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT" AND "TRADE AND LABOR RIGHTS" (I.E., ENVIRONMENTALLY-BASED TRADE SANCTIONS, LABOR LAW DISTINCTIONS AND TRADE, ETC.). ANOTHER KEY THEME FOR THESE PROPOSED DISCUSSIONS WOULD BE THE IDEA OF "SURVEILLANCE OF THE IMF" IN LIGHT OF THE EXPERIENCE OF THE MEXICAN FINANCIAL CRISIS.

11. USDEL RESPONDED THAT USG HAS TRADITIONALLY

PREFERRED TO KEEP TECHNICAL FINANCIAL ISSUES IN THE DOMAIN OF THE ENTITIES MOST COMPETENT TO HANDLE THEM. IN THIS INSTANCE, SHE SUGGESTED THAT WE WOULD PROBABLY NOT SUPPORT THE ACTIVITIES AS DESCRIBED ABOVE. SHE EXPRESSED HER APPRECIATION FOR BRAZIL'S CONSULTATION AND SAID SHE WOULD RELAY THE PROPOSAL TO AUTHORITIES IN WASHINGTON.

12. COMMENT: THE BRAZILIAN COUNSELLOR SERGIO FLORENCIO SAID THAT HIS CAPITAL IS NOT FULLY BEHIND THE MISSION YET. ACCORDING TO FLORENCIO, BRASILIA WAS IMPRESSED BY USG STATEMENTS REGARDING UN REFORM AND HAS CHIDED MEMBERS OF THE BRAZILIAN MISSION IN NEW YORK FOR STUBBORNLY ADVOCATING ANACHRONISTIC POSITIONS. FLORENCIO SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HE HAS RESPONDED TO BRASILIA'S INSTRUCTIONS TO FOLLOW THE USG LEAD WITH A CAUTIONARY NOTE ABOUT "USG PROSPECTS FOR FAILURE" (ADMONISHING "DON'T BLINDLY FOLLOW"). FLORENCIO'S COUNTER-PROPOSAL WAS TO WORK WITH THE USG TO GET US ON BOARD WITH HIS PROPOSAL TO RE-SHAPE THE NATURE AND TENOR OF FINANCIAL DISCUSSIONS IN THE UN. HE HAS SUGGESTED THAT HIS AMBASSADOR AND AMBASSADOR MARRERO MEET SOON TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS. END COMMENT.

13. USUN WILL NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT AS DRAFT RESOLUTIONS ON ANY OF THE ABOVE EMERGE.
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SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 02
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RUEHC/DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
INFO: ////
SUBJ: WORKING PARTY ON THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE
ECONOMY, OCT. 30-31, 1995 (DELEGATION REPORT)

TEXT:
UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 PARIS 26762

FROM USOECD

STATE FOR EUR/ERA
LABOR FOR ILAB/BRODSKY AND WB/HARPER

PASS TO HHS FOR SECRETARY'S OFFICE/HOHMAN

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, SOCI, OECD
SUBJECT: WORKING PARTY ON THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE
ECONOMY, OCT. 30-31, 1995 (DELEGATION REPORT)

1. SUMMARY: THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WORKING PARTY ON THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE ECONOMY INCLUDED A FULL AGENDA OF SUBSTANTIVE ITEMS AIMED AT "MAINSTREAMING" WOMEN'S PERSPECTIVES THROUGHOUT THE OECD. THE MEETING, HELD OVER THE COURSE OF SOMEWHAT MORE THAN A DAY AND A HALF, WAS NOT LONG ENOUGH FOR THOROUGH CONSIDERATION OF SOME HARD ISSUES. THE SECRETARIAT HAS AGREED TO MAKE MORE FREQUENT AND EFFECTIVE INTERIM USE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS, ESPECIALLY WITH THE BUREAU. AMONG THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ITEMS DISCUSSED WERE THE A PROGRESS REPORT ON THE FUTURE OF FEMALE OCCUPATIONS, FOLLOW-UP TO THE OECD JOBS STUDY, AND A NEW STUDY PROPOSAL BY CANADA, "TOWARD A FRAMEWORK FOR EVALUATING THE POLICY IMPLICATIONS OF UNPAID WORK." END SUMMARY.

2. THE FUTURE OF FEMALE OCCUPATIONS--PROGRESS REPORT: INTEREST WAS VERY HIGH IN PROCEEDING TO PHASE TWO OF THIS PROJECT, WHICH WILL INVOLVE CONVENING GROUPS OF EXPERTS TO DEVELOP DETAILED STUDIES OF SELECTED OCCUPATIONS DOMINATED BY WOMEN. ALMOST ALL MEMBER COUNTRIES INDICATED INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING IN THIS

PHASE OF THE STUDY. ABOUT HALF THE MEMBERS INDICATED OCCUPATIONS WHERE THEY WERE PREPARED TO NOMINATE EXPERTS, E.G., HEALTH OCCUPATIONS, INCLUDING CARING OCCUPATIONS, OR CLERICAL, INCLUDING SECRETARIAL OCCUPATIONS. THE OTHER HALF, INCLUDING THE USDEL RESERVED THEIR POSITIONS PENDING FURTHER CONSULTATIONS.

3. WHILE THE USDEL HAD A LIST ON HAND OF POSSIBLE EXPERTS (KNOWING THAT THE SECRETARIAT WISHED TO HAVE THE FIRST MEETINGS AS EARLY AS NOVEMBER TO ACCOMMODATE THOSE MEMBERS WHO MUST SPEND MONEY BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR) SHE WISHED TO CONSULT FIRST WITH THE POTENTIAL PARTICIPANTS ABOUT THE TIMING. IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN EXACTLY HOW MANY CASE STUDIES WILL ACTUALLY BE LAUNCHED. THE POSSIBILITY EXISTS FOR SEPARATING HEALTH OCCUPATIONS FROM THE CARE-GIVING OCCUPATIONS, AND EVEN SEPARATING CHILD CARE FROM ELDER AND HOME-CARE OCCUPATIONS. THE BREAKDOWN DEPENDS ON THE LEVEL OF COORDINATING SUPPORT RECEIVED BY THE OECD, PLUS THE NUMBER AND KINDS OF EXPERTISE OFFERED.

4. POSSIBLE OECD FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN: THE OECD SENT A FOUR-PERSON DELEGATION TO THE BEIJING CONFERENCE. THEIR MAIN EFFORT WAS TO DISTRIBUTE OECD PUBLICATIONS, INCLUDING "WOMEN IN CITIES," "ASSESSMENT OF DOMESTIC PRODUCTION," AND THE TEXT OF A DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE RESOLUTION. THE WORKING PARTY AGREED THAT OECD FOLLOW-UP SHOULD INCLUDE ENHANCING STATISTICAL TOOLS FOR MORE SYSTEMATIC GENDER ANALYSIS AND ASSURING THE "MAINSTREAMING" OF WOMEN'S PERSPECTIVES IN THE PRODUCTS AND DELIBERATIONS OF THE OECD. SINCE THE WORKING PARTY HAS NO DIRECT ACCESS TO COMMITTEES OTHER THAN ELSA, A STRATEGY OF HORIZONTAL COORDINATION WILL HAVE TO BE DEVELOPED.

5. WORK PROPOSALS FROM DELEGATIONS: SWEDEN BRIEFED THE WORKING PARTY ON A STUDY UNDERWAY ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF ECONOMIC POWER AND ECONOMIC RESOURCES BETWEEN WOMEN AND MEN. DELEGATES GENERALLY AGREED THAT THIS STUDY OFFERED THE POSSIBILITY OF EXCITING AND IMPORTANT FINDINGS RELATED TO CONCEPTS, INCLUDING ECONOMIC POWER AND UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 03 PARIS 26762

FROM USOECD

STATE FOR EUR/ERA
LABOR FOR ILAB/BRODSKY AND WB/HARPER

PASS TO HHS FOR SECRETARY'S OFFICE/HOHMAN

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, SOCI, OECD
SUBJECT: WORKING PARTY ON THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE
ECONOMY, OCT. 30-31, 1995 (DELEGATION REPORT)

OUTCOMES FOR WOMEN. THE CANADIAN DELEGATE PRESENTED A PROPOSAL FOR A NEW PROJECT, "TOWARD A FRAMEWORK FOR EVALUATING THE POLICY IMPLICATIONS OF UNPAID WORK."

THERE WAS NO DECISION, HOWEVER, WHETHER TO TAKE THIS UP.

6. ORAL REPORT BY THE SECRETARIAT: ELSA DEPUTY DIRECTOR JOHN MARTIN BRIEFED THE WORKING PARTY ON FOUR ITEMS: (1) THE NEW (U.S.-INITIATED) PROJECT ON THE POLICY IMPLICATIONS OF AGING POPULATIONS, WHICH WILL WILL FOCUS ON LABOR MARKET ISSUES AS WELL AS FISCAL PROBLEMS; AN INITIAL REPORT WILL GO TO MINISTERS IN MAY 1996; (2) A HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON THE FUTURE OF THE WELFARE STATE, SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 1996; (3) AN EDUCATION MINISTERIAL ON THE THEME OF LIFELONG LEARNING FOR ALL, SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 1996; AND (4) THE FOLLOW-UP TO THE JOBS STUDY.

7. TAXES, BENEFITS, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT: DISCUSSION OF THIS STUDY, PART OF THE JOBS STUDY FOLLOW-UP EFFORT, REVEALED THAT IT IS BASED ON AN OUTDATED CONCEPT OF THE "TYPICAL OR AVERAGE" FAMILY WHICH ASSUMES A MARRIED COUPLE WITH A SPOUSE NOT WORKING (ASSUMED MALE WITH SPOUSE). THE WORKER IS AGE 40 AND IS A PRODUCTION WORKER. THE WORKING PARTY POINTED OUT THAT THE "TYPICAL" FAMILY IN VIRTUALLY ALL MEMBER COUNTRIES IS A DUAL-EARNER COUPLE AND THAT BOTH WORKERS ARE MORE LIKELY TO BE WORKING IN THE SERVICE SECTOR. IT WAS CONCLUDED THAT THE FAMILY STRUCTURES SHOULD BE MODIFIED TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE VARYING TYPES OF FAMILIES FOUND IN MEMBER COUNTRIES.

8. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION OF THE WORK PROGRAM 1997-8: THE SECRETARIAT REQUESTED THAT MEMBER COUNTRIES GIVE SOME INDICATION OF THEIR PRIORITIES IN LIGHT OF SEVERE RESOURCE CONSTRAINTS THAT HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED BECAUSE OF UNCERTAIN US BUDGET CONDITIONS. ALTHOUGH COUNTRIES INDICATED THEIR PRIORITIES, BASED BOTH ON NEW ITEMS AND SOME PROPOSED, MANY INDICATED, INCLUDING USDEL, THAT PRIORITIZING WAS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE. STILL, IT WAS NECESSARY TO BE PRODUCTIVE AND CONTINUE TO ADD VALUE TO THE WORK OF THE BODY THROUGH THE SELECTION OF THE MOST IMPORTANT WORK.

9. ACTIVITIES OF OTHER OECD BODIES: THE WORKING PARTY HEARD REPORTS ON ONGOING RESEARCH IN THE PUBLIC MANAGEMENT SERVICE ON THE HARMONIZATION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT WHOSE PURPOSE IS TO DEVELOP COMPARABLE DATA ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR. ALSO, PRELIMINARY WORK WAS PRESENTED ON A STUDY OF SALARY GAPS IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR WHOSE PURPOSE IS TO STUDY REMUNERATION DISPERSION. THESE DATA WERE SHOWN BROKEN DOWN BY SEX.

10. THE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE'S GROUP OF EXPERTS ON THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT REPORTED ON ITS EXTENSIVE WORK COORDINATING OECD DONOR AID TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN, COORDINATING MEMBER POSITIONS ON THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION, AND THE WORKSHOP ON HOW WOMEN SET UP NATIONAL MACHINERIES FOR WOMEN, IN HUAIROU. DURING THE DISCUSSION OF THEIR REVISED MANDATE, THE WORKING PARTY EXPRESSED INTEREST IN DEVELOPING A CLOSER

WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH THIS GROUP.

11. OTHER BUSINESS: THE ANNUAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS RESULTED IN THE RETENTION OF FINLAND IN THE CHAIR OF THE WORKING PARTY, BUT A RECONSTITUTED SET OF VICE-CHAIRS: UNITED STATES, UNITED KINGDOM, SWITZERLAND AND ITALY. SPAIN AND THE NETHERLANDS ROTATED OFF THIS YEAR AND BELGIUM WILL ROTATE OFF NEXT YEAR; THE UNITED STATES WILL BE THE NEXT ELIGIBLE COUNTRY TO ROTATE OFF THE BUREAU IN 1997, SHOULD THERE BE A NEED.

12. THIS REPORT WAS PREPARED BY THE U.S. DELEGATE TO THE WORKING PARTY: HARRIET HARPER, WOMEN'S BUREAU, UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 03 PARIS 26762

FROM USOECD

STATE FOR EUR/ERA
LABOR FOR ILAB/BRODSKY AND WB/HARPER

PASS TO HHS FOR SECRETARY'S OFFICE/HOHMAN

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, SOCI, OECD
SUBJECT: WORKING PARTY ON THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE
ECONOMY, OCT. 30-31, 1995 (DELEGATION REPORT)

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR. BERRY

BT
#6762

NNNN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 03
<^SECT>SECTION: 02 OF 03
<^SECT>SECTION: 03 OF 03

SSN: 6762
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<^TOR>951106093944 M1937470

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SIT: NSC
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Cable

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LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: R 081409Z NOV 95
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY MBABANE
OSRI: RUEHMB
DTG: 081409Z NOV 95
ORIG: AMEMBASSY MBABANE
TO: SECSTATE WASHDC 1087
INFO: ////
SUBJ: POST BEIJING IMPLEMENTATION PLANS
REF SEC. WIRTH'S LETTER TO COM'S ON BEIJING
CONFERENCE.

TEXT:
UNCLAS MBABANE 05146
E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: KWMN
SUBJECT: POST BEIJING IMPLEMENTATION PLANS
REF SEC. WIRTH'S LETTER TO COM'S ON BEIJING
CONFERENCE.

1. THE AMBASSADOR AND THE PAO MET WITH MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS, PRINCE SOBANDLA DLAMINI, ON NOVEMBER 2, 1995. THE DISCUSSION WAS WIDE RANGING ON THE CONFERENCE BUT CONTAINED VERY LITTLE ON

SWAZI (##)
THE MINISTER POINTED OUT THAT THE MINISTRY HAD SPONSORED A GATHERING OF THOSE WHO HAD PARTICIPATED IN THE BEIJING CONFERENCE TO BRIEF THOSE INTERESTED IN WHAT HAD TAKEN PLACE IN BEIJING. THE GATHERING WAS WELL ATTENDED THE MINISTER CONFIRMED THE CABINET'S DECISION TO ESTABLISH A GENDER OFFICE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS. THIS OFFICE IS SUPPOSED TO TAKE THE LEAD IN FOLLOWING UP ON THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN. AT THE SAME TIME IT IS NOT CLEAR WHEN THE GENDER OFFICE WILL BEGIN TO OPERATE, NOR WHAT IT WILL BE ALLOCATED IN RESOURCES TO CARRY OUT ITS MANDATE.

2. THE MINISTER REQUESTED THAT ANOTHER MEETING BE HELD LATER IN THE MONTH TO WHICH HE WOULD INVITE OTHERS FROM HIS MINISTRY (WHO WERE NOT AVAILABLE AT THE TIME OF THIS MEETING) AS WELL AS NON-GOVERNMENT MEMBERS OF THE BEIJING CONFERENCE DELEGATION.

3. THE AMBASSADOR CONVEYED TO THE MINISTER THE EMBASSY'S WILLINGNESS TO WORK WITH HIS GOVERNMENT AND POINTED OUT THAT ALREADY A GROUP OF WOMEN--

SEVERAL FROM THE BEIJING DELEGATION--WERE MEETING AT THE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE TO DISCUSS COMMON PROBLEMS. THIS WAS USED TO INDICATE HOW WE MIGHT BE SUPPORTIVE WITHOUT OBLIGATING FUNDS.

4. THE MINISTER ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS MENTIONED HOW IMPRESSED HE AND THE DELEGATION HAD BEEN WITH FIRST LADY HILLARY CLINTON'S PRESENTATIONS AND QUOTED PAKISTAN PRIME MINISTER BENAZIR BHUTTO. HE SEEMED GENUINELY CONCERNED THAT, AS PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO HAD POINTED OUT, THERE ARE PLACES IN THE WORLD WHERE YOUNG GIRLS MUST WAIT FOR WHATEVER FOOD IS LEFT OVER AFTER THE MEN AND BOYS OF THE FAMILY HAVE FINISHED EATING. OTHER DELEGATION MEMBERS HAVE LIKEWISE NOTED THE IMPORTANT LEADERSHIP STATEMENTS OF MRS. CLINTON AND PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO.

SPROTT

BT

#5146

NNNN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 5146

TOR: 951108193412 M1942858

DIST:

SIT: NSC

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Cable

PREC: ROUTINE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
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LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH (CCY TEXT PARA 1/ADXFE4944 433)
LINE3: R 081409Z NOV 95 ZDS
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY MBABANE
OSRI: RUEHMB
DTG: 081409Z NOV 95
ORIG: AMEMBASSY MBABANE
TO: SECSTATE WASHDC 1087
INFO: ////
SUBJ: POST BEIJING IMPLEMENTATION PLANS
TEXT:
UNCLAS MBABANE 005146

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT PARA 1)

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: KWMN
SUBJECT: POST BEIJING IMPLEMENTATION PLANS
REF: SEC. WIRTH'S LETTER TO COM'S ON BEIJING
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1. THE AMBASSADOR AND THE PAO MET WITH MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS, PRINCE SOBANDLA DLAMINI, ON NOVEMBER 2, 1995. THE DISCUSSION WAS WIDE RANGING ON THE CONFERENCE BUT CONTAINED VERY LITTLE ON SWAZI PLANNING FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLATFORM. THE MINISTER POINTED OUT THAT THE MINISTRY HAD SPONSORED A GATHERING OF THOSE WHO HAD PARTICIPATED IN THE BEIJING CONFERENCE TO BRIEF THOSE INTERESTED IN WHAT HAD TAKEN PLACE IN BEIJING. THE GATHERING WAS WELL ATTENDED. THE MINISTER CONFIRMED THE CABINET'S DECISION TO ESTABLISH A GENDER OFFICE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS. THIS OFFICE IS SUPPOSED TO TAKE THE LEAD IN FOLLOWING UP ON THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN. AT THE SAME TIME IT IS NOT CLEAR WHEN THE GENDER OFFICE WILL BEGIN TO OPERATE, NOR WHAT IT WILL BE ALLOCATED IN RESOURCES TO CARRY OUT ITS MANDATE.

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SPROTT

BT

#5146

NNNN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 5146

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RUEHTH/AMEMBASSY ATHENS 1079
RHEHAAA/THE WHITE HOUSE WASHDC
SUBJ: MELANNE VERVEER GIVES OVERVIEW OF U.S.
DOMESTIC POLITICS, ROLE OF FIRST LADY
TEXT:
UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 VIENNA 008556

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, PHUM, PREL, AU
SUBJECT: MELANNE VERVEER GIVES OVERVIEW OF U.S.
DOMESTIC POLITICS, ROLE OF FIRST LADY

1. SUMMARY: AT AN OCTOBER 30 WORKING BREAKFAST WITH 40 AUSTRIAN OFFICIALS, JOURNALISTS AND INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMATS, ADVISER TO HILLARY CLINTON MELANNE VERVEER OUTLINED CURRENT DOMESTIC ISSUES IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PRIORITIES OF THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION. QUERIED ABOUT MRS. CLINTON'S OWN ACTIVITIES, VERVEER ALSO WENT INTO SOME DETAIL ABOUT THE ROLE OF THE FIRST LADY IN DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL POLICY. END SUMMARY.

2. MELANNE VERVEER, ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF TO HILLARY CLINTON, SPOKE AT A WORKING BREAKFAST HOSTED BY AMBASSADOR HUNT ON OCTOBER 30. VERVEER GAVE HER IMPRESSIONS OF THE PRESENT POLITICAL MOOD IN THE U.S. AND OF THE DIRECTION FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS MIGHT TAKE. MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AS WELL AS AUSTRIAN POLITICIANS AND NGO REPRESENTATIVES APPEARED TO BE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN MRS. CLINTON'S ROLE IN SHAPING THE FOCUS OF THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION, BOTH IN TERMS OF INFLUENCING DOMESTIC LEGISLATION - ESPECIALLY HEALTH CARE - AND IN TERMS OF ADVANCING UNITED STATES INTERESTS ABROAD. THE TOPIC OF THE BEIJING WOMEN'S CONFERENCE SURFACED SEVERAL TIMES.

"AN IDEOLOGICAL STRUGGLE"

3. CHARACTERIZING THE CURRENT POLARIZATION BETWEEN THE WHITE HOUSE AND THE CONGRESS AS "AN IDEOLOGICAL STRUGGLE," VERVEER EMPHASIZED THE PRESIDENT'S CONVICTION THAT "THERE IS A RIGHT WAY AND A WRONG WAY" TO ADDRESS WHAT BOTH SIDES AGREE ARE PROBLEMS. SHE DETAILED THE PRESIDENT'S "FOUR LINES IN THE SAND" DRAWN IN RESPONSE TO THE REPUBLICAN RECONCILIATION BILL: MEDICARE/MEDICAID, EDUCATION, ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION, AND TAXES. TURNING TO THE '96 ELECTION AND GENERAL VOTER MOOD, VERVEER DESCRIBED A CLIMATE OF ANXIETY AND ECONOMIC INSECURITY B)RKET AND NEW CULTURAL INFLUENCES. OBSERVING THAT, IN RECENT HISTORY, AMERICAN VOTERS HAVE REACTED AGAINST THE STATUS QUO WHEN THEY HAVE GONE TO THE POLLS, VERVEER EXPRESSED HER BELIEF THAT A BACKLASH AGAINST REPUBLICAN CUTS IN SOCIAL PROGRAMS IS NOW BUILDING AND COULD YIELD POSITIVE RESULTS FOR PRESIDENT CLINTON IN PARTICULAR AND THE DEMOCRATS IN GENERAL.

"LEGISLATION AND SAUSAGE"

4. FOLLOWING HER OVERVIEW OF DOMESTIC POLITICS, VERVEER IMMEDIATELY ENCOUNTERED SEVERAL QUESTIONS ABOUT HILLARY CLINTON'S ROLE IN THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION, SPECIFICALLY WHAT MRS. CLINTON'S FUNCTION AT THE BEIJING WOMEN'S CONFERENCE HAD BEEN AND HOW HER ACTIVITIES NOW DIFFER FROM THOSE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S TENURE.

5. VERVEER BEGAN HER RESPONSE WITH A QUALIFYING STATEMENT: THE ROLE OF THE AMERICAN FIRST LADY IS ILL-DEFINED, SHE SAID, AND HILLARY CLINTON BRINGS A LEVEL OF PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE AND ACTIVISM TO THE OFFICE THAT IS UNPRECEDENTED. VERVEER ALLOWED THAT THE PUBLIC REACTION TO MRS. CLINTON'S PROACTIVE STYLE HAS BEEN MIXED FOR SEVERAL REASONS. FIRST, SOCIETY AS A WHOLE HAS YET TO REACH A COMFORT LEVEL WITH POWERFUL WOMEN. SECOND, THE POWER OF THE FIRST LADY DEVOLVES FROM HER HUSBAND'S OFFICE. A MEMBER OF THE AUSTRIAN DELEGATION TO THE BEIJING CONFERENCE ASKED IF MRS. CLINTON'S SPEECH IN BEIJING WAS PART OF A FOREIGN POLICY STRATEGY BY WHICH MRS. CLINTON COULD DELIVER A TOUGHER MESSAGE TO THE CHINESE THAN HER HUSBAND BECAUSE OF HER QUASI-UNOFFICIAL POLITICAL POSITION. VERVEER DENIED THAT SUCH A DIVISION OF LABOR EXISTED IN THE WHITE HOUSE AND ALSO MAINTAINED THAT THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION'S STANCE TOWARD CHINA WAS UNEQUIVOCAL.

6. IN TERMS OF WHAT HILLARY CLINTON WOULD BE DOING DIFFERENTLY FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE

ADMINISTRATION, VERVEER AVERRED THAT THE ISSUE WAS NOT SO MUCH ONE OF ACTING DIFFERENTLY BUT OF TAKING A DIFFERENT APPROACH TO THE SAME ISSUES. THE LESSON MRS. CLINTON HAD LEARNED FROM THE HEALTH CARE DEBATE WAS TO USE HER INFLUENCE INDIRECTLY INSTEAD OF BECOMING DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THE LEGISLATIVE UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 VIENNA 008556

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PHUM, PREL, AU

SUBJECT: MELANNE VERVEER GIVES OVERVIEW OF U.S. DOMESTIC POLITICS, ROLE OF FIRST LADY

PROCESS: "LEGISLATION AND SAUSAGE ARE TWO THINGS YOU SHOULD NEVER WATCH BEING MADE," VERVEER COMMENTED.

AUSTRIAN PERCEPTIONS: BEIJING, LABOR, AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

7. CONTINUING TO PURSUE BEIJING, ANOTHER AUSTRIAN DELEGATE TO THE CONFERENCE ASKED WHY THE AMERICAN DELEGATION - APART FROM MRS.CLINTON - HAD ADOPTED SUCH A LOW PROFILE. VERVEER EFFECTIVELY REFUTED THIS ASSESSMENT, BUT THE FORMER DELEGATE REFUSED TO BE MOVED FROM HER CONVICTION. IN A MORE PRODUCTIVE EXCHANGE, THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE PEOPLE'S PARTY (OVP) AND FORMER MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT ASKED VERVEER HER OPINION ON WHAT THE ELECTION OF JOHN SWEENEY AS HEAD OF THE AFL-CIO WOULD MEAN FOR AMERICAN LABOR. VERVEER CHARACTERIZED HIM AS AN ACTIVE AND DYNAMIC LEADER WHO WAS WELL-PLACED TO REVITALIZE THE AFL-CIO AT A TIME WHEN THE AMERICAN LABOR MOVEMENT IS WIDELY PERCEIVED AS MORIBUND.

8. FINALLY, AN OFFICIAL FROM THE OFFICE OF THE STATE SECRETARY FOR EUROPEAN INTEGRATION RAISED THE RECENT DECISION BY THE EUROPEAN COURT OF JUSTICE STRIKING DOWN GENDER-BASED AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND ASKED IF THIS WOULD HAVE ANY IMPACT ON U.S. CONSIDERATIONS OF THE ISSUE DOMESTICALLY. ALTHOUGH PREVIOUSLY UNAWARE OF THE COURT'S DECISION, VERVEER SAID THAT, WHILE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION CONTINUES TO BE A CONTROVERSIAL ISSUE IN AMERICA, THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION REMAINS COMMITTED TO IMPLEMENTING IT AS THE BEST SOLUTION TO CURRENT PROBLEMS.

COMMENT

9. THE INTENSE AUSTRIAN CURIOSITY ABOUT HILLARY CLINTON'S ACTIVITIES AND HER ROLE IN THE CLINTON WHITE HOUSE MAY HAVE BEEN AT LEAST PARTIALLY MOTIVATED BY THE CONTINUING CONTROVERSY THAT BEGAN A YEAR AGO OVER CHRISTINE VRANITZKY'S (WIFE OF SPO

CHANCELLOR VRANITZKY) PUBLIC DECLARATIONS THAT IT IS BETTER FOR MOTHERS TO STAY AT HOME WITH THEIR CHILDREN THAN WORK. PUBLIC PINION COULD COME TO TERMS NEITHER WITH THE SUBSTANCE OF HER REMARKS NOR WITH THEIR CONTEXT: AUSTRIANS WERE BAFFLED BY THE SPECTACLE OF THE WIFE OF THE COUNTRY'S LEADING SOCIALIST TAKING SUCH A POSITION PUBLICLY. AT THE SAME TIME, THE LARGER QUESTION OF THE INFLUENCE OF POLITICIANS' WIVES WAS AIRED AS WELL.

10. MS. VERVEER DID NOT HAVE A CHANCE TO CLEAR THIS CABLE BEFORE HER DEPARTURE.

HUNT
BT
#8556

NNNN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 02
<^SECT>SECTION: 02 OF 02
SSN: 8556
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CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED

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LINE3: R 091701Z NOV 95

LINE4: FM USMISSION USVIENNA

OSRI: RUEHVEN

DTG: 091701Z NOV 95

ORIG: USMISSION USVIENNA

TO: SECSTATE WASHDC 1837

INFO: ////

SUBJ: UN CRIME BRANCH REPORT
ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

TEXT:

UNCLAS USVIENNA 003238

FROM USMISSION UNVIE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KCRM

SUBJECT: UN CRIME BRANCH REPORT
ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

1. POST HAS RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING NOTE FROM THE UN
CRIME BRANCH.

2. BEGIN TEXT

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS PRESENTS
HIS COMPLIMENTS TO THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
(VIENNA) AND HAS THE HONOUR TO DRAW THE ATTENTION OF
THE GOVERNMENT TO SECTION IV OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1995/27 OF 24 JULY 1995, ENTITLED
"IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
OF THE NINTH UNITED NATIONS CONGRESS ON THE PREVENTION
OF CRIME AND THE TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS", ADOPTED ON
THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE COMMISSION ON CRIME
PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE AT ITS FOURTH SESSION
(30 MAY TO 9 JUNE 1995).

IN PARAGRAPH 28, THE COUNCIL REQUESTED THE
SECRETARY-GENERAL TO SEEK THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF
INTERESTED MEMBER STATES, INSTITUTES COMPRISING THE
UNITED NATIONS CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE
PROGRAMME NETWORK, AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND
NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN ORDER TO PREPARE A
DRAFT PLAN OF ACTION, IN THE CONTEXT OF CRIME
PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE, ON THE ELIMINATION OF
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN. THE PLAN OF ACTION, WHICH

SHOULD PROVIDE PRACTICAL, ACTION-ORIENTED SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO ADDRESS THIS ISSUE BY MEANS OF, INTER ALIA, LEGISLATIVE ACTION, RESEARCH AND EVALUATION, TECHNICAL COOPERATION, TRAINING AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE OUTCOME OF THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN: ACTION FOR EQUALITY, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE (BEIJING, CHINA, 4 TO 15 SEPTEMBER 1995) AND, IN PARTICULAR, THE SECTION OF THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION RELATING TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, IS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE COMMISSION AT ITS FIFTH SESSION.

IT SHOULD BE RECALLED THAT THE NINTH UNITED NATIONS CONGRESS ON THE PREVENTION OF CRIME AND TREATMENT OF OFFENDERS, HELD IN CAIRO, EGYPT, FROM 28 APRIL TO 10 MAY 1995, ADOPTED RESOLUTION 8 ON THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, WHICH IS ANNEXED TO THE PRESENT NOTE TO FACILITATE THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE GOVERNMENT.

IN VIEW OF THE VERY LIMITED TIME FRAME IN WHICH TO PRODUCE THE REQUESTED DRAFT PLAN OF ACTION, IT WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED IF THE GOVERNMENT COULD TRANSMIT ANY COMMENTS OR INFORMATION TO THE CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE BRANCH, UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT VIENNA, P.O. BOX 500, A-1400 VIENNA, AUSTRIA, (FAX: 43-1-21345 5898), NO LATER THAN 15 DECEMBER 1995.

1 NOVEMBER 1995 END TEXT

.RITCH
BT
#3238

NNNN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 3238

TOR: 951109184215 M1945316

DIST:

SIT: LORIN NSC SCHWARTZ

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Cable

PREC: ROUTINE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
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LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
OSRI: RUEHNE
DTG: 140919Z NOV 95
ORIG: AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO: SECSTATE WASHDC 3087
INFO: ////
SUBJ: INDIAN PROPOSAL TO REVITALIZE COOPERATION ON
HUMAN REPRODUCTION AND CONTRACEPTIVE RESEARCH

TEXT:
UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 NEW DELHI 014540

DEPT. FOR OES/SCT (SHIPPE) PASS PITS/OIH (VOGEL),
NIB/FIG (SCHAMBRA/BHAT), NIB/NICHD (ALEXANDER), USAID
(SPEILER)

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: KSCA, OSCI, IN
SUBJECT: INDIAN PROPOSAL TO REVITALIZE COOPERATION ON
HUMAN REPRODUCTION AND CONTRACEPTIVE RESEARCH

1. ACTION REQUEST - PARA 7.
2. SUMMARY: FOLLOWING INFORMAL SCIATT DISCUSSIONS
WITH DR. BADRI N. SAXENA (SENIOR DEPUTY DIRECTOR
GENERAL AND CHIEF, DIVISION OF REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND
NUTRITION, ICMR), POST RECEIVED LETTER FROM HIM ON
SEPTEMBER 14 PROPOSING REVITALIZATION OF INDO-U.S.
RESEARCH COOPERATION ON REPRODUCTIVE BIOLOGY. POST
REQUESTS DEPARTMENT CONCURRENCE TO PROCEED TO ACCEPT
THIS PROPOSAL. END SUMMARY.
3. BACKGROUND: IN 1978 THE INDO-U.S. SUBCOMMISSION
ESTABLISHED A JOINT WORKING GROUP (JWG) TO STIMULATE
AND OVERSEE COOPERATIVE REPRODUCTIVE AND CONTRACEPTIVE
RESEARCH ACTIVITIES. THE JWG MET REGULARLY FOR TEN
YEARS AND CATALYZED A DYNAMIC PROGRAM OF RESEARCH
PROJECTS AND WORKSHOPS. FUNDING HAS PROVIDED BY THE
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE (PL-480 RUPEES) AND USAID. THE
JWG MECHANISM, AS WITH THE VACCINE ACTION PROGRAM,
SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCES BUREAUCRATIC DELAYS AND
DIFFICULTIES.

THE PROGRAM BECAME DORMANT WHEN USIF WAS ESTABLISHED
WITH ITS DELAYED CLEARANCE PROCEDURES, PL-480 RESOURCE
DECLINED, AND USAID FUNDING ENDED. THE INVOLVED INDIA

SCIENTISTS AND ADMINISTRATORS WERE UNABLE TO MOVE QUICKLY IN RESPONSE TO THESE CHANGES TO CREATE NEW OPERATING PROCESSES. FOLLOWING LENGTHY INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS, THE INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH (ICMR) HAS NOW OFFICIALLY REQUESTED REACTIVATION OF TH PROGRAM (TEXT AT PARA 4).

POST REMAINS INTERESTED IN THIS KEY AREA OF COOPERATIO FOR SCIENTIFIC AND POLICY REASONS. JOINT RESEARCH ON CONTRACEPTIVES IN INDIA WILL SUPPORT EFFORTS TO IMPROV FAMILY PLANNING IN INDIA (AS IN U.P.), AND IT WILL ENCOURAGE THE INTRDUCTION OF NEW CONTRACEPTIVES IN TH U.S. AND ELSEWHERE. BY DEMONSTRATING THE APPROPRIATENESS OF SPECIFIC CONTRACEPTIVES IN INDIA, FINDINGS FROM THIS RESEARCH COULD PROVIDE A TOOL TO INCREASE INDIAN PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE. THIS PROGRAM ALSO WOULD PROVIDE TRAINING, TECHNICAL SUPPORT AND EXPERTIS TO IMPROVE INDIA'S CAPACITY TO DEVELOP AND TEST INDIGENOUS POPULATION CONTROL TECHNOLOGIES. END BACKGROUND.

4. BEGIN RELEVANT TEXT OF SAXENA LETTER: I SUGGEST THAT WE HAVE A INDO-U.S. SUBCOMMISSION MEETING IN THE REPRODUCTIVE BIOLOGY WHICH IS PENDING FROM LAST 2-3 YEARS, AS WE ALWAYS USED TO MEET EITHER IN INDIA OR USA AT 18 MONTHS INTERVAL. AS DR. NANCY ALEXANDER AND OTHER U.S. AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES SUCH AS MR. JEFF SPEILER OF USAID AND DR. HENRY GABELNICK OF CONRAD WOULD BE COMING TO ATTEND THE MEETING IN DELHI LATER IN THE NOVEMBER, WE COULD MEET IN DELHI FOR A DAY ON A MUTUALLY CONVENIENT DATE. AS YOU ARE WELL AWARE SINCE WE MET LAST UNDER INDO-U.S. SUBMISSION ON REPRODUCTIVE BIOLOGY, THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HAS ESTABLISHED A NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH IN HUMAN REPRODUCTION (NCRHR) WITH SECRETARY (FAMILY WELFARE) AS A CHAIRPERSON AND MYSELF BEING THE MEMBER-SECRETARY. TH BASIC OBJECTIVE OF THIS COMMITTEE IS TO PROMOTE COLLABORATION AND COORDINATION BETWEEN VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS/ORGANIZATIONS/AGENCIES/ INSTITUTIONS WHO ARE SUPPORTING REPRODUCTION RESEARCH IN THE COUNTRY ON NATIONAL PRIORITIES COVERING OPERATIONAL/CLINICAL/BASIC RESEARCHES IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN REPRODUCTION/REPRODUCTIVE BIOLOGY. THEREFORE IN THIS COMMITTEE, THE SECRETARIES OF DEPARTMENTS SUCH AS DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY, DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION AS WELL AS DIRECTOR-GENERALS OF COUNCIL O SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH, INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH AND SECRETARY-GENERAL OF UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION. ITS MEMBERSHIP ALSO INCLUDES NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION OF INDIA AND NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR VOLUNTARY STERILIZATION AND FAMILY WELFARE OF INDIA (NAVSFI) AND EXPERTS IN THIS FIELD. IN SUMMARY, I PROPOSE THAT IF YOU THIS MEETING OF INDO-U.S. SUBCOMMISSION, WE SHOULD ALSO INCORPORATE THE MEMBERS OF NCRHR TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING. I WOULD ALSO SUGGEST THAT DR. GABRIEL BIALY WHO HAS BEEN ASSOCIATED

WITH INDO-U.S. SUBCOMMISSION SINCE ITS INCEPTION, SHOULD ALSO BE INVOLVED IN VIEW OF HIS RICH AND HISTORICAL EXPERIENCE OF INDO-U.S. COLLABORATION AND HIS ONE-ON-ONE RELATIONSHIP WITH SEVERAL INDIAN SCIENTISTS OVER DECADES. END TEXT.

5. WITH DEPARTMENT AND PHS CONCURRENCE WE PLAN TO SEND TO ICMR THE FOLLOWING RESPONSE (TEXT CLEARED IN DRAFT UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 03 NEW DELHI 014540

DEPT. FOR OES/SCT (SHIPPE) PASS PITS/OIH (VOGEL), NIB/FIG (SCHAMBRA/BHAT), NIB/NICHD (ALEXANDER), USAID (SPEILER)

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: KSCA, OSCI, IN

SUBJECT: INDIAN PROPOSAL TO REVITALIZE COOPERATION ON HUMAN REPRODUCTION AND CONTRACEPTIVE RESEARCH

BY FAX WITH PHS/OIH AND BY USAID MISSION):

DEAR DR. SAXENA: I HAVE SHARED YOUR LETTER OF SEPTEMBER 14, 1995 WITH OFFICIALS OF THE U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE AND THE AMBASSADOR OF THE UNITED STATES TO INDIA. WE WELCOME YOUR INVITATION TO RECONVENE THE INDO-U.S. SUB-COMMISSION JOINT WORKING GROUP (JWG) IN THE AREA OF REPRODUCTIVE BIOLOGY. A CONVENIENT DATE FOR THE MEETING WOULD BE DECEMBER 6 OR 7, 1995 FOLLOWING THE MEETINGS MENTIONED IN YOUR LETTER.

AS THE JWG APPROVES JOINT ACTIVITIES (SUCH AS RESEARCH PROJECTS, CLINICAL TRIALS, WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS), THE UNITED STATES IS PREPARED TO OBLIGATE, PENDING GOI AND U.S. GOVERNMENT APPROVAL, CONSIDERABLE RESOURCES FROM THE U.S.-INDIA FUND FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (USIF). WE ARE ALSO PREPARED TO MAKE U.S. DOLLAR AWARDS, UNDER VARIOUS MECHANISMS, TO SUPPORT APPROPRIATE AND COMPETITIVE PROPOSALS APPROVED THROUGH PEER REVIEW. OUR EXPECTATION IS THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA WILL LIKEWISE DEDICATE ITS OWN RESOURCES TO SUPPORT THESE ACTIVITIES AT AN APPROPRIATE LEVEL.

WE WERE ALSO PLEASED TO LEARN ABOUT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH IN HUMAN REPRODUCTION AND YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN THIS COMMITTEE AS MEMBER-SECRETARY. WE WOULD WELCOME THE INCLUSION OF ICRHR MEMBERS IN THE JOINT WORKING GROUP MEETING AND IN FUTURE JOINT RESEARCH ENDEAVORS. ONCE YOU HAVE CLARIFIED THE LIST OF INDIAN PARTICIPANTS WE WILL BE PLEASED TO IDENTIFY APPROPRIATE U.S. COUNTERPARTS. WE WOULD ENVISION THE JWG FUNCTIONING MUCH LIKE THE JWG OF THE INDO-U.S. VACCINE ACTION PROGRAM. IN PARTICULAR, IT WOULD PROVIDE A MECHANISM FOR STREAMLINED PROJECT REVIEW AND CLEARANCE.

AS YOU WILL RECALL FROM OUR LAST CONVERSATION, WE EXPECT JOINT PROGESTIN CLINICAL TRIALS WILL BE AN INITIAL ACTIVITY SUPPORTED UNDER THE REVITALIZED JOINT WORKING GROUP. IN THAT REGARD, IT WOULD BE MOST USEFUL

TO CONVENE A MEETING OF POTENTIALLY INVOLVED INVESTIGATORS EITHER IMMEDIATELY BEFORE OR AFTER THE JWG MEETING. FOR THAT PURPOSE, DR. WILLIAM SCHLAFF IS PREPARED TO COME TO INDIA WITH DR. LYNN MCCOURT, NIH PROJECT COORDINATOR, TO WORK WITH YOU AND THEIR POTENTIAL COLLABORATORS TO DEVELOP THE RESEARCH PROTOCOL IN ACCORDANCE WITH INDIAN CONDITIONS. AS WE DISCUSSED, IT WILL BE VERY IMPORTANT FOR DR. SCHLAFF TO PERSONALLY MEET THE SCIENTISTS WITH WHOM HE IS LIKELY TO COLLABORATE.

ASSUMING WE SHOULD PROCEED TO PLAN FOR THE JWG MEETING I WOULD WELCOME YOUR IDEAS ON AN APPROPRIATE AGENDA, A LIST OF SPEAKERS AND THE VENUE FOR THE MEETING. IN OUR VIEW IT ALSO WOULD BE ADVISABLE TO MEET EARLY IN NOVEMBER TO DISCUSS ROLES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND EXPECTATIONS SO THAT THE DECEMBER MEETING RUNS SMOOTHLY. SUCH A MEETING COULD INVOLVE ICMR, THE PHS, USAID AND ANY OTHERS YOU RECOMMEND.

ON BEHALF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE, THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH AND THE U.S. EMBASSY, I ASSURE YOU WE ARE ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE REVITALIZATION OF INDO-U.S. COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH ON HUMAN REPRODUCTION AND CONTRACEPTION. THE MUTUAL BENEFITS BOTH OUR SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITIES WILL DERIVE FROM THIS COOPERATION ARE POTENTIALLY QUITE EXCITING. END TEXT.

6. IN PRACTICAL TERMS, WE ENVISION FORMALIZATION OF THIS PROGRAM UNDER THE SUBCOMMISSION WORKING GROUP ON HEALTH AND LIFE SCIENCES. SINCE THE CLINICAL TRIALS ANTICIPATED WOULD USE PRODUCTS ALREADY ON THE MARKET, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS SHOULD NOT BE AN INITIAL PROBLEM. ANY FORMAL ARRANGEMENT WOULD ADDRESS THIS CONCERN SPECIFICALLY. WE WOULD PLAN TO FUND JOINT ACTIVITIES WITH AN INFORMAL "SET ASIDE" FROM USIF (AS IS THE CASE WITH THE AGRA INITIATIVE). AT LEAST INITIALLY, OBLIGATIONS COULD COME FROM THE 1996 PHS ALLOCATION. PHS DOLLARS COULD BE AWARDED TO SPECIFIC COMPETITIVE PROJECTS PRIMARILY THROUGH NIH PEER-REVIEWED COMPETITIVE PROGRAMS. WE EXPECT THE ICMR TO PROVIDE COUNTERPART FUNDING. AFTER START-UP, EMBASSY INVOLVEMENT WILL BE MINIMAL. PHS WILL HAVE ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES. THE FIRST MEETING OF THE REVIVED JWG COULD BE SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 6 OR 7 TO COINCIDE WITH OTHER REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH MEETINGS IN DELHI AND CONSERVE U.S. PARTICIPANTS' TRAVEL FUNDS.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT AND DHHS CONCURRENCE IS REQUESTED TO PROCEED AS OUTLINED ABOVE. WE NOTE THIS PROGRAM WILL BE USEFUL FOLLOW-UP TO UN CONFERENCE UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 03 NEW DELHI 014540

DEPT. FOR OES/SCT (SHIPPE) PASS PITS/OIH (VOGEL),
NIB/FIG (SCHAMBRA/BHAT), NIB/NICHD (ALEXANDER), USAID
(SPEILER)

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: KSCA, OSCI, IN

SUBJECT: INDIAN PROPOSAL TO REVITALIZE COOPERATION ON
HUMAN REPRODUCTION AND CONTRACEPTIVE RESEARCH

ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT AND THE BEIJING WOMEN'S
CONFERENCE, IT ALSO ADDRESSES DEPARTMENT'S PRIORITY
GLOBAL CONCERN - POPULATION CONTROL, AND IT WILL
DEMONSTRATE INDO-U.S. COOPERATION ON POLITICALLY
SENSITIVE AREA. IN THIS EFFORT, POST EST OFFICE AND
AID MISSION ACTIVITIES WOULD BE COORDINATED. PLEASE
NOTE THE TIME IS SHORT TO ORGANIZE A MEETING IN EARLY
DECEMBER SO WILL ASSUME DEPARTMENT CONCURRENCE IF NO
REACTION WITHIN ONE WEEK. WISNER

BT

#4540

NNNN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 03

<^SECT>SECTION: 02 OF 03

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SSN: 4540

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TOR: 951114042705 M1949099

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DIST:

SIT: NSC

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Cable

PREC: ROUTINE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: RAAUZYUW RUEHTOA5536 3200340-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: R 160340Z NOV 95
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
OSRI: RUEHTO
DTG: 160340Z NOV 95
ORIG: AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
TO: SECSTATE WASHDC 6562
INFO: ////
SUBJ: REQUEST FOR BEIJING CONFERENCE DOCUMENT

TEXT:
UNCLAS MAPUTO 005536

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: KDEM, PHUM, MZ
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR BEIJING CONFERENCE DOCUMENT

1. THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL ACTION, ALCINDA DE ABREU, HAS REQUESTED A COPY OF FIRST LADY HILLARY CLINTON'S PAMPHLET REGARDING THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN WHICH WAS RECENTLY HELD IN BEIJING. POST'S COPY CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING ILLEGIBLE PAGES: 8, 9, 12, 13, 16, 17, 20, 21, AND 24. THEREFORE, POST REQUESTS THAT ANOTHER COPY OF THIS BOOKLET BE SENT VIA UNCLASSIFIED DIPLOMATIC POUCH.

JETT
BT
#5536

NNNN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01
SSN: 5536
TOR: 951116003356 M1952966
DIST:
SIT: NSC
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Cable

PREC: PRIORITY

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED

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LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH

LINE3: P 160816Z NOV 95

LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

OSRI: RUEHDK

DTG: 160816Z NOV 95

ORIG: AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8744

INFO: RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 0007

RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 1441

RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 0192

RUEHZO/OAU COLLECTIVE

SUBJ: MINISTER OF WOMEN'S AFFAIRS PREPARES FOR
FOLLOW-UP TO BEIJING WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN

TEXT:

UNCLAS DAKAR 011151

SENSITIVE

PARIS FOR MORAN

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: KWMN, PHUM, PGOV, PREL, SG

SUBJECT: MINISTER OF WOMEN'S AFFAIRS PREPARES FOR
FOLLOW-UP TO BEIJING WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN

1. SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED.

2. BEGIN SUMMARY. THE MINISTER OF WOMEN'S AFFAIRS, AMINATA MBENGUE NDIAYE, TOLD AMBASSADOR NOVEMBER 14 THAT SENEGAL SUPPORTS A FOLLOW-UP CONFERENCE FOR THE AFRICA GROUP TO THE BEIJING WOMEN'S CONFERENCE. SENEGAL IS THE HEAD OF THE AFRICA DELEGATION. MRS. NDIAYE SAID THE CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD MOST LIKELY IN KAMPALA OR ACCRA. END SUMMARY.

3. THE AMBASSADOR, ACCOMPANIED BY POLCHIEF, CALLED ON THE MINISTER OF WOMEN, CHILDREN AND THE FAMILY, MRS. AMINATA MBENGUE NDIAYE, NOVEMBER 14. AMBASSADOR DELIVERED A MESSAGE FROM SENATOR TIMOTHY WIRTH THANKING THE SENEGALESE DELEGATION TO THE FOURTH BEIJING WOMEN'S CONFERENCE FOR ITS ENERGETIC LEADERSHIP. AMBASSADOR SOLICITED MRS. NDIAYE'S SUGGESTION FOR FOLLOWING UP SOME OF THE CONFERENCE'S INITIATIVES.

4. THE MINISTER, WHO WAS APPOINTED TO THE POST IN MARCH 1995, HER FIRST MINISTERIAL POSITION, PLAYED A

MAJOR ROLE IN REPAIRING THE NEGATIVE PERCEPTION OF SENEGAL'S LEADERSHIP OF THE AFRICAN DELEGATION, THE AFRICA PREPARATORY CONFERENCE HELD IN SENEGAL IN NOVEMBER 1994 WAS MARRED BY LACK OF ADMINISTRATIVE PREPARATIONS, INCLUDING OVERBOOKING OF HOTELS, LACK OF CONFERENCE MATERIALS, AND MESSY POLITICAL DISPUTES, INCLUDING THE EXPULSION OF SOME MEMBERS OF THE MAURITANIAN DELEGATION. MRS. NDIAYE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE COOPERATION OF THE U.S. DELEGATION DURING THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN BEIJING. SHE SAID THAT THE SENEGALESE GOVERNMENT WORKED TO INCLUDE IN ITS DELEGATION OF SOME 90 PERSONS BROAD REPRESENTATION FROM POLITICAL PARTIES, GOVERNMENT AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS.

5. THE MINISTER OF WOMEN'S AFFAIRS SAID THAT SHE IS WORKING ON A PROGRAM TO FOLLOW UP ON THE INITIATIVES TAKEN AT THE BEIJING SUMMIT WITH MEMBERS OF THE COORDINATION BUREAU WHICH SHE HEADS. THE PROGRAM INVOLVES ANOTHER MEETING OF THE AFRICA GROUP WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION ON AFRICA AND THE OAU SECRETARIAT. THE NEXT MEETING WILL PROBABLY BE HELD EITHER IN KAMPALA OR ACCRA.

6. AMBASSADOR NOTED THE IMPROVED ANGLOPHONE/FRANCOPHONE COOPERATION, AN ISSUE THAT HAD TROUBLED PARTICIPANTS DURING THE DAKAR PREPARATORY CONFERENCE. HE SAID THAT THE U.S. WOULD WELCOME COLLABORATION ON THE FOLLOW-UP CONFERENCE.

7. COMMENT: AMINATA NDIAYE HAS BROUGHT A MORE COOPERATIVE APPROACH TO THE RUNNING OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN'S AFFAIRS THAN HER COMBATTIVE PREDECESSOR. THE FORMER MINISTER, NDIOURO NDIAYE, LOST HER JOB BECAUSE OF THE MESSY HANDLING OF THE PREPARATORY CONFERENCE, MUCH OF WHICH WAS NOT DIRECTLY HER FAULT. SENEGAL VERY MUCH WANTS TO REMAIN IN ITS LEADERSHIP ROLE ON THIS ISSUE AND WITH ADEQUATE SUPPORT WILL PROBABLY BE ABLE TO DUPLICATE ITS POSITIVE PERFORMANCE IN BEIJING.

8. MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.
JOHNSON
BT
#1151

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SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 1151

TOR: 951116032520 M1953134

DIST:

SIT: NSC

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Cable

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CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
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LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: R 171606Z NOV 95
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY ROME
OSRI: RUEHRO
DTG: 171606Z NOV 95
ORIG: AMEMBASSY ROME
TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 3020
RHEHAAA/WHITE HOUSE WASHDC
INFO: ////
SUBJ: POPE'S VISIT SEALS BETTER U.S.-VATICAN TIES

TEXT:
UNCLAS ROME 015402

WHITE HOUSE FOR MRS. CLINTON, THE VICE PRESIDENT AND
MR. JOHN HART

FROM THE AMBASSADOR

FROM EMBASSY VATICAN/MESSAGE NO. 307/95

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, US, VT
SUBJECT: POPE'S VISIT SEALS BETTER U.S.-VATICAN TIES

REF: ROME 14882

1. I TALKED RECENTLY WITH AMERICAN CARDINALS LAW, BAUM,
AND SZOKA, ALL OF WHOM HAD MET OVER THE PAST FEW DAYS
WITH POPE JOHN PAUL II. THE POPE EXPRESSED TO THEM IN
VERY PERSONAL TERMS HOW MUCH HE ENJOYED HIS OCTOBER VISIT
TO THE U.S. AND ESPECIALLY HIS APPRECIATION TO THE
PRESIDENT AND MRS. CLINTON FOR GREETING HIM ON HIS
ARRIVAL IN NEWARK.

2. THE POPE ALSO SAID THAT HE WAS GRATEFUL THAT VICE-
PRESIDENT AND MRS. GORE WERE ABLE TO ATTEND HIS DEPARTURE
IN BALTIMORE. ON THE POPE'S PLANE ON THE TRIP BACK TO
ROME FROM THE U.S., I TOLD THE HOLY FATHER THAT THE VICE
PRESIDENT AND MRS. GORE HAD JUST RETURNED FROM TENNESSEE
WHERE THEY HAD VISITED THE VP'S MOTHER WHO WAS NOT
FEELING WELL. THE POPE TOLD ME THAT HE WOULD SAY A
PRAYER "FOR THIS VERY SPECIAL MOTHER."

3. THE POPE TOLD THE AMERICAN CARDINALS THAT HE WAS VERY
HAPPY TO NOTE THE HIGH LEVEL OF COOPERATION AND SUPPORT

THAT THE VATICAN HAD RECEIVED FROM THE U.S. EMBASSY TO THE HOLY SEE, NOT ONLY REGARDING THE VISIT TO THE U.S., BUT ALSO ON A WHOLE RANGE OF IMPORTANT INTERNATIONAL ISSUES, STARTING WITH THE BALKAN CRISIS AND EXTENDING AROUND THE WORLD.

4. IN A MOVE THAT I BELIEVE WAS RELATED TO THE POPE'S REMARKS TO THE AMERICAN CARDINALS, I WAS AWARDED AN HONORARY PAPAL "KNIGHTHOOD" ON NOVEMBER 9. THE VATICAN CHIEF OF PROTOCOL, WHO PRESENTED ME WITH THIS AWARD, SAID THAT IT WAS INTENDED TO HONOR, NOT JUST ME AS AMBASSADOR, BUT ALSO THE UNITED STATES, ON ACCOUNT OF THE EXCELLENT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE VATICAN. THE AWARD IS THE HIGHEST FORM OF HONOR THAT THE HOLY SEE CAN CONFER ON A DIPLOMAT. AT LUNCH AFTER THE PRESENTATION OF THE AWARD, SEVERAL OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL AMERICANS WORKING IN THE VATICAN TOLD ME THAT THE AWARD WAS IN FACT A WAY FOR THE POPE TO "RECOGNIZE" THE IMPROVEMENT IN U.S.-VATICAN RELATIONS OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS, WHICH WAS SEALED BY THE POPE'S TRIUMPHANT FOUR-CITY U.S. VISIT IN OCTOBER.

5. DISTINGUISHED U.S. CATHOLIC INTELLECTUAL MICHAEL NOVAK, WHO HAS BEEN VISITING IN ROME, TOLD ME NOVEMBER 14 THAT HE HAD BEEN BUTTON-HOLED BY SEVERAL VATICAN OFFICIALS, INCLUDING SOME OF THE HOLY SEE DELEGATION TO THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN BEIJING, IN ORDER TO IMPRESS ON HIM IN VERY COMPLIMENTARY TERMS HOW MUCH THEY APPRECIATED THE WORK OF THIS EMBASSY IN "CLOSING THE GAP" BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE VATICAN REGARDING BEIJING. THEY SAID THAT THIS EMBASSY WAS "ACTIVE AND EFFECTIVE" IN MAKING SURE THAT THE VATICAN AND THE U.S. UNDERSTOOD EACH OTHER ON THE MOST IMPORTANT BEIJING ISSUES, WHICH WAS THE KEY TO GOOD COOPERATION BETWEEN US AT THE CONFERENCE. THEY ALSO SAID THAT MRS. CLINTON'S INTERVENTION AT THE CONFERENCE WAS "VERY MUCH APPRECIATED" BY THE VATICAN AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS.

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#5402

NNNN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 5402

TOR: 951117142716 M1956151

DIST:

PRT: FIRST_LADY FUERTH

SIT: JENSEN NSC

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Cable

PREC: PRIORITY

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED

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OSRI: RUCNDT

DTG: 211439Z NOV 95

ORIG: USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9314

INFO: RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE 2478

RUEHHE/AMEMBASSY HELSINKI 0674

RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA 3089

RUEHIT/AMCONSUL ISTANBUL 0005

RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 3658

RUEHNR/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 0645

RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO 0822

RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 4345

RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 4642

SUBJ: UNGA DEBATE OF HABITAT CONFERENCE AND RELATED
DISCUSSIONS

SUMMARY

TEXT:

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 05 USUN NEW YORK 004677

SENSATIVE

E.O.12958: DECL:N/A

TAGS: UNGA, HABITAT, SOCI, ECON, EAID

SUBJECT: UNGA DEBATE OF HABITAT CONFERENCE AND RELATED
DISCUSSIONS

SUMMARY

1. ON NOVEMBER 15 THE UNGA SECOND COMMITTEE DISCUSSED PREPARATIONS FOR THE HABITAT II CONFERENCE IN JUNE, 1996 IN ISTANBUL. (TEXT OF USG STATEMENT IN PARAGRAPH 19) THE MEETING ELABORATED ON BRIEFINGS BY THE UNITED NATIONS CENTRE FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS (UNCHS) AND TURKEY ON BACKGROUND AND PHYSICAL ARRANGEMENTS HELD PREVIOUSLY (11/13) AND WAS FOLLOWED BY SAME DAY INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS AMONG WESTERN GROUP DELEGATIONS AT A VINCI MEETING. THIS CABLE SUMMARIZES FORMAL INTERVENTIONS DURING THE SECOND COMMITTEE DISCUSSION, REPORTS ON HIGH-LEVEL CONSULTATIONS AMONG KEY WESTERN DELEGATIONS AT A FOLLOW-UP LUNCHEON, AND REPORTS ON WORKING LEVEL CONSULTATIONS AMONG THE WIDER WESTERN GROUP DELEGATIONS AT THE VINCI MEETING. END SUMMARY.

UNGA - SECOND COMMITTEE DEBATE

2. ON NOVEMBER 15 THE UNGA SECOND COMMITTEE DISCUSSED PREPARATIONS FOR THE HABITAT II CONFERENCE IN JUNE, 1996 IN ISTANBUL. UNCHS A/SYG AND HABITAT II SECRETARY GENERAL WALLY N'DOW LED OFF THE DEBATE WITH AN UPEBEAT APPRAISAL OF PROGRESS TO DATE. HE NOTED THE NEED FOR NEW PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS DEVELOPMENT COMPATIBLE WITH A CHANGING WORLD. N'DOW DESCRIBED THE CONSIDERABLE PREPARATORY ACTIVITY GOING ON IN REGIONAL CONFERENCES AROUND THE WORLD, AND EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE INTEREST THE CONFERENCE WAS ATTRACTING. N'DOW APPEALED FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS TO ENABLE THE SECRETARIAT TO COMPLETE THE PREPARATORY PROCESS.

3. THE U.S. STATEMENT ADDRESSED THE DRAFT OF THE "HABITAT AGENDA", THE FINAL DOCUMENT TO BE APPROVED IN ISTANBUL. IT NOTED THAT HABITAT II IS THE LAST IN A SERIES OF CONFERENCES BEGUN AT RIO, AND THAT THE AGENDA SHOULD FOCUS ON THE PRACTICAL REALITIES OF EMPOWERING PEOPLE TO SOLVE SHELTER PROBLEMS SUSTAINABLY IN THEIR COMMUNITIES. THE STATEMENT STRESSED THE CONCEPT OF GOVERNMENT AS ENABLER, AND NOTED THAT THE CURRENT DRAFT OF THE AGENDA IS MUCH TOO FOCUSED ON THE GOVERNMENT'S ROLE IN RESOLVING SHELTER PROBLEMS. IT STATED THAT THE U.S. WAS OPPOSED TO THE CREATION OF A "RIGHT TO HOUSING" IN THE AGENDA. U.S. DEL NOTED THAT THE DEPARTMENT AND AID HAD PROVIDED CONSIDERABLE RESOURCES TO THE PREPARATORY PROCESS, AND THAT THE U.S. WAS COMMITTED TO A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME. N'DOW SUBSEQUENTLY THANKED U.S. DEL FOR THE STATEMENT, SAYING IT WAS VERY HELPFUL. THE FULL TEXT OF USDEL STATEMENT FOLLOWS IN PARAGRAPH 25.

4. THE PHILIPPINES SPEAKING FOR THE G-77, STRESSED THE NEED FOR INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO FULFILL THE "RIGHT TO HOUSING." PAKISTAN CRITICIZED THE "UNWILLINGNESS OF CERTAIN KEY COUNTRIES TO ADDRESS THE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION DIMENSION OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS" THUS FAR IN THE PREPARATORY PROCESS, AND CONTENDED THAT ISSUES SUCH AS DEBT AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER MUST BE ADDRESSED. KENYA SPOKE ALONG SIMILAR LINES, ADDING THAT UNCHS SHOULD BE CHARGED WITH COORDINATING FOLLOW UP TO HABITAT II. CHINA STRESSED THAT POVERTY ALLEVIATION, ECONOMIC GROWTH, AND EFFORTS TO "CHECK EXCESSIVE POPULATION GROWTH" ARE NEEDED TO SOLVE URBAN SETTLEMENTS PROBLEMS. CHINA SUPPORTED "NEW AND ADDITIONAL RESOURCES" FOR THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

5. SPAIN, FOR THE E.U., GAVE A BRIEF STATEMENT WHICH MENTIONED THE NEED TO INVOLVE NGOS AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN THE PREPARATORY PROCESS. THE DELEGATE NOTED THAT THE ISSUE OF THE "RIGHT TO HOUSING" IS VERY DIFFICULT, AND STRESSED THAT UNCHS SHOULD ORGANIZE A GROUP OF EXPERTS AS HAS BEEN DISCUSSED FOR SOME TIME TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEM. JAPAN STRESSED THAT HABITAT II SHOULD AVOID REPEATING DISCUSSIONS WHICH TOOK PLACE IN PREVIOUS

CONFERENCES AND THAT FOLLOW UP SHOULD BE ASSURED BY ECOSOC AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION (ACC) .

6. INDIA ENDORSED THE "RIGHT TO ADEQUATE HOUSING AS A BASIC HUMAN RIGHT AS ENSHRINED IN THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS". (COMMENT: IN THE PARIS INTERSESSIONAL DRAFTING GROUP MEETING IN OCTOBER, INDIA UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 05 USUN NEW YORK 004677

SENSATIVE

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TAGS: UNGA, HABITAT, SOCI, ECON, EAID
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PROPOSED ADDING A CAVEAT TO THE PARAGRAPH ON THE RIGHT TO HOUSING THAT IT WAS NOT A LEGALLY ENFORCEABLE HUMAN RIGHT. END COMMENT)

7. THE MARSHALL ISLANDS, SPEAKING FOR THE SOUTH PACIFIC ISLANDS GROUP, STATED THAT NUCLEAR TESTING WAS A SEVERE THREAT TO HUMAN SETTLEMENTS WHICH NEEDED TO BE ADDRESSED BY HABITAT II. TURKEY STRESSED THE NEED FOR HIGH LEVEL ATTENDANCE IN ISTANBUL AND TO WRAP UP WORK ON THE AGENDA. IT ALSO MENTIONED ARRANGEMENTS IN ISTANBUL FOR THE CONCURRENT NGO FORUM AND THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR.

LUNCHEON CONSULTATIONS

8. IN AN EFFORT TO IMPROVE COORDINATION WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION (EU) ON HABITAT, AMBASSADOR MARRERO HOSTED A LUNCHEON (11/14) WITH AMBASSADOR GERHARD HENZE (GERMANY), MR. PHILIPPE DELACROIX (FRANCE), MR. STEFANO CACCIAGUERRA RANGHIERI (ITALY), MR. GOMEZ (SPAIN), MR. KARLBERG (SWEDISH MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE), IO DAS MELINDA KIMBLE, IO/D RALPH BRESLER AND USUN COUNS JOHN HOPE ATTENDING.

9. DAS KIMBLE LED OFF THE DISCUSSION BY SETTING OUT SERIOUS U.S. CONCERNS WITH THE HABITAT AGENDA. SHE NOTED THAT THE DOCUMENT FOCUSES FAR TOO HEAVILY ON COMMITTING GOVERNMENTS TO SOLVE SHELTER PROBLEMS, POINTING OUT THAT EXPERIENCE IN THE U.S. AND ELSEWHERE HAS SHOWN THAT IMPROVING SHELTER IS BEST DONE BY ENABLING COMMUNITIES AND INDIVIDUALS TO ADDRESS THEIR HOUSING NEEDS. SHE CONTINUED THAT THE DOCUMENT SHOULD REVERSE ITS ORDER OF PRIORITY, STARTING WITH INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES, THEN MOVING TO LOCAL AND NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS AND THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL. MUCH GREATER EMPHASIS NEEDED TO BE PLACED ON THE MARKET IN PROVIDING SHELTER. THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT'S ROLE SHOULD BE PROVIDING A FRAMEWORK FOR INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES TO ADDRESS THEIR PROBLEMS.

10. THE EUROPEAN MISSIONS GENERALLY HAD NOT FOCUSED ON

HABITAT ISSUES. NEVERTHELESS, CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION ENSUED ON SEVERAL ISSUES SUCH AS HOW DIFFERENT GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURES (FEDERAL VERSUS UNITARY) MIGHT IMPACT ON THE ROLE NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS PLAY IN ADDRESSING HOUSING NEEDS. DELACROIX NOTED THAT ALTHOUGH THE E.U. WAS PREPARED TO WORK WITH THE U.S., IT MUST BE KEPT IN MIND THAT IN MANY COUNTRIES NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS DO PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN PROVIDING SHELTER AND THIS WILL HAVE TO BE REFLECTED IN THE DOCUMENT.

VINCI MEETING

11. DISCUSSION OF THE HABITAT AGENDA IN THE VINCI GROUP (WESTERN DELEGATIONS) ON NOVEMBER 15 FOLLOWED SIMILAR LINES. THE U.S. LED OFF DISCUSSION BY STRESSING THE NEED FOR GREATER RECOGNITION OF THE KEY ROLE PLAYED BY LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND INDIVIDUALS IN HOUSING DECISIONS, AND OUR VIEW THAT ONLY THEY CAN PRODUCE LASTING SOLUTIONS TO SHELTER PROBLEMS. UNFORTUNATELY THE CURRENT DRAFT LARGELY IGNORES THEIR ROLE WHILE COMMITTING GOVERNMENTS TO SOLVE HOUSING PROBLEMS. THE U.S. ALSO NOTED THAT GREATER COORDINATION AMONG WEOG MEMBERS WOULD BE HELPFUL GIVEN THAT IN THE PARIS INTERSESSIONAL MORE HARSH WORDS WERE EXCHANGED AMONG THE DONORS THAN BETWEEN THEM AND THE G-77. MARTTI LUJANEN, THE FINNISH CHAIR OF PREPCOM III (TO BE HELD IN NEW YORK FEBRUARY 5 TO 16) RESPONDED THAT IN HIS VIEW THE ROLE OF NGOS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES IS RECOGNIZED IN THE CURRENT DRAFT. HE STATED THAT THERE WAS NO QUESTION OF HAVING GOVERNMENTS BUILD HOUSING AS THE ANSWER. THE FRENCH REP STATED THAT IN HIS COUNTRY LOCAL AUTHORITIES SHARE RESPONSIBILITY WITH THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT ON SHELTER ISSUES. IT COULD BE THAT BETTER BALANCE BETWEEN THE ROLE OF THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR IS NEEDED, BUT FRANCE COULD NOT AGREE TO A RADICAL CHANGE WHICH WOULD EXCLUDE GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBILITY IN PROVIDING SHELTER. THE GERMAN REP CONTENDED THAT BEGINNING WITH THE AFTERMATH OF WORLD WAR II PUBLIC HOUSING HAD PLAYED A KEY AND POSITIVE ROLE IN GERMANY. THE U.S. RESPONDED WITH AN APPEAL TO THE GROUP TO READ CAREFULLY THE DRAFT DOCUMENT AS THEY WOULD FIND THAT THERE ARE MANY PAGES OF UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 05 USUN NEW YORK 004677

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TAGS: UNGA, HABITAT, SOCI, ECON, EAID
SUBJECT: UNGA DEBATE OF HABITAT CONFERENCE AND RELATED DISCUSSIONS

GOVERNMENT COMMITMENTS WITH RELATIVELY LITTLE MENTION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF PRIVATE INITIATIVE.

RIGHT TO HOUSING

12. THE DUTCH REPRESENTATIVE SAID THAT HER DELEGATION HAD PROPOSED THAT A DIRECT QUOTATION FROM THE GENERAL

ASSEMBLY'S 1988 "GLOBAL SHELTER STRATEGY" COULD BE USED TO REPLACE CONTENTIOUS LANGUAGE ON THE RIGHT TO HOUSING. THERE HAD NOT BEEN SUFFICIENT TIME TO BUILD SUPPORT FOR THIS IDEA AT PREPCOM II, BUT THE NETHERLANDS WOULD REITERATE THE PROPOSAL AT PREPCOM III.

13. THE SWEDISH REPRESENTATIVE NOTED THAT ALTHOUGH THE GOS HAD SUBSCRIBED TO A SKELETON PROPOSAL ON THE RIGHT TO HOUSING AT PREPCOM II, SOME CONTROVERSY STILL SURROUNDS THE PROPOSAL AND THE GOS CONTINUES TO STUDY IT. IN THE MEAN TIME, THE SWEDISH HOUSING MINISTER HAS CIRCULATED A PROPOSAL FOR "STANDARD RULES" FOR HOUSING WHICH THE GOVERNMENT HOPES OTHERS WILL CONSIDER.

14. CANADIAN DELEGATE SAID THAT HER GOVERNMENT SHARED MANY OF THE CONCERNS VOICED BY THE USDEL. CANADA WAS PARTICULARLY UNCOMFORTABLE WITH THE APPARENT "CONCEPTUAL SHIFT" IN THE CURRENT HABITAT DRAFT DOCUMENT. SHE CITED THE FOLLOWING EXAMPLES:

-- THERE HAS EMERGED A NEW LINKAGE OF FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC ISSUES WHICH INTEGRATES MACROECONOMIC ISSUES WITH EMPLOYMENT POLICIES. CANADA PREFERS THE CLEARER DELINEATION OF BOTH DISCRETE ISSUES AS FOUND IN THE COPENHAGEN SOCIAL SUMMIT DOCUMENT (WSSD).

-- CANADA PREFERS A SHORTER DECLARATION OR PERHAPS AN "EXECUTIVE SUMMARY" FOR THE DOCUMENT AND WOULD LIKE THE RESPONSIBILITIES ASSIGNED TO ACTORS MORE CLEARLY SPECIFIED. AT PRESENT, THE DOCUMENT HELD LOTS OF IMPERATIVES WITHOUT CLEAR INDICATION OF WHO IS TO DO WHAT WHEN OR HOW. THE INCONSISTENCIES OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THNKz\2vkk~F PAST CONFERENCES IS ANOTHER STRONG CONCERN FOR THE GOC.

-- CANADA ALSO BELIEVES THAT SOME KEY ISSUES WERE NOT ADEQUATELY ADDRESSED AND THE GOC WILL WANT TO HIGHLIGHT THEM DURING THE NEXT PREPCOM. THOSE ISSUES INCLUDE:

-- URBANIZATION
-- GENDER
-- POVERTY REDUCTION (ADOPTING WSSD LANGUAGE ACCORDINGLY)
-- PERIPHERAL INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS (SQUATTERS)
-- DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN "REFUGEES" AND "MIGRANTS"
-- FINANCING
-- RECOGNITION OF A "GLOBAL HUMAN SETTLEMENTS NETWORK"
-- THE "RIGHT TO SHELTER". THE DELEGATE EMPHASIZED THAT ALTHOUGH THE GOC RECOGNIZES THE "RIGHT TO SHELTER," THE GOC IS NOT SURE HOW TO TRANSLATE RECOGNITION INTO AN "INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENT".

PROCESS

15. LOCAL AUTHORITIES: FINNISH PREPCOM CHAIR LUJANEN SUGGESTED THAT BECAUSE THE CONFERENCE DOES NOT WANT TO OVERSTRESS THE ROLE OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS, THERE HAD EVOLVED THE PROPOSAL TO INCLUDE "ALL ACTORS" IN THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS (RULE 61 OF THE RULES OF

PROCEDURE). ADVOCATING INCLUSION, LUJANEN SID THAT THE HABITAT CONFERENCE COULD GO FURTHER HAN ANY OTHER UN CONFERENCE TO DATE BY INCLUDING LL RELEVANT ACTORS IN ITS DELIBERATIONS. THE UESTION NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS NEEDED TO ANSWER WAS "WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE GOVERNMENT TO ENHANCE THE "ALL-ACTOR APPROACH" TO HOUSING?"

16. RESOURCES: LUJANEN CONTINUED THAT SOME PARTS OF THE DRAFT DOCUMENT IGNORE THE FACT THAN MOST HOUSING MONEY IS "DOMESTIC." THE FINANCE SECTIONS CALLING FOR "NEW AND ADDITIONAL RESOURCES" AND "DEVELOPMENT AID" ARE MISSING THE POINT BY FRAMING THEIR RESOURCES QUESTIONS IN NORTH/SOUTH TERMS. IT SHOULD BE CLEAR THAT NORTHERN MONEY WILL NOT SOLVE THE HOUSING PROBLEMS OF THE

DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. HE SUGGESTED THAT THIS BE "NEGOTIA TED" "WELL BEFORE THE FEBRUARY PREPCOM" AND SAID UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 05 USUN NEW YORK 004677

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HE HAD ALREADY BEGUN TALKING WITH SELECTED DEVELOPING COUNTRY DELEGATIONS WHO ACKNOWLEDGED THIS CONCEPTUAL FLAW.

17. FOLLOW-UP: THE FOLLOW-UP AND MONITORING COMPONENTS OF THE DOCUMENT HAD NOT BEEN DISCUSSED IN THE PREVIOUS PREPCOMS. LUJANEN REPORTED THAT DELEGATIONS DEEMED IT BEST TO HANDLE THOSE SECTIONS WITH THE NY-BASED DELEGATIONS. NEVERTHELESS, THERE WERE NO PROPOSALS ON THE TABLE AND THE SECTION WILL HAVE TO BE HANDLED DURING PREPCOM III.

18. AS A CONSEQUENCE, LUJANEN SAID HE WAS CONSIDERING CREATING TWO SUBGROUPS AT PREPCOM III: ONE TO HANDLE RESOURCES QUESTIONS AND THE OTHER TO HANDLE "ALL OF THE ISSUES" THAT HAVE NOT HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE PREVIOUS PREPCOMS.

19. BEGIN TEXT OF USG STATEMENT TO THE SECOND COMMITTEE DELIVERED BY MR. RALPH BRESLER, DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE (IO/D):

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS HABITAT II TO BE AN IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY FOR DRAWING TOGETHER AND EMPHASIZING THE PRINCIPLES ENACTED AT RIO, AND IN THE SUBSEQUENT SERIES OF MAJOR UN CONFERENCES CULMINATING WITH THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN. THE POLICIES AND PRINCIPLES AGREED TO AT THIS CONFERENCE SERIES SHOULD NOW CONCENTRATE ON THE PRACTICAL REALITIES OF EMPOWERING PEOPLE TO SOLVE SHELTER PROBLEMS SUSTAINABLY IN THEIR COMMUNITIES.

THE UNITED STATES FINDS THAT THE CURRENT DRAFT OF THE HABITAT AGENDA IS SOMETIMES AT VARIANCE WITH THE RIO PRINCIPLES, AND THAT THE DOCUMENT EXTENDS ITS ATTENTION INTO ISSUES BEYOND THE EXPERTISE OF THE UN COMMISSION ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND THE SECRETARIAT.

THE UNITED STATES SUPPORTS STRONGLY THE CONCEPT OF THE GOVERNMENT AS ENABLER, A CONCEPT THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY ENSHRINED AS THE GUIDING PRINCIPLE FOR THE PREPARATORY PROCESS AND THE CONFERENCE ITSELF.

THIS INCLUDES, WHERE APPROPRIATE, PROVIDING MARKET INCENTIVES FOR LOW INCOME POPULATIONS TO GAIN ACCESS TO SHELTER AND URBAN SERVICES. WE WANT TO ENCOURAGE POLICIES WHICH FACILITATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF MARKETS AND WHICH EXPAND THE INDIVIDUAL'S FREEDOM OF ACTION. WE BELIEVE THAT THESE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES NEED TO BE RESPECTED CONSISTENTLY THROUGHOUT THE DOCUMENT.

THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THAT THE ENABLING STRATEGY REMAINS AT THE HEART OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONSENSUS IN THE HUMAN SETTLEMENTS SECTOR. ENABLEMENT WAS FORMALLY ENDORSED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IN 1988 IN THE CONSENSUS ADOPTION BY THE UNGA OF THE GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR SHELTER TO THE YEAR 2000, AND MANY COUNTRIES ARE IN THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPING ENABLING STRATEGIES FOR SHELTER. WE WILL WORK TO PROMOTE THE ENABLING APPROACH AS AN ORGANIZING PRINCIPLE IN THE FINAL DOCUMENT.

WE WILL WORK CLOSELY WITH OUR COLLEAGUES IN THE DRAFTING PROCESS TO ENSURE THAT SPECIFIC FORMULATIONS OF THE CURRENT DRAFT ARE MODIFIED SO THAT ALL COUNTRIES CAN ACCEPT IT.

WE WILL ALSO WORK TO ENSURE THAT THE OVERALL PHILOSOPHICAL THRUST OF THE FINAL DOCUMENT REFLECTS A REALISTIC APPROACH TOWARDS THE CAPABILITIES OF LOCAL AND NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS. WE WANT TO ENSURE IT HIGHLIGHTS THE IMPORTANCE THAT SHOULD RIGHTFULLY BE GIVEN TO COMMUNITY--BASED INITIATIVES, THE NON-GOVERNMENTAL SECTOR, AND THE ROLE OF MARKETS.

WHILE NATION STATES BEAR PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR DEVELOPMENT, SHELTER DECISIONS ARE MORE OFTEN THAN NOT MADE BY INDIVIDUALS. HABITAT II MUST BE ABOUT AIDING THOSE DECISIONS, NOT MAKING THEM. HABITAT II IS ABOUT MICRO-DECISIONS THAT MUST BE INCORPORATED INTO A SUSTAINABLE WHOLE. ANY DOCUMENT WHICH EMPHASIZES A GOVERNMENT-ORIENTED APPROACH, UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS OF BOTH CENTRAL AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND UNPRODUCTIVE GOVERNMENT INTERVENTIONS WILL BE UNACCEPTABLE TO THE U.S.

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RATHER, WE WOULD PROPOSE A PARTNERSHIP WHICH IS DRIVEN AT THE LOCAL LEVEL AND SUPPORTED AT THE MUNICIPAL, STATE AND CENTRAL GOVERNMENT LEVELS.

THE HABITAT AGENDA MUST

ULTIMATELY GIVE ADEQUATE WEIGHT TO ESSENTIAL ACTORS IN THE SHELTER SECTOR. IN THE VAST MAJORITY OF COUNTRIES, THE PRIVATE SECTOR, MARKETS AND PRIVATE RESOURCE FLOWS ARE THE FOUNDATION FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS. THE DOCUMENT SHOULD EMPHASIZE THIS FACT.

MOREOVER, THE ROLES OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES, COMMUNITY GROUPS, NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS, NGOS, AND, MOST IMPORTANTLY, WOMEN, IN THE SHELTER SECTOR SHOULD RECEIVE GREATER EMPHASIS.

MORE GENERALLY, THE DOCUMENT SHOULD HIGHLIGHT THE IMPORTANCE OF TRANSPARENCY, CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN ALL LEVELS OF DECISION MAKING ON ALL HUMAN SETTLEMENTS ISSUES.

THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THAT GOVERNMENT WORKS BEST WHEN IT EMPOWERS PEOPLE TO MAKE DECISIONS RATHER THAN DECIDING FOR THEM. WE HAVE ASSISTED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF MANY SHELTER STRATEGIES WHICH MAKE THIS VERY POINT, AND THIS IS AN ACCEPTED VIEW IN MOST COUNTRIES TODAY. THE CURRENT DRAFT OF THE DOCUMENT NEEDS STRENGTHENING IN THIS AREA.

THE UNITED STATES ITSELF HAS A NATIONAL HOUSING POLICY WHICH CONTINUALLY STRIVES FOR AN APPROPRIATE BALANCE BETWEEN THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS. TO BE EFFECTIVE, THE HABITAT AGENDA MUST STRESS THAT THE BASIS FOR SUCCESS LIES IN INDIVIDUAL AND COMMUNITY BASED ACTIVITIES WITHIN A FRAMEWORK OF GOVERNMENT FACILITATION.

WE STRONGLY SUPPORT EQUAL ACCESS, WHICH EXPANDS INDIVIDUAL CHOICE AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT, WHEREAS EQUITABLE ACCESS OFTEN REDUCES CHOICE. THE U.S. AND MANY OTHER COUNTRIES AT THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN AGREED ON THIS POINT, WHICH WAS RECOGNIZED IN THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION IN ITS ASSERTION THAT WOMEN NEED "EQUAL RIGHTS, EQUAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES." "EQUITY" IS NO SUBSTITUTE.

IN ADDITION, HABITAT II'S EMPHASIS ON URBAN ISSUES REFLECTS THE REALITIES THAT THE WORLD WILL FACE IN THE 21ST CENTURY. HOWEVER, THE HABITAT AGENDA DOES NOT ADEQUATELY REFLECT THE IMPORTANCE OF THE LINKS BETWEEN RURAL AND URBAN AREAS. THESE LINKAGES ARE VITAL. THERE MUST BE REALISTIC POLICIES WHICH ENSURE THAT SECONDARY CENTERS ARE SUSTAINABLE AND THAT THEIR LINKS WITH THE SURROUNDING FOOD-PRODUCING REGIONS ARE STRENGTHENED IN APPROPRIATE WAYS.

IN A SIMILAR VEIN, ITS SECTIONS DEALING WITH LAND ALSO NEED TO RECOGNIZE THAT THERE SHOULD BE A BALANCED

APPROACH ON LAND USE IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT ALL
ESSENTIAL NEEDS, INCLUDING LAND FOR NATURAL RESOURCES
PROTECTION AND FOOD PRODUCTION, ARE INCLUDED.

THE UNITED STATES WISHES TO REITERATE THAT HUMAN
SETTLEMENTS, MORE THAN ANY OTHER ELEMENT IN THE
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT EQUATION, DEPEND FIRST ON THE
INDIVIDUAL AND THE COMMUNITY, ACTING WITHIN A FRAMEWORK
ESTABLISHED AND PROTECTED AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL. LOCAL
ACTION THAT PROMOTES SOUND INDIVIDUAL DECISIONS IS KEY
TO EVENTUAL SUCCESS.

IN CONCLUSION, THE UNITED STATES IS PREPARED TO WORK
WITH ALL COUNTRIES TO REFASHION AND REFINES THIS
IMPORTANT DOCUMENT FOR THE HABITAT II CONFERENCE.
END TEXT.

ALBRIGHT

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ORIG: USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 9319
INFO: RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 2728
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 9787
SUBJ: THIRD COMMITTEE STATEMENT ON ADVANCEMENT OF
WOMEN

TEXT:
UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 004678

E.O.12958: N/A
TAGS: PHUM, UN, UNIFEM, UNGA/C-3, KWMN
SUBJECT: THIRD COMMITTEE STATEMENT ON ADVANCEMENT OF
WOMEN

1. THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON ADVANCEMENT OF WOEN WAS
DELIVERED BY U.S. PUBLIC DELEGATE, MRS. JEANNE
MOUTOUSSAMY-ASHE, IN THE UNGA THIRD COMMITTEE, NOVEMBER
15, 1995.

2. BEGIN TEXT:

MANY STATES REPRESENTED HERE WENT TO THE FOURTH
WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN STATING THEIR RESOLVE TO
UPHOLD THE GAINS THAT HAD BEEN MADE AT PREVIOUS UN
CONFERENCES, ESPECIALLY THE WORLD CONFERENCE ON HUMAN
RIGHTS, THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND
DEVELOPMENT, AND THE WORLD SUMMIT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

IN FACT, WE STATED THIS SO FREQUENTLY AS A PRIORITY
THAT SOME BEGAN TO ASK: "ARE WE GOING TO BEIJING ONLY
TO REAFFIRM THE WORK OF PAST UN CONFERENCES, OR ARE WE
GOING TO MAKE ANY FURTHER PROGRESS IN IMPROVING THE
LIVES OF WOMEN?"

FORTUNATELY, WE MADE IMPORTANT GAINS AT THE FOURTH
WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN. OVERALL, MORE THAN ANY UN
DOCUMENT THAT HAS PRECEDED IT, THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION
IS A PROGRAM TO EMPOWER WOMEN. IT EMPHASIZES WOMEN AS
AGENTS OF CHANGE RATHER THAN AS PASSIVE BENEFICIARIES OR
VICTIMS. IT OUTLINES IN SPECIFIC DETAIL ACTIONS TO TAKE
THAT WILL ENABLE WOMEN, AS AGENTS OF CHANGE, TO
PARTICIPATE FULLY IN DECISION-MAKING AT ALL LEVELS IN

POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS. AND IT CONSISTENTLY ENCOURAGES THEM TO DO SO IN FULL PARTNERSHIP WITH MEN.

BY BUILDING UPON PREVIOUS ACHIEVEMENTS, THE PLATFORM, AS A PACKAGE, OFFERS A REMARKABLE CONSENSUS ON WHAT OBSTACLES TO WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT REMAIN AND WHAT MUST BE DONE TO OVERCOME THEM. IT IS THE STRONGEST POLICY STATEMENT PROMOTING WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT EVER MADE BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. EQUALLY IMPORTANT, IT REPRESENTS THE FIRST TIME THAT A UN DOCUMENT DIRECTED AT ADVANCING WOMEN HAS BEEN FRAMED IN THE CONTEXT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE. THE SOCIAL POLICIES IT PRESENTS DRAW STRENGTH FROM THIS FRAMEWORK.

THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION RECOGNIZES THAT HUMAN RIGHTS ARE WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS. IT REAFFIRMS THAT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS MUST NEVER BE TOLERATED, NO MATTER WHERE IT TAKES PLACE, BY WHOM OR UNDER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES.

FOR THE FIRST TIME, IN EVERY AREA -- HEALTH, EDUCATION, PERSONAL SECURITY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, WORK AND FAMILY, AND PERSONAL SEXUALITY -- THE DOCUMENT STRESSES THE RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS OF THE INDIVIDUAL. THERE ARE PROPOSALS FOR ACTIONS TO ENSURE THAT WOMEN HAVE ACCESS TO INFORMATION, TO CREDIT, TO THE CAREERS OR PROFESSIONS OF THEIR CHOICE, TO BE SAFE FROM VIOLENCE, IN OR OUT OF THE HOME, AND THE DOCUMENT EVEN ADDRESSES A WOMAN'S RIGHT TO SAY NO TO SEXUAL RELATIONS.

THE PLATFORM FOCUSES ON PRACTICAL STEPS THAT WILL ENSURE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN INTO ALL POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC INSTITUTIONS, ESPECIALLY AT THE DECISION-MAKING LEVEL. IN NEARLY EVERY CHAPTER, GOVERNMENTS ARE URGED TO PROMOTE AN ACTIVE AND VISIBLE POLICY OF MAINSTREAMING A GENDER PERSPECTIVE INTO THEIR POLICIES AND PROGRAMS. THIS FOCUS, AND BREADTH OF IT, IS NEW.

IN COMPARING THIS PLATFORM WITH THE NAIROBI FORWARD-LOOKING STRATEGIES, AN NGO MEMBER EXPRESSED IT BEST: "NAIROBI WAS A COMPASS; BEIJING IS A MAP."

HAVING DRAWN THE MAP, OUR CHALLENGE IS TO USE THIS MAP, TO NAVIGATE ALONG ITS ROADS, TO DEAL WITH THEIR OBSTACLES WITHOUT BEING DETOURED FROM OUR ESSENTIAL GOALS--

THROUGHOUT OUR LONG AND SOMETIMES ARDUOUS PREPARATIONS FOR THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN, WE WERE REMINDED THAT ONE OF THE MAIN PURPOSES OF THE CONFERENCE WAS TO MOBILIZE WOMEN AND MEN FROM THE POLICY-MAKING TO THE GRASS-ROOTS LEVELS TO WORK TOGETHER FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN.

IT WAS EVEN SAID THAT THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE WERE MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE CONFERENCE ITSELF. IF THIS WAS TRUE, THEN WE MUST AGREE THAT FOLLOW-UP TO THE CONFERENCE IS PARAMOUNT.

WE MUST CONTINUE TO WORK TOGETHER TO INSPIRE A NEW GENERATION OF WOMEN AND MEN WORKING TOGETHER FOR UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 004678

E.O.12958: N/A

TAGS: PHUM, UN, UNIFEM, UNGA/C-3, KWMN

SUBJECT: THIRD COMMITTEE STATEMENT ON ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

EQUALITY. AS WE AGREED IN BEIJING: "GOVERNMENTS HAVE THE PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR IMPLEMENTING THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION. COMMITMENT AT THE HIGHEST POLITICAL LEVEL IS ESSENTIAL TO ITS IMPLEMENTATION, AND GOVERNMENTS SHOULD TAKE A LEADING ROLE IN COORDINATING, MONITORING AND ASSESSING PROGRESS IN THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN."

INDIVIDUALS AND NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS HAVE AN EVEN GREATER CHALLENGE. THEY MUST CONTINUE TO WORK WITH EACH OTHER AND WITH THEIR GOVERNMENTS TO BUILD AND EXERCISE THE POLITICAL WILL NECESSARY TO AFFECT CHANGE.

CHANGING THE STATUS QUO EVOKES FEAR AND RESISTANCE IN MANY. WE MUST WORK TOGETHER CREATIVELY TO OVERCOME THIS FEAR. WE MUST EXPAND OUR IMAGINATION, OUR KNOWLEDGE, OUR CONFIDENCE AND OUR COURAGE SO THAT WE CAN IMPROVE THE FUTURE.

AT BEIJING, MANY GOVERNMENTS ANNOUNCED COMMITMENTS OR ACTIONS THEY WOULD TAKE TO ADVANCE THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN THEIR OWN COUNTRIES. AS WE WORK TO FULFILL OUR NATIONAL COMMITMENTS, WE MUST ALSO WORK TO STRENGTHEN THE UN'S ABILITY TO ADVANCE THE STATUS OF WOMEN. EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLATFORM WILL REQUIRE CHANGES IN THE INTERNAL DYNAMICS OF INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING VALUES, BEHAVIOR, RULES AND PROCEDURES THAT ARE INIMICAL TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN.

MY GOVERNMENT BELIEVES THE UNITED NATIONS SHOULD FOCUS ON THREE CRITICAL ACTIONS IN IMPLEMENTING THE PLATFORM: MAINSTREAM, COORDINATE AND MONITOR.

THE UNITED NATIONS SHOULD PROMOTE AN ACTIVE AND VISIBLE POLICY OF MAINSTREAMING A GENDER PERSPECTIVE THROUGHOUT ITS WORK. THIS WILL GO FAR IN DEMONSTRATING THE UN'S COMMITMENT AND WILL BE USEFUL AS A MODEL FOR OTHERS TO FOLLOW.

IT SHOULD COORDINATE ITS WORK. THE FACT THAT, AT ALL THE RECENT UN CONFERENCES AND SUMMITS, GOVERNMENTS HAVE COMMITTED THEMSELVES TO THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN IN DIFFERENT AREAS MAKES COORDINATION CRUCIAL TO THE FOLLOW UP STRATEGIES FOR BEIJING.

AND IT SHOULD MONITOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLATFORM.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE CSW'S REVIEW OF ITS WORK PROGRAM AND WELCOME A MORE INTER-ACTIVE AND VIBRANT COMMISSION THAT WILL HAVE A CENTRAL AND CATALYTIC ROLE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION.

WE ALSO LOOK FORWARD TO THE ESTABLISHMENT, WITHIN EXISTING HUMAN AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES, OF A HIGH LEVEL POST IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL, TO ACT AS THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S ADVISOR ON GENDER ISSUES AND TO HELP ENSURE SYSTEM-WIDE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION, WORKING IN CLOSE COOPERATION WITH THE DIVISION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN.

THE VAST MAJORITY OF THE PLATFORM'S OBJECTIVES CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES THAT ESTABLISH SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES AND TARGET FINANCIAL RESOURCES IN SUPPORT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS.

EMPOWERING WOMEN AND ENSURING THEIR ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS IS WHY WE WENT TO BEIJING. WE NEED POLITICAL WILL AT ALL LEVELS TO TAKE US TO THE NEXT STAGE.

WE CAME TO BEIJING FACING MANY CHALLENGES, BUT OUR COMMITMENT TO WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT AND THE COOPERATION THAT WAS SO EVIDENT AMONG THE DELEGATIONS HELPED US MEET THAT CHALLENGE.

WE ARE GRATEFUL TO THE WOMEN AND MEN OF THE WORLD WHO HAVE BEEN WORKING FOR DECADES TO BRING US FORWARD AND WE SHARE THEIR OPTIMISM FOR THE FUTURE.

WITH THE MAP DESIGNED IN BEIJING AND THE COMPASS CAST IN NAIROBI WE CAN CHART THE COURSE FOR EQUALITY, DEVELOPMENT, AND PEACE IN THE NEXT CENTURY.

END TEXT.

ALBRIGHT
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#4678

NNNN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 02
<^SECT>SECTION: 02 OF 02
SSN: 4678
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TOR: 951121135704 M1961264
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LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

OSRI: RUEHSA

DTG: 270646Z NOV 95

ORIG: AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 2192

INFO: RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 2651

RUEHLU/AMEMBASSY LUANDA 0698

RUEHWD/AMEMBASSY WINDHOEK 1061

RUEHMB/AMEMBASSY MBABANE 0612

RUEHBG/AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG 8945

RUEHMR/AMEMBASSY MASERU 3179

RUEH DU/AMCONSUL DURBAN 2710

RUEHTO/AMEMBASSY MAPUTO 1932

RUEHTN/AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN 8698

RUEHSB/AMEMBASSY HARARE 0361

RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 2283

RUEHORAMEMBASSY GABORONE 2476

RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 1601

SUBJ: SOUTH AFRICA: FOLLOW UP ACTION TO BEIJING
FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN

TEXT:

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 PRETORIA 014299

LONDON FOR YOUNG, PARIS FOR MORAN, DEPT FOR AF/RA
MENDYK

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KWMN, SF

SUBJECT: SOUTH AFRICA: FOLLOW UP ACTION TO BEIJING
FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN

REF: WIRTH-LYMAN LETTER 10/10/95

1. SUMMARY. CHARGE MET NOVEMBER 16 WITH DEPUTY WELFARE MINISTER GERALDINE FRASER-MOLEKETI TO DISCUSS SOUTH AFRICA'S PLANS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE BEIJING CONFERENCE PLATFORM OF ACTION. THE DEPUTY MINISTER EMPHASIZED THE SAG'S INTENTION TO "MAINSTREAM" THE PLATFORM INTO ALL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, AND THE NEED TO MAKE SOUTH AFRICANS AWARE OF THE RIGHTS WOMEN ENJOY UNDER THE NEW CONSTITUTION. SPECIFIC FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS INCLUDE RATIFICATION OF THE UN CEDAW CONVENTION, UPGRADING WOMEN'S ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES, PROVIDING ADDITIONAL SHELTERS FOR BATTERED WOMEN AND IMPROVING

WOMEN'S ACCESS TO LAND AND CREDIT. END SUMMARY.

IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES

2. CHARGE MET NOVEMBER 16 WITH DEPUTY MINISTER OF WELFARE AND CHAIR OF SOUTH AFRICA'S BEIJING PREPARATORY COMMITTEE GERALDINE FRASER-MOLEKETI (GFM) REGARDING SOUTH AFRICA'S PLAN TO IMPLEMENT THE CONFERENCE PLATFORM OF ACTION. FRASER-MOLEKETI EMPHASIZED THAT SOUTH AFRICA SAW THE PLATFORM OF ACTION AS PART OF A LONG-TERM PROCESS. TO BE SUCCESSFUL, THE PLATFORM NEEDED TO BE MAINSTREAMED INTO ALL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, NOT ISOLATED IN ONE MINISTRY AS A "WOMEN'S ISSUE." A MEMO OUTLINING EACH DEPARTMENT'S ROLE IN IMPLEMENTATION IS NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE CABINET, THE DEPUTY MINISTER SAID. A PUBLIC DOCUMENT IS DUE TO BE UNVEILED IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, FOLLOWED BY A NATIONAL CONFERENCE EARLY NEXT YEAR. A SEPARATE POST-BEIJING CONFERENCE IN EARLY DECEMBER IS BEING SPONSORED BY THE NGO SECTOR.

CONVENTIONS AND CONSTITUTIONS

4. CHARGE INQUIRED ABOUT THE STATUS OF ONE OF SOUTH AFRICA'S SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS AT BEIJING: RATIFICATION OF THE UN CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW). ACCORDING TO GFM, THE CONVENTION IS CURRENTLY WITH THE LEGAL ADVISERS IN THE WELFARE DEPARTMENT. THE SAG PLANS TO RATIFY CEDAW WITHOUT RESERVATION, SHE SAID, UNLIKE MANY OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WHERE TRADITIONAL LAW CONFLICTS WITH CONVENTION PROVISIONS SPECIFYING EQUALITY FOR WOMEN IN SUCH AREAS AS INHERITANCE, ETC. IN SOUTH AFRICA, THE NEW CONSTITUTION'S EQUALITY CLAUSE OVERRIDES TRADITIONAL LAW, THUS BRINGING DOMESTIC LEGAL STATUS IN LINE WITH THE CONVENTION REQUIREMENTS ON THESE ISSUES.

5. SOUTH AFRICA HAD RECEIVED HIGH MARKS AT THE CONFERENCE FOR THE COMMITMENT TO EQUALITY IN THE NEW CONSTITUTION AND THE VISIBILITY OF ITS WOMEN IN PUBLIC LIFE (E.G. NEARLY ONE THIRD OF MPS ARE WOMEN). NEVERTHELESS, THE CONSTITUTION WAS AHEAD OF CONSCIOUSNESS, GFM SAID. WOMEN REMAIN UNDERREPRESENTED IN MANY AREAS AND MANY WERE UNAWARE OF THEIR LEGAL RIGHTS. A KEY CHALLENGE TO GOVERNMENT WOULD BE TO EDUCATE ALL SOUTH AFRICANS ABOUT THESE RIGHTS. ANOTHER WOULD BE TO HELP CHANGE PREVAILING ATTITUDES WHICH HAMPER IMPLEMENTATION OF EXISTING LEGISLATION AND PROGRAMS. AS AN EXAMPLE, SHE CITED THE NEED TO DEAL WITH THE WHOLE QUESTION OF TRADITIONAL LEADERS AND RELATED CULTURAL ATTITUDES IN ADDRESSING THE PROBLEM OF FEMALE CIRCUMCISION.

BATTERED WOMEN

6. CHARGE ASKED ABOUT PLANS TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SERVICES FOR BATTERED WOMEN, ANOTHER SOUTH AFRICAN UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 03 PRETORIA 014299

LONDON FOR YOUNG, PARIS FOR MORAN, DEPT FOR AF/RA MENDYK

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KWMN, SF

SUBJECT: SOUTH AFRICA: FOLLOW UP ACTION TO BEIJING FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN

COMMITMENT AT BEIJING. THE DEPUTY MINISTER ACKNOWLEDGED THE FACT THAT THERE WERE TO DATE NO GOVERNMENT SHELTERS AND FEW OTHER PLACES FOR BATTERED WOMEN TO GO. SHE LAMENTED THE LIMITED RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO HER FOR SUCH PROGRAMS (ALTHOUGH WELFARE HAS THE THIRD LARGEST BUDGET OF ALL DEPARTMENTS, MOST IS EARMARKED FOR PENSIONS AND OTHER SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAMS). IN ORDER TO ADDRESS ADEQUATELY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, WELFARE WOULD HAVE TO SEEK CREATIVE PARTNERSHIPS WITH THE PRIVATE AND NGO SECTORS, SUCH AS LAST WEEK'S CAPE TOWN CONFERENCE ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE. NEVERTHELESS, THE JUST-LAUNCHED WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S WHITE PAPER CONTAINS PROPOSALS TO ADDRESS THIS NEED AND OTHER ISSUES AFFECTING WOMEN IN THE AREAS OF CAPACITY BUILDING AND ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT.

OTHER AREAS OF THE PLATFORM

7. GFM THEN BRIEFLY TOUCHED ON OTHER AREAS OF ACTIVITY RELATED TO THE PLATFORM:

0 HEALTH: REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND POPULATION CONTROL SERVICES ARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH (MOH). MOH IS SEEKING TO UPGRADE EXISTING PROGRAMS AND IMPROVE WOMEN'S ACCESS TO THESE SERVICES. A BILL PROVIDING FOR ACCESS TO EARLY TERM ABORTION IS A PRIORITY FOR MOH IN THE NEXT LEGISLATIVE SESSION AND WILL PROBABLY FACE SOME OPPOSITION IN FINAL PASSAGE.

0 EDUCATION AND TRAINING: THE PLATFORM'S GOAL OF INCREASING LITERACY BY 50 PERCENT BY THE YEAR 2000 MAY BE UNREALISTIC FOR SOUTH AFRICA. NEVERTHELESS, PROGRAMS ARE UNDERWAY TO ADDRESS ADULT ILLITERACY, ESPECIALLY AMONG RURAL WOMEN, AND TO CHANGE ATTITUDES TOWARD EDUCATION FOR GIRLS AND WOMEN.

0 ACCESS TO CREDIT: THIS IS LINKED TO THE WHOLE ISSUE OF WOMEN IN THE ECONOMY AND PARTICULARLY

ACCESS TO HOUSING, A KEY FEATURE OF THE NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN (RDP). THEREFORE, A MULTI-FACETED APPROACH WILL BE REQUIRED, WITH COMMITMENTS FROM MULTIPLE MINISTRIES INCLUDING FINANCE, ECONOMICS AND TRADE AND INDUSTRY AND THE RDP MINISTER. PRESSURE FROM ALL QUARTERS ON APPROPRIATE INSTITUTIONS (E.G. U.S. REQUIREMENTS FOR LOAN EQUITY IN SETTING UP HOUSING GUARANTEE PROGRAMS WITH SOUTH AFRICAN BANKS) IS HELPFUL.

NATIONAL MACHINERY

IN ORDER TO ACCOMPLISH THESE GOALS, A NATIONAL "MACHINERY" AND A VIBRANT WOMEN'S MOVEMENT ARE VITAL, GEM EMPHASIZED. A GENDER COMMISSION, PART OF THE MACHINERY MANDATED BY THE INTERIM CONSTITUTION, IS NOT YET IN PLACE BUT IS SLATED TO BE CONSIDERED EARLY IN THE NEXT PARLIAMENTARY SESSION. IN ADDITION TO THE COMMISSION, THERE ARE PLANS FOR AN OFFICE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN THE PRESIDENCY, AS WELL AS GENDER DESKS (OR DESIGNATED PERSONS) IN THE VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS, ALL TO BE IN PLACE BY THE END OF MARCH. IN THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH, AN ALREADY STRONG PARLIAMENTARY WOMEN'S CAUCUS CAN BE USED TO BUILD CAPACITY IN BOTH PROVINCIAL AND NATIONAL PARLIAMENTS.

COMMENT

ONE OF THE MOST REVOLUTIONARY FEATURES OF THE POLITICAL TRANSITION IN SOUTH AFRICA HAS BEEN THE ANC'S DETERMINATION TO MAINSTREAM WOMEN INTO UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 03 PRETORIA 014299

LONDON FOR YOUNG, PARIS FOR MORAN, DEPT FOR AF/RA MENDYK

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KWMN, SF

SUBJECT: SOUTH AFRICA: FOLLOW UP ACTION TO BEIJING FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN

POLITICAL LIFE IN THIS TRADITIONAL MALE CHAUVINIST STRONGHOLD. THE LARGE NUMBER OF WOMEN PLACED IN PARLIAMENT, IN SENIOR GOVERNMENT POSITIONS, AND IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT OVER THE PAST 18 MONTHS HAS ENSURED THAT WOMEN'S ISSUES, PARTICULARLY ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT, NOW OCCUPY A STRONG POSITION ON THE NATIONAL AGENDA, AS REFLECTED IN FRASER-MOLEKETI'S IMPRESSIVE PRESENTATION. THE SAG TAKES ITS COMMITMENTS TO SOUTH AFRICAN WOMEN, INCLUDING THOSE MADE AT BEIJING, VERY SERIOUSLY AND IS GIVING DETAILED THOUGHT TO IMPLEMENTATION. AS CHAIR OF SOUTH AFRICA'S PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE BEIJING

CONFERENCE, GFM HAS PLAYED A LEADING ROLE IN THOSE EFFORTS. AS DEPUTY MINISTER OF A KEY IMPLEMENTING DEPARTMENT, SHE IS WELL PLACED TO HELP TURN DOCUMENTS INTO DEEDS. WE WILL CONTINUE TO FOLLOW PLANS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLATFORM AND EXPLORE WAYS IN WHICH THE MISSION AND THE USG CAN SUPPORT SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES. LYMAN
BT
#4299

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RUCPDC/USDOC WASHDC
INFO: ////
SUBJ: SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES (SME) WORKING PARTY
MEETING OF OECD INDUSTRY COMMITTEE, NOVEMBER 7-9, 1995 --
DELEGATION REPORT.

TEXT: UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 PARIS 28272

FROM USOECD

STATE FOR EUR/ERA
STATE PASS SBA FOR OIA/CASSIDY
USDOC FOR 6800/TD/OTEA/MENES/KIRWAN/WELLS
USDOC FOR 4122/IEP/OMA/SEVER

E.O. 12958: NA
TAGS: EIND, KSCA, OECD
SUBJ: SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES (SME) WORKING PARTY
MEETING OF OECD INDUSTRY COMMITTEE, NOVEMBER 7-9, 1995 --
DELEGATION REPORT.

SUMMARY AND ACTION REQUESTS

1. THE INDUSTRY COMMITTEE'S WORKING PARTY (WP) ON SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES (SMES) MET IN PARIS, FRANCE ON NOVEMBER 7-9, 1995. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MEETING INCLUDED EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION ON A) THE FUTURE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES IN ASSISTING SMES AND B) THE GOVERNMENT'S ROLE IN ELECTRONIC COMMERCE. THE WP HEARD REPORTS ON THE CONCLUSIONS OF A STUDY ON GLOBALIZATION OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF SMES AS WELL AS A REPORT ON THE WORKSHOP HELD IN WASHINGTON, D.C. ON JUNE 16-17, 1995 ON "SMES: EMPLOYMENT, INNOVATION AND GROWTH." THE WP ASKED DELEGATES TO REVIEW TWO PROPOSALS FOR AN INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE TO BE SPONSORED BY THE WP TO BE HELD IN MARCH 1997 AT THE OECD AS WELL AS AN INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR SMES TO BE ESTABLISHED IN ITALY. THE WP ALSO REVIEWED

THE FUTURE WORK PROGRAM AND THE BUDGET FOR 1996. THE NEXT SME WP MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR MAY 5-8, 1996 (TBD) IN DRESDEN, GERMANY.

2. THE US DELEGATION WAS LED BY EILEEN CASSIDY, DIRECTOR AND ACTING ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AT THE US SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (SBA), WHO ALSO SERVES AS VICE CHAIR OF THE WP. IN ADDITION, DIANE GANNON, CHIEF OF PRODUCTIVITY ENHANCEMENT AT SBA, ALSO ATTENDED THE MEETING

3. COMMENT: THE SME WORKING PARTY HAS COVERED A LOT OF GROUND SINCE ITS INCEPTION ONLY THREE YEARS AGO, BUT IT WAS CLEAR AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING THAT NEW ECONOMIC REALITIES MAY FORCE THE WP TO TAKE A HARDER LOOK AT THE PRIORITIES AND REASSESS ITS AGENDA ACCORDINGLY. THE FUTURE OF THE WP IS UNCERTAIN AT THIS POINT, BUT THERE IS DEFINITELY A WILLINGNESS ON BEHALF OF ALL WP MEMBER COUNTRIES TO CONTINUE THEIR FOCUS ON SME ISSUES. WHAT WILL BE DECIDED OVER THE NEXT YEAR WILL BE WHETHER THE WP'S PROPOSED COURSE OF ACTION, STATED OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES ARE EFFECTIVE AND ARE MAKING A REAL DIFFERENCE IN HELPING SMES AROUND THE WORLD. IT UNCLEAR WHAT THE USG COMMITMENT WILL BE IN 1996; RESOURCES ARE SCARCE AND THERE IS NO BUDGET AT SBA TO FUND THESE ACTIVITIES. END SUMMARY AND COMMENT.

BEST PRACTICES IN SME POLICIES

4. THE WP REVIEWED SEVERAL PAPERS PRESENTED AT THE MEETING INCLUDING TWO DOCUMENTS ON MANAGEMENT CAPABILITY: A) QUALITY: TOOLS TO IMPROVE SMES COMPETITIVENESS, BY THE NETHERLANDS AND FRANCE AND B) MENTORING: IMPROVING THE INTERNAL CAPABILITY ON SMES, BY GERMANY AND ITALY. THREE DOCUMENTS ON ACCESS TO MARKETS ALSO WERE PRESENTED: A) ACCESS TO NEW MARKETS FOR SMES IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN AND OECD COUNTRIES, BY FINLAND, CZECH REPUBLIC, ESTONIA, HUNGARY AND POLAND; B) THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A PROGRAM FOSTERING THE PARTICIPATION OF SMES IN INTERNATIONAL FAIRS AND EXHIBITIONS: RESULT OF A STUDY BY GREECE; AND C) BUSINESS NETWORKS: GOVERNMENT FACILITATION OF MARKET DEVELOPMENT THROUGH ELECTRONIC COMMERCE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, BY THE US, CANADA AND SPAIN.

5. THE US PRESENTATION WAS WELL RECEIVED BY THE WP. THE PRESENTATION INCLUDED A PREVIEW OF THE SBA AND OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE HOMEPAGES ON THE INTERNET AS WELL AS THE ELECTRONIC BULLETIN BOARD CAPABILITIES. IT SPARKED EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION AND PROVOKED SEVERAL RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE WP AS TO PRIORITIES FOR 1996. MANY OF THE DELEGATES AGREED TO TAKE A MORE SERIOUS LOOK AT THE DEVELOPMENT OF A GLOBAL INFORMATION NETWORK ON SMES AND AGREED THAT THE INTERNET WILL BECOME AN INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT TOOL AMONG SMES. THERE WAS SOME CONFUSION ABOUT A SIMILAR G-7 PROJECT WHICH WAS BRIEFLY DISCUSSED AND IF THE TWO PROJECTS COULD BE COORDINATED.

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 03 PARIS 28272

FROM USOECD

STATE FOR EUR/ERA
STATE PASS SBA FOR OIA/CASSIDY
USDOC FOR 6800/TD/OTEA/MENES/KIRWAN/WELLS
USDOC FOR 4122/IEP/OMA/SEVER

E.O. 12958: NA
TAGS: EIND, KSCA, OECD
SUBJ: SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES (SME) WORKING PARTY
MEETING OF OECD INDUSTRY COMMITTEE, NOVEMBER 7-9, 1995 --
DELEGATION REPORT.

PROPOSAL FOR AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON WOMEN AND SMES

6. VIRGINIA LITTLEJOHN, A CONSULTANT TO THE OECD, PRESENTED A PROPOSAL TO THE WP TO HOLD AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON WOMEN AND SMES, FOLLOWING UP ON THE THEMES DISCUSSED AT THE UNITED NATIONS FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN HELD IN BEIJING AND AT THE SME MINISTERS MEETING OF THE APEC MEMBER COUNTRIES IN AUSTRALIA IN SEPTEMBER 1995. LITTLEJOHN HAS RECEIVED A COMMITMENT FROM IBM TO SPONSOR THE MAJORITY OF THE COSTS RELATED TO THE CONFERENCE, ESTIMATED TO BE USD 530,000. THE SECRETARIAT HOPES TO RECEIVE FUNDING FROM OTHER OECD MEMBER COUNTRIES AS WELL. MOST DELEGATES WERE SUPPORTIVE OF THE CONFERENCE BUT STRESSED THAT THE SECRETARIAT CANNOT AFFORD THE TIME OR THE RESOURCES TO ASSIST IN THE PLANNING AND EXECUTION OF THE CONFERENCE. THEREFORE, IT WAS AGREED THAT THE CONFERENCE MUST BE FULLY FUNDED AND STAFFED BY OUTSIDE RESOURCES, UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE SECRETARIAT. THE US VOICED SUPPORT FOR THE CONFERENCE AND STATED THAT SBA HOPES TO BE INVOLVED AND ENCOURAGE OTHER USG SUPPORT, IF POSSIBLE.

PROPOSAL FOR A OECD INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR SMES

7. JAN FEDOROWICZ, A CONSULTANT TO THE OECD, PRESENTED A PROPOSAL TO THE WP ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR SMES. THE PROPOSAL IS FOR AN INTERNATIONAL CENTER TO MONITOR AND COORDINATE SME RESEARCH AND BASIC INFORMATION ON SME TOPICS, TO BE CONNECTED TO SATELLITE OFFICES IN VARIOUS OECD MEMBER COUNTRIES. THE ESTIMATED BUDGET FOR THE PROJECT OVER A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD IS USD 2,240,000. ITALY IS VERY INTERESTED IN ESTABLISHING THE CENTER IN THEIR COUNTRY AND IS PREPARED TO FUND THE FIRST THREE YEARS OF THE RELATED OPERATIONAL COSTS. HOWEVER, ITALY'S FUNDING IS CONTINGENT ON MATCHING OR SUBSTANTIAL FUNDING FROM OTHER OECD MEMBER COUNTRIES. THE US STATED THAT IT IS NOT CERTAIN WHETHER THE USG WOULD BE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN THE PROPOSED CENTER GIVEN CURRENT BUDGET REALITIES AS WELL AS THE FOCUS OF THE US EXPORT ASSISTANCE

CENTERS. THE US INDICATED THAT THERE MIGHT BE MORE INTEREST IN ESTABLISHING A CENTER TO HELP US SMES FIND "LIVE LEADS" TO PROJECTS IN OECD COUNTRIES RATHER THAN PUT RESOURCES TOWARD THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A THINK-TANK. CANADA AGREED.

8. ACTION REQUEST: DELEGATES ARE TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS BY NOVEMBER 24, 1995 TO THE SECRETARIAT. A NEW DRAFT WILL BE SENT BY MID-DECEMBER WITH FINAL COMMENTS DUE IN JANUARY 1996. AT THAT POINT, A DECISION WILL BE MADE AS TO WHETHER THE WP WILL GO FORWARD WITH THE PROPOSAL WHICH WOULD THEN BE PRESENTED AT THE INDUSTRY COMMITTEE'S MEETING IN APRIL.

RENEWAL OF SME WP MANDATE

9. THE SECRETARIAT PRESENTED A PAPER DETAILING THE RENEWED MANDATE FOR 1996-1999 AS WELL AS THE TERMS OF REFERENCE. AS PART OF THIS MANDATE, THE SECRETARIAT WILL ASSESS ITS PERFORMANCE AND ACTIVITIES AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO WHETHER, AND UNDER WHAT MANDATE, IT SHOULD CONTINUE AS PART OF THIS EXERCISE, THE SECRETARIAT REQUESTED THAT ALL WP DELEGATES COMPLETE A QUESTIONNAIRE TO ASSIST THEM IN THEIR REVIEW. SEVERAL DELEGATES HAD RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE WORDING AND FOCUS OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE, WHICH WILL BE REDRAFTED AND SENT TO WP DELEGATES IN THE NEXT 30 DAYS.

FOCUS FOR 1996 AND BUDGET

10. THE SECRETARIAT PRESENTED FOUR MAJOR ACTIVITIES TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN 1996: A) CONTINUATION OF BEST PRACTICE POLICIES FOR SMES; B) DEVELOPMENT OF A GLOBAL INFORMATION NETWORK FOR SMES; C) ACTIVITIES FOR CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND NEWLY INDEPENDENT STATES; AND D) SME STATISTICS.

UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 03 PARIS 28272

FROM USOECD

STATE FOR EUR/ERA
STATE PASS SBA FOR OIA/CASSIDY
USDOC FOR 6800/TD/OTEA/MENES/KIRWAN/WELLS
USDOC FOR 4122/IEP/OMA/SEVER

E.O. 12958: NA
TAGS: EIND, KSCA, OECD
SUBJ: SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES (SME) WORKING PARTY MEETING OF OECD INDUSTRY COMMITTEE, NOVEMBER 7-9, 1995 -- DELEGATION REPORT.

11. ON THE MARGINS OF THE MEETING THE US MET WITH THE CHAIRMAN OF THE WP AND THE SECRETARIAT ALONG WITH THE OTHER WP VICE CHAIRS TO DISCUSS USG PRIORITIES FOR THE WP AS WELL AS REALISTIC BUDGET EXPECTATIONS. AT THIS MEETING, THE US STATED THAT THE BEST PRACTICE PAPERS ARE NOT AS VALUABLE AS

WORK TOWARD THE DEVELOPMENT OF A GLOBAL INFORMATION NETWORK FOR SMES AND CONTINUED WORK ON ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS AMONG OECD MEMBER GOVERNMENTS TO FACILITATE GREATER ACCESS AMONG SMES TO INFORMATION ABOUT WHERE BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES EXIST. THE US STATED THAT THE WP HAS A CHANCE TO MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE FOR SMES BY IMPROVING AND COORDINATING INFORMATION SYSTEMS AMONG OECD MEMBER COUNTRIES. THERE WAS SOME AGREEMENT AMONG THE VICE CHAIRS, BUT MOST WANTED TO ENSURE THAT THE SECRETARIAT CONTINUE THE BEST PRACTICE PAPERS AS PART OF THEIR CORE MISSION. THERE WAS SUBSTANTIAL AGREEMENT AMONG THE WP VICE CHAIRS THAT THE CORE ACTIVITIES INCLUDE THE BEST PRACTICE PAPERS, SME STATISTICS AND FURTHER WORK ON ITS PUBLICATIONS. THE OTHER PROPOSED ACTIVITIES WOULD BE CONTINGENT ON THE VOLUNTARY FUNDING OF THE WP MEMBERS.

12. ALSO DISCUSSED WERE REALISTIC BUDGET EXPECTATIONS FOR THE SME WP. THE PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 1996 IS USD 260,000. FUNDING OF THE SME WP FALLS UNDER PART II WHICH IS VOLUNTARY. THE US HAS BEEN ASKED TO CONTRIBUTE ITS TRM)ITIONAL SHARE OF 25 PERCENT, OR USD 65,000. THE US EXPLAINED THAT USG RESOURCES ARE VERY SCARCE AND AT PRESENT, THERE IS NO BUDGET AT THE SBA TO FUND SUCH ACTIVITIES. THE US EXPLAINED THAT IT WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT TO PROVIDE THE RECOMMENDED LEVEL OF FUNDING IN 1996 AND SUGGESTED THAT OTHER WP MEMBER COUNTRIES CONTRIBUTE MORE, IF POSSIBLE- THE US INDICATED THAT A LETTER WOULD BE FORTHCOMING EXPLAINING WHAT LEVEL OF FUNDING, IF ANY, COULD BE EXPECTED IN 1996.

13. THIS REPORT WAS DRAFTED BY EILEEN CASSIDY, SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION.
AARON

BT
#8272

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SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 03
<^SECT>SECTION: 02 OF 03
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ORIG: AMEMBASSY WINDHOEK
TO: SECSTATE WASHDC 1319
INFO: ////
SUBJ: FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN: GON REQUESTS
TEXT:
UNCLAS WINDHOEK 002526

FOR G (GHILLMAN), AF/S

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: PHUM, KWMN, WA
SUBJECT: FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN: GON REQUESTS
U.S. PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTING PLATFORM OF ACTION

REF: (A) WIRTH-MCCALLIE LETTER 10/10/95 (B) WINDHOEK
2333 (C) WINDHOEK 2356

1. THIS IS A SECOND/SECOND REQUEST FOR ACTION (REF C).
SEE PARA 3.

2. DURING MEETING WITH DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER MRS.
NETUMBO NANDI-NDAITWAH, CHAIR OF NAMIBIA'S DELEGATION TO
4WCW (REF B), THE NAMIBIAN OFFICIAL REQUESTED INFORMATION
ON U.S. PLANS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE BEIJING CONFERENCE
PLATFORM OF ACTION. CHARGE AND EMBOFFS PROMISED TO
REQUEST INFORMATION ON U.S. PLANS FOR IMPLEMENTING
RECOMMENDATIONS, FROM WASHINGTON.

3. ACTION REQUEST. PLEASE FORWARD SOONEST, ALL
AVAILABLE INFORMATION ON USG PLANS FOR IMPLEMENTING 4WCW
PLATFORM OF ACTION.

4. THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE. PETERSON
BT
#2526

NNNN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 2526

TOR: 951129083938 M1973015

DIST:

SIT: DESHAZER MCCORMICK NSC RICE

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Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
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LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
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LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY WINDHOEK
OSRI: RUEHWD
DTG: 291538Z NOV 95
ORIG: AMEMBASSY WINDHOEK
TO: SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1322
INFO: ////
SUBJ: FY-96 ANNUAL DHRF FUNDING REQUEST: NAMIBIA

TEXT:

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 WINDHOEK 002530

DEPT FOR AF/S, AF/RA (116E COMMITTEE), DRL, G (GHILLMAN)

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PHUM, KDEM, EAID, WA

SUBJECT: FY-96 ANNUAL DHRF FUNDING REQUEST: NAMIBIA

REF: (A) STATE 242311 (B) STATE 254566

1. MISSION HAS IDENTIFIED THE ISSUE OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND THE GROWING PROBLEM OF RAPE AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN NAMIBIA, AS AN AREA OF STRATEGIC FOCUS FOR FY-96 DHRF FUNDS. FUNDING OF EMERGING WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS IN NAMIBIA WOULD ALSO PERMIT MISSION TO SUPPORT NAMIBIA'S IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN (BEIJING CONFERENCE) PROGRAM OF ACTION.

BACKGROUND

2. IN 1995 COUNTRY REPORT ON HUMAN RIGHTS FOR NAMIBIA, MISSION IDENTIFIED VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND THE NEED FOR EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN, AS CRITICAL HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS IN THIS COUNTRY. WHILE THE EQUAL STATUS OF WOMEN IS ENSHRINED IN THE NAMIBIAN CONSTITUTION, A NUMBER OF THE CULTURES IN NAMIBIA HAVE DEEPLY ENTRENCHED VIEWS OF WOMEN AS SUBORDINATE TO MEN. SIMILARLY, MANY TRADITIONAL ATTITUDES REGARDING SEXUAL ASSAULT ARE PREVALENT IN THE SOCIETY, INCLUDING THE VIEW THAT WOMEN ARE SOMEHOW 'THE CAUSE' OF THE ASSAULTS BY MEN AND THAT 'SEXUALLY ACTIVE WOMEN' ARE FAIR GAME AND IT IS THE DUTY OF WOMEN TO SERVE MEN'S NEEDS. THE PROBLEMS OF RAPE, RANDOM VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, DOMESTIC ABUSE AS WELL AS THE RELEGATION OF WOMEN TO 'SECOND CLASS STATUS' AS A RESULT OF TRADITIONAL PRACTICES, CONSERVATIVE RELIGIOUS VALUES AND ARCHAIC ROMAN-DUTCH LAW INHERITED FROM SOUTH

AFRICA, HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED BY THE MISSION DEMOCRACY COMMITTEE AS AREAS MERITING FOCUSED HUMAN RIGHTS SUPPORT

3. THE PROBLEM OF GROWING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IS EXACERBATED BY A CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM THAT IS INEFFICIENT AND DOES NOT TAKE SEXUAL ASSAULT PARTICULARLY SERIOUSLY. THERE IS AN ALARMING PATTERN OF LIGHT SENTENCES HANDED DOWN TO THOSE ACCUSED OF RAPE AND/OR MURDERING THEIR SPOUSES OR GIRLFRIENDS. IN ONE WEEK RECENTLY IN WINDHOEK, THREE WOMEN WERE MURDERED BY THEIR SPOUSES/BOYFRIENDS. A MAN WHO ADMITTED EARLIER THIS WEEK TO HAVING KILLED HIS WIFE DURING A DOMESTIC DISPUTE, WAS FREED ON US DOLLARS 400 BAIL. SIMILARLY, THOSE CONVICTED OF RAPE ARE FREQUENTLY RELEASED ON LOW BAIL AND RECEIVE LIGHT PRISON SENTENCES ONCE CONVICTED.

WOMEN BEGINNING TO REACT

4. WOMEN'S GROUPS IN NAMIBIA HAVE BEGUN TO ORGANIZE TO FIGHT THESE PROBLEMS BUT ENCOUNTER STRONG RESISTANCE FROM TRADITIONAL AUTHORITIES INCLUDING TRIBAL LEADERS, CONSERVATIVE CHURCH OFFICIALS, AN UNRESPONSIVE LEGAL STRUCTURE AND THE TRADITIONALLY MALE-DOMINATED POLITICAL AND GOVERNMENT STRUCTURES.

5. ALTHOUGH NAMIBIAN WOMEN DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES AT THE 4WCW IN BEIJING, AND WERE CITED BY INTERNATIONAL NEWS MAGAZINES FOR THEIR SUCCESS IN FORGING IMPORTANT COMPROMISES AT THE WORLD GATHERING, WOMEN IN NAMIBIA HAVE BEEN LESS SUCCESSFUL IN BATTLING ENTRENCHED INTERESTS IN THEIR OWN COUNTRY.

WE CAN HELP

6. THE MISSION DEMOCRACY COMMITTEE MET AND DETERMINED THAT TARGETED FUNDING OF WOMEN'S GROUPS AND OTHERS PERFORMING ADVOCACY WORK ON BEHALF OF WOMEN AND THE EFFORT TO CURB SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN NAMIBIA, COULD PERHAPS BEGIN THE PROCESS OF CHANGING ATTITUDES AND PROMOTING NEW LEGISLATION TO STRENGTHEN THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THIS SOCIETY.

7. DHRF COORDINATOR (POLOFF) HAS MET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF MOST MAJOR WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS IN NAMIBIA AS WELL AS WITH DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER AND CHAIR OF NAMIBIA'S DELEGATION TO THE BEIJING CONFERENCE, MRS. NETUMBO NDAITWAH, TO SOLICIT PROPOSALS FOR DEALING WITH THE PROBLEM OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND IMPLEMENTING THE BEIJING CONFERENCE PROGRAM OF ACTION.

FUNDING REQUEST

8. MISSION REQUESTS US DOLLARS 95,000 IN DHRF SMALL-PROJECT FUNDING FOR FY-96. FUNDS WILL BE USED TO SUPPORT

PROJECTS IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

-- A PROGRAM OF SEXUAL ASSAULT EDUCATION AND PREVENTION
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NAMIBIA.

-- A PROJECT TO SUPPORT THE MARRIED PERSONS EQUALITY
ACT CURRENTLY BEING DEBATED IN PARLIAMENT. THE
UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 WINDHOEK 002530

DEPT FOR AF/S, AF/RA (116E COMMITTEE), DRL, G (GHILLMAN)

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PHUM, KDEM, EAID, WA

SUBJECT: FY-96 ANNUAL DHRF FUNDING REQUEST: NAMIBIA

PROJECT WILL HELP THE GOVERNMENT IMPLEMENT THE
LAW, ONCE ENACTED, BY RESEARCHING THE INTERFACE
BETWEEN CUSTOMARY LAW AND GENERAL LAW.

-- A PROJECT TO REFORM LAWS REGARDING RAPE, AND THE
NEED TO ADOPT 'RAPE SHIELD' LAWS WHICH EXCLUDE
EVIDENCE OF PAST SEXUAL ACTIVITY ON THE PART OF
THE VICTIM. THE PROJECT WILL ALSO EXAMINE
RAPE SENTENCING IN AN EFFORT TO ADOPT TOUGHER
AND MORE UNIFORM GUIDELINES. THE PROJECT WILL
ALSO CONDUCT RESEARCH ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND
PROPOSE LEGAL REFORMS IN THIS AREA.

-- A PROJECT TO RAISE AWARENESS ON THE ISSUE OF
GENDER VIOLENCE AND LEGAL REMEDIES, IN THE
PREDOMINANTLY BLACK TOWNSHIPS SURROUNDING
WINDHOEK. THE PROJECT WILL CONDUCT A PUBLIC
INFORMATION CAMPAIGN AIMED AT CURBING
VIOLENCE WHILE ALSO OFFERING INFORMATION AND
COUNSELING TO VICTIMS.

-- A PROGRAM TO RAISE AWARENESS OF THE ISSUE OF
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN RURAL AREAS OF
NAMIBIA. THE FOCUS WOULD BE ON GROUPS IN
RURAL AND LOWER SOCIO-ECONOMIC AREAS OF THE
COUNTRY WHO DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO INFORMATION.

9. MISSION IS ALSO DISCUSSING A LARGE PROJECT PROPOSAL
WHICH WOULD LAUNCH A NATIONAL, MULTIMEDIA PUBLIC
INFORMATION CAMPAIGN, SIMILAR TO THAT WHICH WAS CONDUCTED
FOR LANDMINE AWARENESS, TO EDUCATE PEOPLE ABOUT THE
PROBLEM OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN. WE ENVISION A
TV/RADIO/POSTER/PRINT MEDIA EFFORT IN ENGLISH AND LOCAL
LANGUAGES, COORDINATED THROUGH THE PRESIDENT'S DEPARTMENT
OF WOMEN'S AFFAIRS AND IMPLEMENTED THROUGH LOCAL WOMEN'S
NGO'S. THE MULTIMEDIA CAMPAIGN WOULD RAISE PUBLIC
AWARENESS ABOUT THE PROBLEM OF VIOLENCE AND RAPE AND
ATTEMPT TO CHANGE BEHAVIOR BY REMINDING PEOPLE THAT
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IS WRONG, SOCIALLY UNACCEPTABLE
AND ILLEGAL. THIS PUBLIC INFORMATION CAMPAIGN WILL BE
COUPLED WITH SMALL PROJECT INITIATIVES TO STIFFEN
SENTENCES AND CHANGE LAWS RELATING TO RAPE AND DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE. PETERSON

BT
#2530

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SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 02
<^SECT>SECTION: 02 OF 02

SSN: 2530
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TOR: 951129100453 M1973192
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DIST: SIT: DESHAZER MCCORMICK NSC RICE
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PREC: IMMEDIATE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
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LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: O 301919Z NOV 95
LINE4: FM SECSTATE WASHDC
OSRI: RUEHC
DTG: 301919Z NOV 95
ORIG: SECSTATE WASHDC
TO: USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 3886
INFO: ////
SUBJ: RESOLUTION ON FOLLOW UP TO THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN
TEXT:
UNCLAS STATE 277034

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: UNGA KWMN PHUM
SUBJECT: RESOLUTION ON FOLLOW UP TO THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN
REF: (A) 95 USUN NEW Y 4825

1. DEPARTMENT HAS REVIEWED REFTEL CONCERNING FOLLOW UP TO THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN.

2. WE SUPPORT THE POSITION USDEL HAS BEEN ADVOCATING DURING THE INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS, I.E. THAT THE SECOND OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH OF THE BEIJING FOLLOW UP RESOLUTION SHOULD READ AS FOLLOWS: "ENDORSES THE BEIJING DECLARATION AND PLATFORM FOR ACTION ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE," ("ADOPTED" AS OPPOSED TO "AS ADOPTED"). AS NOTED IN REFTEL, "ADOPTED" IS THE LANGUAGE USED TO ENDORSE THE CAIRO PROGRAM OF ACTION, AND WE SHOULD INSIST ON IT HERE.

3. REFTEL NOTES THAT, IF THE WORD "ADOPTED" IS USED BY ITSELF, IRAN AND SUDAN WILL INSIST ON INCLUDING IN THIS RESOLUTION THE TEXT OF PARAGRAPH 9 OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION. THE UNITED STATES WAS CLOSELY INVOLVED IN THE DRAFTING OF PARAGRAPH 9, AND WE WOULD FIND IT ACCEPTABLE TO INCLUDE IT IN THIS RESOLUTION, PARTICULARLY BECAUSE IT STATES THAT RELIGIOUS AND ETHICAL VALUES, CULTURAL BACKGROUNDS AND PHILOSOPHICAL CONVICTIONS SHOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE FULL ENJOYMENT BY WOMEN OF THEIR HUMAN RIGHTS.

4. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES USDEL'S PERSISTENCE IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS.

CHRISTOPHER
BT

#7034

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SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 7034

TOR: 951130142153 M1976031

DIST:

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