

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. cable	Re: Proposed Draft for the First Lady's Speech in Chiang Mai (5 pages)	11/04/1996	P1/b(1)
002. cable	Re: Kenya Confidential November 15, 1996 (3 pages)	11/15/1996	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

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

FOLDER TITLE:

[11/01/1996 - 12/10/1996]

2012-0094-F
ke3959

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]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
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: ROUTINE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: RAAUZYUW RUESDJA0132 3061346-UUAA--RHEHOND.
LINE2: ZNR UUUAA
LINE3: R 011346Z NOV 96
LINE4: FM FBIS OKINAWA JA
OSRI: RUESDJ
DTG: 011346Z NOV 96
ORIG: FBIS OKINAWA JA
TO: AIG 4581
RHEHOND/DIR ONDCP//OR//
RHFJFGI/NAVCRIMINVSERVFO MAYPORT FL//05MP//
RHFJPUA/USCOMSOLANT
RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM//SCPA/SCJ2-IW//
RHLBAAA/USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM//SCJ3-PSY//
RHLBAAF/CDR470THMIGP COROZAL PM//IAPP-O-AS//
RHLBAAJ/CINCLANTFLT DET SO NZ FT AMADOR PM
RHLBAAK/CDRUSARSO MAXI FT CLAYTON PM//SOIN-IDI//
RHLBAAQ/USCINCSO SCJ2 QUARRY HEIGHTS PM
RUAGAMS/CINC UNC CFC SEOUL KOR//UNCMAC//
RUCAABA/CCGDNINE CLEVELAND OH//OLE//
RUCBAIC/AIC NORFOLK VA
RUCKMEA/II MEF MARFOR UNITAS//S-2//
RUCKMEZ/SJTTFHQ MFL//J2//
RUCWAAA/FBIS RESTON VA//ECON//
RUDHSIC/CDRUSASOIC WASH DC//DIS//
RUDJARA/COMLANTAREA COGARD PORTSMOUTH VA//AI/ACC//
RUDMQAN/MARCORINTACT DET QUANTICO VA
RUDPDSE/82ND ABN DIV INTEL CEN FT BRAGG NC
RUDPTOC/XVIII ABN CORPS INTEL CEN FT BRAGG NC
RUEBDKA/DAG MONTEREY CA
RUEBFGA/VOA WASHINGTON DC
RUEDADA/AFISA AMHS BOLLING AFB DC
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//STR//
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//INR//
RUEHIA/USIA WASHINGTON DC//R//
RUEHIA/USIA WASHINGTON DC//B/VOA/F//
RUEHRI/AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO
RUEHSO/AMCONSUL SAO PAULO
RUERFCP/CDR USARSO FT CLAYTON PM//SOCS-PA//
RUESFB/FBIS ASUNCION PA
RUSKGRD/COGARD INTELCOORDCEN WASHINGTON DC
RUWGTG/COMPACAREA COGARD ALAMEDA CA//PI//
RUWMBKA/612 AINS DAVIS-MONTHAN AFB AZ//INTA//
RUWMEGA/USAFSO HOWARD AFB PM//IN//
RUWMEGA/CDR 1-228 AVN REG FT KOBBE PM//R2//
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INFO: ////

SUBJ: Chen Muhua Meets Brazilian Women's Delegation

TEXT: UNCLAS 1J

WARNING: TOPIC: LEADER

SERIAL: OW0111134696

COUNTRY: PRC

SUBJ: Chen Muhua Meets Brazilian Women's Delegation

SOURCE: Beijing XINHUA in English 1337 GMT 1 Nov 96

TEXT:

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Beijing, November 1 (XINHUA) -- Chen Muhua, chairperson of the All-China Women's Federation (ACWF), met with a Brazilian women's delegation, at Beijing's Great Hall of the People, here today.

Chen welcomed Rosanita Monteiro de Campos, president of Brazil's Women's Federation and her party, by saying that China and Brazil, although far apart geographically, have seen smooth development in bilateral relations in many fields.

Chen, also vice-chairperson of the Chinese National People's Congress Standing Committee, expressed her hope that the women's organizations in the two countries would increase contacts and understanding, to contribute to friendship between the two countries and two peoples.

She also briefed the Brazilian guests on the Chinese women's position and their role in politics, economy, culture, and the family, and the follow-up to the fourth World Conference on Women which was held in Beijing last year.

The two sides exchanged views on matters of common concern in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

The delegation, who arrived here today at the invitation of the ACWF, is expected to travel to Hangzhou, Shanghai, and Tianjin during their 12-day stay.

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SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 0132

TOR: 961101090037 M2474101

DIST: SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: ROUTINE

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED

LINE1: RAAUZYUW RUCNDTA4038 3061718-UUUU--RHEHAAX.

LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH

LINE3: R 011718Z NOV 96

LINE4: FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

OSRI: RUCNDT

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ORIG: USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 6483

INFO: RUEHKG/AMEMBASSY KINGSTON 0649
RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 1490
RUEHVEN/USMISSION USVIENNA 6117
RUEHAH/AMEMBASSY ASHGABAT 0641
RUEHTH/AMEMBASSY ATHENS 2664
RUEHHI/AMEMBASSY HANOI
RUEHBD/AMEMBASSY BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN 0352
RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA 0445
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 0527
RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON 1113
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 3661
RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA 0356
RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 2418
RUEHWD/AMEMBASSY WINDHOEK 0413
RUEHYD/AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 0207
RUEHKI/AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 0466
RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS 3403
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 2026
RUEHAR/AMEMBASSY ACCRA 0803
RUEHNT/AMEMBASSY TASHKENT 0930
RUEHDL/AMEMBASSY DUBLIN 0124
RUEHRH/AMEMBASSY RIYADH 1131
RUEHBU/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 1137
RUEHBQ/AMEMBASSY BISSAU 0433
RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM 0877
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 3612
RUEHGG/UN SECURITY COUNCIL COLLECTIVE
RUEHBE/AMEMBASSY BELIZE 0278
RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 1685
RUEHDB/AMEMBASSY DUSHANBE 0565
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 1899
RUEHKL/AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR 1160
RUEHLE/AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG 0278
RUEHMU/AMEMBASSY MANAGUA 0425
RUEHMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 0691
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 5751
RUEHZP/AMEMBASSY PANAMA 0312
RUEHGT/AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA 0703

SUBJ: UNGA: US STATEMENT ON ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

TEXT: UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 06 USUN NEW YORK 004038

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: AORC, UNGA, KWMN, PHUM, AF

SUBJECT: UNGA: US STATEMENT ON ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

1. SUMMARY. HERE FOLLOWS THE TEXT OF U.S. STATEMENT IN THE UNGA THIRD COMMITTEE ON AGENDA ITEMS 103 AND 104, "ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN" AND "FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN", DELIVERED BY US REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UN COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN LINDA TARR-WHELAN, OCTOBER 29, 1996:

2. BEGIN TEXT:

THANK YOU, MADAME CHAIR. AS WE MEET HERE TODAY, ONE YEAR AFTER THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN, WE ARE STILL INSPIRED BY THE WOMEN AND MEN WHO CAME TOGETHER IN BEIJING TO CREATE A BETTER LIFE FOR THEMSELVES AND THEIR FAMILIES. WE ARE STILL INVIGORATED AND EMPOWERED BY THE POSSIBILITIES FOR CHANGE.

ONE OF OUR PRIMARY CONCERNS OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS IS HOW CAN WE ALL WORK TOGETHER, THROUGH THE UNITED NATIONS, TO MEET THE GOALS OF THE BEIJING DECLARATION AND PLATFORM FOR ACTION FOR EQUALITY FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS IN THE NEXT CENTURY.

MY GOVERNMENT BELIEVES THAT THE UNITED NATIONS CAN BEST FURTHER THESE GOALS BY FOCUSING ON THREE CRITICAL ACTIONS IN IMPLEMENTING THE PLATFORM: MAINSTREAMING, COORDINATING AND MONITORING.

THE UNITED NATIONS HAS MADE A GOOD START IN ITS EFFORTS TO PROMOTE AN ACTIVE AND VISIBLE POLICY OF MAINSTREAMING A GENDER PERSPECTIVE THROUGHOUT ITS WORK. THE DESIGNATION LAST YEAR BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF ROSARIO GREEN AS SPECIAL ADVISER ON GENDER ISSUES AND THE APPOINTMENT OF ANGELA KING AS DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN CAME AS GOOD NEWS. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT THEY WILL CONTINUE TO WORK TOGETHER BOTH FORMALLY THROUGH THE INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON WOMEN AND GENDER EQUALITY AND INFORMALLY TO MAINSTREAM A GENDER PERSPECTIVE THROUGHOUT THE UN SYSTEM.

WE BELIEVE THAT THE CONTINUED ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN IN THE UN SYSTEM, PARTICULARLY AT THE SENIOR DECISION-MAKING LEVELS, WILL FURTHER THE UN'S EFFORTS TO MAINSTREAM. MY GOVERNMENT STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S GOAL OF GENDER EQUALITY IN THE UN SECRETARIAT BY THE YEAR 2000. AND WE ENCOURAGE THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO APPOINT MORE WOMEN AS HIS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVES IN PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY AND PEACE-KEEPING MISSIONS.

AT ALL THE RECENT UN CONFERENCES AND SUMMITS ON THE ENVIRONMENT, ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT, ON HUMAN RIGHTS, ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, AND ON WOMEN GOVERNMENTS HAVE COMMITTED THEMSELVES TO THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN IN

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DIFFERENT AREAS. THIS MAKES COORDINATION AT THE OPERATIONAL AND POLICY LEVELS CRUCIAL TO THE FOLLOW UP STRATEGIES FOR BEIJING. IT IS A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE UNITED NATIONS. THROUGH THESE CONFERENCES AND SUMMITS, ALL UN ORGANIZATIONS HAVE BEEN INVOLVED. IF THEY CAN NOW WORK TOGETHER WITHIN THE UN SYSTEM, THEY WILL ADVANCE THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN A WAY FAR BEYOND WHAT THEIR INDIVIDUAL EFFORTS COULD ACHIEVE.

THE SUBREGIONAL CONFERENCE OF SENIOR GOVERNMENTAL EXPERTS THAT TOOK PLACE IN BUCHAREST LAST MONTH, WHICH THE UNITED STATES ATTENDED AS AN OBSERVER, IS JUST ONE EXAMPLE OF POSITIVE AND SUCCESSFUL COLLABORATION. THE DIVISION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN, THE UN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE, THE GOVERNMENT OF ROMANIA, AND THE WOMEN AND MEN IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE MET TO DISCUSS NATIONAL MACHINERIES AND A MODEL ACTION PLAN TO ASSIST MEMBER STATES' AND NGO'S INVOLVEMENT AS STEPS IN IMPLEMENTING THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION THROUGHOUT THE REGION.

WE ALL KNOW FROM PAST EXPERIENCES HOW IMPORTANT MONITORING IS. THE UNITED NATIONS SHOULD MONITOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLATFORM, PRIMARILY THROUGH THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN, WHICH SHOULD HAVE A CENTRAL AND CATALYTIC ROLE.

THIS YEAR'S SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN FOCUSED ON WAYS TO MAKE THE COMMISSION MORE VIBRANT, INTERACTIVE, AND RELEVANT. THE DISCUSSIONS IN THE CSW BETWEEN THE PANEL OF EXPERTS AND MEMBER STATES WERE A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. HOWEVER, IN ORDER TO FURTHER ENCOURAGE A FREE FLOW OF IDEAS, QUESTIONS, AND SHARING OF BEST PRACTICES, MEMBER STATES SHOULD CONSIDER INCLUDING EXPERTS ON THEIR DELEGATIONS WHO CAN SPEAK AUTHORITATIVELY ON THE ISSUES AND WHO CAN IMPLEMENT CHANGES WHEN THEY GET HOME. IN THIS WAY, THE CSW WILL BE ABLE TO INSPIRE AND INFORM DELEGATIONS ON PRACTICAL WAYS TO IMPLEMENT THE BEIJING PLATFORM.

BOTH IN THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN AND IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, MY GOVERNMENT BELIEVES THAT WE COULD STRENGTHEN OUR WORK BY CONSOLIDATING RESOLUTIONS AND FOCUSING OUR EFFORTS ON WAYS TO HELP THE UN AND MEMBER STATES IMPLEMENT THE COMMITMENTS WE MADE IN BEIJING; ON THE CRITICAL AREAS OF CONCERN; AND ON EMERGING ISSUES AND TRENDS AFFECTING THE SITUATION OF WOMEN, PARTICULARLY THOSE THAT REQUIRE URGENT CONSIDERATION.

ONE ISSUE THAT REQUIRES URGENT CONSIDERATION IS THE SITUATION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN AFGHANISTAN. JUST OVER A YEAR AGO, WE AFFIRMED IN BEIJING THAT HUMAN RIGHTS ARE

WOMEN'S RIGHTS, AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS;
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THAT RELIGIOUS AND ETHICAL VALUES AND CULTURAL BACKGROUNDS SHOULD CONTRIBUTE TO WOMEN'S ENJOYMENT OF THEIR HUMAN RIGHTS; AND THAT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS MUST NEVER BE TOLERATED, NO MATTER WHERE IT TAKES PLACE, BY WHOM OR UNDER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES. WE CANNOT FORGET THE COMMITMENTS WE MADE IN BEIJING.

THE UNITED STATES IS CONCERNED ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS IN AFGHANISTAN, PARTICULARLY THE STATUS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS. DIRECTIVES WHICH KEEP WOMEN OUT OF THE WORKPLACE AND KEEP YOUNG GIRLS OUT OF SCHOOL ARE MORALLY WRONG, ECONOMICALLY COUNTERPRODUCTIVE AND POLITICALLY UNWISE. IN ADDITION TO VIOLATING WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS, ACTIONS THAT DENY WOMEN AND GIRLS THE EQUAL RIGHT TO EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT, AND THE RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE EQUALLY IN POLITICAL LIFE ARE SELF-DEFEATING. YOU CANNOT RUN A MODERN ECONOMY WITHOUT WOMEN. RESTRICTIONS ON AFGHAN WOMEN AND GIRLS LIMIT THE ABILITY TO DIG OUT FROM OVER A DECADE OF WAR, TO REBUILD THE COUNTRY, AND TO ESTABLISH A SENSE OF NATIONAL UNITY.

THE UNITED STATES SUPPORTS THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S EFFORTS TO ENSURE THAT THE UNITED NATIONS CAN PERFORM ESSENTIAL DUTIES ACCORDING TO THE UN CHARTER AND TO BE EFFECTIVE IN CARRYING OUT RELIEF PROGRAMS IN AFGHANISTAN. IF WE CONTINUE TO SEE POLICIES THAT ABSOLUTELY RESTRICT THE RIGHT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS TO BE FULL AND ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS IN A SOCIETY, IT WILL HAVE AN EFFECT ON THE ABILITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO LEND AND TO GIVE ASSISTANCE.

AT BEIJING GOVERNMENTS RECOGNIZED WOMEN'S ISSUES AS LEGITIMATE CONCERNS OF NATIONS. AND, AS THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION MAKES CLEAR, THE WORLD NOW RECOGNIZES THAT ALL ITS ISSUES HAVE AN IMPACT ON, AND ARE OF CONCERN TO, WOMEN.

MY COUNTRY IS SERIOUS ABOUT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BEIJING DECLARATION AND PLATFORM FOR ACTION, NOT ONLY GLOBALLY BUT NATIONALLY, IN THE UNITED STATES, IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND CONDUCT OF OUR DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN POLICY. WE ARE AT WORK FULFILLING OUR PARTICULAR COMMITMENTS ANNOUNCED DURING THE CONFERENCE IN BEIJING AND IN BUILDING ON THEM WITH NEW COMMITMENTS, NEW INITIATIVES TO ADVANCE THE STATUS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS AND IMPROVE THE LIVES OF WOMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES.

JUST AS WE ARE STRESSING THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINSTREAMING, COORDINATING AND MONITORING FOR THE UNITED NATIONS, WE REALIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF THOSE FUNCTIONS FOR THE UNITED STATES AND ITS ACTIONS.

IN ORDER TO FACILITATE OUR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
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SUBJECT: UNGA: US STATEMENT ON ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

PLATFORM AND ENABLE US TO BETTER MAINSTREAM, COORDINATE AND MONITOR, WE NOW HAVE A FORMAL MECHANISM IN PLACE, THE PRESIDENT'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON WOMEN. PRESIDENT CLINTON ESTABLISHED THIS INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON THE EVE OF THE UN CONFERENCE IN BEIJING. IT IS CHAIRED BY SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DONNA SHALALA, WITH FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON SERVING AS HONORARY CHAIR. THE COUNCIL MEMBERS ARE HIGH-LEVEL REPRESENTATIVES FROM ALL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, AND MANY OF THEM WERE DELEGATES TO BEIJING.

THEY ARE WORKING WITHIN GOVERNMENT TO DEVELOP POLICIES FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN AND GIRLS AND SEEKING TO MAINSTREAM THIS AGENDA INTO THE MISSION, POLICIES AND PROGRAMS OF THEIR AGENCIES. AND THEY LOOK FOR WAYS TO COORDINATE INITIATIVES SO THAT WOMEN AND GIRLS ARE BETTER SERVED, GOALS ARE MORE EASILY MET AND DUPLICATION OF EFFORTS AVOIDED.

ONE SUCCESSFUL EXAMPLE OF THAT IS THE JOINT EFFORT MADE BY THE DEPARTMENTS OF JUSTICE AND HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN. THE TWO DEPARTMENTS HAVE ESTABLISHED A NATIONAL TOLL-FREE TELEPHONE NUMBER, OR "HOTLINE" THAT OPERATES 24 HOURS A DAY BRINGING INSTANT HELP TO PEOPLE IN CRISIS. STARTED LAST FEBRUARY, THE HOTLINE HAS RECEIVED MORE THAN 40,000 CALLS TO DATE.

THIS COORDINATION BETWEEN LAW ENFORCEMENT AND SERVICES DOES NOT STOP IN WASHINGTON. THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY AS COMMUNITIES WORK TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEM OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, LAW ENFORCEMENT WORKERS, JUDICIAL OFFICIALS, SERVICE PROVIDERS AND ADVOCATES WORK TOGETHER, WITH NGOS TO DESIGN PROGRAMS TO STOP THE VIOLENCE.

THE INTERAGENCY COUNCIL, AS THE MECHANISM FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM, HAS PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH AS PART OF ITS MANDATE AS WELL. THE 189 COUNTRIES THAT JOINED CONSENSUS IN BEIJING AGREED TO DEVELOP NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PLANS OR STRATEGIES, PREFERABLY BY THE END OF 1996. WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF DOING THIS, AND IT IS HARD WORK.

IN ORDER TO REACH AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE TO REPORT WHAT PROGRESS WE HAVE MADE SINCE BEIJING, TO LEARN WHAT PROGRESS THERE HAS BEEN AT THE LOCAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL LEVELS, AND TO DEVELOP AN AGENDA OF PRIORITIES FOR FUTURE ACTION, THE PRESIDENT'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL SPONSORED A NATIONAL CONFERENCE VIA

SATELLITE ON SEPTEMBER 28. OUR BROADCAST WAS RECEIVED BY THOUSANDS OF WOMEN AND MEN AT SOME 450 SITES AROUND THE COUNTRY AS PART OF A DAY'S ACTIVITIES WHERE LOCAL UNCLAS SECTION 05 OF 06 USUN NEW YORK 004038

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WOMEN HAD ORGANIZED THEIR OWN CONFERENCES AROUND THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION.

IT WAS A VERY SUCCESSFUL EVENT AND PROOF TO US THAT THE SPIRIT OF BEIJING NOT ONLY LIVES, IT IS GROWING AND GATHERING STRENGTH. WOMEN CAME TOGETHER BY THE HUNDREDS IN URBAN AND RURAL AREAS AND WITH 1,400 GATHERING IN BOSTON, 1,000 WOMEN AND MEN MEETING AT EIGHT SITES THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF GEORGIA, AND 600 IN NEW HAMPSHIRE, ALL UNITED BY THEIR CONCERNS, GOALS AND DETERMINATION. IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT REPORTING TO THIS CONSTITUENCY OF NGOS AND INDIVIDUALS IS CRITICAL TO ANY HONEST EFFORTS WE MAKE TO MONITOR IMPLEMENTATION. THE AMERICAN PUBLIC IS OUR MOST IMPORTANT MONITOR.

THE INTERAGENCY COUNCIL IS NOW IN THE PROCESS OF ANALYZING THE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS THAT CAME OUT OF THESE SEPTEMBER 28 EVENTS AS WE PREPARE OUR NATIONAL ACTION AGENDA FOR IMPLEMENTATION. WE EXPECT TO HAVE BOTH A REPORT ON WHAT GOVERNMENT IS DOING, TO DATE, TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF WOMEN AND GIRLS, AS WELL AS THE NATIONAL ACTION AGENDA FOR THE FUTURE BY THE END OF THE YEAR. THE INTERAGENCY COUNCIL'S WORLDWIDE WEB SITE IS:

[TTP://WWW.WHITEHOUSE.GOV/WH/EOP/WOMEN/IACW/HTML/IACWHOME.HTML](http://WWW.WHITEHOUSE.GOV/WH/EOP/WOMEN/IACW/HTML/IACWHOME.HTML)

A WORD ABOUT CEDAW. RATIFICATION REMAINS A PRIORITY FOR THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION. UNDER OUR CONSTITUTION, TREATIES MUST BE RATIFIED WITH THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE SENATE. DESPITE THE ADMINISTRATION'S SUPPORT, WE ARE STILL WAITING FOR THE SENATE TO ACT. ALTHOUGH WE ARE NOT YET A STATE PARTY TO CEDAW, WE WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION IN DRAFTING THE OPTIONAL PROTOCOL.

IN PREPARING FOR AND FOLLOWING-UP TO FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN, MY GOVERNMENT HAS FOCUSED ON MAINTAINING A HIGH LEVEL COMMITMENT, ON ESTABLISHING STRONG INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, ON WORKING WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, AND ON INCLUDING MORE WOMEN IN POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY.

THE COMMITMENT OF THE PRESIDENT AND THE FIRST LADY, AND THE HIGH LEVEL PARTICIPATION IN THE PRESIDENT'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL HAVE INCREASED OUR ABILITY TO IMPLEMENT POLICIES AND PROGRAMS TO ADVANCE THE STATUS OF WOMEN AND HAVE ENSURED ACCOUNTABILITY FOR CARRYING THEM

OUT.

BEIJING MADE US REALIZE MORE THAN EVER THAT NO
ORGANIZATION--EITHER GOVERNMENTAL, NON-GOVERNMENTAL,
UNCLAS SECTION 06 OF 06 USUN NEW YORK 004038

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PRIVATE SECTOR, OR MULTILATERAL--CAN ACHIEVE MUCH
PROGRESS BY ITSELF. FUTURE ADVANCES IN POLITICAL,
ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT WILL REQUIRE
COOPERATION AMONG ALL THESE ACTORS. BEIJING ENERGIZED
GOVERNMENTS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO WORK
TOGETHER TO FIND INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS TO OLD PROBLEMS.
WE CONTINUE TO LOOK TO WOMEN IN NON-GOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATIONS TO HELP US DEFINE THE PROBLEMS AND FIND
SOLUTIONS AND TO HOLD THEIR GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABLE.
END TEXT. ALBRIGHT

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 06
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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]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
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: ROUTINE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
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DTG: 071545Z NOV 96
ORIG: AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
TO: SECSTATE WASHDC 9357
INFO: ////
SUBJ: CONSCIOUSNESS-RAISING AMONG CAMEROONIAN WOMEN

TEXT:
UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 YAOUNDE 008089

FOR G/SENIOR COORDINATOR FOR INT'L WOMEN'S ISSUES

E.O. 12958:N/A

TAGS: PHUM, KWMN, CM

SUBJECT: CONSCIOUSNESS-RAISING AMONG CAMEROONIAN WOMEN

REF: STATE 203286

1. SUMMARY. DURING A TRIP TO LITTORAL AND SOUTHWEST PROVINCES OCTOBER 30 TO NOVEMBER 1, POLOFF VISITED TWO LEADING WOMENS RIGHTS NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO ASSESS PROGRESS OF CAMEROON WOMEN ONE YEAR AFTER THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN (FWCW) IN BEIJING. THE NGO'S HAD DIFFERENT APPROACHES, ONE CENTERED ON ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT, THE OTHER ON CIVIC RIGHTS EDUCATION, AND THOUGH PROGRESS IS MIXED, THEIR EFFORTS ARE SERIOUS AND WELL THOUGHT-OUT. END SUMMARY.

THE CIVIC RIGHTS APPROACH

2. POLOFF TRAVELED TO DOUALA, CAMEROON'S ECONOMIC CAPITAL, AND MET WITH TWO NGO'S ACTIVELY WORKING TO ADVANCE THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN. THE ASSOCIATION OF CAMEROONIAN FEMALE JURISTS (ACAFEJ) IS COMPOSED OF SIXTY WOMEN LAWYERS, MAGISTRATES AND JUDGES TRAINED IN CAMEROONIAN AND FRENCH LAW. THEY WORK AS VOLUNTEERS TO STAFF AN INFORMATION PHONE LINE AND RESOURCE CENTER IN LITTORAL, SOUTH WEST AND CENTER PROVINCES. ACAFEJ PUBLISHED A COMPLETE GUIDE TO "THE RIGHTS OF THE CAMEROONIAN WOMEN" IN BOTH ENGLISH AND FRENCH IN SEPTEMBER 1996 WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF A DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS FUND (DHRF) GRANT FROM THE EMBASSY. MOBILE WORKSHOPS

3. IN LITTORAL PROVINCE, ACAFEJ SPONSORS MOBILE CIVIC RIGHTS "CLINICS" OR WORKSHOPS IN RURAL AREAS AND VILLAGES. THE ONE OR TWO DAY SEMINARS ARE USUALLY OFFERED ON WEEKENDS AND CONCENTRATE ON BASIC INSTRUCTION IN INHERITANCE AND MARRIAGE RIGHTS. SINCE CAMEROON IS A DIVERSE COUNTRY WITH OVER 200 ETHNIC GROUPS, AND MANY RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS, THE ACAFEJ VOLUNTEERS WERE CAREFUL NOT TO GENERALIZE. HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO ANNICK SOLLE, THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF ACAFEJ-DOUALA, IN MANY REGIONS TRADITION DICTATES THAT A WOMAN IS NOT ENTITLED TO ANY INHERITANCE WHEN HER HUSBAND DIES. ALL PROPERTY AND WEALTH GOES TO THE DECEASED'S DESCENDANTS, PARTICULARLY THE MALE HEIRS. ACAFEJ INFORMS WOMEN THAT CAMEROON HAS IN FORCE A COMMUNITY PROPERTY LAW WHICH ALLOWS THE SURVIVING SPOUSE TO INHERIT ONE HALF OF THE PARTNER'S ESTATE WITH THE OTHER 50 PER CENT DIVIDED AMONG THE CHILDREN, BOTH MALE AND FEMALE.

DIFFICULT TO BREAK WITH TRADITION

4. THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF ACAFEJ-DOUALA, ESTHER LIBAM, EXPLAINED THAT THE GOAL OF PUBLISHING AND PROMULGATING THE CIVIC RIGHTS OF CAMEROONIAN WOMEN WAS IN LINE WITH THE OBJECTIVES OF THE BEIJING CONFERENCE. HOWEVER, SINCE INITIATING THE MOBILE CIVIC RIGHTS WORKSHOPS IN LATE 1993 THE RESULTS HAVE BEEN MIXED. IN MOST RURAL AREAS, CENTURIES OF TRADITION ARE DIFFICULT TO OVERCOME. MANY WOMEN REFUSE TO ACCEPT THAT CAMEROONIAN LAW ALLOWS A WOMAN TO INHERIT, PROTECTS WOMEN FROM FORCED MARRIAGES AND OUTLINES DIVORCE PROCEDURES. OUT OF EITHER FEAR OR HABIT, MANY DO NOT WANT TO VENTURE FROM THE SECURITY OF THEIR ESTABLISHED TRADITIONS.

THE OBSTACLES ARE REAL

5. BOTH ACAFEJ JURISTS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT WOMEN THEMSELVES ARE TOO OFTEN THE PRIMARY OBSTACLE TO THEIR OWN ADVANCEMENT WHEN THEY REFUSE TO CHALLENGE THE TRADITION OF THEIR ETHNIC GROUP. IN ADDITION, SOLLE, LIBAM AND THEIR COLLEAGUES ARE AWARE THAT WOMEN'S CIVIC RIGHTS IN CAMEROON CANNOT ADVANCE VERY FAR WITHOUT THE ACTIVE SUPPORT OF MEN. THUS THE WORKSHOPS ALWAYS INCLUDE THE MALE HIERARCHY OF THE VILLAGE, I.E. THE CHIEF AND HIS COUNCIL. THIS IS A REALITY ACAFEJ ACCEPTS AND WORKS WITHIN. THE VOLUNTEERS ADMIT THAT PROGRESS IS VERY SLOW, YET SEE THE PUBLICATION OF THE WOMEN'S GUIDE AS A LANDMARK THAT WILL INFUSE NEW VIGOR INTO THEIR CAMPAIGN.

THE ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE APPROACH

6. POLOFF ALSO MET WITH GISELE YITAMBEN, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE "ASSOCIATION FOR SUPPORT OF WOMEN'S

ENTERPRISES (ASAFE), WHO MAINTAINED THAT AN ESSENTIAL KEY TO PROGRESS IN WOMEN'S RIGHTS IS THE ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN. ASAFE WAS FORMED TO ASSIST IMPOVERISHED WOMEN TO DEVELOP SELF-SUSTAINING EMPLOYMENT. THE ASSOCIATION ASSISTS WOMEN WITH BASIC TRAINING IN MANAGEMENT AND NEGOTIATION OF CONTRACTS. MORE CONCRETELY, IT HAS CREATED A COLLECTIVE THRIFT UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 YAOUNDE 008089

FOR G/SENIOR COORDINATOR FOR INT'L WOMEN'S ISSUES

E.O. 12958:N/A

TAGS: PHUM, KWMN, CM

SUBJECT: CONSCIOUSNESS-RAISING AMONG CAMEROONIAN WOMEN

FUND. GROUPED INTO TEAMS OF FIVE OR SIX MEMBERS, EACH WOMAN CONTRIBUTES MONTHLY TO THE FUND AND AWAITS HER TURN TO RECEIVE A SMALL LOAN. THE NEXT LOAN CANNOT BE DISBURSED UNTIL THE PREVIOUS BORROWER HAS REPAID, CREATING A SENSE OF SOLIDARITY. ASAFE HAS SET UP BOOTHS AT CENTRAL MARKET AREAS WHERE A WOMAN CAN DEPOSIT ONE OR TWO DOLLARS DAILY FROM HER DAY'S PROFITS TO ASSIST IN MEETING HER MONTHLY PAYMENT.

KUDOS FROM THE WORLD BANK

7. YITAMBEN SAID THE FUND CURRENTLY HAS 1900 SUBSCRIBERS WHO RUN BUSINESSES AT 126 MARKET PLACES AND OTHER SITES IN THE GREATER DOUALA AREA. SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 1993, THE FUND HAS DISBURSED SMALL LOANS TO 538 MEMBERS AND HAS NEARLY A 95 PER CENT RECOVERY RATE. ASAFE'S CENTRAL PHILOSOPHY IS THAT ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE ENABLES CAMEROONIAN WOMEN TO UNDERSTAND AND ASSERT THEIR LAWFUL RIGHTS. ASAFE WELCOMED A WORLD BANK DELEGATION ON OCTOBER 12 FOR A SITE VISIT. THIS TEAM IS SEEKING TO FUND DIRECTLY NGO'S WORKING TO ALLEVIATE POVERTY IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD. ACCORDING TO LOCAL NEWS REPORTS, THE DELEGATION COMMENDED YITAMBEN AND HER STAFF ON THEIR DEDICATION AND SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS. YITAMBEN SAID SHE HAD NOT HESITATED TO ASK THE INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES FOR MORE DIRECT WORLD BANK ASSISTANCE TO WOMEN'S GROUPS IN CAMEROON.

FREEDOM-NOW

8. YITAMBEN, A VERY DYNAMIC INTERLOCUTOR, ALSO WEARS THE HAT OF THE CAMEROONIAN PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WOMEN FOR FREEDOM (FREEDOM-NOW). IN THIS CAPACITY SHE VISITED THE CARTER CENTER IN ATLANTA IN 1992 WHERE SHE MET PRESIDENT AND MRS. CARTER, FORMER TANZANIAN PRESIDENT, JULIUS NYERERE, AND OTHER AFRICAN LEADERS DEDICATED TO GRASSROOTS DEVELOPMENT. FREEDOM-NOW HOLDS EDUCATION SEMINARS TO EXPLAIN THAT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND THE DISINHERITANCE OF WOMEN ARE VIOLATIONS OF CAMEROONIAN LAW. YITAMBEN EXPLAINED THAT

THE TRADITIONAL AFRICAN APPROACH TO RESOLVING DOMESTIC DISPUTES CENTERS ON NEGOTIATION AT THE LEVEL OF THE FAMILY AND VILLAGE RATHER THAN BETWEEN SPOUSES THEMSELVES OR IN COURT. SHE STATED THAT WESTERN MODELS TO COMBAT DOMESTIC ABUSE MAY NOT ALWAYS BE APPROPRIATE IN THE AFRICAN CONTEXT, YET BELIEVES THAT PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF THESE ISSUES IS ESSENTIAL.

9. COMMENT. BOTH OF THESE NGO'S ARE LED BY CREATIVE, CAPABLE WOMEN WHO ARE REALISTIC ABOUT PROBLEMS FACING THE CAMEROONIAN WOMAN YET HAVE LONG-TERM PLANS OF ACTION IN LINE WITH THE GOALS OF THE FWCW. ACAFEJ USED THEIR FY-96 DHRF GRANT TO PUBLISH A THOROUGH GUIDE TO WOMEN'S CIVIC RIGHTS. YITAMBEN TOLD POLOFF HER APPLICATION FOR DHRF FUNDS WAS NOT APPROVED IN 96, BUT FREEDOM-NOW WILL REAPPLY FOR A FY-98 GRANT. HOWEVER, POLOFF LEARNED THAT THESE GROUPS ARE ONLY VAGUELY AWARE OF THE OTHER'S EXISTENCE (THOUGH THEIR RESPECTIVE OFFICES ARE LESS THAN A MILE APART) SO OFFERED TO SEND YITAMBEN A COPY OF THE ACAFEJ GUIDE AND TO FACILITATE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR TWO NGO'S TO MEET.

TWINING

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

SSN: 8089
<^SSN>8089

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SIT: NSC

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ORIG: SECSTATE WASHDC
TO: RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 0000
INFO: RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0000
SUBJ: NGOS ACCREDITED TO THE FOURTH WORLD C9NFERENCE
ON WOMEN

TEXT:
UNCLAS STATE 234606

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: KWMN, AORC, UN, ECOSOC, CSW
SUBJECT: NGOS ACCREDITED TO THE FOURTH WORLD C9NFERENCE
ON WOMEN

REF: FAX FROM USUN DATED 11/8/96

1. DEPARTMENT HAS REVIEWED THE LANGUAGE WHICH THE BAHAMAS HAS PROPOSED TO INTRODUCE AT THE RESUMED SESSION OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (ECOSOC), NOVEMBER 13 - 14, IN NEW YORK, WHICH READS AS FOLLOWS. BEGIN QUOTE: THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, PURSUANT TO THE PROVISION OF ITS RESOLUTION 1996/31 ON CONSULTATIVE ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS WHICH EMPOWERS THE COUNCIL TO DECIDE ON THE PARTICIPATION OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS ACCREDITED TO AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN THE WORK OF THE RELEVANT FUNCTIONAL COMMISSION ON THE FOLLOW-UP TO AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THAT CONFERENCE, DECIDES TO APPROVE THE NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS ACCREDITED TO THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN SOLELY FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE WORK OF THE FORTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (CSW) WHICH WILL BE DEALING WITH THE FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN.

END QUOTE.

2. WHEN THIS ITEM IS INTRODUCED AT THE RESUMED ECOSOC, USDEL SHOULD REFER THE COUNCIL TO THE RESOLUTION ENTITLED "FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN," WHICH WAS ADOPTED BY THE CSW AT ITS 40TH (1996) SESSION AND APPROVED BY ECOSOC. (TEXT OF CSW RESOLUTION APPEARS AT END OF THIS CABLE.)

3. IN THAT RESOLUTION, ECOSOC DECIDED THAT NGOS THAT WANTED TO CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WORK OF THE CSW MUST APPLY FOR ECOSOC CONSULTATIVE STATUS; THAT ECOSOC WOULD REVIEW THOSE APPLICATIONS AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE; AND THAT PRIOR TO THE 1997 SESSION OF THE CSW, ECOSOC WOULD DECIDE ON THE PARTICIPATION OF THE BEIJING-ACCREDITED NGOS THAT HAD APPLIED FOR CONSULTATIVE STATUS IN CONFERENCE FOLLOW-UP AND IN THE WORK OF THE CSW.

4. WE REALIZE THAT THE CSW RESOLUTION ALSO REQUESTED THE SECRETARY GENERAL URGENTLY TO DRAW THE ATTENTION OF THE BEIJING-ACCREDITED NGOS TO THESE PROVISIONS AND TO THE PROCESS ESTABLISHED UNDER COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1296.

5. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE SECRETARIAT DID NOT NOTIFY THE BEIJING-ACCREDITED NGOS OF THESE PROVISIONS.

6. FURTHER, THE COMMITTEE ON NGOS WILL NOT BE MEETING AGAIN PRIOR TO THE 1997 CSW.

7. ACCORDINGLY, THE DEPARTMENT RECOGNIZES THAT CONCESSIONS MUST BE MADE TO ACCOMMODATE THE BEIJING-ACCREDITED NGOS. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS PREMATURE TO AUTOMATICALLY ALLOW BEIJING-ACCREDITED NGOS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WORK OF THE 1997 CSW. RATHER, WE PROPOSE THAT BEIJING-ACCREDITED NGOS BE REQUIRED TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR ECOSOC STATUS IN ORDER TO BE AUTOMATICALLY ACCREDITED TO THE 1997 CSW. WE SUGGEST A DEADLINE OF FEBRUARY 10, 1997, TO ALLOW ALL CONCERNED TO PLAN ACCORDINGLY FOR CSW PARTICIPATION. THIS COMPROMISE MAINTAINS THE SPIRIT OF THE 1996 CSW RESOLUTION WHILE RECOGNIZING THAT PROPER NOTIFICATION WAS NOT GIVEN TO HOLD TO THE LETTER OF THE 1996 RESOLUTION.

7. WE WOULD THEREFORE URGE THE SECRETARIAT, AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE, TO NOTIFY THE BEIJING-ACCREDITED NGOS THAT, IF THEY WANT TO CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION, THEY MUST APPLY FOR CONSULTATIVE STATUS BY FEBRUARY 10, 1997. THOSE NGOS

APPLYING FOR STATUS BY THAT DATE WILL BE GRANTED AUTOMATIC STATUS FOR THE FORTY-FIRST SESSION ONLY. THEIR APPLICATIONS FOR CONSULTATIVE STATUS BEYOND THAT DATE WOULD BE REVIEWED AT THE NEXT REGULAR SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON NGOS PER THE RESOLUTION 1296 PROCESS. CONSISTENT WITH THE RESOLUTION, THE SECRETARIAT SHOULD ALSO ADVISE THE NGOS OF THE PROCESS ESTABLISHED UNDER ECOSOC RESOLUTION 1296.

8. TEXT OF THE 1996 CSW RESOLUTION ENTITLED "FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN:"

BEGIN QUOTE: DECIDES, IN VIEW OF THE TRADITIONAL IMPORTANCE OF NGOS IN THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN, THAT SUCH ORGANIZATIONS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION AND IN THE MONITORING AND IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS RELATED TO THE CONFERENCE TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE, AND REQUESTS THE SECRETARY

GENERAL TO MAKE APPROPRIATE ARRANGEMENTS TO ENSURE FULL UTILIZATION OF EXISTING CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION WITH NGOS IN ORDER TO FACILITATE BROAD-BASED PARTICIPATION AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION;

DECIDES, IN RECOGNITION OF THE VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION OF NGOS IN THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN (FWCW), THAT THE COUNCIL AND ITS COMMITTEE ON NGOS WILL REVIEW THE APPLICATIONS OF THESE NGOS UNDER COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1296 (XLIV) OF 23 MAY 1968 AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE, AND ALSO DECIDES THAT PRIOR TO THE 41ST (1997) SESSION OF THE CSW, THE COUNCIL WILL TAKE A DECISION ON THE PARTICIPATION OF NGOS THAT WERE ACCREDITED TO THE CONFERENCE AND THAT HAVE APPLIED FOR CONSULTATIVE STATUS, IN CONFERENCE FOLLOW-UP AND IN THE WORK OF THE CSW, WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE WORK OF THE OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP ON THE REVIEW OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONSULTATION OF NGOS; --

RQUESTS THE SECRETARY GENERAL URGENTLY TB DRAW THE ATTENTION OF NGOS ACCREDITED TO THE FWCW TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE PRESENT RESOLUTION AND TO THE PROCESS ESTABLISHED UNDER COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1296. END QUOTE.
TALBOTT

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 4606

TOR: 961112183833 M2490151

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SIT: NSC

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PREC: ROUTINE
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ORIG: AMEMBASSY BANJUL
TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 3938
INFO: RUEHDK/AMEMBASSY DAKAR 3167
SUBJ: FY97 DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS SMALL
PROJECT FUNDING REQUEST FOR THE GAMBIA

TEXT:
UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 BANJUL 002779

FOR AF/RA, AID/AFR/SD, DRL/AAA, USIA/AF, AF/W
DAKAR FOR AID

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: KDEM, PHUM, EAID, GA
SUBJECT: FY97 DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS SMALL
PROJECT FUNDING REQUEST FOR THE GAMBIA

REF: (A) SECSTATE 216271, (B) SECSTATE 203286, (C)
SECSTATE 232143, (D) BANJUL 2760

INTRODUCTION & REQUEST FOR FUNDS

1. WITH THE OVERWHELMING INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN (FWCW) HELD IN BEIJING IN SEPTEMBER 1995, AND THE CONTINUED ENTHUSIASTIC SUPPORT BY THE UNITED STATES FOR THE OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOME OF THE FWCW (REF B), EMBASSY BANJUL DECLARES ITS FY97 STRATEGIC FOCUS TO BE THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN. TO THIS END, EMBASSY BANJUL REQUESTS USDOLS 110,000 FOR THE FY97 DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS FUND. POST REQUESTS PRIORITY CONSIDERATION SINCE IT NO LONGER HAS A USAID MISSION.

SMALL PROJECT PROPOSALS

2. POST HAS IDENTIFIED POTENTIAL PROJECTS THAT EMPHASIZE THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN IN SOCIETY. SELECTED PROJECTS ADDRESS THE EMPOWERMENT AND RIGHTS OF WOMEN THROUGH ACCESS TO LEGAL INFORMATION AND ENHANCED KNOWLEDGE OF THEIR ROLES

IN DEMOCRATIC DECISION MAKING PROCESSES AND OTHER PARTICIPATORY ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURES. PARTICULAR EMPHASIS IS GIVEN TO PROJECTS THAT ADDRESS FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION (FGM) (REF C). WHILE APPLICATIONS ARE STILL BEING RECEIVED BY THE PROGRAMS COORDINATOR, VIABLE PROJECTS REVIEWED TO DATE FOLLOW:

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO PREVENT FGM

(A) POST HAS IDENTIFIED THREE PROJECTS THAT FOCUS ON EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS GEARED TO SENSITIZE WOMEN AND MEN ABOUT THE HEALTH RISKS OF FGM. ALL THREE PROJECTS COMPLEMENT EACH OTHER SINCE ONE PROJECT IS DIRECTED TOWARDS ADULTS, ONE TOWARDS THE YOUTH, AND ONE SEEKS TO WORK WITH TRADITIONAL RELIGIOUS LEADERS.

- THE FOUNDATION FOR RESEARCH ON WOMEN'S HEALTH, PRODUCTIVITY, AND THE ENVIRONMENT PROJECT: PROJECT PLAN IS GEARED TOWARD ADULTS THROUGH GRASS-ROOTS COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION ABOUT THE HEALTH RISKS OF FGM. AN ADDITIONAL PROJECT COMPONENT IS SUPPORT GROUPS FOR WOMEN FLEEING VIOLENT OR ABUSIVE SITUATIONS CENTERED AROUND INVOLUNTARY FGM. ESTIMATED TOTAL COST OF THE PROJECT: USDOLS 14,300.

- YOUTH CENTRE FOR INFORMATION AND COUNSELING PROJECT: THIS PROJECT IS AIMED AT THE ERADICATION OF FGM AND OTHER TRADITIONAL PRACTICES THAT ARE DETRIMENTAL TO THE HEALTH OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN, THE PROJECT PLAN IS GEARED SPECIFICALLY TOWARD THE YOUTH IN SOCIETY. ESTIMATED TOTAL COST OF THE PROJECT: USDOLS 16,000.

- GAMBIA COMMITTEE AGAINST TRADITIONAL PRACTICES PROJECT: THIS PROJECT AIMS TO HOLD LECTURES, DISCUSSION GROUPS, AND BRAINSTORMING SESSIONS INVOLVING RELIGIOUS LEADERS AND COMMUNITIES TO HELP SHATTER THE MYTH THAT ISLAM SUPPORTS FGM. ESTIMATED TOTAL COST OF THE PROJECT: USDOLS 12,000.

CIVIC EDUCATION PROGRAMS DIRECTED TOWARD WOMEN

(B) POST HAS IDENTIFIED TWO PROJECTS THAT EMPHASIZE THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES. WHILE BOTH PROGRAMS ARE GEARED SPECIFICALLY TOWARD WOMEN, ONE OF THE PROJECTS FOCUSES MORE DIRECTLY ON CIVIC AND VOTER EDUCATION FOR RURAL WOMEN.

- RURAL WOMEN'S CIVIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT: PROJECT WILL EDUCATE RURAL WOMEN ON THEIR RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN CIVIC SOCIETY THROUGH ROLE

PLAYING EXERCISES AND SHORT DRAMA PIECES PERFORMED IN UP-COUNTRY VILLAGES. ESTIMATED TOTAL COST OF THE PROJECT: USDOLS 11,500.

- WOMEN'S RIGHTS VIDEO PROJECT: THIS PROJECT WILL ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF GOVERNANCE AND THE CONSTITUTION FROM A WOMAN'S PERSPECTIVE THROUGH A UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 BANJUL 002779

FOR AF/RA, AID/AFR/SD, DRL/AAA, USIA/AF, AF/W
DAKAR FOR AID

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: KDEM, PHUM, EAID, GA
SUBJECT: FY97 DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS SMALL
PROJECT FUNDING REQUEST FOR THE GAMBIA

SERIES OF VIDEO PRODUCTION
S FOR BROADCAST ON LOCAL
TELEVISION. TOPICS INCLUDE ISSUES OF
DISCRIMINATION AND THE PROMOTION AND ENFORCEMENT
OF LEGAL RIGHTS FOR WOMEN. ESTIMATED TOTAL COST
OF THE PROJECT: USDOLS 23,000.

DEMOCRATIZATION THROUGH MASS MEDIA

(C) SINCE VIABLE PROPOSALS ARE STILL BEING
RECEIVED BY THE PROGRAMS COORDINATOR, POST
REQUESTS ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR GENERAL
DEMOCRATIZATION, CIVIC EDUCATION, AND HUMAN RIGHTS
PROJECTS. TWO PROJECTS, IN PARTICULAR, EMPHASIZE
THE ROLE OF THE MASS MEDIA IN TRANSMITTING
DEMOCRATIC IDEALS AND FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION.

- THE GAMBIA COMMUNICATION AGENCY PROJECT: THIS
PROJECT WILL SUPPORT A FLEDGLING NEWS AGENCY IN
ITS ENDEAVOR TO PROMOTE DEMOCRACY, FREEDOM OF
EXPRESSION, DEFEND HUMAN RIGHTS, AND PROVIDE
OBJECTIVE AND INDEPENDENT REPORTING BY ENABLING IT
TO PRINT A WEEKLY NEWS SUMMARY FOR NATIONWIDE
PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION. ESTIMATED TOTAL COST OF THE
PROJECT: USDOLS 16,400.

- RADIO ONE COVERAGE EXPANSION PROJECT: THIS
PROJECT WILL SUPPORT A LOCAL RADIO STATION, WITH A
PROVEN TRACK RECORD IN CIVIC EDUCATION
PROGRAMMING, IN ITS EFFORTS TO EXPAND ITS
BROADCAST RANGE TO ENCOMPASS THE ENTIRE COUNTRY.
CURRENTLY, GAMBIA RADIO BROADCASTS ARE RESTRICTED
TO THE URBANIZED WESTERN PROVINCES. ESTIMATED
TOTAL COST OF THE PROJECT: USDOLS 17,200.

PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATIVE PERFORMANCE

3. PAST PERFORMANCE DEMONSTRATES POST'S ABILITY
TO ADMINISTER REQUESTED PROJECT FUNDS. ALTHOUGH

PERMISSION TO EXPEND FY96 FUNDS WAS NOT RECEIVED UNTIL MID-AUGUST 1996, POST SUCCESSFULLY INITIATED FOUR DHRF PROJECTS AND WILL SUBMIT PROJECT EVALUATIONS AS THE PROJECTS CLOSE. THE INTERIM AND FINAL REPORTS WERE SUBMITTED ON SCHEDULE, AND PROJECT EVALUATIONS FOR FY95 PROJECTS ARE REPORTED SEPARATELY (REF D).

EMBASSY PROGRAMS COORDINATOR, MICHAEL KELLY, CAN BE REACHED AT TEL:(220)392856, FAX:(220)392475, OR VIA E-MAIL. MICHAEL KELLY IS A FULL-TIME PIT EMPLOYEE. IN ADDITION TO ADMINISTERING THE DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS FUND, HE ALSO ADMINISTERS THE AMBASSADOR'S SPECIAL SELF-HELP FUND.

ROHN

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

SSN: 2779
<^SSN>2779

TOR: 961115053105 M2495081
<^TOR>961115053210 M2495084

DIST: SIT: LORIN MALLEY MCCORMICK RAGAN RICE SCHWARTZ
SIT: NSC

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
002. cable	Re: Kenya Confidential November 15, 1996 (3 pages)	11/15/1996	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

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

FOLDER TITLE:

[11/01/1996 - 12/10/1996]

2012-0094-F
ke3959

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]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) 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]
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CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
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LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: O 201026Z NOV 96
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
OSRI: RUEHBK
DTG: 201026Z NOV 96
ORIG: AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO: RUEHML/AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE 6060
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9065
INFO: RUDKIA/AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI 7759
SUBJ: WOMEN'S RIGHTS: PROGRESS IN THAILAND SINCE THE
TEXT:
UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 BANGKOK 049550

WHITE HOUSE FOR NSC - A. SENS, S. KRISTOFF

MANILA FOR POL SECTION - PASS TO THERESA LOAR

STATE FOR BCLTV - C. RICH

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: SOCI, TH, OVIP

SUBJECT: WOMEN'S RIGHTS: PROGRESS IN THAILAND SINCE THE
BEIJING CONFERENCE

NOTE: THIS IS ONE OF A SERIES OF BACKGROUND REPORTS THE
EMBASSY IS PREPARING FOR THE VISIT OF PRESIDENT CLINTON TO
THAILAND IN NOVEMBER 1996.

1. SINCE THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN BEIJING
IN 1995, THAI WOMEN IN THE POLITICAL, PUBLIC, AND NON-PROFIT
SECTORS HAVE BEEN WORKING TO IMPLEMENT THE BEIJING
DECLARATION AND PLATFORM FOR ACTION ADOPTED AT THE
CONFERENCE. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE BEIJING CONFERENCE, THE
NATIONAL COMMISSION ON WOMAN'S AFFAIRS (NCWA), FORMED IN
1989 AS PART OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, SET UP AN AD-
HOC COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES. THE NCWA HAS
30 MEMBERS, TWENTY FROM NGO AND 10 WHO ARE EXPERTS IN THE
FIELDS OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE. MOST IMPORTANTLY,
THEY PROPOSED ADDITIONS TO EDUCATIONAL AND STATISTICAL
PROGRAMS IN THAI GOVERNMENT LONG-TERM PLAN FOR WOMEN'S
DEVELOPMENT ADOPTED PRIOR TO THE BEIJING CONFERENCE.

2. THE NCWA HAS TRANSLATED THE BEIJING DECLARATION AND
PLATFORM FOR ACTION INTO THAI FOR DISSEMINATION AROUND THE
COUNTRY. THEY HAVE HELD REGIONAL SEMINARS FOR WOMEN LEADERS
AT THE GRASSROOTS LEVEL TO ENSURE LOCAL AND RURAL SUPPORT
FOR THE WOMEN'S RIGHTS EFFORTS. NCWA HAS ALSO FORMED GROUPS
TO STUDY IMPROVING LAWS TO PREVENT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN,

CONTROL PORNOGRAPHY, AND IMPROVE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR WOMEN. TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEM OF WOMEN FORCED INTO THE COMMERCIAL SEX INDUSTRY, THE NCWA DEVELOPED A NATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE PREVENTION AND ERADICATION OF COMMERCIAL SEX WHICH INCLUDES ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION IN REHABILITATION FACILITIES FOR CHILD VICTIMS OF PROSTITUTION. THE NCWA HAS A NUMBER OF ACTIVE EDUCATIONAL AND PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAMS GEARED TOWARD CHANGING SOCIAL ATTITUDES TOWARDS CHILD PROSTITUTION. A MAJOR COMPONENT OF THESE EFFORTS WAS THE LOBBYING FOR PASSAGE OF A BILL TO EXTEND COMPULSORY EDUCATION FROM SIX TO NINE YEARS, STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE PARLIAMENT.

3. THE MOST IMPORTANT ACHIEVEMENT OF THE COALITION OF NGO, WOMEN'S GROUPS, AND THE NCWA WAS THE PASSAGE OF THE NEW ANTI-PROSTITUTION LAW IN SEPTEMBER 1996. THE LAW WAS A SIGNIFICANT BREAKTHROUGH IN THE FIGHT AGAINST PROSTITUTION IN THAILAND. IT BROADENS THE DEFINITION OF PROSTITUTION TO MAKE ENFORCEMENT EASIER. FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE LAW TARGETS WITH JAIL TERMS CLIENTS, PROCURERS, MANAGERS OF PROSTITUTION ESTABLISHMENTS, AND THE FAMILIES THAT SELL THEIR CHILDREN INTO PROSTITUTION. THE LAW ALSO PROVIDES AN ALTERNATIVE TO JAIL TERMS OF REHABILITATION AT NGO OPERATED FACILITIES FOR WOMEN CONVICTED OF PROSTITUTION.

4. SPECIFIC PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY THE NCWA INCLUDE A PILOT PROJECT TO APPOINT FEMALE POLICE OFFICERS AS INVESTIGATORS IN LOCAL POLICE STATIONS AND TRAIN THEM TO HANDLE CRIMES OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND TRAINING COMMUNITY WORKERS AS FAMILY COUNSELORS IN RURAL AREAS. FUTURE PROJECTS INCLUDE ESTABLISHING A COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE EFFECT OF PORNOGRAPHY AND VIOLENCE IN THE MASS MEDIA ON WOMEN AND CHILDREN, DEVELOPING A STATISTICAL DATABASE ON GENDER ISSUES, AND DEVELOPING A CURRICULUM FOR FAMILY EDUCATION.

5. THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF THE OFFICIAL THAI DELEGATION SENT TO THE 4TH CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN BEIJING, 1995:

BEGIN TEXT:

DR. SAISUREE CHUTIKUL

CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATORIAL (HOUSE COMMITTEE) ON WOMEN, CHILDREN AND YOUTH, AND ELDERLY
ADVISOR TO THE OFFICE OF PERMANENT SECRETARY, PM'S
OFFICE ON WOMEN, CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT
ADVISOR AND MEMBER OF THE BOARD ON NATIONAL EDUCATION
COMMISSION

KHUNYING SUPATRA MASDIT

NEWLY ELECTED MP OF DEMOCRAT PARTY FROM NAKHORN SI
THAMMARAT
PRESIDENT OF NGOS MEETING AT THE WORLD CONFERENCE ON
WOMEN IN BEIJING

MRS. KIRANA SUMAWONG

SENATOR, SECOND VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATORIAL
COMMITTEE ON WOMEN, CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND THE ELDERLY
UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 BANGKOK 049550

WHITE HOUSE FOR NSC - A. SENS, S. KRISTOFF

MANILA FOR POL SECTION - PASS TO THERESA LOAR

STATE FOR BCLTV - C. RICH

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: SOCI, TH, OVIP

SUBJECT: WOMEN'S RIGHTS: PROGRESS IN THAILAND SINCE THE
BEIJING CONFERENCE

PROFESSOR MATTANI RATNIN

LECTURER AT FACULTY OF LIBERAL ARTS, THAMMASAT
UNIVERSITY
WELL KNOWN THEATER DIRECTOR

MRS. SRIWATTANA CHULAJATA

DIRECTOR OF WOMEN'S AFFAIRS DIVISION, OFFICE OF THE
PRIME MINISTER, RESPONSIBLE FOR INTER-AGENCY
COORDINATION ON WOMEN'S ISSUES

MRS. SIRIPORN SKROBANEK

SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE FOUNDATION FOR WOMEN AND
THE GLOBAL ALLIANCE AGAINST TRAFFIC IN WOMEN

COORDINATED A STUDY ON THE TRAFFICKING OF WOMEN ACROSS
THE BORDERS OF THAILAND AND CAMBODIA

COL. ASANEE SAOVAPAP

PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN OF THAILAND

MRS. RATCHANEE SUKONTTHAMAT

DIRECTOR OF THE WOMEN, CHILD AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, MINISTRY OF
INTERIOR

MRS. CHANTAWIPA APISUK

DIRECTOR OF NGO -- EDUCATION MEANS PROTECTION OF WOMEN
ENGAGED IN RECREATION (EMPOWER)

END TEXT

ITOH

IN RECREATION (EMPOWER)

END TEXT

ITOH

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 02

<^SECT>SECTION: 02 OF 02

SSN: 9550

<^SSN>9550

TOR: 961120053317 M2502344

<^TOR>961120053318 M2502345

DIST:

SIT: COQ HARMON JORDAN KRISTOFF LAKEA LORIN MALLEY PASSDOWN PRITCHARD

RAGAN SCHWARTZ SUETTINGER SUM SUM2 URIU

SIT: NSC

PRT: BASS BERGER DOHSE FUERTH HARMONPTR LAKE SENS SIT{C2} SODERBERG TRIP

Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: OAAUZYUW RUEHCAA2625 3272323-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: O 222323Z NOV 96
LINE4: FM SECSTATE WASHDC
OSRI: RUEHC
DTG: 222323Z NOV 96
ORIG: SECSTATE WASHDC
TO: RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 0000
INFO: RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE 0000
SUBJ: UNGA: RESOLUTION ON RIGHTS OF THE CHILD
TEXT:
UNCLAS STATE 242625

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: AORC, PHUM, KWMN, ABUD, UN
SUBJECT: UNGA: RESOLUTION ON RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

1. ASSUMING THERE ARE NO NEW PROGRAM BUDGET IMPLICATIONS, USUN IS INSTRUCTED TO JOIN CONSENSUS ON THE CHILD RIGHTS RESOLUTION BEFORE THE THIRD COMMITTEE. FOLLOWING IS LANGUAGE THAT SHOULD BE USED TO EXPLAIN OUR POSITION IN THE THIRD COMMITTEE. A STATEMENT REFLECTING THESE POINTS SHOULD BE USED FOR DELIVERY AT THE UNGA PRIMARY.

2. EXPLANATION OF OUR POSITION SHOULD MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS:

O AS NOTED IN OUR STATEMENT TO THE THIRD COMMITTEE ON NOVEMBER 12, THE U.S. IS A STRONG SUPPORTER OF EFFORTS TO PROTECT THE WORLD'S CHILDREN.

O AT THE UN, FOR EXAMPLE, WE SHOW THIS SUPPORT BY

CONTRIBUTING SIGNIFICANTLY MORE THAN ANY OTHER COUNTRY TO UNICEF'S GENERAL RESOURCES.

O MORE THAN HALF THE WORLD'S REFUGEES ARE CHILDREN. WE ARE UNHCR'S LARGEST DONOR.

O IT IS FOR THESE REASONS THAT WE ARE JOINING THE CONSENSUS ON THIS RESOLUTION.

O WE ALSO REAFFIRM OUR SUPPORT FOR RESOLUTIONS ON CHILDREN'S ISSUES THAT WE PREVIOUSLY AGREED TO IN OTHER FORA.

O CHANGES TO PREVIOUSLY AGREED TEXTS AND POSITIONS SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN ONLY AFTER THE MOST CAREFUL DELIBERATION.

WE ARE EXTREMELY CONCERNED THAT PORTIONS OF THIS RESOLUTION HAVE NOT RECEIVED THE BENEFIT OF SUCH CAREFUL DELIBERATION.

O FOR THIS REASON, THE U.S. IS NOT PREPARED TO ENDORSE THE REVISIONS TO UNCHR RESOLUTION 1996/85 OR PROVISIONS INCONSISTENT WITH THE LAWS AND CUSTOMS OF WAR THAT ARE CONTAINED IN THE RESOLUTION NOW BEFORE US. NOR DOES THE U.S. CHANGES IT POSITION -- AS ARTICULATED IN NUMEROUS INTERNATIONAL FORA -- REGARDING AGE SPECIFIC RESTRICTIONS ON RECRUITMENT INTO AND PARTICIPATION IN ARMED FORCES.

O VARIATIONS IN LANGUAGES FROM ONE FORUM TO ANOTHER SEND MIXED SIGNALS, CREATE CONFUSION IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, AND CAN BE USED TO UNDERMINE INTERNATIONAL NORMS. WE MUST STRIVE FOR CLEAR, CONSISTENT, AND CAREFULLY CONSIDERED RESOLUTIONS ON BEHALF OF THE WORLD'S CHILDREN.

O IN A SIMILAR VEIN, WE ADVISE CAUTION IN UNGA EFFORTS TO ADDRESS ISSUES OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW. WE DO NOT CONSIDER THE THIRD COMMITTEE OR THE UNGA PROPER FORA TO SPEARHEAD EFFORTS TO REWRITE THE LAWS AND CUSTOMS OF WAR.

O WE ARE DISAPPOINTED THAT THE COMMITTEE WAS UNRECEPTIVE TO FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THE IMPORTANT ISSUES COVERED IN THIS RESOLUTION. WE REGRET A PROCESS AND ATMOSPHERE THAT SEEMED AT ODDS WITH THE TRADITION OF SEEKING CONSENSUS IN THIS FORUM.

3. PARAGRAPH SPECIFIC POINTS FOLLOW:

OP4 - THIS LANGUAGE HAS EVOLVED FROM THAT PREVIOUSLY AGREED AT THE UN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS (UNCHR). THE DIRECTION OF CHANGE IMPLIES THAT STATES SHOULD NOT MAKE RESERVATIONS TO INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS. WE CAN ACCEPT LANGUAGE THAT DISCOURAGES RESERVATIONS CONTRARY TO THE OBJECT AND PURPOSE OF THE CONVENTION OR CONTRARY TO APPLICABLE INTERNATIONAL LEGAL NORMS. THE U.S. WILL NOT BE ABLE TO RATIFY THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (CRC) AND PROBABLY OTHER INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS UNLESS WE MAKE RESERVATIONS.

OPL7 - THE U.S. WELCOMES EFFORTS BY AFRICAN NATIONS TO REDUCE AND ELIMINATE THE PARTICIPATION OF CHILDREN IN COMBAT. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD WELCOME RESOLUTIONS WHICH CHARACTERIZE THE USE OF CHILDREN IN ARMED CONFLICT AS A WAR CRIME, OR WHICH ARE OTHERWISE INCONSISTENT WITH U.S. STATUTES, INTERNATIONAL LAW, THE LAW OF ARMED CONFLICT, OR PROVISIONS IN INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS TREATIES SUCH AS THE CRC. THE U.S. SIGNED THE CRC, ARTICLE 38(2) OF WHICH SETS AGE 15 AS THE RELEVANT MINIMUM AGE FOR DIRECT PARTICIPATION IN HOSTILITIES.

OP23 - WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT RECOMMENDATIONS SHOULD EXCEED OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE LAWS AND CUSTOMS OF WAR.

OP25 - WE BELIEVE THIS PARAGRAPH SHOULD HAVE BEEN MADE CONSISTENT WITH U.S. LAW, WHICH PERMITS 17-YEAR OLDS TO SERVE IN THE U.S. ARMED FORCES (WITH PARENTAL CONSENT). WE BELIEVE THE RESOLUTION SHOULD HAVE REFLECTED LANGUAGE CONSISTENT WITH ARTICLE 38(2) OF THE CRC, I.E., CHILDREN DEFINED AS 15 YEARS OF AGE OR YOUNGER.

OP28 - WE AGREE WITH THIS PARAGRAPH IN THE CONTEXT TO WHICH IT WAS AGREED AT THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN AND THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS CONFERENCE IN 1995. THAT CONTEXT MADE CLEAR THAT RAPE IN THE CONDUCT OF ARMED CONFLICT IS A WAR CRIME UNDER THE LAWS OF WAR.

OP3L - WE BELIEVE THE RESOLUTION SHOULD HAVE UTILIZED THE LANGUAGE ON SANCTIONS AGREED TO AT THE ICRC MEETING IN GENEVA LAST DECEMBER.

PP72 - THE U.S. STRONGLY SUPPORTS EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE EXPLOITATIVE FORMS OF CHILD LABOR. WE BELIEVE THAT CAMPAIGNS TO ELIMINATE ALL CHILD LABOR WOULD DISTRACT FROM EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE THE MOST EGREGIOUS ABUSES.

OP77 - THE U.S. SUPPORTS CALLS FOR COMPLIANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS WE HAVE RATIFIED. LANGUAGE AGREED TO AT THE UNCHR IS CONSISTENT WITH THAT APPROACH. WE CANNOT COMMIT THE USG TO COMPLY STRICTLY WITH CONVENTIONS WE HAVE NOT RATIFIED.

4. BASED ON THE CONCERNS EXEMPLIFIED ABOVE REGARDING THE EFFECT OF PROVISIONS IN SECTION II OF THE RESOLUTION ON THE PROGRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL LAW AND ON MATTERS PROPERLY DEALT WITH BY THE LAWS AND CUSTOMS OF WAR AND U.S. STATUTES, THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DISAGREES WITH THAT TEXT. DOD WOULD HAVE PREFERRED CALLING FOR A VOTE AND ABSTAINING. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF THE BREADTH OF THE RESOLUTION, IT WILL NOT OBJECT TO THE OVERRIDING POLICY CONSIDERATIONS THAT FAVOR JOINING CONSENSUS ON THE RESOLUTION AS A WHOLE.

TALBOTT

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 2625

TOR: 961122182908 M2508250

DIST:

SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: ROUTINE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: RAAUZYUW RUEHYDA8513 3311320-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: R 261320Z NOV 96
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
OSRI: RUEHYD
DTG: 261320Z NOV 96
ORIG: AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
TO: SECSTATE WASHDC 9501
INFO: ////
SUBJ: CAMEROON ON TRACK WITH FOLLOW-UP TO BEIJING
WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

TEXT:
UNCLAS YAOUNDE 008513

ALSO FOR G/SENIOR COORDINATOR FOR INT. WOMEN'S ISSUES

E.O. 12958:N/A
TAGS: PHUM, KWMN, EAID, CM
SUBJECT: CAMEROON ON TRACK WITH FOLLOW-UP TO BEIJING
WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

REF: A) YAOUNDE 08365 B) STATE 203286 C) YAOUNDE 4881

1. THE AMBASSADOR AND POLOFF MET WITH WILFRED MBELEM, SECRETARY GENERAL AT THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S AFFAIRS (MINASCOF), NOVEMBER 25 TO ASCERTAIN THE PROGRESS OF CAMEROON'S FOLLOW-UP PLAN TO THE BEIJING CONFERENCE (REF A). WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF US FUNDING FROM THE DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS FUND (DHRF) THE TECHNICAL PHASE OF THE ELABORATION OF A NATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN WILL TAKE PLACE DECEMBER 2 THROUGH 5 AT A CONFERENCE CENTER NEAR YAOUNDE.

2. MBELEM AND THREE OF HIS STAFF BRIEFED THE AMBASSADOR ON PROGRESS TOWARDS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMS IN THE KEY AREAS OF SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL ADVANCEMENT OF CAMEROONIAN WOMEN. THE SECRETARY GENERAL EMPHASIZED THAT CAMEROON HAS BEEN STEADILY MOVING TOWARDS REALIZING A NATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION SINCE THE Q5 WOMEN'S CONFERENCE IN NAQQ AN EXTENSIVE REPORT ON THE SITUATION OF WOMEN IN CAMEROON WAS SUBMITTED TO THE AFRICA-WIDE WOMEN'S CONFERENCE IN DAKAR NOVEMBER 1994 WHICH SERVED AS AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO AFRICA'S PRESENTATION AT THE BEIJING CONFERENCE. SINCE SEPTEMBER 1995 ACTION PLANS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AND, IN SOME CASES, ARE BEING IMPLEMENTED IN THE PROVINCES IN ADVANCE OF A COMPLETED

NATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION.

3. AS REPORTED REFTTEL C, MINASCOF HAS A THREE PHASE STRATEGY TO REALIZE THIS NATIONAL PLAN FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN:

- A) TO CONDUCT SEMINARS IN EACH OF CAMEROON'S TEN PROVINCES AND DRAW UP PROVINCIAL PLANS OF ACTION. THIS PHASE WAS ACCOMPLISHED BY DECEMBER 1995.
- B) TO SPONSOR A TECHNICAL SEMINAR WHICH WILL EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF THE PLANS AND PROJECTS PROPOSED BY THE PROVINCES AND INCORPORATE THEM INTO A NATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION. THIS SEMINAR IS SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 2 THROUGH 5.
- C) TO HOLD A NATIONAL CONFERENCE IN YAOUNDE TO LAUNCH THE "POLITICAL PHASE" THROUGH WHICH THE NATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION WILL BE WIDELY DISSEMINATED, DISCUSSED, AND EVENTUALLY ADOPTED AS NATIONAL POLICY.

4. THE SECRETARY GENERAL TOLD THE AMBASSADOR AND POLOFF THAT CURRENTLY THE WORKING DOCUMENT FOR THE NATIONAL PLAN CONTAINS OVER 200 PAGES WITH INPUT FROM THE TEN PROVINCES, TWENTY-TWO MINISTRIES AND MOST MAJOR SECTORS INCLUDING THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN:

- RURAL DEVELOPMENT
- HEALTH AND NUTRITION
- ENVIRONMENT
- EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT
- COMMUNICATION
- LEGISLATION

APPROXIMATELY 50 EXPERTS WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE TECHNICAL WORKSHOP TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF THE PROPOSALS IN THE WORKING DOCUMENT AND PULL THEM INTO A COHERENT PLAN. THIS PLAN WILL THEN BE PRESENTED TO THE NATION AT A LARGER CONFERENCE WITH AS MANY AS 200 PARTICIPANTS. MBELEM EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT THE PLAN MAY EVENTUALLY BE ADOPTED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AS POLICY.

5. THE DECEMBER TECHNICAL SEMINAR AND PREPARATION OF THE FINAL DOCUMENT IS BEING PARTIALLY FINANCED BY THE US THROUGH AN FY-96 DHRF GRANT. ACCORDING TO AN EMBASSY SOURCE THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE, TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 1997, WILL IN LARGE PART BE FINANCED BY THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (UNDP) AND UNICEF.

TWINING

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 8513

TOR: 961126083957 M2512211

DIST:

SIT: JORDAN LORIN MALLEY MCCORMICK RAGAN RICE SCHWARTZ SCOTT

SIT: NSC

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LINE1: RAAUZYUW RUCNDTA4557 3401604-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
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OSRI: RUCNDT
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TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7473
INFO: RUEHNT/AMEMBASSY TASHKENT 1065
RUEHAR/AMEMBASSY ACCRA 0909
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 2179
RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS 3726
RUEHKI/AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 0570
RUEHYD/AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 0235
RUEHWD/AMEMBASSY WINDHOEK 0514
RUEHUB/USINT HAVANA 0595
RUSBPW/AMCONSUL PESHAWAR 0139
RUEHKI/AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 0571
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 3509
RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 2539
RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA 0489
RUEHOS/AMEMBASSY LAGOS 1231
RUEHKH/AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM 0659
RUEHGO/AMEMBASSY RANGOON 0354
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO 3793
RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON 1216
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 0660
RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA 0511
RUEHBD/AMEMBASSY BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN 0449
RUEHHI/AMEMBASSY HANOI
RUEHGT/AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA 0814
RUEHJB/AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA 0940
RUEHVJ/AMEMBASSY SARAJEVO 1318
RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE 3564
RUEHGT/AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA 0815
RUEHZP/AMEMBASSY PANAMA 0341
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 6169
RUEHMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 0792
RUEHMU/AMEMBASSY MANAGUA 0523
RUEHAH/AMEMBASSY ASHGABAT 0779
RUEHVEN/USMISSION USVIENNA 6533
RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 1628
RUEHTH/AMEMBASSY ATHENS 2837
RUEHLE/AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG 0389
RUEHKL/AMEUBASSY KUALA LUMPUR 1268
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 2362
RUEHDB/AMEMBASSY DUSHANBE 0703
RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 1815
RUEHBE/AMEMBASSY BELIZE 0375
RUEHKG/AMEMBASSY KINGSTON 0753

RUEHGG/UN SECURITY COUNCIL COLLECTIVE
 RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 3956
 RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM 0984
 RUEHBQ/AMEMBASSY BISSAU 0532
 RUEHBU/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 1276
 RUEHRH/AMEMBASSY RIYADH 1266
 RUEHDL/AMEMBASSY DUBLIN 0254

SUBJ: UNGA: TEXT OF AMBASSADOR ALBRIGHT'S SPEECH ON

TEXT: UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 07 USUN NEW YORK 004557

E.O.12958: N/A

TAGS: AORC, UN, PHUM

SUBJECT: UNGA: TEXT OF AMBASSADOR ALBRIGHT'S SPEECH ON
 HUMAN RIGHTS

1. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR
 MADELEINE K. ALBRIGHT, UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE TO
 THE UNITED NATIONS, IN THE THIRD COMMITTEE ON HUMAN
 RIGHTS SITUATIONS AND REPORTS, NOVEMBER 21, 1996.

BEGIN TEXT: MADAM CHAIR, THE TWENTIETH CENTURY DAWNED
 IN HOPE AMIDST A GENERAL CLIMATE OF PEACE AND STARTLING
 TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE. DIPLOMATS GATHERED AT THE HAGUE
 WERE EXPANDING THE SCOPE OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN
 LAW. AMBITIOUS PROPOSALS FOR COLLECTIVE SECURITY WERE
 COMING INTO VOGUE. AND EDITORIAL WRITERS WERE
 PREDICTING AN ERA OF UNPRECEDENTED PEACE AND GOODWILL.

THERE FOLLOWED THE BLOODIEST CENTURY IN HUMAN HISTORY.

TODAY, WE, TOO, ARE PREPARING FOR A NEW CENTURY.

WE, TOO, LIVE IN AN ERA OF RELATIVE PEACE AND RAPID
 TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCE.

WE, TOO, HAVE REASON FOR HOPE.

BUT IF WE ARE TO AVOID A NEW CENTURY AS FILLED WITH
 DISAPPOINTMENT AS THE PAST, WE MUST WORK TOGETHER TO
 BUILD AND MAINTAIN ELEMENTARY STANDARDS OF RIGHT AND
 WRONG.

THAT MEANS WE MUST ENCOURAGE EVERY NATION TO LIVE UP TO
 ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE UN CHARTER AND THE UNIVERSAL
 DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS.
 AS WE ASSEMBLE THIS YEAR, WE ARE AWARE OF MUCH GOOD NEWS.

IN GUATEMALA, A STRONG NEW GOVERNMENT HAS EMBARKED ON A
 CAMPAIGN TO COMBAT IMPUNITY, FIGHT CORRUPTION, IMPROVE
 RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND BRING TO A NEGOTIATED END
 THE HEMISPHERE'S LONGEST ONGOING CIVIL CONFLICT.

AROUND THE WORLD, FORWARD-LOOKING NATIONS ON EVERY
 CONTINENT ARE STRIVING TO IMPLEMENT THE PLATFORM FOR
 ACTION ADOPTED BY THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN.

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 07 USUN NEW YORK 004557

E.O.12958: N/A

TAGS: AORC, UN, PHUM

SUBJECT: UNGA: TEXT OF AMBASSADOR ALBRIGHT'S SPEECH ON HUMAN RIGHTS

AND THE WELCOME TREND TOWARDS MORE OPEN ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL SYSTEMS HAS CONTINUED. DURING THE PAST TWO DECADES, THE NUMBER OF DEMOCRATIC NATIONS HAS MORE THAN TRIPLED. THIS YEAR ALONE, MORE THAN ONE BILLION PEOPLE HAVE GONE TO THE POLLS.

UNFORTUNATELY, THE DEMOCRATIC TREND IS NOT UNIVERSAL. MANY GOVERNMENTS CONTINUE TO RELY FOR THEIR AUTHORITY NOT ON POPULAR CONSENT BUT ON COERCION. BURMA IS ONE EXAMPLE.

HERE, THE AUTHORITIES HAVE THEIR OWN VERSION OF REALITY. THEY CLAIM THEIR OPPONENTS ARE INSPIRED BY OUTSIDERS, WHEN IN FACT THE OPPOSITION IS INDIGENOUS AND DEEPLY PATRIOTIC. THEY CLAIM THEIR CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION IS DEMOCRATIC WHEN, IN FACT, IT IS A SHAM--FULLY CONTROLLED AND ORCHESTRATED BY THE GOVERNMENT. THEY CLAIM TO BE FIGHTING ILLEGAL NARCOTICS, WHEN, IN FACT, THE MILITARY HAS TURNED A BLIND EYE TO THE PRODUCTION AND TRAFFICKING OF DRUGS.

TODAY, THERE IS IN BURMA A KIND OF ROLLING REPRESSION THAT EBBS AND FLOWS. EACH LITTLE OPENING IS SUCCEEDED BY A CRACKDOWN. THE GOVERNMENT HAS PREVENTED AUNG SAN SUU KYI AND THE NATIONAL LEAGUE FOR DEMOCRACY FROM CONVENING A PARTY CONGRESS. THE NOBEL PRIZEWINNER HAS OFTEN BEEN PROHIBITED FROM SPEAKING PUBLICLY. AND EARLIER THIS MONTH, SHE WAS HARASSED BY THUGS WHO COULD NOT HAVE ACTED WITHOUT OFFICIAL SUPPORT.

LAST SUMMER, THE SLORC ISSUED A DECREE THREATENING PRISON TERMS OF UP TO 20 YEARS FOR ANYONE WHO UNDERMINES THE STATE OR CRITICIZES THE EFFORT TO DRAFT A NEW CONSTITUTION. IT IS HARD TO IMAGINE A MORE REPRESSIVE LAW.

ACCORDINGLY, MY GOVERNMENT WILL URGE THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THIS YEAR TO EXPRESS ITS STRONG SUPPORT FOR DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN BURMA. THE ASSEMBLY SHOULD CALL FOR A GENUINE DEMOCRATIC DIALOGUE, FOR FREE UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 07 USUN NEW YORK 004557

E.O.12958: N/A

TAGS: AORC, UN, PHUM

SUBJECT: UNGA: TEXT OF AMBASSADOR ALBRIGHT'S SPEECH ON HUMAN RIGHTS

ASSEMBLY AND FREE SPEECH, FOR THE RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS AND FOR AN END TO FORCED RE-LOCATIONS, FORCED LABOR AND FORCED PORTERAGE.

IRAQ IS ANOTHER COUNTRY WHERE VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS HAVE BEEN WIDESPREAD, CONSISTENT AND GROSS.

SADDAM HUSSEIN'S GOVERNMENT IS THE MOST BRUTAL AND LAWLESS ON EARTH. IT DOES NOT HESITATE TO TORTURE AND TERRORIZE THE IRAQI PEOPLE, SUPPRESS CIVIL AND RELIGIOUS DISSENT, INTERFERE WITH THE DELIVERY OF HUMANITARIAN RELIEF AND MURDER THOSE SUSPECTED OF OPPOSING SADDAM'S CONTINUED RULE.

UNFORTUNATELY, IRAQ IS NOT THE ONLY GROSS VIOLATOR OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE REGION.

WHILE VISITING IRAN IN FEBRUARY, THE UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE HEARD REPORTS OF TORTURE, SUMMARY EXECUTION, ARBITRARY DETENTION, ABSENCE OF DUE PROCESS, AND SUPPRESSION OF CIVIL LIBERTIES AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

THE UNITED STATES CALLS UPON AUTHORITIES IN BOTH IRAQ AND IRAN TO CEASE REPRESSING THEIR PEOPLE, STOP SUPPORTING INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM, AND MOVE TOWARDS MORE OPEN AND FREE SOCIETIES.

THE GOVERNMENT OF SUDAN IS ALSO AN EGREGIOUS VIOLATOR OF INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED HUMAN RIGHTS.

OVER THE PAST YEAR, NOT MUCH HAS CHANGED. REPORTS CONTINUE OF TORTURE, SLAVERY, ARBITRARY ARREST, RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION AND INTERFERENCE WITH HUMANITARIAN RELIEF.

A MAJOR CAUSE OF ABUSE IS SUDAN'S CIVIL WAR. BOTH SIDES ARE TO BLAME, BUT THE GOVERNMENT MERITS PARTICULAR CENSURE FOR ITS INDISCRIMINATE BOMBING OF CIVILIANS AND ITS REPORTED USE OF CLUSTER BOMBS.

UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 07 USUN NEW YORK 004557

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TAGS: AORC, UN, PHUM

SUBJECT: UNGA: TEXT OF AMBASSADOR ALBRIGHT'S SPEECH ON HUMAN RIGHTS

MY GOVERNMENT WELCOMES SUDAN'S WILLINGNESS TO ALLOW THE UN SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR TO VISIT. WE URGE NOW THAT THE RAPPORTEUR'S RECOMMENDATIONS BE FULLY IMPLEMENTED, AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT DO ALL IT CAN TO BRING THE ARMED CONFRONTATION TO A PEACEFUL END.

IN NIGERIA, THE GOVERNMENT HAS PROMISED A TRANSITION TO DEMOCRACY AND INCREASED RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. THESE PROMISES ARE WELCOME, BUT THEY HAVE NOT YET BEEN FULFILLED.

ALTHOUGH AN ELECTORAL PROCESS HAS BEGUN, IT IS BEING MANIPULATED TO LIMIT THE PARTICIPATION OF OPPOSITION PARTIES. INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPERS HAVE RESUMED PUBLISHING, BUT JOURNALISTS HAVE BEEN HARASSED. A UN FACT-FINDING TEAM WAS ALLOWED INTO NIGERIA, BUT SPECIAL RAPPORTEURS WERE NOT. WELCOME RELEASES OF POLITICAL

PRISONERS HAVE OCCURRED, BUT MORE THAN 100 INDIVIDUALS ARE STILL DETAINED, FOR ESSENTIALLY POLITICAL REASONS, INCLUDING CHIEF M.K.O. ABIOLA, THE PRESUMED WINNER OF THE 1993 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS.

THE UNITED STATES CALLS UPON NIGERIA TO IMPLEMENT A COMPREHENSIVE AND CREDIBLE TRANSITION TO DEMOCRACY, AND TO MAINTAIN SECURITY WITHOUT RUNNING ROUGHSHOD OVER BASIC HUMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS.

IN CHINA, THE UNITED STATES REMAINS CONCERNED ABOUT ACTIONS THAT RESTRAIN THE PEACEFUL EXPRESSION OF DISSENTING VIEWS, INCLUDING THE SENTENCING OF PROMINENT DISSIDENTS. AS SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER NOTED, DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO CHINA HE RAISED THE FULL RANGE OF OUR CONCERNS WITH LEADERS THERE, INCLUDING THE DETENTION OF THOSE WHO EXPRESSED THEIR VIEWS PEACEFULLY, ALONG WITH THE SITUATION IN TIBET. THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE TO SPEAK OUT IN THE AREA OF HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES INVOLVING CHINA IN THE FUTURE.

CLOSER TO HOME, IN CUBA, THE UNITED STATES REMAINS CONCERNED ABOUT THE LACK OF DEMOCRACY AND RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS.

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E.O.12958: N/A

TAGS: AORC, UN, PHUM

SUBJECT: UNGA: TEXT OF AMBASSADOR ALBRIGHT'S SPEECH ON HUMAN RIGHTS

WE WERE PARTICULARLY CRITICAL THIS PAST YEAR OF THE REGIME'S CRACKDOWN ON THE GROUP "CONCILIO CUBANO" FOR ATTEMPTING TO ORGANIZE A CONFERENCE ON DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS. MORE THAN 140 PEOPLE WERE ARRESTED, AND THEY AND THEIR FAMILIES HAVE BEEN SUBJECT TO CONTINUAL SURVEILLANCE AND HARASSMENT.

FOR CUBA TO PROSPER AND GROW, ITS GOVERNMENT MUST PERMIT DEMOCRATIC CHANGE. MY GOVERNMENT WOULD WELCOME SUCH CHANGE AND WE WILL CONTINUE WORKING WITH OTHER FREE NATIONS TO ENCOURAGE IT.

MADAM CHAIR, THE GREATEST CAUSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IS WAR. AND IN OUR ERA, CONFLICTS ARE OFTEN WITHIN COUNTRIES, RATHER THAN BETWEEN THEM.

IN CENTRAL AFRICA, TENSIONS BETWEEN ETHNIC TUTSIS AND HUTUS HAVE PRE-OCCUPIED THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY FOR SEVERAL YEARS. THE RECENT REPATRIATION OF REFUGEES FROM EASTERN ZAIRE INTO RWANDA IS A VERY WELCOME DEVELOPMENT. BEYOND THE IMMEDIATE PROBLEM OF CARING FOR THOSE REFUGEES, HOWEVER, NUMEROUS PROBLEMS REMAIN.

THE UNITED STATES IS COMMITTED TO WORKING WITH REGIONAL AND NATIONAL LEADERS, AND WITH OTHER CONCERNED GOVERNMENTS, TO ENCOURAGE RWANDAN REFUGEES WHO HAVE NOT YET REPATRIATED TO DO SO. WE NOTE WITH RESPECT THE

RWANDAN GOVERNMENT'S PLEDGE TO ENSURE THAT THE RIGHTS AND SECURITY OF THOSE REFUGEES, AND OTHER ETHNIC HUTUS, ARE RESPECTED. AND WE HOPE THAT THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY WILL HELP RWANDA NOT ONLY TO FULFILL THAT PLEDGE, BUT TO RESOLVE WITH DUE PROCESS THE MANY CRIMINAL CASES PENDING FROM THE 1994 GENOCIDE.

HUMAN RIGHTS ALSO REMAIN A MAJOR CONCERN IN BURUNDI, WHERE THE SECURITY FORCES CONTINUE TO COMMIT ABUSES, AS DO ETHNIC MILITIAS AND REBEL GROUPS.

IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT THE GOVERNMENT RECENTLY UNCLAS SECTION 06 OF 07 USUN NEW YORK 004557

E.O.12958: N/A

TAGS: AORC, UN, PHUM

SUBJECT: UNGA: TEXT OF AMBASSADOR ALBRIGHT'S SPEECH ON HUMAN RIGHTS

ACKNOWLEDGED RESPONSIBILITY FOR A MASSACRE OF 48 CIVILIANS AND PROMISED TO HOLD THE PERPETRATORS ACCOUNTABLE. THIS IS A VERY POSITIVE STEP, AND WE URGE MAJOR BUYOYA AND THE BURUNDIAN ARMY TO SEE THAT JUSTICE IS DONE.

IN THE BALKANS, THE DAYTON AGREEMENT WAS DESIGNED TO SAFEGUARD THE RIGHTS OF ALL BOSNIANS, REGARDLESS OF ETHNICITY. IMPLEMENTATION HAS BEEN STEADY, BUT SLOW. WE URGE THE PARTIES TO PERSIST IN MAKING REAL THE PROMISES OF THE AGREEMENT. AND WE ASK ALL NATIONS TO COOPERATE WITH THE WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL, BOTH IN FORMER YUGOSLAVIA AND RWANDA.

ANOTHER COUNTRY AFFECTED BY CIVIL CONFLICT IS AFGHANISTAN. HERE, AS ELSEWHERE, HUMAN RIGHTS HAVE BEEN ABUSED BY VIRTUALLY EVERY PARTY TO THE FIGHTING. WOMEN AND GIRLS HAVE BEEN PARTICULARLY VICTIMIZED, NOT ONLY BY THE VIOLENCE BUT BY THE DRACONIAN SOCIAL DECREES ISSUED BY THE TALIBAN, ONE OF THE MAJOR FACTIONS INVOLVED.

WE CALL UPON ALL AFGHAN GROUPS TO RESPECT BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS REGARDLESS OF GENDER, ETHNICITY OR RELIGION. MOREOVER, AN END TO THE FIGHTING IS CRITICAL. THIS WAR IS SENSELESSLY PROLONGING THE AGONY OF THE AFGHAN PEOPLE. AS THE FORMER SOVIET UNION LEARNED THE HARD WAY, AFGHANS CAN BE FEROCIOUS AND DETERMINED FIGHTERS; THEIR PHYSICAL COURAGE IS UNQUESTIONED. WHAT IS REQUIRED NOW IS THE BEGIN UNDERLINE MORAL END UNDERLINE COURAGE NEEDED TO END THE FIGHTING AND ESTABLISH A BROAD-BASED GOVERNMENT. TO THAT END, BOTH THIS ORGANIZATION AND MANY MEMBER STATES STAND READY TO HELP.

MADAM CHAIR, THE GREATEST DIVIDE IN THE WORLD TODAY IS NOT BETWEEN EAST AND WEST, NORTH AND SOUTH, OR RIGHT AND LEFT; IT IS BETWEEN THOSE ENSNARED BY THE HABITS AND HATREDS OF THE PAST AND THOSE STRIVING TO BUILD THE FUTURE.

ACCORDINGLY, MY GOVERNMENT APPEALS TO ALL GOVERNMENTS:
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TAGS: AORC, UN, PHUM
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HUMAN RIGHTS

LET US EACH RECOGNIZE THE UNBREAKABLE LINK BETWEEN HUMAN
DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN FREEDOM.

LET US EACH FULFILL THE COMMITMENTS MADE IN THE UN
CHARTER.

LET US EACH ABIDE BY THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN
RIGHTS.

LET US EACH RESPECT THE DIGNITY OF OUR CITIZENS.
AND, IN SO DOING, LET US EACH MEET OUR SHARED
RESPONSIBILITY TO THE FUTURE AND TO THE CHILDREN WHOSE
INHERITANCE WE HOLD IN SACRED AND SOLEMN TRUST. END TEXT.
ALBRIGHT

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RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 1252

INFO: ////

SUBJ: REPORT ON SIXTH CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF HEADS
OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE AMERICAS AND VISIT OF
FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

TEXT:

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 05 LA PAZ 007497

AIDAC

SECSTATE FOR A/USAID, AA/LAC, LAC/SAM; DEPARTMENT FOR
ARA AND US/OAS

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: REPORT ON SIXTH CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF HEADS
OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE AMERICAS AND VISIT OF
FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

1. SUMMARY. THE SIXTH CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF HEADS OF
STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE AMERICAS WAS HELD IN LA
PAZ, BOLIVIA, DECEMBER 3-6, 1996, AND INCLUDED THE
PARTICIPATION OF FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON.
THE THEME OF THE CONFERENCE WAS QUOTE THE RIGHTS OF
WOMEN AND CHILDREN WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF SUSTAINABL
HUMAN DEVELOPMENT UNQUOTE. MRS. CLINTON'S
PARTICIPATION WAS INSPIRATIONAL TO ALL CONFERENCE
DELEGATES AND CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUBSTANTIVE FOCUS OF
THE CONFERENCE. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THIS SERIES OF
FIRST LADIES' CONFERENCES A PROGRESS REPORT ON THE
STATUS OF COMMITMENTS MADE IN PRIOR CONFERENCES WAS
INCLUDED IN THE AGENDA TO ASSIST IN THE PROCESS OF
FOLLOW-UP AND TO HELP INSTITUTIONALIZE THESE EVENTS.
ON THE MARGINS OF THE CONFERENCE, MRS. CLINTON
WITNESSED THE SIGNING OF A \$2.25 MILLION USAID GRANT
TO THE PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION (PAHO) TO
IMPROVE EMERGENCY OBSTETRICAL CARE IN THE AMERICAS.
AN IMPORTANT MICRONUTRIENT INITIATIVE WAS ALSO
STIMULATED BY THE CONFERENCE. THE FINAL DECLARATION
OF THE CONFERENCE PROVIDES A STRONG AFFIRMATION OF THE
RIGHTS OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN AND REITERATES THEIR

COMMITMENT TO REDUCED MATERNAL MORTALITY, IMPROVED EDUCATION, ELIMINATION OF MEASLES IN THE AMERICAS BY THE YEAR 2000, AND REDUCTION OF INTRAFAMILY VIOLENCE. COVERAGE OF THE CONFERENCE LED IN ALL LOCAL MEDIA AND WAS COMPREHENSIVE AND POSITIVE THROUGHOUT (QUOTE MRS. CLINTON STEALS THE SHOW UNQUOTE). END SUMMARY.

2. HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON LED THE U.S. DELEGATION TO LA PAZ, BOLIVIA, DECEMBER 3-4 FOR THE SIXTH CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE AMERICAS. THE CONFERENCE CONTINUED THROUGH DECEMBER 6 AFTER MRS. CLINTON DEPARTED. MRS. CLINTON WAS ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR BABBITT (U.S. PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE OAS), WHO TOOK OVER AS CHAIRPERSON OF THE DELEGATION AND OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FIRST LADY TO THE CONFERENCE ON HER DEPARTURE; MARK SCHNEIDER, USAID ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN; MARIA OTERO, CHAIRPERSON OF THE INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION; DONNA MCLARTY, SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FIRST LADY; MELANNE VERVEER, DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF FOR MRS. CLINTON; NICOLE RABNER, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO MRS. CLINTON; AND LILIANA AYALDE, DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE FOR CENTRAL AMERICA, USAID WASHINGTON. USAID/BOLIVIA ASSUMED PRIME RESPONSIBILITY FOR ORGANIZING AND PREPARING MRS. CLINTON'S VISIT AND PROVIDED TECHNICAL AND LOGISTIC SUPPORT TO THE U.S. DELEGATION.

3. OUTSIDE THE CONFERENCE MRS. CLINTON VISITED A CLINIC IN LA PAZ RUN BY PROSALUD, A LOCAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION THAT MANAGES A NETWORK OF 28 COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS SERVING 350,000 PEOPLE IN FOUR REGIONS OF BOLIVIA. STARTED IN 1985 WITH USAID ASSISTANCE, PROSALUD HAS BECOME AN INTERNATIONALLY REPLICATED MODEL FOR COST RECOVERY AND SELF-FINANCING PRIMARY HEALTH CARE DELIVERY. IT EXERTS A STRONG MARKET INFLUENCE ON THE PRICING STRUCTURE OF THE ENTIRE BOLIVIAN HEALTH SECTOR AND MAKES HIGH QUALITY SERVICES AFFORDABLE TO POOR PEOPLE NATIONWIDE. MRS. CLINTON VISITED WITH PROSALUD STAFF AND CLIENTS, AND OBSERVED WHILE STAFF PRESENTED A PRENATAL CLASS FOR A GROUP OF PREGNANT WOMEN. SHE TALKED WITH THESE MOTHERS AND OTHER PROSALUD CLIENTS, AND ASKED THEM QUESTIONS ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCES WITH PROSALUD AND THEIR HEALTH CARE PRACTICES.

4. MRS. CLINTON ALSO VISITED BANCOSOL, A 33-BRANCH USAID-ASSISTED BANK THAT OFFERS MICROFINANCE SERVICES TO THE POOR. SHE MET SOME OF BANCOSOL'S CLIENTS AT A LA PAZ BRANCH OFFICE AND IN A WALK THROUGH A LOCAL

MARKET NEARBY. SHE TOOK PART IN A LIVELY INTERCHANGE WITH THE CLIENTS, IN WHICH THEY DESCRIBED BANCOSOL'S POSITIVE IMPACT ON THEIR BUSINESSES AND THEIR FAMILIES. BANCOSOL HAS A \$7 MILLION EQUITY BASE, WHICH IT HAS LEVERAGED TO A \$40 MILLION OUTSTANDING LOAN PORTFOLIO. ITS AVERAGE LOAN IS \$660 AND IT SERVES 70,000 CLIENTS, ABOUT THE SAME NUMBER OF PEOPLE

SERVED BY THE REST OF BOLIVIA'S BANKS COMBINED. ITS THREE PERCENT DELINQUENCY RATE IS WELL BELOW THE NATIONAL AVERAGE AND EXCELLENT BY INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS.

5. MRS. CLINTON ALSO ADDRESSED U.S. EMBASSY AND USAID STAFF, PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF, AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY AT USAID/BOLIVIA OFFICES. SHE PRESENTED AMERICAN AMBASSADOR CURTIS UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 05 LA PAZ 007497

AIDAC

SECSTATE FOR A/USAID, AA/LAC, LAC/SAM; DEPARTMENT FOR ARA AND US/OAS

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: REPORT ON SIXTH CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE AMERICAS AND VISIT OF FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

KAMMAN WITH AN AWARD RECOGNIZING HIS THIRTY-FIVE YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. IN HER FORMAL REMARKS, SHE PRAISED THE WORK OF THE ENTIRE U.S. COMMUNITY IN BOLIVIA, PARTICULARLY NOTING USAID'S DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS AND PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS' COMMUNITY WORK IN THE CONTEXT OF THE OVERALL U.S. MISSION EFFORTS COORDINATED BY THE EMBASSY.

6. ON THE EVENING OF DECEMBER 3, MRS. CLINTON ADDRESSED THE INAUGURAL SESSION OF THE FIRST CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE AMERICAS. SHE EMPHASIZED THE LINKAGE BETWEEN DEMOCRACY, HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, AND THE FULL PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN PUBLIC LIFE. SHE POINTED OUT THAT ALL OVER THE WORLD, PEOPLE ARE RECOGNIZING THAT ELEVATING THE STATUS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SOCIETY IS ESSENTIAL TO PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY, AND SHE POINTED TO RECENT PROGRESS IN THIS HEMISPHERE. SHE CONGRATULATED WESTERN HEMISPHERE GOVERNMENTS FOR ADDRESSING THE PROBLEM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE. MRS. CLINTON ALSO URGED LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES TO DO MORE TO REDUCE MATERNAL MORTALITY, EMPHASIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF FAMILY PLANNING TO REDUCE UNSAFE ABORTION. SHE MADE THE LINK BETWEEN IMPROVING GIRLS' AND WOMEN'S EDUCATIONAL STATUS AND HEALTHIER FAMILIES AND STRONG DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENTS. FINALLY, SHE CONGRATULATED BOLIVIA ON ITS INITIATIVES TO ATTACK MATERNAL MORTALITY AND IMPROVE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH THROUGH FAMILY PLANNING. THE SPEECH WAS VERY WELL RECEIVED AND REPORTED ON EXTENSIVELY IN THE BOLIVIAN PRESS.

7. MRS. CLINTON ALSO SPOKE AT THE OPENING PLENARY WORK SESSION ON THREE AREAS OF CONCERN DISCUSSED AT THE SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS AND THE LAST FIRST LADIES CONFERENCE IN PARAGUAY: THE ELIMINATION OF MEASLES

FROM THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE, EDUCATIONAL REFORM, AND MATERNAL MORTALITY REDUCTION. SHE HIGHLIGHTED PROGRESS MADE IN MEASLES ERADICATION AND PLEDGED CONTINUED U.S. GOVERNMENT SUPPORT TO THE EFFORT. SECONDLY, MRS. CLINTON POINTED OUT THAT THE AMERICAN REGION LAGS BEHIND OTHER REGIONS IN THE PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN THAT COMPLETE PRIMARY SCHOOL RELATIVE TO GDP. SHE HIGHLIGHTED THE U.S. CONTRIBUTION TO THE PARTNERSHIP FOR EDUCATION REVITALIZATION IN THE AMERICAS (PERA) PROJECT, ANNOUNCED ADDITIONAL SUPPORT, AND HIGHLIGHTED ENCOURAGING PROGRESS IN A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES IN THE REGION. SHE FURTHER TIED THE PROMOTION OF EDUCATIONAL REFORM TO STRENGTHENING DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AND VALUES THROUGHOUT THE AMERICAS. FINALLY, MRS. CLINTON PRESENTED THE CHALLENGE TO REDUCE MATERNAL MORTALITY IN THE REGION. SHE HIGHLIGHTED THE CRITICAL ROLES THAT VOLUNTARY FAMILY PLANNING AND IMPROVED OBSTETRICAL CARE CAN PLAY IN THIS EFFORT, AND ANNOUNCED THE SIGNING OF A USAID GRANT TO PAHO TO IMPROVE EMERGENCY OBSTETRICAL CARE IN A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES IN THE REGION. MANY DELEGATES AND OBSERVERS ATTRIBUTED THE CONSTRUCTIVE RESULTS OF THE CONFERENCE TO THE VISION AND POSITIVE TONE SET AT THE BEGINNING BY MRS. CLINTON'S REMARKS.

8. MRS. CLINTON AND MRS. XIMENA SANCHEZ DE LOZADA, FIRST LADY OF BOLIVIA, THEN WITNESSED THE SIGNING OF A \$2.25 MILLION GRANT BY USAID TO THE PAN AMERICAN HEALTH ORGANIZATION (PAHO) TO IMPROVE EMERGENCY OBSTETRICAL CARE IN THE AMERICAS. MRS. CLINTON EXPLAINED THAT IMPROVING OBSTETRICAL CARE IS A KEY ELEMENT IN THE REGIONAL MATERNAL MORTALITY REDUCTION STRATEGY. THE GRANT IS PART OF A \$4.5 MILLION USAID PROGRAM DESIGNED TO SUPPORT THE REGIONAL STRATEGY, ENDORSED AT THE FIFTH CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE AMERICAS HELD IN ASUNCION PARAGUAY, LAST YEAR. THE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED BY MARK SCHNEIDER, ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN FOR USAID, AND DR. JOAO YUNES, THE PAHO DIRECTOR'S REPRESENTATIVE. AMBASSADOR KAMMAN, USAID BOLIVIA DIRECTOR, FRANK ALMAGUER, AND PAHO BOLIVIA DIRECTOR, DR. CARLOS LINGER WERE ALSO WITNESSES TO THE SIGNING.

9. UPON MRS. CLINTON'S DEPARTURE, AMBASSADOR BABBITT TOOK OVER AS MRS. CLINTON'S REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CONFERENCE AND PARTICIPATED IN THE AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSION ON EDUCATION AND INTRODUCED TO THE PARTICIPANTS PETER HAKIM, DIRECTOR OF INTERAMERICAN DIALOGUE. HIS ORGANIZATION WILL IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM OF EDUCATION REVITALIZATION IN THE AMERICAS (PERA) PROJECT, A \$6 MILLION USAID PROJECT TO FACILITATE THE UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 05 LA PAZ 007497

AIDAC

SECSTATE FOR A/USAID, AA/LAC, LAC/SAM; DEPARTMENT FOR ARA AND US/OAS

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SUBJECT: REPORT ON SIXTH CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE AMERICAS AND VISIT OF FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON EDUCATION REFORM, BILINGUAL EDUCATION, TEACHER TRAINING, AND OTHER INNOVATIONS THAT CAN IMPROVE EDUCATION THROUGHOUT THE AMERICAS.

10. THE CONFERENCE DEVOTED THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, TO INTENSIVE WORK SESSIONS ON CHILDREN'S RIGHTS, INTRAFAMILY VIOLENCE, AND WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN AREAS OF POWER AND DECISION MAKING. A HALF HOUR AFTER PRESIDENT CLINTON ANNOUNCED AMBASSADOR MADELINE ALBRIGHT'S NOMINATION AS SECRETARY OF STATE, AMBASSADOR BABBITT REPORTED THE ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS, WHO RESPONDED WITH CHEERS.

11. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THIS SERIES OF FIRST LADIES' CONFERENCES A PROGRESS REPORT ON THE STATUS OF COMMITMENTS MADE IN PRIOR CONFERENCES WAS MADE TO ASSIST IN THE PROCESS OF FOLLOW-UP AND TO HELP INSTITUTIONALIZE THESE EVENTS. IN PREPARING FOR THE PRESENTATION OF A PROPOSAL AT THE CONFERENCE TO REDUCE MICRONUTRIENT MALNUTRITION IN THE REGION, BOLIVIA'S PRESIDENT ISSUED A DECREE TO REQUIRE THE FORTIFICATION OF CERTAIN COMMON FOODS WITH ESSENTIAL MICRONUTRIENTS. THIS INITIATIVE HAS GREAT POTENTIAL FOR ADDRESSING THE MICRONUTRIENT MALNUTRITION PROBLEM IN BOLIVIA, AND MAY BE EMULATED BY OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE REGION.

12. THE COMPLETE DECLARATION OF LA PAZ OF THE SIXTH CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE AMERICAS FOLLOWS:

WE, THE WIVES OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE AMERICAS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF GOVERNMENTS, MEETING IN THE CITY OF LA PAZ BETWEEN 3 AND 6 DECEMBER, 1996, WITH THE PURPOSE OF ANALYZING "THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF SUSTAINABLE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT" AND IN AGREEING UPON ACTIONS, INSPIRED IN DIALOGUE, SOLIDARITY AND MUTUAL RESPECT, SUBSCRIBE TO THE FOLLOWING DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES:

A. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE SUBJECTS OF SOCIAL POLICIES SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN AN ORGANIZED AND ACTIVE MANNER IN THE PLANNING, IMPLEMENTATION AND FOLLOW-UP OF ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES SO THAT EVERYONE MAY DEVELOP TO THEIR MAXIMUM POTENTIAL IN ORDER TO ASSURE THE RIGHTS OF PEOPLE TO RECEIVE PROPER CARE INCLUDING NUTRITION, HOUSING, HEALTH, EMPLOYMENT AND RECREATION.

B. WE RECOGNIZE, NEVERTHELESS, THAT IN OUR CONTINENT BARRIERS EXIST FOR THE MOST VULNERABLE SECTORS OF OUR POPULATION, ESPECIALLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN, IN REACHING THEIR FULL POTENTIAL AND EXERCISING THEIR RIGHTS.

C. WE BELIEVE THAT IN ORDER TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF SUSTAINABLE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENTS AND CIVIL SOCIETIES SHOULD WORK WITH RESPONSIBILITY AND SOLIDARITY PROMOTING CONDITIONS OF OPPORTUNITY AND EQUITY THAT WILL ALLOW THE DEVELOPMENT OF ABILITIES, MEANS OF ORGANIZATION AND PARTICIPATION IN THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS.

D. WE RECOGNIZE THE LINK BETWEEN SOCIAL, POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS WHOSE INTER-RELATIONSHIP MAKES POSSIBLE THE SUSTAINABILITY OF DEVELOPMENT, AND GUARANTEES THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR PRESENT GENERATIONS WITHOUT COMPROMISING THE WELFARE OF FUTURE GENERATIONS.

E. WE REAFFIRM OUR COMMITMENT TO PROMOTE AND SUPPORT POLICIES AND STRATEGIES FOR SUSTAINABLE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT THAT SEEK COMPLETE AND FAIR PARTICIPATION FOR THE MOST VULNERABLE SOCIAL SECTORS.

F. WE OFFER OUR MANAGEMENT AND MOBILIZING ABILITY TO CONTINUE FULFILLING COMMITMENTS WE HAVE MADE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NATIONAL INTERESTS OF EACH COUNTRY, MADE AT THE MEETINGS OF VENEZUELA, COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, SAINT LUCIA AND PARAGUAY, AND ALSO TO IMPLEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED AT THE WORLD CONFERENCE ON CHILDREN, HELD IN NEW YORK IN SEPTEMBER OF 1990; THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT, HELD IN RIO DE JANEIRO IN JUNE OF 1992; THE WORLD CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS, HELD IN VIENNA IN JUNE OF 1993; THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT, HELD IN CAIRO IN SEPTEMBER OF 1994; THE SUMMIT ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, HELD IN COPENHAGEN IN MARCH OF 1995; THE IV WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN, HELD IN BEIJING IN SEPTEMBER OF 1995; AND THE SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS, UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 05 LA PAZ 007497

AIDAC

SECSTATE FOR A/USAID, AA/LAC, LAC/SAM; DEPARTMENT FOR ARA AND US/OAS

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: REPORT ON SIXTH CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE AMERICAS AND VISIT OF FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

HELD IN MIAMI, RELATING TO THE PRINCIPLES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT; AS WELL AS THOSE EXPRESSED IN AGENDA 21 CONCERNING WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

G. WE COMMIT OUR FIRM SUPPORT TO SOUND AND EFFECTIVE SOCIAL POLICIES AND STRATEGIES THAT THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE HEMISPHERE FOSTER, IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE SUSTAINABLE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT.

H. WE HIGHLIGHT THE ETHNIC AND CULTURAL VALUE OF OUR SOCIETIES AS AN ESSENTIAL FACTOR TO BE CONSIDERED IN FORMULATING AND IMPLEMENTING POLICIES AND STRATEGIES DIRECTED TOWARD WOMEN AND CHILDREN, IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF HARMONY, PEACE, EQUITY, PLURALISM AND DIVERSITY.

I. WE REAFFIRM OUR COMMITMENT TO JOIN EFFORTS, COORDINATE ACTIONS, AND SHARE EXPERIENCES WITH THE PURPOSE OF STRENGTHENING COOPERATION AND INTEGRATION OF ALL COUNTRIES OF THE CONTINENT.

J. WE RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF HEALTH IN OUR POPULATIONS, ESPECIALLY FOR WOMEN, IN ORDER FOR THEM TO REACH THEIR FULL PARTICIPATION WITHIN THE ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND SOCIAL LIFE OF OUR SOCIETIES, FOR WHICH WE STRIVE TO SUPPORT PROGRAMS AIMED AT SOLVING CRITICAL HEALTH PROBLEMS IN THE AMERICAS.

K. WE REITERATE OUR SUPPORT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMS TO REDUCE MATERNAL MORTALITY, INCLUDING ACCESS TO PRENATAL CARE AND DELIVERY BY TRAINED PERSONNEL; THE DEVELOPMENT OF SERVICES ABLE TO SOLVE OBSTETRIC EMERGENCIES; SEXUAL EDUCATION AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH (GUATEMALA CONSIDERS THAT THE TERM "REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH," IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS NATIONAL LEGISLATION, SHOULD BE UNDERSTOOD AS "INTEGRATED HEALTH"); AND DEVELOPMENT OF VOLUNTARY, ACCESSIBLE AND HIGH QUALITY FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES AVAILABLE TO COUPLES. FURTHERMORE, WE REAFFIRM OUR COMMITMENT TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF WOMEN'S HEALTH CARE AT ALL LEVELS OF THE HEALTH SYSTEM AND AT ALL STAGES OF WOMEN'S LIVES.

L. WE REAFFIRM OUR COMMITMENT TO MOBILIZE NATIONAL EFFORTS TO PROTECT CHILDREN FROM MEASLES AND TO ERADICATE THIS ILLNESS FROM THE AMERICAS. WE APPLAUD THE EFFORTS AND SUCCESSES ATTAINED BY ALL OUR COUNTRIES IN THE FIGHT AGAINST THIS ILLNESS AND ALL THOSE ILLNESSES THAT CAN BE PREVENTED THROUGH IMMUNIZATION SO THAT THE GOAL OF ERADICATING MEASLES CAN BE MET BY THE YEAR 2000.

M. WE ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A REGIONAL PROJECT DIRECTED TO THE REDUCTION OF MALNUTRITION FROM MICRONUTRIENT DEFICIENCY IN THE HEMISPHERE, AND TO THE HIGH RATES OF ANEMIA AND THEIR SEVERE CONSEQUENCES FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

N. WE EMPHASIZE THE PRINCIPAL ROLE OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN ORDER FOR PEOPLE TO DEVELOP THEIR SKILLS, BROADEN THEIR SPECTRUM OF OPPORTUNITIES, STIMULATE THEIR CREATIVITY, IMPROVE THEIR INCOME, AND PROMOTE THEIR ADAPTATION TO TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGES THAT WILL IMPROVE THE CONDITION OF WOMEN.

O. WE REAFFIRM OUR COMMITMENT TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION OF THE CHILDREN OF THE AMERICAS, PROMOTING BROAD AND EFFECTIVE EDUCATIONAL POLICIES AND

ADOPTING BETTER INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUE IN ORDER TO SHARE INFORMATION AND EXPERIENCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPLEMENTING THE MOST EFFECTIVE EDUCATIONAL POLICIES AND STRATEGIES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REALITY AND REQUIREMENTS OF EACH COUNTRY.

P. WE REITERATE THE IMPORTANCE OF PROMOTING THE EDUCATION AND INTEGRATED TRAINING OF WOMEN, PARTICULARLY IN THE RURAL AREAS, AND PROGRAMS THAT WILL ALLOW THEM TO BENEFIT FROM THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS OF OUR COUNTRIES.

Q. WE RECOGNIZE INTRAFAMILY VIOLENCE AS A PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEM AND A VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS WHICH AFFECTS IN A SPECIAL MANNER WOMEN OF ALL AGES AND SOCIAL GROUPS, FOR THIS REASON, WE URGE GOVERNMENTS DEVELOP PUBLIC POLICIES ORIENTED TOWARDS CONFRONTING THIS PROBLEM IN AN INTEGRATED MANNER.

R. WE URGE GOVERNMENTS TO DEVELOP PUBLIC POLICIES WITH THE ORJECTIVE OF PROMOTING WOMEN'S EQUAL ACCESS TO THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES AND TO POWER STRUCTURES IN UNCLAS SECTION 05 OF 05 LA PAZ 007497

AIDAC

SECSTATE FOR A/USAID, AA/LAC, LAC/SAM; DEPARTMENT FOR ARA AND US/OAS

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ALL ASPECTS OF PUBLIC AND POLITICAL LIFE. CONSEQUENTLY, WE RECOMMEND FORMULATING AND IMPLEMENTING SPECIFIC PROGRAMS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ORIENTATION AND MEASURES AGREED UPON BY GOVERNMENTS A THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN HELD IN BEIJING IN 1995 WHICH ARE DETAILED IN CLAUSE "G" OF THE PLATFORM OF ACTION, WHICH RESULTED FROM THIS CONFERENCE.

S. WE DECIDE TO STRENGTHEN THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE PRO TEMPORE SECRETARIAT THROUGH ACTIVE MECHANISMS OF CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION, TO FOLLOW UP ON THE COMMITMENTS MADE AT ALL MEETINGS, AND TO FOSTER THE EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCES AT THE NATIONAL AND REGIONAL LEVELS IN ORDER TO MAXIMIZE OUR ACTIONS.

T. WE RECOGNIZE THE VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND GOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES IN FACILITATING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PLANS, PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS DIRECTED TO MEETING THE NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE OF OUR COUNTRIES. WE URGE THEM TO CONTINUE TO COOPERATE IN ORDER TO REACH THE OBJECTIVES PROPOSED IN THE PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE SIXTH CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF HEADS OF

STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE AMERICAS.

U. WE EXPRESS OUR SATISFACTION TO THE REPUBLIC OF GUATEMALA FOR THE SIGNATURE OF THE PEACE AGREEMENT SIGNED IN OSLO, NORWAY ON DECEMBER 4, 1996, AMONG THE SECTORS INVOLVED, WHICH CONSTITUTES A DECISIVE STEP IN THE PEACE PROCESS OF THIS FRATERNAL NATION.

V. WE ACCEPT THE KIND OFFER OF THE FIRST LADIES OF PANAMA AND CHILE THAT PANAMA BE THE SEAT OF THE VII CONFERENCE OF WIVES OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE AMERICAS IN 1997, AND THAT CHILE BE THE SEAT THE VIII CONFERENCE IN 1998.

W. WE THANK THE FIRST LADY OF BOLIVIA, AND, THROUGH HER, EXPRESS OUR THANKS TO THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF THIS COUNTRY FOR THEIR WARM WELCOME AND HOSPITALITY.

X. SIGNED IN THE CITY OF LA PAZ, BOLIVIA, WITH TWO ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS IN SPANISH AND ENGLISH, ON THE SIXTH DAY OF THE MONTH OF DECEMBER OF THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED NINETY-SIX.

13. THE NEXT FIRST LADIES' CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD IN PANAMA IN 1997, FOLLOWED BY CHILE IN 1998.

14. THIS CABLE WAS NOT CLEARED BY WASHINGTON PARTICIPANTS.

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