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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. cable	Re: [Resolution at UN Commission on the Status of Women Session] (4 pages)	03/02/1998	P1/b(1)
002. cable	Re: Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women - Meeting with Ambassador Sherman (5 pages)	06/19/1998	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:
Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
Jan 1997- Dec 1998 ([Beijing Women's Conference])
OA/Box Number: 520000

FOLDER TITLE:
[01/17/1998 - 12/23/1998]

2012-0094-F
ke3963

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]

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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 RUEHCAA9859 0170211-UUUU--RHEHNSC.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: R 170205Z JAN 98
LINE4: FM SECSTATE WASHDC
OSRI: RUEHC
DTG: 170205Z JAN 98
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INFO: RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 1651
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RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC 1061
RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC 4483
SUBJ: ECLAC SEVENTH REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN INTO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

TEXT:

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 05 STATE 009859

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: KWMN, ECLAC, UN
SUBJECT: ECLAC SEVENTH REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN INTO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

1. SUMMARY: ECLAC CONVENED ITS SEVENTH REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN INTO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN, NOVEMBER 19-21, 1997, IN SANTIAGO. THIS REGIONAL CONFERENCE TAKES PLACE EVERY THREE YEARS; THE SIXTH CONFERENCE WAS HELD IN MAR DEL PLATA, ARGENTINA, IN 1994.

2. THE CONFERENCE FOCUSED ON THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN IN TWO AREAS: POLITICAL PARTICIPATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. AFTER THREE DAYS OF DIALOGUE AND NEGOTIATIONS, ECLAC ADOPTED THE "SANTIAGO CONSENSUS," WHICH ENCOURAGES GOVERNMENTS TO STRENGTHEN NATIONAL MECHANISMS FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN, TO INTEGRATE THE GENDER PERSPECTIVE INTO POVERTY ERADICATION PLANS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING, TO ANALYZE THE DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF MACROECONOMIC AND STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT POLICIES WITH THE AIM OF TAKING APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO CORRECT ANY NEGATIVE EFFECTS, TO EMPHASIZE THE PREVENTION

OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, TO RECOGNIZE GENDER-BASED

PERSECUTION AS ONE OF THE GROUNDS FOR REFUGEE STATUS, TO PROMOTE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PROGRAMS, AND TO CONTINUE MAKING EFFORTS TO ALLOCATE AND DISTRIBUTE NEW AND ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FROM ALL AVAILABLE FUNDING SOURCES FOR DEVELOPMENT. END SUMMARY.

3. THE CONFERENCE OPENED WITH STATEMENTS BY CHILEAN PRESIDENT EDUARDO FREI RUIZ-TAGLE; CHILEAN MINISTER FOR WOMEN'S AFFAIRS JOSEFINA BILBAO; AND GERT ROSENTHAL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ECLAC. IT WAS ATTENDED PRIMARILY BY WOMEN MINISTERS FROM ALL THE LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES.

4. PRESIDENT FREI OUTLINED THE SITUATION OF WOMEN IN REGION DURING THE L99OS: THE AVERAGE WOMEN'S SALARY IS ONLY V2 PER CENT OF MEN'S; ONLY TWO WOMEN IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN WERE ELECTED PRESIDENT, FOUR WOMEN VICE-PRESIDENT, AND ONE PRIME MINISTER; THE PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH IS 4.9 PER CENT IN SOUTH AMERICA, AND V.- PER CENT IN CENTRAL AMERICA; WOMEN'S PRESENCE IS VERY LOW IN THOSE AREAS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH WHERE RELEVANT SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL DECISIONS ARE MADE. HE SAID IMPROVEMENTS IN THE STATUS OF WOMEN REQUIRE STRONG GOVERNMENTAL WILL, THE ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT OF WOMEN IN INFLUENTIAL POSITIONS OF POWER, AND THE PROMOTION OF GENDER EQUALITY. IN ADDITION, PRESIDENT EREI SAID, GOVERNMENTS MUST PROMOTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ACCESS TO TRAINING AND EDUCATION, IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, ENCOURAGE THE HIRING OF WOMEN BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR, AND ELIMINATE DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN IN THE LABOR MARKET. HE SAID THAT CULTURAL POLICIES HAVE TO BE DEVELOPED TO PROMOTE NEW IMAGES OF WOMEN--IMAGES THAT ARE MOST CONSISTENT WITH CHANGING ROLES WITHIN THE FAMILY AND THAT BREAK AWAY FROM THE AUTHORITARIAN FAMILY STRUCTURE.

5. JOSEFINA BILBAO'S STATEMENT SUMMARIZED THE HISTORY OF THE UN'S FOCUS ON WOMEN, AND SAID THAT THE TASK OF THE SEVENTH REGIONAL CONFERENCE WAS TO ANALYZE TWO STRATEGIC AREAS OF THE REGIONAL ACTION PROGRAM (ADOPTED AT MAR DEL PLATA IN 1994): THE ELIMINATION OF POVERTY AND THE EQUAL PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN DECISION-MAKING IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LIFE.

6. FOLLOWING THE HIGH LEVEL STATEMENTS, THE MEETING BEGAN WITH THE ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS. CHILE, AS HOST, CHAIRED THE CONFERENCE. ARGENTINA, BARBADOS, BOLIVIA, BRAZIL, CUBA, EL SALVADOR, MEXICO, NETHERLANDS ANTILLES, PARAGUAY, AND VENEZUELA EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN BECOMING VICE-CHAIRS, AND IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT ALL TEN BE ELECTED. BECAUSE THERE WERE SO MANY CANDIDATES, MEXICO WITHDREW ITS NOMINATION AND OFFERED TO SERVE AS RAPPORTEUR INSTEAD. IN THE END, ECLAC AGREED THAT ALL NINE REMAINING CANDIDATES COULD SERVE AS VICE-CHAIRS. SINCE THERE WERE NO FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS, THE U.S. JOINED THE CONSENSUS IN THIS DECISION.

7. MEMBER STATES, OBSERVERS, AND UN ORGANIZATIONS WERE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GENERAL DEBATE. MOST

DELEGATES SPOKE ABOUT EFFORTS THEIR GOVERNMENTS HAD TAKEN TO ADVANCE THE STATUS OF WOMEN, ADDRESSING SUCH ISSUES AS
UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 05 STATE 009859

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: KWMN, ECLAC, UN
SUBJECT: ECLAC SEVENTH REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN INTO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBE
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, EDUCATION, POVERTY, EMPLOYMENT, THE ENVIRONMENT, TEEN PREGNANCIES, RURAL WOMEN. THE UNITED STATES WAS THE ONLY DELEGATION TO MENTION THE SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS AND ECLAC'S ROLE IN THE SUMMIT. (THE U.S. STATEMENT IS CONTAINED IN PARA 15 BELOW.)

8. CUBA CRITICIZED THE U.S. FOR THE "BLOCKADE," THE HELMS-BURTON ACT, AND "BIOLOGICAL WARFARE." AFTER CONSULTING WITH THE CUBA DESK, THE U.S. WROTE A RIGHT OF REPLY WHICH THE SECRETARIAT WILL INCLU@E IN THE WRITTEN RECORD ONLY IF CUBA'S ALLEGATIONS ARE RECORDED IN THE WRITTEN RECORD.

9. FOLLOWING THE GENERAL DEBATE, THE CONFERENCE BROKE OUT INTO THREE SESSIONS--A DRAFTING GROUP ON THE "SANTIAGO CONSENSUS", AND TWO DISCUSSION GROUPS ON POLITICAL PARTICIPATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

10. NEGOTIATIONS PROCEEDED RATHER SMOOTHLY EXCEPT FOR THE DISCUSSION ON REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS. AFTER A RATHER LENGTHY DEBATE, THE CONFERENCE AGREED TO THE FOLLOWING LANGUAGE: "TO FORMULATE AND IMPROVE PROGRAMS AIMED AT PROTECTING THE HEALTH AND SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS OF WOMEN, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROVISIONS ADOPTED AT THE CAIRO AND BEIJING CONFERENCES" AND "TO PROMOTE INFORMATION, EDUCATION AND APPROPRIATE PREVENTATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES ON SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH FOR ADOLESCENTS, RECOGNIZING THAT PREGNANCY IN ADOLESCENCE HAS SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC EFFECTS." (THE FIRST DRAFT MADE NO MENTION OF REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH.)

11. THE U.S. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO LANGUAGE ON STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT PROGRAMS ("TO ANALYZE THE DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF MACROECONOMIC AND STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT POLICIES AND THEIR IMPACT ON WOMEN'S QUALITY OF LIFE.. .WITH THE AIM OF TAKING APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO CORRECT ANY NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF SUCH POLICIES") AND ON RESOURCES ("TO CONTINUE MAKING EFFORTS TO ALLOCATE AND DISTRIBUTE NEW AND ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FROM ALL AVAILABLE FUNDING SOURCES FOR DEVELOPMENT"), WHICH WERE ACCEPTED WITHOUT DIFFICULTY.

12. THE FINAL DOCUMENT IS FORWARD-LEANING AND DEVOID OF THE ANTI-GLOBABLIZATION RHETORIC THAT SOMETIMES APPEARS IN SUCH TEXTS. THIS IS PERHAPS BECAUSE THE PARTICIPANTS WERE FROM CAPITALS RATHER THAN FROM THEIR NEW YORK MISSIONS WHERE G-77 DELEGATES SOMETIMES BECOME ENSCONCED IN OLD IDEAS. THE DOCUMENT CONTAINS 99 PROPOSALS. HIGHLIGHTED BELOW ARE SOME OF THE KEY ELEMENTS:

-- TO ENSURE, IN THE COURSE OF MODERNIZATION OF THE GOVERNMENT APPARATUS AND PUBLIC-SECTOR REFORM WHICH IS

UNDER WAY IN VIRTUALLY ALL THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION, THAT PRIORITY IS GIVEN BY THE STATE TO THE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENDA;

-- TO INCORPORATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF GENDER INDICATORS BY GATHERING ALL STATISTICAL INFORMATION DISAGGREGATED BY SEX, ESPECIALLY IN NATIONAL CENSUSES, ECONOMIC HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS AND OTHER STATISTICAL REGISTERS...;

-- TO INTRODUCE A GENDER PERSPECTIVE IN ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING WHICH ENSURES THE INCLUSION OF WOMEN IN THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS AND IN THE ASSESSMENT OF NATURAL DISASTERS...,

-- TO INCORPORATE GENDER ANALYSIS IN STUDIES OF MIGRATORY MOVEMENTS...,

-- TO ENCOURAGE THE COUNTRIES TO PASS AND REVIEW LEGISLATION CONCERNING THE SITUATION OF REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS SO THAT IT INCORPORATES THE GENDER PERSPECTIVE AND EXPLICITLY RECOGNIZES GENDER-BASED PERSECUTION AS ONE OF THE GROUNDS ON WHICH A PERSON MAY BE CONSIDERED A REFUGEE;

-- TO FACILITATE THE EXERCISE BY WOMEN OF THEIR RIGHT TO EQUAL ACCESS TO OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OF PROPERTY, ESPECIALLY IN RURAL AREAS;

-- TO ENCOURAGE SHARED RESPONSIBILITY FOR ROLES WITHIN THE FAMILY SO THAT THEY ARE MORE COMPATIBLE WITH THE ACTUAL ACTIVITIES OF ITS MEMBERS, PROMOTING PUBLIC POLICIES TO THAT END AND THE ENACTMENT OF NEW LEGISLATION WHICH CONTRIBUTES TO AN EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF DUTIES AND RIGHTS WITHIN THE FAMILY...;

-- TO EMPHASIZE THE PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN AND THE PROSECUTION OF OFFENDERS...;
UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 05 STATE 009859

E.O. 12958: N/A
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-- TO INCREASE THE COVERAGE AND QUALITY OF EDUCATION AND ELIMINATE EXISTING BARRIERS PREVENTING GIRLS AND ADOLESCENT WOMEN FROM ENJOYING THIS RIGHT, FUNDAMENTAL FOR THE EXERCISE OF FULL CITIZENSHIP....

13. A FEW PROCEDURAL RESOLUTIONS WERE INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS, RESULTING IN THE RE-NAMING OF THE ECLAC "WOMEN AND DEVELOPMENT UNIT" AS THE "GENDER UNIT;" AND THE STATEMENT THAT THE CONFERENCE WILL HENCEFORTH BE ENTITLED THE "REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN."

14. AT THIS CONFERENCE, THE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN DELEGATIONS SEEMED TO HAVE IMPROVED.

PRIOR TO THE CONFERENCE, THE CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES HAD PREPARED A "GEORGETOWN CONSENSUS" WHICH WAS LARGELY INCORPORATED INTO THE "SANTIAGO CONSENSUS." ON POLICY ISSUES, THERE WERE NO DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE LATIN AND THE CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES. THEY BOTH WERE CONCERNED ABOUT THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN IN ALL SPHERES OF LIFE.

15. TEXT OF U.S. STATEMENT:

I AM PLEASED TO BE HERE AT ECLAC'S SEVENTH REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN INTO ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT. MANY OF US HERE WORKED TOGETHER AS WE PREPARED FOR THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN AND AS WE HAVE TAKEN STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION.

WE IN THE UNITED STATES VALUE OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH OUR LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN NEIGHBORS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO AN ONGOING RELATIONSHIP AS WE WORK TOGETHER TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF WOMEN, THEIR FAMILIES, AND SOCIETY AS A WHOLE THROUGHOUT THE REGION. -

I WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY TO REPORT ON MEASURES THE UNID STATES HAS TAKEN TO CARRY OUT THE COMMITMENTS WE MADE IN BEIJING, AND TO ADDRESS THE ROLE OF ECLAC IN ADVANCING THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN.

U.S. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION:

TWO YEARS AGO, RIGHT BEFORE WE WENT TO BEIJING, PRESIDENT CLINTON ESTABLISHED AN INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON WOMEN IN ORDER TO "MAKE SURE ALL THE EFFORT AND GOOD IDEAS ACTUALLY GOT IMPLEMENTED WHEN WE GET BACK HOME." THE COUNCIL IS CHARGED WITH COORDINATING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION, INCLUDING THE COMMITMENTS THE UNITED STATES ANNOUNCED AT THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN.

FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON SERVES AS HONORARY CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL. SECRETARY OF STATE MADELEINE ALBRIGHT HAS CHAIRED THE COUNCIL SINCE MARCH 1997, FOLLOWING THE STRONG LEADERSHIP PROVIDED BY FORMER CHAIR SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DONNA SHALALA. THE COUNCIL INCLUDES HIGH LEVEL REPRESENTATIVES FROM MAJOR FEDERAL AGENCIES. PROBABLY THE FUNDAMENTAL REASON FOR THE COUNCIL'S SUCCESS IS THIS HIGH LEVEL COMMITMENT. IT EFFECTIVELY SENDS THE MESSAGE TO ALL LEVELS OF THE GOVERNMENT THAT IMPLEMENTING BEIJING IS IMPORTANT AND CANNOT BE IGNORED.

DURING ITS FIRST YEAR AND A HALF OF OPERATION, THE COUNCIL FOCUSED ON IMPLEMENTING CHANGES IN EACH INDIVIDUAL AGENCY BY:

-- ANALYZING CURRENT AND PROJECTED POLICIES AND PROGRAMS TO MEASURE THEM AGAINST THE GOALS OF TL PLATFORM FOR ACTION;

-- IDENTIFYING NEW INITIATIVES AGENCIES MIGHT TAKE TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF WOMEN AND GIRLS; AND

-- DEVELOPING LONGER-RANGE CHANGES IN THEIR PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS TO ESURE THAT THE BEIJING GOALS ARE AN INTEGRAL PA OF THE REGULAR WAY THEY CONDUCT BUSINESS.

RECENTLY, THE COUNCIL HAS BEGUN TO ESTABLISH INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUPS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES TO EFFECT CHANGE THROUGHOUT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

GENDER AND INSTITUTIONAL CHANGE:

THE WORKING GROUP ON GENDER AND INSTITUTIONAL CHANGE IS EXPLORING HOW TO INSTITUTIONALIZE THE INTEGRATION OF GENDER ISSUES INTO THE MAINSTREAM WORK OF ALL U.S. GOVERNMENT
UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 05 STATE 009859

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: KWMN, ECLAC, UN
SUBJECT: ECLAC SEVENTH REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN INTO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBE
AGENCIES. THE GROUP IS FOCUSING ON APPROACHES THAT WILL RESULT IN FUNDAMENTAL AND SUSTAINABLE CHANGES.

GENDER DISAGGREGATED DATA:

THE WORKING GROUP ON GENDER DISAGGREGATED DATA IS EXPLORING THE ISSUE OF SEPARATING AND ANALYZING ALL DATA BY SEX. ALTHOUGH MANY U.S. AGENCIES DISAGGREGATE SOME DATA BY SEX, THERE IS NO UNIFORM OR GOVERNMENT-WIDE POLICY. THE WORKING GROUP IS ASSESSING THE CURRENT SITUATION AND EXPLORING LAWS OR REGULATIONS GOVERNING DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS.

MENTORING:

THE WORKING GROUP ON MENTORING IS EXPLORING WAYS TO INCREASE OUTREACH BY WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT TO YOUNGER WOMEN AND MEN, SO THAT YOUNG PEOPLE WILL BECOME INVOLVED IN IMPLEMENTING BEIJING.

TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS:

THE WORKING GROUP ON TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS IS SEEKING TO INCREASE EFFORTS BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO PREVENT AND COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS. THIS GROUP IS EXPLORING WAYS TO IMPROVE ANTI-TRAFFICKING LAWS, TO INCREASE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND TRAINING AMONG LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, AND TO PROVIDE LEGAL PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING.

ADDITIONAL WORKING GROUPS ON UNWAGED WORK AND ON THE IMPACT OF GLOBAL ECONOMIC ISSUES ON WOMEN ARE IN FORMATION. IN ALL OF THESE EFFORTS, THE PRESIDENT'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON WOMEN SEEKS TO WORK IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NGOS AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

GROUP OF BIGHT:

IN ADDITION, THE UNITED STATES AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE

GROUP OF EIGHT HAVE FORMED A WORKING GROUP ON WOMEN'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION TO ENSURE THAT THE .G-8 DOES NOT UNDER-VALUE THE GENDER DIMENSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, POLITICAL PARTICIPATION, AND PEACE BUILDING. THE WORKING GROUP IS SEEKING TO IDENTIFY NEEDS THAT ARE NOT BEING MET BY MULTILATERAL OR BILATERAL EFFORTS, AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO ENSURE THAT PROGRESS IS MADE.

REGIONAL ISSUES:

MANY COUNTRIES OF THE AMERICAS ARE UNDERGOING PROFOUND ECONOMIC, DEMOCRATIC, AND SOCIAL RENEWAL. LAST MONTH, OUR FIRST LADY WITNESSED THIS RENEWAL FIRSTHAND IN PANAMA, VENEZUELA, BRAZIL, AND ARGENTINA. COUNTRIES THAT WERE ONCE GRIPPED BY DEBT OR RUNAWAY INFLATION HAVE UNDERTAKEN AND IMPLEMENTED TOUGH REFORMS--AND NOW THEY ARE ON THE MOVE. IN FACT, THE ECONOMIES OF LATIN AMERICA ARE EXPECTED TO GROW AT MORE THAN TWICE THE RATE OF THE UNITED STATES' ECONOMY IN THE NEXT CENTURY.

ECONOMIC RENEWAL HAS BEEN ACCOMPANIED BY DEMOCRATIC TRANSFORMATION. BUT, AS OUR FIRST LADY SAID, "DEMOCRACY, WHETHER NEWLY ROOTED OR CENTURIES OLD, IS FRAGILE. IT DEPENDS UPON THE EXPRESSION OF THE VOICES OF ALL ITS PEOPLE." WE MUST ALL WORK TOGETHER TO ENSURE THAT WOMEN HAVE A FREE AND STRONG VOICE AND ARE HEARD.

SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS:

PREPARATIONS ARE QUITE ADVANCED FOR NEGOTIATING THE PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE NEXT SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS, WHICH CHILE WILL HOST IN APRIL NEXT YEAR. IN THE ISSUE BASKET ON ELIMINATION OF POVERTY AND DISCRIMINATION, AS WELL AS IN THE POLITICAL DECLARATION, IT IS VITALLY IMPORTANT THAT THE SUMMIT DOCUMENT REAFFIRMS THE RESPONSIBILITY AND DUTY OF STATES TO ENSURE EQUALITY BETWEEN WOMEN AND MEN, AS A FUNDAMENTAL PART OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND AN ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENT FOR STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY AND FOR ATTAINING SOCIAL JUSTICE, DEVELOPMENT, AND PEACE.

THE UNITED STATES COMPLIMENTS ALL COUNTRIES INVOLVED IN DRAFTING THE ACTION ITEMS AGREED TO LAST MONTH AT THE

SECOND HEMISPHERIC MEETING HOSTED BY CAS/CIM AND THE ACTION ITEMS CALLING UPON GOVERNMENTS TO STRENGTHEN MECHANISMS TO PROMOTE EQUALITY BETWEEN WOMEN AND MEN; TO ADOPT LAWS TO ELIMINATE DISCRIMINATION AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN; AND TO PROTECT CHILDREN'S RIGHTS.
UNCLAS SECTION 05 OF 05 STATE 009859

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: KWMN, ECLAC, UN
SUBJECT: ECLAC SEVENTH REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE NTEGRATION OF WOMEN INTO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBE
ON THE ECONOMIC FRONT, WE HOPE THAT THE SUMMIT WILL STRESS THE IMPORTANCE OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIONS TO ENSURE THAT WOMEN AS WELL AS MEN BENEFIT FROM OPEN MARKETS, TRADE

LIBERALIZATION, AND HIGHER LEVELS OF INVESTMENT.

INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK:

THE UNITED STATES WOULD LIKE TO COMMEND THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, IN PARTICULAR THE INNOVATIVE WORK OF THE WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT UNIT, FOR THE PROGRAMS TO COMBAT DOMESTIC ABUSE, WHICH CROSSES ALL GEOGRAPHIC, CULTURAL, AND ETHNIC LINES. THE IDB'S PROGRAMS CAN BE A SOURCE OF GUIDANCE AND RESOURCES FOR THE EFFORTS BEING UNDERTAKEN BY THE ENTIRE REGION IN ADDRESSING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN. COMBATING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND PROTECTING AND EXPANDING THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN WAS AT THE TOP OF THE AGENDA AT THE FIRST LADIES OF THE AMERICAS CONFERENCE HOSTED IN PANAMA LAST MONTH.

ECLAC:

ALL OF US AGREED AT BEIJING THAT THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS SHOULD, WITHIN THEIR MANDATES, PROMOTE AND ASSIST NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN MONITORING0ND IMPLEMENTING THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION; AND, IN DOING SO, SHOULD WORK CLOSELY WITH THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN ORDER TO ENSURE A COORDINATED APPROACH.

WE ALSO ENCOURAGED THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS TO INTEGRATE GENDER INTO THE MAINSTREAM OF THEIR WORK, BECAUSE IN TRUTH THERE ARE NO GENDER-NEUTRAL POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, OR SOCIAL ISSUES. AND, WE URGED THE COMMISSIONS TO COLLABORATE ON GENDER ISSUES WITH NGOS, FINANCIAL AND RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS, AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

WE ENCOURAGE ECLAC TO HARMONIZE ITS RESEARCH AND DATA COLLECTION EFFORTS WITH PRIORITIES IDENTIFIED BY SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS. WE HOPE THAT ECLAC WILL PLAY A STRONG ROLE, WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF ITS AGREED PROGRAM PRIORITIES, IN

ADVANCING THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN THE REGION, AND THAT IT WILL COLLABORATE WITH OTHERS TO FOLLOW-UP TO THE COMMITMENTS WE MADE IN MAR DEL PLATA, IN BEIJING, IN MIAMI AT THE 1994 SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS, AND IN SANTIAGO AT NEXT APRIL'S SECOND SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS.
ALBRIGHT

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 05
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DIST:

SIT: DELAURENTIS DESOUZA DOBBINS HOFMANN ORFINI PICCONE
SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: PRIORITY
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: PAAUZYUW RUEHUMA0070 0200413-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: P 200413Z JAN 98
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY ULAANBAATAR
OSRI: RUEHUM
DTG: 200413Z JAN 98
ORIG: AMEMBASSY ULAANBAATAR
TO: SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0324
INFO: ////
SUBJ: MONGOLIAN WOMEN'S PROGRAMS AND EAST ASIAN WOMEN'S FORUM

TEXT:

UNCLAS ULAANBAATAR 000070

FOR ACTING G-WENDY SHERMAN, INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S COORDINATOR THERESA LOAR AND S/NIS/C AMB. MORNINGSTAR FROM AMBASSADOR

ALSO FOR EAP/CM-J.WAYMAN AND DRL-S.O'SULLIVAN

PASS AID/W FOR G/WID - WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: PHUM, KWMN, SOCI, MG, XB
SUBJECT: MONGOLIAN WOMEN'S PROGRAMS AND EAST ASIAN WOMEN'S FORUM

REF: (A) 97 ULAANBAATAR 1560; (B) ULAANBAATAR 13

1. SUMMARY: STATE DEPARTMENT ENTITIES CONCERNED WITH WOMEN'S AFFAIRS ARE URGED TO SUPPORT MONGOLIAN NGO ACTIVITIES RELATING TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND THE AUGUST 1998 EAST ASIAN WOMEN'S FORUM. DETAILS REGARDING MONGOLIAN WOMEN NGO ACTIVITIES ARE GIVEN IN THIS MESSAGE. SEE ACTION REQUESTED IN PARA 7. END SUMMARY

2. MRS. LA PORTA AND I MET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF MONGOLIA'S MOST ACTIVE AND PROGRESSIVE WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS AT A MEETING SET UP BY THE ASIA FOUNDATION (TAF) ON JAN. 14. TAF HAS BEEN ASSISTING IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF CITIZEN-INITIATED NGO'S (CINGO'S) FOR THE PAST SIX YEARS, LARGELY WITH USAID FUNDING, ALTHOUGH THE AUSTRALIANS AND OTHER DONORS ARE NOW PROVIDING HELP TO THE WOMEN'S NGO'S IN SELECTED AREAS. THE ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED ON JAN. 14 INCLUDED THE LIBERAL WOMEN'S BRAIN TRUST (LEOS), NATIONAL DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW) WATCH NETWORK OF LEOS, WOMEN LAWYERS' ASSOCIATION (WLA), CENTER AGAINST VIOLENCE (CAV), WOMEN'S INFORMATION AND

RESEARCH CENTER (WIRC), AND THE SECRETARIAT OF THE THIRD EAST ASIAN WOMEN'S FORUM IN AUGUST 1998. (WE WILL MEET WITH ANOTHER MAIN WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION, WOMEN FOR SOCIAL PROGRESS (WSP), AT A LATER DATE WHEN WE VISIT ITS VOTER INFORMATION CENTER.)

3. IT WAS CLEAR FROM THE DISCUSSION THAT THE WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS, WHICH HAVE BEEN IN THE VANGUARD OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGE IN MONGOLIA SINCE THE DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT BEGAN IN 1989-90, ARE NOT ONLY ABLE TO EXERT GROWING POLITICAL INFLUENCE BUT ARE BEGINNING TO EXPAND INTO THE PROVINCIAL (AIMAG) AND DISTRICT (SOUM) TOWNS. AT THE SAME TIME, THEY ARE DOING HIGHLY USEFUL PROGRAM WORK, WHETHER A DETAILED STUDY ON THE ECONOMIC ROLE OF MONGOLIAN WOMEN TO BE COMPLETED SOON BY THE WIRC, OR CREATING PROGRAMS TO COMBAT FAMILY ABUSE (CAV). THE CAV WOMENS SHELTER IS SERVING OVER 300 HOMELESS WOMEN A YEAR, IS REACHING OVER 2000 WOMEN IN PSYCHOLOGICAL AND LEGAL COUNSELLING, AND OPERATES LITERACY PROGRAMS FOR OVER 3000 WOMEN. THE CAV WILL ALSO INITIATE AN ABUSE HOTLINE IN FEBRUARY WITH AUSTRALIAN ASSISTANCE BUT REQUIRES ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL HELP TO EXPAND THE HOTLINE AND TO SERVE OUTLYING LOCALITIES.

4. ON THE POLITICAL FRONT, THE WLA HAS BEEN ACTIVE ON THE LEGISLATIVE FRONT; ALTHOUGH THERE IS DISAGREEMENT IN PARLIAMENT AS TO WHETHER A NEW COMPREHENSIVE WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND FAMILY LAW IS NEEDED OR WHETHER THE 1973 SOVIET-ERA LAW SHOULD BE AMENDED, THE WLA IS THE KEY ORGANIZATION FOR DRAFTING NEW LEGAL PROVISIONS ON THE PROTECTION AND STATUS OF WOMEN, INCLUDING INHERITANCE, PROPERTY OWNERSHIP AND OTHER BASIC RIGHTS. (THE WLA'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IS ALSO THE PARLIAMENTARY DRAFTSPERSON FOR FAMILY AND WOMEN'S LEGISLATION.) AT THE SAME TIME, THE NGO REPS AGREED THAT WOMEN HAVE NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO REACH THE SENIOR-MOST LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT, ALTHOUGH THERE ARE MANY WOMEN DEPARTMENT HEADS IN THE BUREAUCRACY, MOST JUDGES, LAWYERS AND MEDICAL DOCTORS ARE WOMEN, AND TWO OUT OF SEVEN CHAIRPERSONS OF PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEES ARE WOMEN. THEY BELIEVED, HOWEVER, THAT WOMEN WILL ENTER THE TOP RANK OF GOVERNMENT AS A RESULT OF THE YEAR 2000 ELECTIONS; LEOS, FOR EXAMPLE, IS ALREADY BEGINNING TO ORGANIZE WOMEN'S AWARENESS GROUPS IN THE PROVINCES, IDENTIFY POSSIBLE CANDIDATES AND MOBILIZE FUNDING AND POPULAR SUPPORT FOR THEM.

5. WITH REGARD TO THE EAST ASIAN WOMEN'S FORUM, MS. O. ENHTUYA, THE CHAIRPERSON OF LEOS AND LEADER OF THE WOMEN'S CAUCUS IN PARLIAMENT, CONFIRMED TO ME THAT A U.S. DELEGATION - OFFICIAL OR MIXED GOVERNMENT/NGO - IS MOST CORDIALLY WELCOME TO ATTEND THE AUGUST 1998 EAST ASIAN WOMEN'S FORUM TO BE HELD IN ULAANBAATAR ON AUG. 23-26, 1998 PER REF B. (LAST YEAR, AT THE MONGOLIANS' URGING, THE EAST ASIAN PARTICIPANTS DECIDED TO INVITE A DELEGATION FROM THE UNITED STATES.) FORMED SUBSEQUENT TO THE BEIJING WOMEN'S CONFERENCE, THE EAST ASIAN FORUM HAS HELD TWO PREVIOUS PLENARY CONFERENCES AND THIS YEAR'S MEETING IS EXPECTED TO ATTRACT 250 DELEGATES FROM EIGHT EAST ASIAN COUNTRIES

(INCLUDING SEPARATE DELEGATIONS FROM CHINA, HONG KONG AND TAIWAN). ACCORDING TO MS. ENHTUYA, THE CONFERENCE AGENDA WAS FORMULATED TO EMPHASIZE WOMEN'S ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL ISSUES AND TO AVOID "POLITICAL" TOPICS THAT WOULD CREATE PROBLEMS FOR THE VARIOUS CHINESE DELEGATIONS. FURTHERMORE, MS. ENHTUYA SAID THAT THE CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS WOULD BE PLEASED IF A U.S. PRESENTER COULD CONDUCT A WORKSHOP DURING THE CONFERENCE CORRESPONDING TO ONE OF THE AGENDA TOPICS AS

ENUMERATED IN REF. B.

6. COMMENT: WE ARE NOT RPT NOT MAKING A CASE"NNR NEW OR MAJOR U.S. ASSISTANCE - BEYOND THAT ALREADY BEING PROVIDED BY USAID THRMUGH TAF - FOR WOMEN'S NGO'S IN MONGOLIA OR FOR SPECIFIC SUPPORT OF THE AUGUST EAST ASIAN WOMEN'S FORUM. HOWEVER, THERE ARE COGENT REASONS FOR U.S. POLICY ATTENTION TO AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE MONGOLIAN WOMEN NGO'S BECAUSE THEY ARE ON THE CUTTING EDGE OF THE DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT HERE AND BECAUSE THEY ARE STRAINING HARD TO ADDRESS SOME OF THIS SOCIETY'S MOST PRESSING SOCIAL ILLS, INCLUDING ALCOHOL-RELATED ABUSE, CHILDREN'S HOMELESSNESS AND SHORTCOMINGS OF THE JUDICIAL AND LEGAL SYSTEMS. I WOULD ALSO NOTE THAT, GENERALLY WHEN MONGOLIAN WOMEN HAVE PARTICIPATED IN CENTRAL AND EAST ASIAN CONFERENCES AND TRAINING PROGRAMS, THEY HAVE PROVEN TO BE NATURAL AND PROGRESSIVE LEADERS. AT A TIME WHEN SECRETARY ALBRIGHT AND OTHER SENIOJ USO LEADERS ARE EMPHASIZING PROGRAMS IN THE VERY AREAS WHICH ARE CHALLENGING MONGOLIAN WOMEN, WE SHOULD NOT NEGLECT THE SIGNIFICANT EFFORTS BEqG MADE HERE.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: FOR THE FOREGOING REASONS, I REITERATE MY REQUESTS MADE IN REF. A THAT MODEST AMOUNTS OF FREEDOM SUPPORT ACT (FSA) FUNDS -- FOR WHICH MONGOLIA IS ELIGIBLE BY STATUTE -- BE USED TO (A) PROVIDE FOR U.S. REPRESENTATION AT THE EAST ASIAN WOMEN'S FORUM IN AUGUST, (B) SUPPORT MONGOLIAN PARTICIPATION AT THE NEW DELHI WORLD AND REGIONAL CONFERENCES ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, AND (C) PROVIDE FOR HIGHLY TARGETTED SUPPORT OF WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES HERE, ESPECIALLY THE CENTER AGAINST VIOLENCE.

LA PORTA

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 0070

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CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
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LINE3: O 310012Z JAN 98
LINE4: FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
OSRI: RUCNDT
DTG: 310012Z JAN 98
ORIG: USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5297
INFO: RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE 0626
RUEHVEN/USMISSION USVIENNA IMMEDIATE
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 0057
SUBJ: ECOSOC INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS 1/30

TEXT:

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 USUN NEW YORK 000262

DEPARTMENT FOR IO
USMVIENNA FOR UNVIE
ROME FOR FODAG

E.O.12958 :N/A
TAGS: ECON, ECOSOC, AORC, ETRD, SOCI, PREF
SUBJECT: ECOSOC INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS 1/30

1. SUMMARY: ECOSOC VICE PRESIDENT CHOWDHURY (BANGLADESH) PRESIDED OVER PRODUCTIVE INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON JANUARY 30 WHICH COVERED THE BASIC PROGRAMME OP WORK OF THE COUNCIL (UN DOCUMENT E/1998/1) AND THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE ORGANIZATIONAL SEGMENT FEBRUARY 3-6 (UN DOCUMENT E/1998/2). A DISCUSSION OP THE MAIN SUBJECTS DISCUSSED FOLLOWS. END SUMMARY.

ACC BRIEFING, ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION

2. THE SYG WILL BRIEF DELEGATIONS ON THE RECENT ACC MEETING AT NEXT WEEK'S ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION, MOST LIKELY ON FEBRUARY 6. PUTURE BREIFINGS ON THE ACC WILL BE PRESENTED BY U/SYG NITIN DESAI OR OTHER SYG DESIGNEE. NO FORMAL OUTCOME FROM THE BRIEPING IS EXPECTED. RESPONDING TO EU (UK) AND CANADIAN DELS CONCERNS, CHOWDHURY ANNOUNCED THAT PUTURE BRIEFINGS WILL BE GIVEN THE WEEK POLLOWING ACC MEETINGS AND THAT TIME FOR COMMENTS AND INTERACTION NEEDS TO BE BUILT INTO THE BRIEFING SCHEDULE. THE BRIEFING AT THE ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION NEXT WEEK WILL INCLUDE SOME INPORMATION REGARDING RESOLUTION 52/12B ON ECOSOC ACTIONS RE SUBSIDIARY BODIES. THE FIRST SET OF ECOSOC INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON THE ISSUE OF ECOSOC SUBSIDIARY BODIES

(50/227,52/12B) WILL TAKE PLACE MARCH 30-31.

WFP EXECUTIVE BOARD SEATS

3. RUSSIAN DEL NOTED THAT IN 1995 A WFP COMMITTEE DECIDED THAT THE EASTERN EUROPEAN GROUP WOULD RECEIVE TWO SEATS ON THE WFP EXECUTIVE BOARD. THE EASTERN EUROPEAN GROUP DID NOT OPPOSE THE MEASURE BUT DID STATE THAT IT REGARDED THE DECISION AS AN INTERIM ARRANGEMENT. RESOLUTION 50/8 PROVIDED THAT ECOSOC WOULD REVIEW THE DECISION IN 1998 SO THAT BY THE YEAR 2000 THE EASTERN EUROPEAN GROUP WOULD HAVE FOUR SEATS IN ACCORDANCE WITH RESOLUTION 48/162. RUSSIA WANTS AN INFORMAL MECHANISM TO ACCOMPLISH THIS REDISTRIBUTION OF SEATS AND ASKS THE BUREAU TO DISCLOSE ITS PLANS FOR DEALING WITH THE ISSUE. THE BUREAU SAID IT WOULD RESPOND NEXT WEEK.

INFORMATICS

4. USDEL SUGGESTED THAT THE Y2K PROBLEM COULD BE AN ISSUE AS PART OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON INFORMATICS. CHOWDHURY AGREED THAT THE Y2K PROBLEM WOULD BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF INFORMATICS CHAIR KAMAL (PAKISTAN PERMREP) AND THE SECRETARIAT.

PROPOSED REVISION TO MEDIUM TERM PLAN 1998-200)

5. USDEL ASKED THAT ECOSOC ASSUME ITS RESPONSIBILITY IN ADDRESSING REVISIONS TO THE PROPOSED MEDIUM TERM PLAN AND STRESSED THAT CPC DOCUMENTATION HAD TO BE PROVIDED IN A TIMELY MANNER.

DROUGHT IN EAST AFRICA

6. USDEL NOTED THAT THE DROUGHT AND CIRCUMSTANCES THAT GAVE RISE TO DECISON 1983/46 NO LONGER PREVAIL AND ASKED WHETHER THE ORAL REPORT ON THE DROUGHT IN EAST AFRICA COULD BE DISPENSED WITH. ECOSOC VICE PRESIDENT (DJIBOUTI) EXPLAINED THAT EAST AFRICAN COUNTRIES WERE STILL PRONE TO DROUGHT AND DESERTIFICATION, THAT FLOODS HAD DONE EXTENSIVE DAMAGE TO THEIR INFRASTRUCTURE, AND THE SUBJECT SHOULD REMAIN AS PART OF THE PROGRAM OF WORK. CHOWDHURY DECIDED, WITHOUT OBJECTION, THAT THE ORAL REPORTS WOULD REMAIN AS PART OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK.

ECONOMIC/ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONS - CONSUMER PROTECTION

7. USDEL EXPRESSED INTEREST IN GETTING AN UPDATE FROM THE SECRETARIAT PURSUANT TO DECISION 97/53 ON HOW THIS ISSUE IS BEING PREPARED FOR CONSIDERATION. THE SECRETARIAT REPLIED THAT ECOSOC HAD INVITED THE SYG TO ORGANIZE INTER-REGIONAL EXPERT GROUPS TO CONSIDER SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION PATTERNS. THE COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT TOOK UP THE ISSUE. THE SYG HAS WORKED ON IT WITH CONSUMERS INTERNATIONAL, A LEADING NGO IN THE FIELD. AN INTER-REGIONAL GROUP IS BEING CONVENED

WHICH WILL ISSUE A REPORT TO CSD VI AND THEN TO ECOSOC. UKDEL NOTED THAT THE COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT INTERSESSIONAL MEETING WILL ADDRESS THE ISSUE.

CRIME COMMISSION - CORRUPTION AND BRIBERY
UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 03 USUN NEW YORK 000262

DEPARTMENT FOR IO
USMVIENNA FOR UNVIE
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E.O.12958 :N/A
TAGS: ECON, ECOSOC, AORC, ETRD, SOCI, PREF
SUBJECT: ECOSOC INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS 1/30

8. USDEL NOTED THAT THE 1996 DECLARATION AGAINST CORRUPTION AND BRIBERY IN INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS REQUIRES THE SYG TO REPORT ON THE ISSUE AT THE 53RD UNGA. IT IS UNCLEAR FROM E/1998/1 WHAT FURTHER MEASURES WOULD COME TO ECOSOC FROM THE CRIME COMMISSION REGARDING THE DECLARATION. USDEL ASKED THE SECRETARIAT TO FOLLOW UP ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION WITH VIENNA.

DRUGS

9. UKDEL NOTED THAT THE COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS, NOT THE CRIME COMMISSION, ACTS AS THE PREPCOM FOR THE 1998 UNGASS ON DRUGS. HE FURTHER NOTED THAT THE UNGASS (JUNE 8-10) WILL HAVE TAKEN PLACE BEFORE THE REGULAR SESSION OF ECOSOC (JULY 6-31), THUS PRECLUDING ECOSOC FROM CONTRIBUTING MEANINGFULLY TO THE UNGASS. THE UK DEL WAS AMENABLE TO DELETING THE REFERENCE TO ECOSOC'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE UNGASS OR HAVING ECOSOC MOVE ITS CONSIDERATION OF UNGASS ISSUES TO MAY. THE G-77 (INDONESIA) STATED IT WAS NOT PREPARED TO ACT ON THE MATTER BUT WOULD HAVE A POSITION BY THE ECOSOC ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION NEXT WEEK.

FOLLOW-UP TO FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN (BEIJING)

10. THE EU ASKED THAT THIS ITEM BE ADDRESSED IN MAY AND NOT BE SCHEDULED FOR THE REGULAR SESSION. RESOLUTION 52/100 (OP'S 45-47) REQUIRES GA ACTION THROUGH ECOSOC ON THE FORM WHICH THE FIVE YEAR REVIEW OF THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN (BEIJING) WILL TAKE. THE RESOLUTION REQUIRES A GA DECISION BEFORE THE END OF THE 52ND GA. UKDEL REQUESTED THAT ECOSOC CONSIDER THE ISSUE IN MAY SO THAT THE GA WILL HAVE ENOUGH TIME TO GIVE PROPER CONSIDERATION TO THE ISSUE. RUSSIA, THE UK AND THE U.S. DELS ALL SUPPORTED THE CONTENTION THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH RESOLUTION 50/227 IT WAS PROPER FOR THE ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION TO CONSIDER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES.

REGIONAL COOPERATION

11. AFTER MUCH DISCUSSION, DELS AGREED THAT THE GENERAL REVIEW OF THE REGIONAL (ECONOMIC) COMMISSIONS WOULD BE TAKEN UP PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION 50/227 UNDER AGENDA I@M 8. AGENDA ITEM 10 WOULD REMAIN TO CONSIDER THE INDIVIDUAL COMMISSION REPORTS AND OTHER RELEVANT MATTERS. USDEL ASKED THAT THE SECRETARIAT TAKE THE LEAD IN WORKING WITH THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS TO ENSURE THAT THE REGIONAL COMMISSION JOINT REPORT ON REFORM EFFORTS IS A TIGHT, POLICY-ORIENTED REPORT RATHER THAN A LAUNDRY LIST OF THE COMMISSIONS' REFORMS UNDERTAKEN OR IN PROGRESS.

INTERNATIONAL YEARS

12. RUSSIAN DEL REPORTED THAT CONSULTATIONS ON RUSSIA'S RESOLUTION ON THE PROCLAMATION OF INTERNATIONAL YEARS (HAVING THE GA DECIDE THE ISSUE WITHOUT REQUIRING ECOSOC FILTERING OR RUBBER STAMPING OF REQUESTS FOR PROCLAIMING INTERNATIONAL YEARS) CONTINUES.

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

13. THE SECRETARIAT WILL PROVIDE A STATEMENT REGARDING PROGRAM BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS (PBI) CONCERNING THIS ITEM. USDEL ASKED IF THE UPDATED PBI DOCUMENT HAD BEEN ISSUED. THE SECRETARIAT SAID IT HAD NOT. COMMENT: UKDEL TOLD MISOFF AFTER MEETING THAT IT BELIEVED SECRETARIAT WAS IN ERROR AND THAT THE DOCUMENT HAD INDEED BEEN ISSUED. THE SECRETARIAT WILL LIKELY HAVE TO ISSUE A FURTHER DOCUMENT CLARIFYING THE NATURE OF THE PBI. END COMMENT.

ELECTIONS, ISAR

14. CHOWDHURY NOTED THAT A NUMBER OF ELECTIONS WERE HELD OVER AS PENDING FROM 1997. SOME BODIES DO NOT HAVE DECLARED CANDIDATES YET. USDEL ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION REGARDING THE STATUS OF ISAR (INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS OF ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING). UNTIL 1997 IT WAS AN ECOSOC SUBSIDIARY. IN 1997 ECOSOC DECIDED ISAR WOULD HENCEFORTH BE AN EXPERT BODY UNDER UNCTAD. SHOULD ECOSOC STILL BE INVOLVED IN ELECTING MEMBERS OF ISAR? USDEL RECOMMENDED THAT THE SECRETARIAT EXAMINE THE ISSUE IN CONSULTATION WITH UNCTAD. USDEL ASKED THAT ELECTIONS IN MAY FOR ISAR NOT PREJUDICE ISAR'S STATUS. RUSSIAN DEL EXPLAINED THAT 1997 ECOSOC DECISION RE ISAR WAS A CAREFULLY CRAFTED COMPROMISE MAKING ISAR ONE OF UNCTAD'S UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 03 USUN NEW YORK 000262

DEPARTMENT FOR IO
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E.O.12958 :N/A
TAGS: ECON, ECOSOC, AORC, ETRD, SOCI, PREF
SUBJECT: ECOSOC INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS 1/30

EXPERT BODIES BUT KEEPING IT IN SOME UNSPECIFIED WAY

WITHIN ECOSOC'S ORBIT.

HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS SEGMENT

15. THERE WAS MUCH DISCUSSION ON HOW TO FULFILL ECOSOC'S MANDATE TO HOLD A SEGMENT ADDRESSING HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS WITHOUT DIMINISHING THE TIME ALLOTTED TO DISCUSSION OF OTHER ECOSOC ISSUES OR INCURRING EXPENSES THAT WOULD CREATE BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS. PROPOSALS INCLUDED USING ONE DAY OF THE COORDINATION SEGMENT AS A HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS SEGMENT, TACKING ON ONE OR TWO DAYS AT THE BEGINNING OR END OF ECOSOC'S REGULAR SESSION, EXPANDING ECOSC'S REGULAR SESSION BY TWO TO FOUR DAYS, DEVTING PART OF THE MAY RESUMED SESSION TO HUMANITAIAN AFFAIRS, HOLDING THE SEGMENT IN GENEVA, AD LOOKING AT THE SUBSTANCE OF WHAT IS TO BE DISCSSED BEFORE DECIDING THE LENGTH OF THE HUMANITARAN AFFAIRS SEGMENT. CHOWDHURY INDICATED THAT HE BUREAU WOULD CONSIDER OPTIONS AND COME BACK WIT A RECOMMENDATION FOR DECISION TO BE CONSIDERED B THE DELS AT THE ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION NEXT WEEK. (COMMENT: THE CREATION OF A HUMANITARIAN SEGMENT AS PART OF TRACK II CANNOT REALISTICALLY BE ACCOMMODATED WITHIN THE FOUR WEEK ECOSOC SUBSTANTIVE SESSION. ITEMS WHICH COULD BE CUT ARE TOO POLITICALLY LOADED. DEPARTMENT VIEWS ON STRUCTURE, VENUE AND TIMING FOR THE HUMANITARIAN SEGMENT ARE REQUESTED).

16. OTHER MATTERS, SYG REFORMS-SECRETARIAT, DESA, ETC.

UNDER OTHER MATTERS USDEL ASKED THAT DURING THE ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION THAT DELS BE PROVIDED WITH AN UPDATE ON SECRETARIAT MATTERS, E.G., THE RECENTLY CONSTITUTED DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS, THE EFFECT OF SYG REFORMS ON THE SECRETARIAT, ETC. SECRETARIAT OFFICIAL MR. KHAN STATED THE SITUATION WAS STILL IN FLUX BUT THAT THE SECRETARIAT WILL KEEP DELS INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS. CANADIAN DEL ASKED FOR AN UPDATE AND EXCHANGE OF VIEWS REGARDING THE APRIL BWI MEETING AND THE MAY MEETING WITH THE ACC ON CONFERENCE FOLLOW-UP. MR. KHAN STATED THAT THE SECRETARIAT HAD PRESENTED ITS VIEWS TO THE BUREAU AND THAT INVITATIONS TO THE APRIL 18 MEETING WITH THE BWI'S WERE BEGINNING TO BE SENT TO PROSPECTIVE PANEL MEMBERS. HE STATED THAT DELS WOULD BE INFORMED CONCERNING DEVELOPMENTS ON THE STRUCTURE OF MEETINGS, PANELS, ETC.
END TEXT.
BURLEIGH

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 03
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ORIG: USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO: SECSTATE WASHDC 5332
INFO: ////
SUBJ: CSW MEETING WITH INTERESTED DELS ON JANUARY 30

TEXT:

UNCLAS USUN NEW YORK 000286

DEPARTMENT FOR IO/ESA

E.O.12958: N/A
TAGS: PHUM, SOCI, KWMN, PGOV
SUBJECT: CSW MEETING WITH INTERESTED DELS ON JANUARY 30

1. SUMMARY. COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (CSW) BUREAU MEMBER SUSAN ECKEY (NORWAY) AND INCOMING CSW CHAIR PATRICIA FLOR (GERMANY) PRESIDED OVER AN INFORMAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH INTERESTED DELEGATIONS ON THEMATIC ISSUES BEFORE THE CSW AT ITS UPCOMING (MARCH 2-13) FORTY SECOND SESSION. THE SESSION WILL FOCUS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND ACTION IN THE CRITICAL AREAS OF CONCERN IN THE FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN (REIJING 1995). END SUMMARY.

2. ECKEY AND FLOR PRESIDED IN THE ABSENCE OF CURRENT CSW CHAIR SHARON BRENNEN-HAYLOCK (BAHAMAS). SECRETARIAT OFFICIAL KRISTEN TIMOTHY (DAW) DISCUSSED THE ADVANCE UNEDITED VERSION OF THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THEMATIC ISSUES BEFORE THE CSW (E/CN.6/1998/5 FAXED TO IO/ESA). SHE BRIEFLY DISCUSSED THE ORGANIZATION OF THE FOUR CHAPTER TOPICS, VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, WOMEN AND ARMED CONFLICT, HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN, AND THE GIRL CHILD.

3. CHAIR-DESIGNATE FLOR SAID THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE INFORMAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WAS TO BE BETTER PREPARED FOR THE UPCOMING CSW. SHE ASKED DELS TO ADDRESS FOUR QUWTIONS: 1) WHAT IS THE MAIN FOCUS OF THE CSW?; 2) DO WE FEEL COMFORTABLE WITH THE SUB-THEMES?; 3) IS THE EMPHASIS CORRECT/ARE ANY IMPORTANT ASPECTS MISSING?; AND 4) ARE THERE ANY RECOMMENDATIONS THAT WE CANNOT ACCEPT?

4. THE EU, NORWAY AND COTE D'IVOIRE STATED THAT IN THE SECTION ON 'WOMEN AND ARMED CONFLICT' THE FOCUS WAS ON THE WOMAN AS VICTIM, WITH INSUFFICIENT ATTENTION PAID TO THE WOMAN AS PEACEMAKER. INDIA, SOUTH AFRICA, AND ZAMBIA STATED THAT THE SUB-THEMES FOCUSSED ONLY ON SOME ASPECTS OF THE MAIN THEME AND THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT TO ADDRESS THE WHOLE THEME COMPREHENSIVELY. INDIA WAS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED THAT BY ADDRESSING ONLY ADOLESCENT GIRLS AS A SUB-THEME, THE CSW WOULD MISS MANY OF THE PROBLEMS OF THE GIRL CHILD. INDIA AND THE EU SAID THAT THERE WAS NOT ENOUGH DETAIL ON ENHANCING THE COMMUNICATION PROCEDURES IN THE 'HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN' SEGMENT.

5. ALL DELEGATIONS WHO TOOK THE FLOOR WANT THE CSW TO FOCUS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION AND, THEREFORE, TO LOOK AT THE NATIONAL ACTION PLANS. FLOR SAID SHE WOULD CALL ANOTHER MEETING IN LATE FEBRUARY TO DISCUSS TWO AS YET UNCOMPLETED PAPERS, THE NATIONAL ACTION PLANS SYNTHESIS AND THE OPTION PAPER ON BEIJING PLUS FIVE.
BURLEIGH

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

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CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
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ORIG: USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO: SECSTATE WASHDC 5410
INFO: ////
SUBJ: CSW 42ND SESSION: USUN MEETING WITH INCOMING CHAIRWOMAN FLOR

TEXT:

UNCLAS E F T O SECTION 01 OF 03 USUN NEW YORK 000326

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SENSITIVE

NOFORN

DEPARTMENT FOR IO/ESA

E.O.12958: DECL:N/A
TAGS: PHUM, SOCI, KWMN, PGOV, GM
SUBJECT: CSW 42ND SESSION: USUN MEETING WITH INCOMING CHAIRWOMAN FLOR

REF: USUN NEW YORK 286

1. (U) SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED. PLEASE HANDLE ACCORDINGLY.

2. (SBU) SUMMARY AND ACTION REQUEST: COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (CSW) CHAIR-DESIGNATE DR. PATRICIA FLOR (GERMANY) MET WITH USUN MISOFFS ON FEBRUARY 3 TO REVIEW THE STATUS OF POTENTIALLY CONTENTIOUS ISSUES RELATED TO THE MARCH 2-13 FORTYSECOND ANNUAL CSW SESSION. ISSUES INCLUDED THE FORUM FOR THE FIVE YEAR HIGH LEVEL REVIEW OF THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN (BEIJING, 1995) IN THE YEAR 2000, A POSSIBLE VOTE ON THE ISSUE OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS TO INHERITANCE, THE PERENNIAL RESOLUTION ON PALESTINIAN WOMEN, AND NEW APPROACHES TO TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS/WOMEN MIGRANT WORKER ISSUES. FLOR ALSO GAVE GERMANY'S VIEWS ON INSTRAW. DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE IN RESPONDING TO FLOR'S REQUEST FOR US VIEWS IS WELCOMED. END SUMMARY AND ACTION REQUEST.
BEIJING PLUS FIVE - THE PUSH FOR A UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY SPECIAL SESSION INTENSIFIES

3. (SBU) INCOMING CSW CHAIR PATRICIA FLOR REQUESTED A MEETING WITH USUN MISOFF TO REVIEW ISSUES RELATED TO THE UPCOMING ANNUAL CSW SESSION. SHE ASKED FOR US VIEWS ON A HOST OF TOPICS, BEGINNING WITH THE FORUM FOR THE HIGH LEVEL YEAR 2000 REVIEW OF THE FOLLOW-UP AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN HELD IN BEIJING IN 1995 (BEIJING PLUS FIVE). THE 52ND GA GAVE THE CSW A MANDATE FOR DECIDING THE FORUM FOR THE HIGH LEVEL REVIEW OF BEIJING PLUS FIVE.

4. (SBU) FLOR NOTED THAT THE SECRETARIAT OPTIONS PAPER ON THE FORUM FOR THE HIGH LEVEL REVIEW IS BEING ISSUED LATE AND WILL LIKELY BE AVAILABLE ONLY IN ENGLISH. IT WILL BE NEUTRAL, I.E. NOT ADVOCATING ONE SPECIFIC OPTION OVER ANOTHER. HOWEVER, FLOR PROCEEDED TO REVIEW THE OPTIONS FOR CSW'S DECISION ON THE FORUM FOR THE HIGH LEVEL REVIEW. SHE ARGUED THAT ON EITHER TECHNICAL OR SUBSTANTTVE GROUNDS, THE ONLY REALISTIC OPTION IS TO HOLD A UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY SPECIAL SESSION IN THE YEAR 2000, MOST LIKELY IN MAY DUE TO SCHEDULING CONSIDERATIONS. COMMENT: DURING THE GA THE EU HAD NO UNIFIED POSITION ON THE FORUM FOR THE REVIEW, BUT FLOR WAS THOUGHT TO FAVOR AN UNGA SPECIAL SESSION. END COMMENT.

5. (SBU) FLOR DECLARED THAT A HIGH LEVEL REVIEW IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE CSW IS NOT FEASIBLE. TF THE CSW IS TO ACT AS THE PREPCOM FOR A HIGH LEVEL REVIEW, THERE IS TNADEQUATE TIME FOR THE SECRETARIAT TO PROCESS THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTATION. NOR IS IT FEASIBLE, SHE CLAIMED, TO HOLD THE HIGH LEVEL REVIEW DURING THE PROPOSED MILLENIUM ASSEMBLY IN THE YEAR 2000. THE REPORT ON THE MILLENIUM ASSEMBLY THAT WAS REQUESTED BY THE GA WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL APRIL, AFTER THE CSW ANNUAL SESSION, AND THEREFORE TOO LATE FOR THE CSW TO CONSIDER IT AS A VIABLE OPTION. MOREOVER, THE BUZZ IS THAT THE MILLENIUM ASSEMBLY IS LIKELY TO BE A COMMEMORATIVE EVENT WHICH WOULD NOT BE SUITABLE FOR A HIGH LEVEL SUBSTANTIVE REVIEW OF BEIJING. FLOR ALSO SAID THAT THE EU WILL NOT SUPPORT A NON-SPECIAL SESSION HIGH LEVEL BEIJING PLUS FIVE REVIEW DURING THE REGULAR GA BECAUSE THE EU WANTS TO HIGHLIGHT THE IMPORTANCE OF BEIJING PLUS FIVE. FLOR ALSO RULED OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF A SPECIAL SESSION IMMEDIATELY BEFORE THE GENERAL DEBATE AT THE FAL GA IN THE YEAR 2000. SHE STATED THAT ONCE THE GA BEGINS, A SPECIAL SESSION CANNOT TAKE PLACE IN THE FALL.

6. (SBU) ARGUING IN FAVOR OF THE SPECIAL SESSION, FLOR NOTED THAT THE FIVE YEAR REVIEW OF COPENHAGEN'S WORLD SUMMIT ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT ENTAILED A SPECIAL SESSION. HOW COULD WE EXPLAIN, ESPECIALLY TO THE LARGE, ENTHUSIASTIC NGO COMMUNITY, THAT THE ISSUE OF WOMEN DID NOT RATE A SPECIAL SESSION? COMMENT: WE HAVE HEARD THAT THE WOMEN'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION, AN NGO HEADED BY FORMER CONGRESSWOMAN BELLA ABZUG, IS FLOATING THE IDEA OF AN UNGA SPECIAL SESSION THAT WOULD PROVIDE A FIVE YEAR REVIEW OF BOTH BEIJING AND

COPENHAGEN. END COMMENT. THE GENERAL PATTERN FOR THE FOLLOW-UP OF WORLD CONFERENCES HAS BEEN THE CONVENG OF A UNGA SPECIAL SESSION. THE U.S. SUPPORTED AN UNGASS FOR COPENHAGEN, RIO, AND CAIRO--WHY NOT BEIJING? THE U.S. WAS THE LONE HOLD-OUT IN GENEVA RE HOLDING A WORLD CONFERENCE ON RACISM AND EVENTUALLY JOINED CONSENSUS (ALBEIT WITH A STRONG EOP) AT THE FALL UNGA. FLOR WOULD LIKE TO AVOID A SITUATION WHERE ONE HOLDOUT DESTROYS THE BUILDING MOMENTUM EVEN THOUGH THE END RESULT IS LIKELY
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SENSITIVE

NOFORN

DEPARTMENT FOR IO/ESA

E.O.12958: DECL:N/A
TAGS: PHUM, SOCI, KWMN, PGOV, GM
SUBJECT: CSW 42ND SESSION: USUN MEETING WITH INCOMING CHAIRWOMAN FLOR

REF: USUN NEW YORK 286

TO BE A UN GA SPECIAL SESSION. THE EU, FLOR ARGUED, IS LIKELY TO SUPPORT A SPECIAL SESSION. SHE ASKED FOR USG VIEWS.

7. (SBU) COMMENT: WE CAN TAKE ISSUE WITH MANY OF FLOR'S ARGUMENTS. ONE CAN ALSO ARGUE CIRCUMSTANTIALLY THAT THE PACE AND ACTIONS OF THE CSW BUREAU OR SECRETARIAT ARE LEADING TO A PREDETERMINED CONCLUSION IN FAVOR OF A GA SPECIAL SESSION THAT WILL BE MORE EXPENSIVE THAN ANY OTHER OPTION EXCEPT A WORLD CONFERENCE. HOWEVER, THE BOTTOM LINE IS THAT MANY OF FLOR'S ARGUMENTS ARE VALID--THE EXPECTATIONS OF THE NGO COMMUNITY THE LIKELIHOOD OF THE U.S. BEING THE LONE HOLDOUT IN OPPOSING A GA SPECIAL SESSION, OUR INABILITY TO SELL ANY OTHER FORM OF HIGH LEVEL REVIEW TO BOTH THE G-77 AND EU. IN FORMULATING A FINAL POSITION, WE SHOULD CAREFULLY CONSIDER THE CONSEQUENCES OF OPPOSING A UN GA SPECIAL SESSION THAT MAY OCCUR WITH OR WITHOUT OUR SUPPORT.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS TO INHERITANCE

8. (SBU) ON THE ISSUE OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS TO INHERITANCE, WHICH ERUPTED AT LAST YEAR'S CSW SESSION AND AT THE 52ND GA, FLOR NOTED THAT THE G-77 SPLIT BETWEEN ISLAMIC AND SADC MEMBER STATES MAY BE BEYOND COMPROMISE. SHE RAISED THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE ISSUE MAY COME TO A VOTE. COMMENT: THE CSW, LIKE MOST FUNCTIONAL COMMISSIONS OF ECOSOC, OPERATES BY CONSENSUS. THE PREDISPOSITION TO REACH CONSENSUS IS VERY STRONG. MATTERS RARELY, IF EVER, COME TO A VOTE. END COMMENT. FLOR SAID THAT THE SADC POSITION WOULD LIKELY WIN OVERWHELMINGLY. ONLY THE FOUR ISLAMIC MEMBER STATES--IRAN, SUDAN, LEBANON, AND

PAKISTAN--ON THE 45 MEMBER CSW WOULD VOTE AGAINST STRONG LANGUAGE SUPPORTING WOMEN'S RIGHTS TO INHERITANCE. SHE VENTURED THAT PERHAPS IN THIS INSTANCE, IT MAY BE BETTER TO LET THE MATTER COME TO A VOTE SO THAT THE LANGUAGE ON THE ISSUE WOULD BE FULLY CONSISTENT WITH BEIJING'S PLATFORM FOR ACTION, AND, AT THE SAME TIME, THE ISLAMIC STATES WOULD BE ON RECORD THAT THEY COULD NOT SUPPORT THE LANGUAGE AS IT CONFLICTED WITH THE TENETS OF ISLAM. FLOR'S BOTTOM LINE IS THAT THE RESOLUTION OF THE ISSUE ADVANCE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM. SHE SOUGHT USG VIEWS.

PALESTINIAN WOMEN, TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN, INSTRAW

9. (U) ON THE ISSUE OF A RESOLUTION ON PALESTINIAN WOMEN USUN NOTED USG OPPOSITION TO SUCH A RESOLUTION LAST YEAR, AND THAT ASSUMING A SIMILAR RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED, WE WOULD LIKELY OPPOSE IT AGAIN FOR THE SAME REASONS STATED IN OUR 1997 EOV.

10. (SBU) FLOR RAISED THE ISSUE OF THE PHILIPPINE DELEGATION'S EFFORTS TO HAVE THE CSW CONSIDER THE TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS ISSUE. SHE SUGGESTED THAT PERHAPS THE UN COULD TRY AN 'INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH' WITH THE CRIME COMMISSION, THE COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, CSW, THE TREATY BODIES (CEDAW), AND EVENTUALLY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY PASSING A DECLARATION OR DEVISING A PROPOSED MODEL STRATEGY FOR DEALING WITH THE TRAFFICKINGPROBLEM. THINKING ALOUD, SHE SUGGESTED THAT PERHAPS THE CSW BUREAU COULD DRAFT A PROPOSAL THAT WOULD BE CIRCULATED AS A CHAIR'S TEXT THAT WOULD OFFER AN INITIATIVE FOR FOLLOW-UP AND IMPLEMENTATION BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. FLOR REMARKED THAT THIS WOULD BE A NOVEL AND COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH, REQUIRING COOPERATION AMONG COMMISSIONS. IT WOULD GIVE THE UN AN OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE ON THE IMPORTANT ISSUE OF TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN. COMMENT: THROUGHOUT THE DISCUSSION IT WAS DIFFICULT TO DISCERN HOW MUCH OF THE ARGUMENTS FLOR MADE REPRESENTED FLOR'S VIEWS, GERMANY'S, THE EU'S, OR OTHER CSW BUREAU MEMBERS. A PORTION OF THE DISCUSSION ON THE TRAFFICKING INITIATIVE AS WELL AS HER ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF A UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY SPECIAL SESSION TO REVIEW BEIJING (SEE ABOVE) COULD BE A PERSONAL AGENDA. END COMMENT.

11. (SBU) FLOR NOTED THAT SOME EU DELS BELIEVED THAT THE WOMEN MIGRANT WORKER ISSUE, THE OTHER PERENNIAL PHILIPPINE INITIATIVE, WOULD BE BETTER SERVED IF IT WERE CONSIDERED UNDER OTHER ISSUES LIKE 'VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN' OR 'WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS.' SHE AGAIN SOUGHT U.S. VIEWS.

12. (SBU) REGARDING THE CSW SESSION, FLOR THOUGHT SOME TIME SHOULD BE DEVOTED TO CONSIDERING THE CSW'S ROLE AS UNCLAS E F T O SECTION 03 OF 03 USUN NEW YORK 000326

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DEPARTMENT FOR IO/ESA

E.O.12958: DECL:N/A
TAGS: PHUM, SOCI, KWMN, PGOV, GM
SUBJECT: CSW 42ND SESSION: USUN MEETING WITH INCOMING CHAIRWOMAN FLOR

REF: USUN NEW YORK 286

A UN BODY BEYOND 2000, SPECIFICALLY WHAT, IF ANYTHING, SHOULD IT DO TO FULFILL ITS MANDATE. SHE STATED THAT AT THE UPCOMING CSW THERE WOULD BE NEGOTIATED AGREED CONCLUSIONS THAT SHE HOPED WOULD BE CONCISE AND READABLE. SHE DISMISSED THE ALTERNATIVE OF CHAIR SUMMARIES, NOTING THAT THE AGREED CONCLUSIONS VEHICLE IS EQUAL TO A RESOLUTION AND IS PART OF THE EFFORT IN INTERPRETING AND FURTHERING INTERNATIONAL LAW.

13. (SBU) USUN RAISED THE ISSUE OF INSTRAW, NOTING THAT INSTRAW'S NEW YORK LIAISON OFFICER HAD JUST FAXED A REQUEST (REFAXED BY USUN TO IO/ESA) FOR INSTRAW'S NEW DIRECTOR TO MEET WITH USDEL AT THE CSW. FLOR, NOW SPEAKING AS GERMAN MISSION DEL, STATED THAT INSTRAW NEEDS A PROPER BUSINESS STRATEGY OR WORKPLAN, PERHAPS PROVIDING RESEARCH TO THE DIVISION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN (DAW), BEFORE BONN WOULD CONSIDER CONTRIBUTING ADDITIONAL RESOURCES. BURLEIGH

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 03
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SUBJ: UN COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN -- REPORTING CABLE

TEXT:

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 11 STATE 072977

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: KWMN, PHUM, UN, CSW
SUBJECT: UN COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN -- REPORTING CABLE

REF: (A) 98 STATE 31161, (B) 98 USUN NEW YORK 827 (NOTAL)

THIS CABLE CONTAINS SOME SENSITIVE INFORMATION. PLEASE PROTECT ACCORDINGLY.

1. SUMMARY: THE 42ND SESSION OF THE UN COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (CSW) MET IN NEW YORK, MARCH 2-13, 1998. IN ORDER TO COMPLEMENT THE COMMEMORATION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, THIS YEAR'S SESSION ADOPTED "AGREED CONCLUSIONS" ON HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN, INCLUDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, WOMEN AND ARMED CONFLICT, AND THE GIRL CHILD. THE CSW ALSO ADOPTED A RESOLUTION ON OLDER WOMEN, WHICH URGES PREPARATIONS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF OLDER PERSONS (1999) TO INCLUDE A GENDER PERSPECTIVE, AND A qESOLUTION ON A HIGH LEVEL EVENT TO APPRAISE AND ASSESS PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION. ALSO AT THIS SESSION, AN OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP CONTINUED DRAFTING AN OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF

ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW) - THE UNITED STATES INTRODUCED A RESOLUTION ON THE SITUATION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN AFGHANISTAN, WHICH GATHERED 45 CO-SPONSORS AND WAS ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS. THE U.S. CO-SPONSORED THREE RESOLUTIONS -- THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC TEXT ON OLDER WOMEN, THE CANADIAN TEXT ON THE MID-TERM REVIEW OF THE SYSTEM-WIDE MEDIUM-TERM PLAN; AND THE ZAMBIAN RESOLUTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND LAND DISCRIMINATION. TEXTS OF THE RESOLUTIONS AND AGREED CONCLUSIONS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE UN WEBSITE "HTTP://WWW.UN.ORG/WOMENWATCH/DAW/CSW" UNDER "42ND SESSION OF THE CSW." END SUMMARY.

BACKGROUND

2. THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION, WHICH WAS ADOPTED AT THE 1995 FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN, IDENTIFIED 12 "CRITICAL AREAS OF CONCERN." AT ITS L99- SESSION, THE CSW ADOPTED A MULTI-YEAR PROGRAM OF WORK, THROUGH THE YEAR 2000, THAT INCLUDED A REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF PROGRESS MADEIN EACH OF THE C
THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN
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RIGHTS, IT WAS DECIDED THAT THIS YEAR'S SESSION SHOULD FOCUS ON THE FOUR CRITICAL AREAS RELATED TO HUMAN RIGHTS: HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN, VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, WOMEN AND ARMED CONFLICT, AND THE GIRL CHILD.

3. DELIBERATIONS ON EACH CRITICAL AREA OF CONCERN OPENED WITH STATEMENTS BY A PANEL OF EXPERTS, FOLLOWED BY QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM UN MEMBER STATES AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOS) . AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE DIALOGUE, MEMBER STATES NEGOTIATED "AGREED CONCLUSIONS, WHICH CONTAIN RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW TO ACHIEVE FURTHER PROGRESS IN EACH OF THESE AREAS.

HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN

4. IN PREPARATION FOR THE DISCUSSION ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN, THE UN DIVISION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN (THE CSW SECRETARIAT) CONVENED AN EXPERT GROUP MEETING THAT FOCUSED ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND CULTURAL RIGHTS. ACCORDINGLY, A GOOD DEAL OF THE DISCUSSION ON THIS TOPIC CENTERED ON THESE RATHER THAN ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS.

5. THE U.S. RECOMMENDED THAT THE CSW REAFFIRM THE UNIVERSALITY, INDIVISIBILITY AND INALIENABILITY OF HUMAN RIGHTS; AND THAT IT FOCUS ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS AS WELL AS ON ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RIGHTS. (HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEVELOPMENT SHOULD COMPLEMENT, NOT COMPETE WITH EACH OTHER.) THE U.S. ALSO RECOGNIZED THE NEED TO FURTHER INTEGRATE THE WORK OF THE CSW AND THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND IN THIS REGARD RECOMMENDED THAT NATIONAL ACTION PLANS COVER STRATEGIES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TREATY OBLIGATIONS; THAT GOVERNMENTS CONSIDER PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS TO PUBLICIZE HUMAN RIGHTS; AND THAT THEY WORK TO ACHIEVE MORE GENDER BALANCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS TREATY BODIES. THE U.S. AGREED WITH THE PANELISTS ON THE NEED TO FOCUS ADDITIONAL ATTENTION ON WOMEN'S ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RIGHTS AND TO ASSESS THE IMPACT OF ECONOMIC AND TRADE POLICIES ON WOMEN, SINCE INEQUALITY IS ONE OF THE MOST PERVASIVE MANIFESTATIONS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN. THE U.S. ALSO POINTED OUT THE STRONG NEED FOR GOVERNMENTS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND NOOS TO FOCUS ATTENTION ON THE POSITIVE IMPACT OF WOMEN ON THE ECONOMY, INCLUDING THE UNDERVALUATION OF WOMEN'S CONTRIBUTION THROUGH UNWAGED WORK AND THE POSITIVE ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTIONS OF WOMEN WHICH ARE OFTEN INVISIBLE. THE U.S. SAID WOMEN MUST BE SEEN AS FULL UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 11 STATE 072977

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ECONOMIC ACTORS AND PARTICIPANTS IN ECONOMIC DECISION-MAKING, NOT SIMPLY AS VICTIMS OF THE FEMINIZATION OF POVERTY.

6. THE COMMISSION AD?PTED AGREED CONCLUSIONS RELATED TO CREATING AN ENVIRONMENT CONDUCIVE TO WOMEN'S ENJOYMENT OF THEIR HUMAN RIGHTS; RAISING AWARENESS OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS, GUARANTEEING THE EXISTENCE OF A NATIONAL LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK; RATIFYING CEDAW; CREATING GENDER MAINSTREAMING MECHANISMS; SUPPORTING THE CREATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT; AND CONTINUING COOPERATION BETWEEN THE CSW AND THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION.

7. A PROPOSAL HAD SURFACED REQUESTING THE CSW TO APPOINT A SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS OF WOMEN. THE U.S., THE EU AND OTHERS WERE SUCCESSFUL IN CHANGING THIS PROPOSAL TO A RECOMMENDATION THAT THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS GIVE PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS OF WOMEN IN ANY DISCUSSIONS IT MAY HAVE ON THE QUESTION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF A UNHRC SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

8. BONNIE CAMPBELL, DIRECTOR OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE'S OFFICE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN WAS ONE OF THE EXPERTS ON THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN PANEL. SHE SPOKE OF USO INITIATIVES IN SEEKING TO ELIMINATE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN.

9. THE U.S. DELEGATION RECOMM5ODED THAT GOVERNMENTS CREATE TOUGH PENALTIES FOR VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN; THAT THEY DEVELOP CIVIL PENALTIES TO REQUIRE SEX OFFENDERS TO PAY RESTITUTION TO THEIR VICTIMS; THAT THEY SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF SCHOOL PROGRAMS AIMED AT ENHANCING AWARENESS AMONG GIRLS AND BOYS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND ITS LINKS WITH DISCRIMINATION; AND THAT THEY EXPLORE WAYS TO EMPHASIZE THE POSITIVE ROLES MEN CAN PLAY IN PREVENTING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN. THE U.S. ALSO ENCOURAGED GOVERNMENTS AND NGOS TO DEVELOP MORE EFFECTIVE POLICIES TO PREVENT VIOLENT CRIMES AGAINST WOMEN; EXPLORE NEW INITIATIVES TO PROTECT WOMEN FROM LOSING THEIR LIVELIHOODS BECAUSE OF DOMESTIC ABUSE; IMPROVE DATA COLLECTION AND STATISTICS ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN; AND CONDUCT RESEARCH ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES OF THIS VIOLENCE.

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10. THE AGREED CONCLUSIONS ADDRESSED: NATIONAL PLANS TO ELIMINATE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN; LEGISLATION THAT PENALIZES VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN; TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS; SEXUAL HARASSMENT; TRAINING AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF

LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL; RESEARCH AND DATA COLLECTION ON VIOLENCE; AND PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS THAT PORTRAY VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AS UNACCEPTABLE.

WOMEN AND ARMED CONFLICT

11. THE UNITED STATES RECOMMENDED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERMANENT INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT. THE U.S. ALSO ENCOURAGED THE UN TO STRENGTHEN ITS ONGOING EFFORTS TO TRAIN PEACEKEEPERS IN HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES, INCLUDING HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN; INVITED THE UN TO ASSESS THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ITS HUMAN RIGHTS TRAINING BY ENCOURAGING THE OFFICE OF INTERNAL OVERSIGHT TO INCLUDE HUMAN RIGHTS AND GENDER IN ITS REPORTS ON PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS; AND ENCOURAGED PEACEKEEPERS TO WORK WITH NGOS TO IMPROVE THEIR RESPECT FOR AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. THE U.S. ALSO RECOMMENDED THAT THE TALENTS AND CAPABILITIES OF REFUGEE WOMEN BE FULLY

INTEGRATED IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMS FOR REFUGEES.

12. THE AGREED CONCLUSIONS ADDRESSED WOMEN'S ROLE IN CONFLICT PREVENTION AND RESOLUTION; ENHANCING THE CULTURE OF PEACE AND THE PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF ARMED CONFLICTS; PROMOTING GENDER EXPERTISE IN THE AD HOC WAR CRIMES TRIBUNALS; LAND MINES; AND THE SPECIAL NEEDS AND CAPABILITIES OF REFUGEE WOMEN AND GIRLS.

13. NEGOTIATION OF THESE AGREED CONCLUSIONS SEEMED ENDLESS. THE G-VV WANTED TO INCLUDE LANGUAGE ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS; ECONOMIC SANCTIONS; TRAFFIC, TRADE AND TRANSFER OF SMALL ARMS; AND CHILD SOLDIERS. THE U.S. WAS SUCCESSFUL IN KEEPING OUT ANY REFERENCE TO NUCLEAR WEAPONS; AND IN FOCUSING THE DISCUSSION ON SMALL ARMS ON ''ILLICIT'' TRAFFIC, TRADE AND TRANSFER. ON CHILD SOLDIERS, THE U.S. PROPOSED "PROTECTING CHILDREN. .. IN SITUATIONS OF ARMED CONFLICT AGAINST PARTICIPATION, RECRUITMENT, RAPE AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION THROUGH ADHERENCE TO THE APPLICABLE PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW ON HUMAN RIGHTS, INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW AND NATIONAL LEGISLATION." ON SANCTIONS, THE U.S. AGREED TO REPEATING LANGUAGE IN THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION.
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THE GIRL CHILD

14. THE U.S. RECOMMENDED THAT GOVERNMENTS AND NGOS GALVANIZE PARENTS, FAMILIES, SCHOOLS, COMMUNITIES, RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS, HEALTH PROVIDERS AND OTHER CARING ADULTS TO MAKE REGULAR, SUSTAINED EFFORTS TO REINFORCE GIRLS' SELF-WORTH AND SELF-CONFIDENCE BY PROVIDING GIRLS WITH ACCURATE INFORMATION, POSITIVE MESSAGES, AND MEANINGFUL OPPORTUNITIES. THE U.S. ALSO RECOMMEND THAT

GOVERNMENTS TAKE MEASURES TO FIGHT ABUSIVE AND EXPLOITATIVE CHILD LABOR; THAT THEY TAKE STEPS TO PREVENT ANY USE OF CHILD PROSTITUTES WHETHER IN THEIR OWN COUNTRIES OR OUTSI4E THEIR BORDERS; AND THAT THEY BAN CHILD PORNOGRAPHY AND PROSECUTE PERSONS ENGAGED IN THE PRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION, AND POSSESSION OF SUCH MATERIALS.

15. THE AGREED CONCLUSIONS ADDRESSED AWARENESS-RAISING CAMPAIGNS; HARMFUL CUSTOMARY PRACTICES; TREATY RATIFICATION AND REPORTS TO TREATY BODIES; NON-DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT OF GIRLS IN THE FAMILY; COMPULSORY PRIMARY EDUCATION AND

UNIVERSAL ENROLLMENT AND RETENTION OF GIRLS IN SCHOOL; AND CHILD LABOR AND CHILD EXPLOITATION.

BEIJING PLUS FIVE

16. THE 52ND (1997) GENERAL ASSEMBLY DECIDED TO CONVENE, IN THE YEAR 2000, A HIGH LEVEL PLENARY REVIEW TO APPRAISE AND ASSESS PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION. THE GA ALSO DECIDED THAT THE CSW WOULD SERVE AS THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THIS REVIEW.

L-. AT THIS SESSION, THE CSW RECOMMENDED THE HIGH-LEVEL REVIEW BE HELD AS A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, FROM JUNE 5-9, 2000; AND THAT THE 1999 AND YEAR 2000 SESSIONS OF THE CSW SHOULD BE EXTENDED BY FIVE DAYS EACH TO COMPLETE THE PREPARATIONS. (THE SECRETARIAT REPORTED THAT THE EXTENDED 1999 SESSION WILL HAVE NO/NO FINANCIAL IMPLICATION FOR THE REGULAR BUDGET.)

18. THE CSW ALSO RECOMMENDED THAT THE SPECIAL SESSION REAFFIRM THE COMMITMENT TO THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION AND FOCUS ON OBSTACLES ENCOUNTERED IN IMPLEMENTING THE PLATFORM AND STRATEGIES TO OVERCOME THOSE OBSTACLES.

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19. THERE WAS A GOOD DEAL OF DISCUSSION ON WHAT TYPES OF REPORTS (IF ANY) GOVERNMENTS SHOULD BE EXPECTED TO SUBMIT. IT WAS AGREED THAT, IN 1999, GOVERNMENTS WOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO SUBMIT INFORMATION ON THEIR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLATFORM, FOCUSING PARTICULARLY ON POSITIVE ACTIONS, LESSONS LEARNED, OBSTACLES, AND KEY CHALLENGES REMAINING.

20. THE CSW AGREED THAT THE UN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, FUNDS, AND PROGRAMS SHOULD BE INVOLVED AT A HIGH LEVEL IN PREPARING FOR AND PARTICIPATING IN THE YEAR 2000 REVIEW.

21. THE CSW WAS RATHER NON-COMMITTAL ON THE ROLE OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS, AND AGREED TO "ENCOURAGE" APPROPRIATE REGIONAL PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES IN COOPERATION WITH UN REGIONAL COMMISSIONS.

22. ON THE ISSUE OF NGO PARTICIPATION, THE FIRST DRAFT OF THE CHAIR'S TEXT RECOMMENDED THAT NGOS IN CONSULTATIVE STATUS WITH ECOSOC AND NGOS THAT HAVE INITIATED THE PROCESS OF APPLYING FOR CONSULTATIVE STATUS COULD PARTICIPATE IN THE HIGH-LEVEL REVIEW, BASED ON ARRANGEMENTS TO BE DECIDED

BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN 1999. THE UNITED STATES SUPPORTED THIS LANGUAGE. THE EU, HOWEVER, ARGUED THIS LANGUAGE WAS TOO RESTRICTIVE AND RECOMMENDED WIDER NGO PARTICIPATION. THE CSW DECIDED TO TAKE UP THIS ISSUE AT A FUTURE SESSION.

SITUATION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN AFGHANISTAN

23. THE CSW HAS A TRADITION OF AVOIDING COUNTRY-SPECIFIC SITUATIONS, ALTHOUGH THIS TRADITION HAS BEEN BREACHED MORE THAN ONCE. (IN ADDITION TO THE ANNUAL G-77 RESOLUTION ON PALESTINIAN WOMEN, THE CSW HAS ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS ON WOMEN IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA (1993-1995), AND ON WOMEN JOURNALISTS IN ALGERIA (1996).)

24. OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS, THE UNITED STATES HAS SPOKEN OUT, IN THE CEW AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, ON THE SITUATION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN AFGHANISTAN. THIS YEAR, BECAUSE OF THE CSW'S FOCUS ON HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN, THE U.S. BELIEVED IT WAS APPROPRIATE AND NECESSARY TO INTRODUCE A RESOLUTION ON THE SITUATION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN AFGHANISTAN. SOME OF OUR CLOSEST FRIENDS (INCLUDING CANADA AND NORWAY) WERE SKEPTICAL OF A COUNTRY-SPECIFIC RESOLUTION. NORWAY EVEN SAID IT WOULD ABSTAIN.
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25. TN THE END, WE HAD 45 CO-SPONSORS, INCLUDING CANADA, NORWAY, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, THE ENTIRE EUROPEAN UNION, SWITZERLAND, ICELAND, LIECHTENSTEIN, MALTA, TURKEY, JAPAN, PHILIPPINES, KYRGYZSTAN, MARSHALL ISLANDS, ARGENTINA, BOLIVIA, CHILE, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, GUATEMALA, PANAMA, PERU, CZECH REPUBLIC, ROMANIA, SLOVAKIA, THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO, GUINEA-BISSAU, MALAWI, MALI, RWANDA, SOUTH AFRICA, AND ISRAEL.

26. WE UNDERSTAND PAKISTAN WAS NOT PLEASED WITH THE RESOLUTION, BUT SINCE PAKISTAN IS NOT A MEMBER OF THE CSW, IT CANNOT VOTE. THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION HAD APPROACHED US TO DELETE REFERENCES TO VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS BY "ALL PARTIES WITHIN AFGHANISTAN" SAYING THERE WERE NO INDICATIONS THAT ANYONE OTHER THAN THE TALIBAN WAS GUILTY; THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION MADE A STATEMENT TO THAT EFFECT AFTER THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS.

27. THE RESOLUTION CONDEMNS THE CONTINUING VIOLATIONS OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN; CALLS ON ALL PARTIES TO

RECOGNIZE, PROTECT, PROMOTE AND ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH ALL HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS; URGES ALL AFGHAN FACTIONS TO END DISCRIMINATORY POLICIES; APPEALS TO ALL STATES TO ENSURE THAT ALL HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE PEOPLE OF AFGHANISTAN INTEGRATES GENDER AND ACTIVELY ATTEMPTS TO PROMOTE THE PARTICIPATION OF BOTH WOMEN AND MEN; ENCOURAGES THE CONTINUING EFFORTS OF THE UN, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, NGOS AND DONORS TO ENSURE THAT ALL UN ASSISTED PROGRAMS IN AFGHANISTAN PROMOTE AND ENSURE THE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN AND THAT WOMEN BENEFIT EQUALLY WITH MEN FROM SUCH PROGRAMS; WELCOMES THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AD HOC INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE ON GENDER IN AFGHANISTAN UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S SPECIAL ADVISER ON GENDER ISSUES AND ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN; AND REQUESTS THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO ENSURE THAT REPORTS OF FUTURE GENDER MISSIONS ARE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE CSW.

HUMAN RIGHTS AND LAND RIGHTS DISCRIMINATION

28. AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CSW, ZAMBIA CIRCULATED A DRAFT RESOLUTION ON "HUMAN RIGHTS AND LAND RIGHTS DISCRIMINATION," WHICH "URGES STATES TO DESIGN AND REVISE LAWS TO ENSURE THAT WOMEN ARE ACCORDED FULL AND EQUAL RIGHTS TO OWN LAND AND OTHER PROPERTY, INCLUDING THROUGH UNCLAS SECTION 08 OF 11 STATE 072977

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THE RIGHT TO EQUAL INHERITANCE." IN INFORMAL NEGOTIATIONS, SUDAN AND IRAN SAID THAT, ALTHOUGH THEY COULD ACCEPT "EQUAL RIGHTS TO OWN LAND AND OTHER PROPERTY", THEY COULD NOT ACCEPT "THE RIGHT TO EQUAL INHERITANCE." AFTER CONSULTING WITH OTHER SADC CO-SPONSORS, ZAMBIA OFFERED TO CHANGE "THE RIGHT TO EQUAL INHERITANCE" TO "THE RIGHT TO INHERITANCE," PROVIDED THE ENTIRE ISLAMIC GROUP AGREED TO JOIN CONSENSUS IN ADOPTING THE RESOLUTION WITHOUT MAKING INTERPRETIVE STATEMENTS. SUDAN SAID IT WOULD HAVE TO CONSULT WITH THE GROUP BEFORE MAKING SUCH A COMMITMENT, SO ZAMBIA TABLED AND INTRODUCED THE RESOLUTION WITH BOTH "EQUALS."

(SBU) 29. SINCE THERE IS NO RIGHT TO EQUAL INHERITANCE IN THE UNITED STATES, THE U.S. WAS RELUCTANT TO CO-SPONSOR THE RESOLUTION AS IT WAS TABLED. WE DID, HOWEVER, ASSURE ZAMBIA THAT, IF THE RESOLUTION WERE BROUGHT TO A VOTE, WE WOULD VOTE YES.

30. NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN ZAMBIA AND SUDAN CONTINUED THROUGHOUT THE CSW. ON THE FINAL DAY, SUDAN AGREED TO ZAMBIA'S TERMS, AND THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY

CONSENSUS. WHEN ACTION WAS TAKEN, THE U.S. JOINED AS A CO-SPONSOR.

OLDER WOMEN

31. THE U.S. CO-SPONSORED THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC RESOLUTION ENTITLED "OLDER WOMEN AND SUPPORT SYSTEMS: GENDER AND CAREGIVING," WHICH REQUESTED THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE CSW REPORT ON THIS TOPIC. THE RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO RESEARCH, ECONOMIC SECURITY, EDUCATION AND EMPOWERMENT, AND WELL-BEING OF CAREGIVERS.

SYSTEM-WIDE MEDIUM TERM PLAN

32. CANADA INTRODUCED A RESOLUTION ON THE MID-TERN REVIEW OF THE SYSTEM-WIDE MEDIUM TERM PLAN FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN, WHICH STRESSES THE IMPORTANCE OF GENDER MAINSTREAMING AND RECOMMENDS THAT GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT GOALS BE INTEGRATED INTO THE CONTINUING UN REFORM PROCESS. THE U.S. CO-SPONSORED THE RESOLUTION, WHICH WAS ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS.

WOMEN MIGRANT WORKERS
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33. THE PHILIPPINES INTRODUCED A RESOLUTION ON WOMEN MIGRANT WORKERS, WHICH WAS MORE FOCUSED THAN PAST RESOLUTIONS ON THIS TOPIC. IT ADDRESSED THE NEED FOR RESEARCH, DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS; AND REQUESTED THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO ESTABLISH A DATA BASE OF GOOD PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED RELATING TO GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE. THE U.S. JOINED CONSENSUS IN ADOPTING THE RESOLUTION.

RESOLUTION ON THE GIRL CHILD

34. NAMIBIA CIRCULATED A DRAFT RESOLUTION ON THE GIRL CHILD WHICH "CALLS UPON THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO APPOINT A SPECIAL AMBASSADOR TO RAISE AWARENESS ON THE SPECIAL NEEDS AND CONCERNS OF THE GIRL CHILD."

35. SEVERAL DELEGATIONS, INCLUDING THE UNITED STATES, HAD SERIOUS RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE RESOLUTION, PARTICULARLY THE PROPOSAL FOR A "SPECIAL AMBASSADOR." WE WERE CONCERNED THAT IT WAS DUPLICATIVE TO HAVE "AGREED CONCLUSIONS" AND A

RESOLUTION ON THE SAME TOPIC. WE WERE ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT THE COST, TERMS OF REFERENCE, AND EFFECTIVENESS OF SUCH A POSITION, AND WHAT UNICEF'S THOUGHTS WERE ON THIS PROPOSAL.

36. DURING INFORMAL NEGOTIATIONS, THE U.S. ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HIGH LEVEL ATTENTION TO AN ISSUE OFTEN GENERATES A POSITIVE RESPONSE, NOTING FIRST LADY HILLARY'RODHAM CLINTON'S INTEREST IN THE SITUATION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS. THE U.S. SUGGESTED IT MIGHT BE MORE EFFECTIVE TO GALVANIZE THE FIRST LADIES OF AFRICA TO FOCUS ON THE SITUATION OF

GIRLS. NORWAY THEN SUGGESTED THAT THE UPCOMING MINISTERIAL MEETING IN SOUTH AFRICA SHOULD HAVE "GIRLS" AS A KEY AGENDA ITEM.

37. WITH NO VISIBLE SUPPORT FOR-THE RESOLUTION, NAMIBIA AGREED TO MEET WITH UNICEF AND EXPLORE OTHER OPTIONS. NAMIBIA LATER WITHDREW THE RESOLUTION.

PALESTINIAN WOMEN

38. THE G-77 INTRODUCED ITS ANNUAL TEXT ON PALESTINIAN WOMEN, WHICH THE U.S. BELIEVES IS ONE-SIDED IN SINGLING OUT ISRAEL FOR CRITICISM. THE U.S. CALLED FOR A VOTE AND VOTED NO. IT WAS ADOPTED BY A VOTE OF 34 TO 1 (U.S), WITH FIVE UNCLAS SECTION 10 OF 11 STATE 072977

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ABSTENTIONS (LEBANON, LESOTHO, NORWAY, RWANDA, AND UGANDA)

CSW COMMUNICATIONS PROCEDURE

39. BY RESOLUTION L983/27, ECOSOC REAFFIRMED THE CSW'S MANDATE TO CONSIDER CONFIDENTIAL AND NONCONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATIONS ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO ECOSOC AS TO WHAT ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN ON EMERGING TRENDS AND PATTERNS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN REVEALED BY SUCH COMMUNICATIONS. IT AUTHORIZED THE CSW TO ESTABLISH A FIVE-MEMBER WORKING GROUP TO CONSIDER THE COMMUNICATIONS WITH A VIEW TO BRINGING TO THE COMMISSION'S ATTENTION THOSE COMMUNICATIONS WHICH APPEAR TO REVEAL A CONSISTENT PATTERN OF RELIABLY ATTESTED INJUSTICE AND DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES AGAINST WOMEN.

(SBU) 40. THE REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP WAS PRESENTED AT A CLOSED MEETING OF THE CSW, ON MARCH 12. ONE OF THE COMMUNICATIONS WAS FROM FREEDOM HOUSE, A U.S. NCO. IT ALLEGED THAT CUBA HAD REFUSED TO GIVE DR. HILDA MOLINA, REPORTEDLY A CUBAN SCIENTIST AND NEUROSURGEON, PERMISSION

TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY TO VISIT FAMILY MEMBERS. THE DELEGATE FROM CUBA MADE AN INTERVENTION CHARGING THAT FREEDOM HOUSE IS AN ARM OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, THAT IT RECEIVES MOST OF ITS FUNDING FROM THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, AND THAT ITS ALLEGATIONS CANNOT BE BELIEVED. THE U.S. MADE A RIGHT OF REPLY POINTING OUT THAT FREEDOM HOUSE IS A LEGITIMATE NGO THAT HAS CONSULTATIVE STATUS WITH THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, AND THAT ANY FUNDING IT RECEIVES FROM THE U.S. GOVERNMENT IS FULLY CONSISTENT WITH ITS STATUS AS A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION.

OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW)

41. USDEL'S REPORT ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN ELABORATING AN

OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO CEDAW IS CONTAINED IN REF (B)A

ATMOSPHERE

(SBU) 42. THE ATMOSPHERE AT THIS YEAR'S CSW WAS SCHIZOPHRENIC. THE OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP ON THE OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO CEDAW WAS DOWNRIGHT HOSTILE AT TIMES, THANKS IN NO SMALL PART TO THE AUSTRIAN CHAIR WHO FREQUENTLY INTIMATED THAT THOSE STATES UNLIKELY TO RATIFY
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THE OPTIONAL PROTOCOL SHOULD KEEP QUIET.

43. THE ATMOSPHERE IN THE PLENARY WAS CORDIAL AND, FOR THE MOST PART, PRODUCTIVE. AT TIMES IT APPEARED THE G-77- WAS TRYING TO STALL NEGOTIATIONS, THEIR EFFORTS ENHANCED BY SOME OF THE WEAKER CHAIRPERSONS. ON THE OTHER HAND, DELEGATIONS SEEMED TO NEGOTIATE IN GOOD FAITH AND GOOD HUMOR.

NGO BRIEFINGS

44. THE U.S. DELEGATION CONTINUED ITS TRADITION OF HOLDING DAILY BRIEFINGS FOR REPRESENTATIVES OF NGOS. THIS YEAR, WE INVITED EXPERTS FROM WASHINGTON AND ELSEWHERE TO ADDRESS RELEVANT TOPICS SUCH AS THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT, VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, THE NGO NATIONAL ORGANIZING BODY FOR BEI-ING, AND THE VITAL VOICES CONFERENCE. THE DAILY BRIEFINGS WERE WELL-ATTENDED.

BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS

45. SEVERAL DELEGATIONS REQUESTED BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH AMBASSADOR LINDA TARR-WHELAN, THE U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CSW. SHE HELD FORMAL MEETINGS WITH HEADS OF DELEGATION FROM THE UK (ON BEHALF OF THE EU), CANADA, JAPAN, AND ISRAEL, AS WELL AS WITH THE HEADS OF UNIFEM AND INSTRAW, AND THE UNHRC SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN.

NOTE OF THANKS

46. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES DEMARCHES MADE BY POSTS PRIOR TO THIS SESSION OF THE COMMISSION. THE DEMARCHES CLEARLY HELPED GARNER SUPPORT FOR OUR RESOLUTION ON AFGHANISTAN.
ALBRIGHT

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LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY ULAANBAATAR
OSRI: RUEHUM
DTG: 270903Z APR 98
ORIG: AMEMBASSY ULAANBAATAR
TO: SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0715
INFO: ////
SUBJ: SPECIAL ASSISTANCE FOR MONGOLIAN WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED - PROTECT ACCORDINGLY

TEXT:

UNCLAS ULAANBAATAR 000556

STATDIS

SENSITIVE

PASS TO USDEL SECRETARY FOR A/S SHATTUCK AND A/S ROTH

DEPT FOR G-ACTING U/S SHERMAN

ALSO FOR G/OFFICE OF WOMEN'S COORDINATOR AND EAP/CM

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: KWMN, PREL, OVIP, MG
SUBJECT: SPECIAL ASSISTANCE FOR MONGOLIAN WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED - PROTECT ACCORDINGLY

1. (SBU) SINCE PLANNING FOR THE SECRETARY'S VISIT TO ULAANBAATAR BEGAN, WE HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH G/OFFICE OF THE WOMEN'S COORDINATOR AND EAP/CM TO DEVELOP AN ASSISTANCE PACKAGE TARGETED AT THE SPECIAL NEEDS OF MONGOLIAN WOMEN'S NGO'S IN AREAS OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO THE SECREARY, G, DRL, INL AND OTHERS. WE HAVE PROOSED IN PARTICULAR THAT THE SECRETARY, IN HER EETING WITH WOMEN MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND NGO EADERS ON MAY 2, ANNOUNCE A MODEST ASSISTANCE ACKAGE, AS FOLLOWS:

--SUPPORT FOR THE EAS ASIAN WOMEN'S FORUM TO BE HELD IN ULAANBAATAR N AUGUST 1998: $100,000 (THIS IS A FOLLOW-ONTO THE BEIJING WOMEN PARTICIPATE IN THIS SUB-REGIONAL CONERENCE FOR THE FIRST TIME BY INVITATION OF THE MNGOLIAN SPONSORS).

--ASSISTANCE FOR THE CENTER AGAINST VIOLENCE TO UPGRADE AND EXPAND ITS PRORAMS: $50,000 TO RELOCTE AND ENLARGE THE BATTERED WOMEN'S SHELTER; $0,000 FOR PROVINCIAL ANTI-VIOLENCE PROGRAM EPANSION; $15,000 FOR EXPANDING THE ANTI-VIOENCE COUNSELLING HOTLINE; AND $15,000 FOR MENS EDUCATION (OFFENDERS AND YOUTHS). TOTAL:$100,000.

--SUPPORT TO SEND A MONGOLIAN DELEGATION OF FIVE WOMEN TO THE NEW DELHI WORLD CONFERNCE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN SEPTEMBER - TTAL $25,000 (INCLUDES EXPENSES FOR PREPARATION OF INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS IN ENGLISH).

WE HAVE ALSO PROPOSED THAT THE USG SEND A DELEGATION TO THE EAST ASIAN CONFERENCE AND THAT THE SECRETARY ANNOUNCE THIS INTENTION (NO NAMES ARE NEEDED AT THIS POINT) TO THE WOMEN'S ROUNDTABLE.

2. (SBU) VARIOUS SPONSORSHIP AND FUNDING SOURCES FOR THE ABOVE ASSISTANCE PACKAGE HAVE BEEN EXPLORED BUT WE ARE TOLD THAT THE BULK OF THE FUNDS WOULD COME FROM A DEMOCRACY ALLOCATION (ESF) TO THE G BUREAU OF AID. THE FUNDS WOULD BE CHANNELLED TO THE MONGOLIAN ORGANIZATIONS VIA THE ASIA FOUNDATION (TAF) WHICH HAS AN ACTIVE PRESENCE HERE AND GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH THE RECIPIENT NGO'S. ALL OF THE FUNDS WOULD BE DISBURSED IN FY98, THUS WE ARE NOT PROPOSING A CONTINUING (OR COSTLY) ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

3. (SBU) EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT DISCUSSIONS ARE TO BE HELD BY ACTING UNDER SECRETARY SHERMAN WITH AID IN THE NEXT DAY OR SO TO TRY TO BREAK THE ASSISTANCE PACKAGE LOOSE. APPARENTLY, LOWER LEVEL BUREAUCRATIC FORCES WITHIN AID'S G BUREAU PREVENTED FINALIZATION OF THE PACKAGE BEFORE THE SECRETARY'S DEPARTURE. OUR DRAFT REMARKS PROPOSED FOR THE SECRETARY AT THE WOMEN'S ROUNDTABLE INCLUDED CONTINGENCY LANGUAGE FOR AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF THESE MODEST INITIATIVES. WE HOPE THAT INTERVENTION BY ACTING UNDER SECRETARY SHERMAN AND THERESA LOAR'S OFFICE CAN BREAK LOOSE A USG COMMITMENT IN TIME FOR YOUR VISIT TO ULAANBAATAR. ABOVE ALL, WE HOPE THAT THE SECRETARY WILL BE ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF ANTI-VIOLENCE PROGRAMS IN MONGOLIA IN THIS MODEST WAY.

LA PORTA

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 0556

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ORIG: SECSTATE WASHDC
TO: RUEHKV/AMEMBASSY KIEV PRIORITY 0000
INFO: RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS PRIORITY
SUBJ: U.S.-UKRAINE COOPERATION TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN
TEXT:

UNCLAS STATE 080584

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: PHUM, UP, SMIG, KCRM, KWMN, CVIS, PREF
SUBJECT: U.S.-UKRAINE COOPERATION TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN

1. (U) THIS IS AN ACTION REQUEST. SEE PARAGRAPH 11.

2. (U) SUMMARY: ON MARCH 11, 1998 PRESIDENT CLINTON ISSUED AN EXECUTIVE MEMORANDUM ON STEPS TO COMBAT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS. IN THIS EXECUTIVE MEMORANDUM, PRESIDENT CLINTON DIRECTS THE SECRETARY OF STATE, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, AND OTHER USG OFFICIALS TO STRENGTHEN AND EXPAND EFFORTS TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS IN THE UNITED STATES AND AROUND THE WORLD. THE PRESIDENT'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON WOMEN IS DIRECTED TO COORDINATE THIS EFFORT. THE PRESIDENT ALSO DIRECTED THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO COORDINATE AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL RESPONSE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF UKRAINE'S REQUEST TO JOINTLY DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS FROM UKRAINE. THIS U.S.-UKRAINE INITIATIVE SHOULD BECOME A MODEL FOR COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS. THE PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL WILL WORK CLOSELY WITH STATE DEPARTMENT BUREAUS, POST, USAID, USIA, AND THE LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY AND OTHERS TO ENSURE A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY IS DEVELOPED AND IMPLEMENTED IN THE AREAS OF PREVENTION, VICTIM PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE, AND ENFORCEMENT. POST IS ASKED TO LOOK AT THE FULL RANGE OF ACTIVITIES DISCUSSED IN THE CABLE AND REPORT BACK TO WASHINGTON ON HOW TO FILL IN THE GAPS.
END SUMMARY.

3. (U) PRESIDENT CLINTON'S MARCH 11 EXECUTIVE MEMORANDUM ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS DIRECTS THE PRESIDENT'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON WOMEN (PICW) TO COORDINATE THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO

TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS WORLDWIDE. THE PICW IS AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODY CHARGED WITH FOLLOW-UP TO THE UN FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN. SECRETARY ALBRIGHT SERVES AS CHAIR OF THE PICW AND HILARY RODHAM CLINTON IS THE HONORARY CHAIR. IN THE EXECUTIVE MEMORANDUM PRESIDENT CLINTON SPECIFICALLY ADDRESSED THE GOVERNMENT OF UKRAINE'S REQUEST TO JOINTLY DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS FROM AND TO UKRAINE. THIS STRATEGY WILL SERVE AS A MODEL FOR A MULTI-DISCIPLINARY APPROACH TO THE PROBLEM THAT CAN BE EXPANDED TO OTHER COUNTRIES. THERESA LOAR, DIRECTOR OF THE PRESIDENT'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON WOMEN AND SENIOR COORDINATOR FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S ISSUES, WILL DIRECT THE EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT THIS STRATEGY. THE INTERAGENCY GROUP INCLUDES STATE REPRESENTATIVES FROM CA, EUR/WST, G, INL, PRM, S/NIS, S/NIS/C AS WELL AS USAID -- G/WID AND ENI, USIA, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

4. (U) LOAR OPENED THE FIRST WORKING GROUP MEETING AFTER PRESIDENT CLINTON'S EXECUTIVE MEMORANDUM BY EXPLAINING THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF UKRAINE SUGGESTED THIS INITIATIVE AND HAS ACTIVELY PURSUED ITS DEVELOPMENT. UKRAINIAN AMBASSADOR YURI SHCHERBAK MET WITH LOAR ON MARCH 2 TO DISCUSS U.S.-UKRAINIAN COOPERATION ON THIS ISSUE. SECRETARY ALBRIGHT DISCUSSED THE U.S.-UKRAINE INITIATIVE WITH THE GOU DURING HER MARCH 6 VISIT TO UKRAINE, WHICH RESULTED IN THE SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO UKRAINE IN THE MARCH 11 EXECUTIVE MEMORANDUM. MRS. CLINTON ALSO ADDRESSED THIS ISSUE WITH UKRAINIAN OFFICIALS DURING HER LAST VISIT TO UKRAINE. ON APRIL 13 PRESIDENT LEONID KUCHMA OF UKRAINE SIGNED LEGISLATION PASSED BY THE UKRAINIAN PARLIAMENT ON MARCH 24, 1998 PRESCRIBING CRIMINAL CHARGES FOR TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS.

5. (U) PRM REPRESENTATIVES DESCRIBED THE U.S.-EU COORDINATED INFORMATION CAMPAIGN TO PREVENT TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN FROM CENTRAL EUROPE AND THE NIS. THE CAMPAIGN WAS ANNOUNCED AT THE U.S.-EU SUMMIT IN THE HAGUE LAST MAY AS A MECHANISM TO EXPAND TRANSATLANTIC COOPERATION ON MIGRATION ISSUES AND SPECIFICALLY ADDRESSES TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN. THE U.S. AND THE EU ARE IMPLEMENTING INFORMATION CAMPAIGNS ON SEPARATE, TWIN TRACKS IN THE REGION (EU-POLAND, U.S.-UKRAINE). PRM IS FUNDING THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (IOM), AN NGO, TO IMPLEMENT THE CAMPAIGN IN UKRAINE. ALTHOUGH THE JOINT IMPLEMENTATION PHASE WITH THE EU IS APRIL THROUGH JUNE, PRM WILL CONTINUE FUNDING IOM TO IMPLEMENT THE CAMPAIGN THROUGH NOVEMBER. THE CAMPAIGN FOCUSES PRIMARILY ON WARNING YOUNG WOMEN OF THE TACTICS USED BY TRAFFICKERS AND THE DANGERS OF BECOMING INVOLVED WITH THEM. THE CAMPAIGN USES TECHNIQUES SUCH AS GROUP DISCUSSIONS WITH POTENTIAL VICTIMS; PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGES BROADCAST ON RADIO, TELEVISION, AND RENTAL VIDEOTAPES; POSTER AND PAMPHLET DISTRIBUTIONS; AND MAGAZINE AND NEWSPAPER ARTICLES. IN JULY 1998, THE U.S. WILL SPONSOR A WORKSHOP IN L'VIV, WHICH WILL BRING TOGETHER ALL INVOLVED PARTIES TO EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE CAMPAIGNS IN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND TO HIGHLIGHT THEIR MESSAGE. IF THE PROJECT IS SUCCESSFUL, THE U.S. AND THE EU WILL CONSIDER

ADAPTING AND EXPANDING IT TO OTHER CRITICAL SOURCE AND TRANSIT COUNTRIES.

6. (U) USAID GAVE AN OVERVIEW OF THE USAID STRATEGY PAPER ON TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN, WHICH ADDRESSES PREVENTION AND ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS. THE PREVENTION STRATEGIES INVOLVE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ASSISTANCE AND INCREASING PUBLIC AWARENESS USING NGOS. THERE WAS SOME DISCUSSION THAT A PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN WAS ALREADY UNDERWAY AND THAT USAID'S PROPOSED WORK IN THIS AREA WOULD BE DUPLICATIVE. THE STRATEGY ALSO CALLS FOR ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS TO BE PROVIDED THROUGH THE HOSPITAL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM. AT PRESENT, THREE HOSPITALS (IN L'VIV, ODESA, AND KIEV) PROVIDE SERVICES FOR FEMALE VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE AND ABUSE, WHICH COULD INCLUDE TRAFFICKING VICTIMS.

7. (U) INL SPOKE ABOUT LAW ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS TO ADDRESS TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS THROUGH LEGISLATION, AS WELL AS THE TRAINING OF LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL. INL HAS ALSO DEVELOPED A PAMPHLET CALLED "BE SMART, BE SAFE," THAT HAS BEEN TRANSLATED INTO POLISH, RUSSIAN AND UKRAINIAN AND FOCUSES ON WARNING YOUNG WOMEN ABOUT THE METHODS OF TRAFFICKERS AND THE CONSEQUENCES ACCEPTING THEIR OFFERS. INL INCLUDED A SEGMENT ON TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN IN THEIR LATEST TRAINING AT THE INTERNATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY (ILEA) IN BUDAPEST.

8. (U) CONSULAR AFFAIRS DISCUSSED AN ALDAC CABLE (REF STATE 211747) FROM CA ASSISTANT SECRETARY MARY RYAN ON TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS. THE CABLE URGES CONSULAR OFFICERS WORLDWIDE TO PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE IN COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS. THE CABLE DIRECTS OFFICERS TO REPORT ON THIS ISSUE AND TO SPONSOR MEETINGS WITH CONSULAR COLLEAGUES AND HOST COUNTRY NATIONALS TO SHARE STRATEGIES FOR PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE TO TRAFFICKING VICTIMS. UPCOMING ANTI-FRAUD TRAINING BY CA WILL ADDRESS TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS. IN RESPONSE TO CA'S CONCERN ABOUT REPATRIATION OF WOMEN WHO HAVE BECOME INVOLVED IN THE SEX TRADE IN THE UNITED STATES, IT WAS NOTED THAT RETURNEES OFTEN HAVE NO ACCESS TO ASSISTANCE IN THEIR HOME COUNTRY. FUTURE STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT SHOULD ADDRESS THIS ISSUE UNDER THE CATEGORY OF VICTIM ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION.

9. (U) S/NIS REPORTED THAT THE UPCOMING JUNE MEETINGS OF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT WORKING GROUP OF THE GORE-KUCHMA COMMISSION WILL PRESENT A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THIS ISSUE AT THE POLICY LEVEL WITH THE UKRAINIANS.

10. (U) LOAR REITERATED THE NEED FOR POST, BUREAUS, USAID, USIA, AND THE LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THE PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL TO DEVELOP A PROGRAM AND STRATEGY TO DEAL WITH THIS PROBLEM. SHE REQUESTED THAT NO NEW ACTIVITIES BE STARTED UNTIL THERE HAS BEEN A FULL COORDINATION OF POST'S AND OTHER PARTIES' EFFORTS.

11. (U) ACTION: IN ADDITION TO REPORTING ON THE NEW UKRAINIAN LAW ON TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS, POST IS

REQUESTED TO REPORT ON CURRENT STEPS UNDERWAY TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS. POST IS ALSO ASKED TO PROVIDE SUGGESTIONS TO THE PICW WORKING GROUP ON HOW TO ENSURE THAT THIS MODEL BILATERAL INITIATIVE IS COMPREHENSIVE IN THE AREAS OF PREVENTION, VICTIM PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE, AND ENFORCEMENT. POST SHOULD TAG THE RESPONSE FOR S/PICW, PRM AND EUR/WST. PROGRESS THAT HAS BEEN MADE AND STEPS TO BE TAKEN WILL BE REPORTED TO THE SECRETARY.
TALBOTT

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 0584

TOR: 980505115935 M3273148

DIST:

SIT: BUSBY JORDAN NAPLAN PASCUAL RAGAN SCHWARTZ
SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: ROUTINE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: RAAUZYUW RUEHCAA7336 1342303-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: R 142300Z MAY 98
LINE4: FM SECSTATE WASHDC
OSRI: RUEHC
DTG: 142300Z MAY 98
ORIG: SECSTATE WASHDC
TO: ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS
SPECIAL EMBASSY PROGRAM
INFO: ////
SUBJ: EXECUTIVE ORDER: VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS

TEXT:

UNCLAS STATE 087336

FROM THERESA LOAR FOR AMBASSADORS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: KWMN, PHUM, SCWL, PREL, ELAB, SMIG, KFRD, PREF, CVIS, CASC
SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE ORDER: VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS

1. THIS CABLE PROVIDES BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE DEPARTMENT'S EFFORTS TO COMBAT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, INCLUDING TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS.

2. ON MARCH 11, 1998, PRESIDENT CLINTON ISSUED AN EXECUTIVE MEMORANDUM ON STEPS TO COMBAT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS. THE MEMORANDUM WAS ISSUED AT A MARCH 11, 1998 WHITE HOUSE EVENT IN HONOR OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY. AT THIS EVENT THE PRESIDENT, THE FIRST LADY, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL JANET RENO, THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS KOFI ANNAN, DR. SAISUREE CHUTIKUL, A THAI GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL, AND I SPOKE ABOUT USG LEADERSHIP ON WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS AROUND THE WORLD.

3. THE AUDIENCE INCLUDED U.S. GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, MEMBERS OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS, MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS.

4. THE EVENT HIGHLIGHTED THE FOLLOWING:

-- A REAFFIRMATION OF USG SUPPORT FOR A VIGOROUS CAMPAIGN FOR SENATE RATIFICATION OF THE WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS TREATY, THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN.

-- AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW PROGRAMS TO ASSIST AFGHAN WOMEN AND GIRLS SUFFERING AT THE HANDS OF THE TALIBAN, A REGIME THE USG AND THE UNITED NATIONS HAVE DENOUNCED FOR THEIR ABUSES OF HUMAN RIGHTS, INCLUDING WOMEN'S RIGHTS.

-- AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF AN ADDITIONAL -IO MILLION TO COMBAT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND USAID.

-- AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF A SERIES OF INITIATIVES TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS, ONE OF THE FASTEST GROWING CRIMINAL ENTERPRISES IN THE WORLD. THESE INITIATIVES IN THE U.S. AND AROUND THE WORLD WILL:

- EDUCATE YOUNG WOMEN AND GIRLS ABOUT TRAFFICKING SO THAT THEY WILL NOT FALL PRAY TO TRAFFICKERS TACTICS OF COERCION, FRAUD, AND DECEIT,
- PROVIDE PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS, AND
- ENHANCE THE CAPABILITIES OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING.

TEXT OF PRESIDENT'S MEMORANDUM TO FOLLOW.

5. BEGIN TEXT. AS WE CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY TODAY, WE HIGHLIGHT THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD. WE ALSO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THERE IS MUCH WORK YET TO BE DONE TO ENSURE THAT WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS ARE PROTECTED AND RESPECTED. THE MOMENTUM GENERATED BY THE UNITED NATIONS FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN BEIJING IN 1995 CONTINUES TO ENCOURAGE OUR GOVERNMENT, AS WELL AS NATIONS AROUND THE WORLD, TO FULFILL OUR COMMITMENTS TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF WOMEN AND GIRLS.

I HAVE, ONCE AGAIN, CALLED UPON THE SENATE TO GIVE ITS ADVICE AND CONSENT TO RATIFICATION TO THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN, THUS ENABLING THE UNITED STATES TO JOIN L7L OTHER COUNTRIES IN SUPPORT OF THE CONVENTION. THIS CONVENTION IS AN

EFFECTIVE TOOL THAT CAN BE USED TO COMBT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, REFORM UNFAIR INHERITANCE AND PROPERTY RIGHTS, AND STRENGTHEN WOMEN'S ACCESS TO FAIR EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY. RATIFICATION OF THIS CONVENTION WILL ENHANCE OUR EFFORTS TO PROMOTE THE STATUS OF WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD. AS WE LOOK AT AFGHANISTAN AND THE EGREGIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS COMMITTED AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS AT THE HANDS OF THE TALIBAN, WE RECOGNIZE THAT THIS IS AN ISSUE OF GLOBAL IMPORTANCE.

MY ADMINISTRATION IS WORKING HARD TO ELIMINATE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN ALL ITS FORMS. OUR EFFORTS HELP COMBAT THIS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATION AROUND THE WORLD AND HERE IN THE UNITED STATES. AS PART OF MY 1994 CRIME BILL, I SIGNED INTO LAW THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT. THIS LEGISLATION DECLARES CERTAIN FORMS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN TO BE FEDERAL CRIMES AND PROVIDES FOR CRITICAL ASSISTANCE TO STATES, TRIBES, AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES IN THEIR EFFORTS TO RESPOND TO THIS PROBLEM. THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IS

IMPLEMENTING THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT AND WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY TO PROMOTE CRIMINAL PROSECUTION AND PROVIDE SERVICES TO VICTIMS. THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, WE HAVE ESTABLISHED FOR THE FIRST TIME A NATIONWIDE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE, SO THAT WOMEN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY CAN CALL ONE TOLL-FREE NUMBER AND BE CONNECTED TO A LOCAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUPPORT CENTER. WE HAVE COME A LONG WAY SINCE 1994, AND I AM PROUD OF OUR EFFORTS.

EACH DAY RECOGNITION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF? THIS ISSUE GROWS AROUND THE WORLD. IN RECENT YEARS, MANY COUNTRIES HAVE BEGUN TO RESPOND TO CALLS FOR LEGISLATION AND GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS ADDRESSING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN. THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY INCREASINGLY REGARDS VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AS A FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATION, AN IMPEDIMENT TO A NATION'S DEVELOPMENT, AND AN OBSTACLE TO WOMEN'S FULL PARTICIPATION IN DEMOCRACY.

TODAY I AM DIRECTING THE SECRETARY OF STATE, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, AND THE PRESIDENT'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON WOMEN TO CONTINUE AND EXPAND THEIR WORK TO COMBAT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN HERE IN THE UNITED STATES AND AROUND THE WORLD. WE HAVE MADE GREAT PROGRESS SINCE THE ENACTMENT OF THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT IN 1994, BUT THERE REMAINS MUCH TO BE DONE. WE MUST CONTINUE TO WORK TO IMPLEMENT THE

ACT FULLY AND TO RESTORE THE ACT'S PROTECTION FOR IMMIGRANT VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HERE IN THE UNITED STATES SO THAT THEY WILL NOT BE FORCED TO CHOOSE BETWEEN DEPORTATION AND ABUSE.

THE PROBLEM OF TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS, AN INSIDIOUS FORM OF VIOLENCE, HAS RECEIVED A GREAT DEAL OF ATTENTION FROM THE WORLD COMMUNITY. THIS IS AN INTERNATIONAL PROBLEM WITH NATIONAL IMPLICATIONS. HERE IN THE UNITED STATES, WE HAVE SEEN CASES OF TRAFFICKING FOR THE PURPOSES OF FORCED PROSTITUTION, SWEATSHOP LABOR, AND EXPLOITATIVE DOMESTIC SERVITUDE. THE VICTIMS IN THESE CASES OFTEN BELIEVE THEY WILL BE ENTERING OUR COUNTRY TO SECURE A DECENT JOB. INSTEAD, THEY ARE VIRTUAL PRISONERS, WITH NO RESOURCES, LITTLE RECOURSE, AND NO PROTECTION AGAINST VIOLATIONS OF THEIR HUMAN RIGHTS. MY ADMINISTRATION IS COMMITTED TO COMBATING TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS WITH A FOCUS ON THE AREAS OF PREVENTION, VICTIM ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION, AND ENFORCEMENT. OUR WORK ON THIS ISSUE HAS BEEN ENHANCED BY A STRONG PARTNERSHIP WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS AND THE U.S. CONGRESS.

I AM ALSO DIRECTING THE SECRETARY OF STATE, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, AND THE PRESIDENT'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON WOMEN TO INCREASE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS ABOUT TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS. I WANT TO ENSURE THAT YOUNG WOMEN AND GIRLS ARE EDUCATED ABOUT THIS PROBLEM SO THAT THEY WILL NOT FALL PREY TO TRAFFICKERS' TACTICS OF COERCION, FRAUD, AND DECEIT.

I ALSO WANT TO PROVIDE PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE TO

VICTIMS. AND FINALLY, I WANT TO ENHANCE THE CAPACITY OF LAW ENFORCEMENT WORLDWIDE TO PREVENT WOMEN AND GIRLS FROM BEING TRAFFICKED AND ENSURE THAT TRAFFICKERS ARE PUNISHED.

THEREFORE, I DIRECT:

I. THE SECRETARY OF STATE, IN COORDINATION WITH THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, TO STRENGTHEN AND EXPAND OUR EFFORTS TO COMBAT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN ALL ITS FORMS AROUND THE WORLD. THESE EFFORTS WILL BE RESPONSIVE TO GOVERNMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENT REQUESTS FOR PARTNERSHIPS, EXPERT GUIDANCE, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO ADDRESSpXHIS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATION.

II. THE PRESIDENT'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON WOMEN TO COORDINATE THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT RESPONSE ON TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS, IN CONSULTATION WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS.

III. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO EXANINE CURRENT TREATMENT OF VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING INCLUDING TO DETERMINE WAYS TO INSURE: THE PROVISION OF SERVICES FOR VICTIMS AND WITNESSES IN SETTINGS THAT SECURE THEIR SAFETY; PRECAUTIONS FOR THE SAFE RETURN OF VICTIMS AND WITNESSES TO THEIR ORIGINATING COUNTRIES; WITNESS COOPERATION IN CRIMINAL TRIALS AGAINST TRAFFICKERS; AND CONSIDERATION OF TEMPORARY AND/OR PERMANENT LEGAL STATUS FOR VICTIMS AND WITNESSES OF TRAFFICKING WHO LACK LEGAL STATUS.

TV. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO REVIEW EXISTING UNITED STATES CRIMINAL LAWS AND THEIR CURRENT USE TO DETERMINE IF THEY ARE ADEQUATE TO PREVENT AND DETER TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS, TO RECOMMEND ANY APPROPRIATE LEGAL CHANGES TO ENSURE THAT TRAFFICKING IS CRIMINALIZED AND THAT THE CONSEQUENCES OF TRAFFICKING ARE SIGNIFICANT, AND TO REVIEW CURRENT PROSECUTION EFFORTS AGAINST TRAFFICKERS IN ORDER TO IDENTIFY ADDITIONAL INTELLIGENCE SOURCES, EVIDENTIARY NEEDS, AND RESOURCE CAPABILITIES.

V. THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO USE OUR DIPLOMATIC PRESENCE AROUND THE WORLD TO WORK WITH SOURCE, TRANSIT, AND DESTINATION COUNTRIES TO DEVOP STRATEGIES FOR PROTECTING AND ASSISTING VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING AND TO EXPAND AND ENHANCE ANTI-FRAUD TRAINING TO STOP THE INTERNATIONAL TRAFFICKING OF WOMEN AND GIRLS.

VI. THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO COORDINATE AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL RESPONSE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF UKRAINE'S REQUEST TO JOINTLY DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS FROM AND TO THE UKRAINE. THE U.S.-UKRAINE COOPERATION WILL SERVE AS A MODEL FOR A MULTI-DISCIPLINARY APPROACH TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING THAT CAN BE EXPANDED TO OTHER COUNTRIES.

VII. THE SECRETARY OF STATE, IN COORDINATION WITH THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, TO EXPAND AND STRENGTHEN ASSISTANCE TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IN DEVELOPING AND ENACTING LEGISLATION TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS, TO

PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING, AND TO

CONTINUE TO EXPAND EFFORTS TO TRAIN LEGAL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL WORLDWIDE.

VIII. THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY TO EXPAND PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS TARGETED TO POTENTIAL VICTIMS TO WARN THEM OF THE METHODS USED BY TRAFFICKERS.

IX. THE PRESIDENT'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON WOMEN TO CONVENE A GATHERING OF GOVERNMENT AND NONGOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES FROM SOURCE, TRANSIT, AND DESTINATION COUNTRIES AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO CALL ATTENTION TO THE ISSUE OF TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS AND TO DEVELOP STRATEGIES FOR COMBATING THIS FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATION. END TEXT.
ALBRIGHT

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 7336

TOR: 980514190527 M3288504

DIST:

SIT: NSC

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
002. cable	Re: Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women - Meeting with Ambassador Sherman (5 pages)	06/19/1998	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:
Clinton Presidential Records
NSC Cables
Jan 1997- Dec 1998 ([Beijing Women's Conference])
OA/Box Number: 520000

FOLDER TITLE:
[01/17/1998 - 12/23/1998]

2012-0094-F
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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]

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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]
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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: IMMEDIATE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: OAAUZYUW RUEHCAA3982 1752052-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: O 242050Z JUN 98
LINE4: FM SECSTATE WASHDC
OSRI: RUEHC
DTG: 242050Z JUN 98
ORIG: SECSTATE WASHDC
TO: AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO IMMEDIATE 0000
INFO: ////
SUBJ: ACTION REQUEST FOR VITAL VOICES OF THE AMERICAS CONFERENCE

TEXT:

UNCLAS STATE 113982

SENSITIVE

E.O. 12958: N/A
TGS: KWMN, PHUM, OVIP, UY
SUBJECT: ACTION REQUEST FOR VITAL VOICES OF THE AMERICAS CONFERENCE

REF: A) STATE V4460 B) STATE 99692 C) LOAR-HAMILTON-FARRAR TELCON OF 6/9 D) MONTEVIDEO LL27

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED - PROTECT ACCORDINGLY

1.(")THIS IS AN ACTION MESSAGE. ALL PARAS.

2. (SBU) SUMMARY: THE DEPARTMENT REQUESTS EMBASSY MONTEVIDEO APPROACH THE GOVERNMENT OF URUGUAY, INCLUDING PRESIDENT SANGUINETTI, REGARDING GOU PARTICIPATION AND ASSISTANCE WITH THE "VITAL VOICES OF THE AMERICAS: WOMEN IN DEMOCRACY" CONFERENCE TO TAKE PLACE IN MONTEVIDEO OCTOBER 1-3. PRE-CONFERENCE TRAINING WILL TAKE PLACE SEPTEMBER 30. SHORT OF EXTENDING CO-SPONSORSHIP, WE SEEK EXTENSIVE GOU INVOLVEMENT IN THE CONFERENCE. SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS FOLLOW BELOW. END SUMMARY

3. (U) IN RESPONSE TO REFS C AND D, DEPARTMENT CONFIRMS THE "VITAL VOICES OF THE AMERICAS: WOMEN IN DEMOCRACY" CONFERENCE WILL TAKE PLACE IN MONTEVIDEO OCTOBER 1-3, WITH

USAID AND USIA SUPPORTED PRE-CONFERENCE TRAINING WORKSHOPS TAKING PLACE ON SEPTEMBER 30. THE EVENT IS BEING CO-SPONSORED BY THE USG AND THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK. CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS DO NOT FEEL IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO INVITE URUGUAY TO CO-SPONSOR THE EVENT BECAUSE IT WOULD COMPLICATE PLANNING IN WASHINGTON.

HOWEVER, WE RECOGNIZE URUGUAY'S SPECIAL STATUS AS SITE OF THE CONFERENCE AND SEEK AND ENCOURAGE URUGUAYAN ASSISTANCE IN ON-THE-GROUND PREPARATIONS AS WELL AS STRONG URUGUAYAN PARTICIPATION IN THE CONFERENCE.

PRESIDENT SANGUINETTI

4. (SBU) AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE, THE DEPARTMENT REQUESTS AMBASSADOR APPROACH PRESIDENT SANGUINETTI TO DISCUSS PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONFERENCE AND OUR DESIRE TO INCLUDE THE GOU IN THE EVENT. HE SHOULD ALSO BE INFORMED THAT THAT FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON IS PLANNING TO ATTEND, ALTHOUGH WE REQUEST THIS INFORMATION NOT BE RELEASED TO THE PUBLIC UNTIL A FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT HAS BEEN MADE BY THE WHITE HOUSE.

5. (U) RECOGNIZING URUGUAY'S SPECIAL STATUS AS SITE OF THE CONFERENCE, CONTINUED STRONG RELATIONS BETWEEN THE USG AND GOU, AND URUGUAY'S LONG HISTORY OF SUPPORT FOR EQUALITY FOR WOMEN, WE SEEK AND ENCOURAGE GOU ASSISTANCE IN ON-THE-GROUND PREPARATIONS AND SIGNIFICANT URUGUAYAN PARTIC!PATION IN THE CONFERENCE ITSELF.

6. (U) WE UNDERSTAND 1DB PRESIDENT ENRIQUE IGLESIAS AND FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON ARE PLANNING TO ADDRESS THE CONFERENCE. WE WOULD WELCOME AND URGE PRESIDENT SANGUINETTI ALSO TO CONSIDER SPEAKING DURING THE COURSE OF THE CONFERENCE.

7. (U) "VITAL VOICES OF THE AMERICAS: WOMEN IN DEMOCRACY" IS A DEMONSTRABLE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN OF ACTION OF THE SANTIAGO SUMMIT, WHICH CALLS FOR GREATER PARTICIPATION FOR WOMEN IN POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC LIFE. IT WILL ALSO PUT INTO ACTION MANY OF THE IDEAS THAT CAME OUT OF THE UN FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN BEIJING, SEPTEMBER 1995.

OTHER GOU CONTACTS

8. (SBU) DEPARTMENT COMMENDS EMBASSY MONTEVIDEO FOR ITS TIMELY APPROACH OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WITH INFORMATION ON THE CONFERENCE. THE WORKING GROUP WITH THE MFA WILL BE INVALUABLE IN PREPARATION FOR THE CONFERENCE AND PROPOSED FLOTUS VISIT. WHILE WE ARE UNABLE TO ACCORD URUGUAY CO-SPONSORSHIP, WE ACKNOWLEDGE URUGUAY'S SPECIAL POSITION AS HOST-COUNTRY AND WILL ENSURE THE GOU IS SIGNIFICANTLY RECOGNIZED FOR ITS CONTRIBUTIONS.

9. (U) ISSUES YOU MAY WISH TO DISCUSS WITH THE GOU INCLUDE ENHANCED SECURITY AROUND THE CONFERENCE SITE; ASSISTANCE IN FACILITATING ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE OF PARTICIPANTS AT THE AIRPORT AND TRANSPORT TO/FROM LODGING; ASSISTANCE WITH ANY SPECIAL VISA REQUIREMENTS; ASSISTANCE WITH TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETATION; AND THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE GOU WOULD HOST AN EVENT, SUCH AS A MEAL, FOR CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS.

DEPARTMENT WELCOMES AND ENCOURAGES ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS FROM POST REGARDING OTHER AREAS IN WHICH GOU CAN ASSIST AND PARTICIPATE.

10. (U) DEPARTMENT REQUESTS A LIST OF PROPOSED URUGUAYAN PARTICIPANTS IN THE CONFERENCE (SEE REF A). WE ARE ALSO OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS FROM POST ON THE EXTENT TO WHICH URUGUAYAN CIVIL SOCIETY CAN BE INVOLVED IN CONFERENCE PREPARATIONS. ROSARLO MEDERO IS AMONG THE PROPOSED HONORARY STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS. WE WOULD APPRECIATE POST INFORMING US AS TO THE RESULT OF YOUR APPROACH TO HER.

LODGING REQUIREMENTS

11. (U) DEPARTMENT CONFIRMS THE REQUIREMENT OF 300 ROOMS FOR CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS PLUS AN ADDITIONAL 120 ROOMS FOR THE PROPOSED FLOTUS PARTY. ROOMS FOR THE CONFERENCE SHOULD BE RESERVED FROM THE NIGHT OF SEPTEMBER 30 THROUGH THE NIGHT OF OCTOBER 3. IN ADDITION, 100 ROOMS SHOULD BE RESERVED FOR THE NIGHT OF SEPTEMBER 29 FOR PARTICIPANTS WHO ARRIVE EARLY FOR THE PRE-CONFERENCE TRAINING WORKSHOPS.

12. (U) DEPARTMENT CONTINUES TO SEEK RESOURCES TO COVER THE UP-FRONT COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH LODGING.

ADDITIONAL ISSUES

13. (U) AS REQUESTED IN REF A, WE ARE CURRENTLY COMPLETING A SOURCES AND USES STATEMENT AND A NOTIONAL SCHEDULE AND WILL FAX TO POST IN COMING DAYS. WE WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IN THE CONFERENCE CALL BETWEEN DEPARTMENT AND POST SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 24.
TALBOTT

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 3982

TOR: 980625054304 M3350303

DIST:

SIT: BUSBY DELAURENTIS DESOUZA DOBBINS HOFMANN JORDAN LAWSON NAPLAN ORFINI PICCONE RAGAN SCHWARTZ
SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: PRIORITY
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: PAAUZYUW RUEHBSA4095 1830458-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: P 020458Z JUL 98
LINE4: FM USEU BRUSSELS
OSRI: RUEHBS
DTG: 020458Z JUL 98
ORIG: USEU BRUSSELS
TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO: RUEHXQ/ALL EUROPEAN UNION POST COLLECTIVE
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
SUBJ: CAIRO AND BEIJING CONFERENCES: WHAT HAPPENED TO THE EU'S COMMITMENTS?

TEXT:

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 BRUSSELS 004095

STATE PASS FOR USAID FOR G/PHN/FPS, G/AA

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: SOCI, UNFPA, EUN, KWMN, IN

SUBJECT: CAIRO AND BEIJING CONFERENCES: WHAT HAPPENED TO THE EU'S COMMITMENTS?

1. SUMMARY: THE JUNE 23 EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT HEARING ON THE EUROPEAN UNION'S (EU) IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLANS OF ACTION FOR THE UN CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT (ICPD) AND THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN WAS DOMINATED BY SPEECHES MADE BY GUEST SPEAKERS ON A WIDE RANGE OF RELATED TOPICS, WITH LESS TIME SPENT ON INSIGHTS INTO ACTUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS. THE EVENT PARLIAMENTARIANS THEMSELVES ADMITTED THAT IT IS DIFFICULT TO GET THE EU TO FOLLOW THROUGH ON THE COMMITMENTS MADE AT BOTH CONFERENCES. THE PARLIAMENT DID ANNOUNCE, HOWEVER, A PLAN TO LAUNCH A 1999 VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN INFORMATION CAMPAIGN. A CALL FOR A SHIFT FROM COMMITTING INCREASINGLY LARGER SUMS OF FUNDS TO FOCUSING ON PROJECT QUALITY AND IMPLEMENTATION WAS MADE. THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION (EC) HAS OBLIGATED FUNDS AT A LEVEL SURPASSING ITS ICPD COMMITMENTS, BUT THE MAJORITY OF THESE FUNDS ARE STILL IN THE PIPELINE. THE EC HAS WRITTEN A REPORT DETAILING ITS ACTIVITIES UNDER THE CAIRO PLAN OF ACTION, WHICH WILL BE MADE PUBLIC IN JUNE 1999. END SUMMARY.

2. MISSIONOFF ATTENDED THE OPEN HEARING, WHICH A EUROPEAN COLLEAGUE HAD DESCRIBED AS AN IMPORTANT PREPARATORY EVENT FOR THE FIVE-YEAR REVIEW OF ICPD TO BE

HELD NEXT YEAR. UNFORTUNATELY, THE EVENT WAS ALMOST CANCELED DUE TO LOW MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT (MEP) ATTENDANCE. NEL VAN DIJK, CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S RIGHTS, OPENED THE EVENT BY NOTING THAT IT IS DIFFICULT TO GET THE EU TO FOLLOW THROUGH ON THE PLEDGES MADE AT BOTH CONFERENCES. ACCORDING TO VAN DIJK, THE EC HAS COMMITTED CONSIDERABLE FUNDS TO THESE PLANS OF ACTION BUT THE MAJORITY OF THE MONEY IS STILL IN THE PIPELINE. SHE ALSO RAISED THE ISSUE OF ABORTION. VAN DIJK SAID THAT IT IS ONE OF THE MOST URGENT SUBJECTS FACING WOMEN AND THAT TOO MANY WOMEN DIE FROM ILLEGAL ABORTIONS. SHE APPEALED TO HER COLLEAGUES TO ADDRESS THIS ISSUE.

THE EC: LOTS PROMISED, LITTLE SPENT
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3. THE EC WAS REPRESENTED BY DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR MIDDLE EAST, ASIA, AND LATIN AMERICA'S (DG IB) DAVID DANIELS AND DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR AFRICA'S (DG VIII) ARNE STROM. IT WAS ONLY THROUGH THE BRIEF TIME ALLOTTED THEM AT THIS CONFERENCE THAT THE AUDIENCE RECEIVED ANY INFORMATION ON WHAT THE EC HAS DONE SINCE THE CONFERENCES AND WHAT IT IS PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE. DANIELS ANNOUNCED THAT THE EC'S REPORT ON ITS ACTIVITIES UNDER THE CAIRO PLAN OF ACTION WOULD BE CIRCULATED INTERNALLY BY THE END OF THE YEAR AND MADE PUBLIC IN JUNE 1999. HE MADE THE POINT THAT THE EC SHOULD FOCUS ON PROJECT QUALITY INSTEAD F TOTAL FUNDS SPENT.

4. ACCORDING TO DANIES, THE EC'S MONETARY GOAL FOR THE CAIRO PLAN F ACTION WAS USD 324M (300 MECU) IN ASSISTANCE BY THE YEAR 2000. DG IB ALONE HAS ALREADY COMMITTED MORE THAN THIS AMOUNT, BUT THE MAJORIT OF ALL EC FUNDS IN THAT AREA ARE UNOBLIGATED DANIELS AND STROM STATED THAT ONE OF THE REASONS THAT EC MONEY HAS NOT YET BEEN TRANSLATED INTO CONCRETE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IS THE LACK OF EXPERTISE IN THE RECIPIENT COUNTRIES. THEREFORE, THE EC IS REVIEWING APPROPRIATE BUDGET LINES TO FUND LOCAL STAFF TRAINING. WITHOUT THIS KEY ELEMENT, THE EC WILL BE UNABLE TO SPEND EFFECTIVELY THOSE FUNDS THAT ARE STILL IN THE PIPELINE. DANIELS CALLED FOR AN EC MOVE FROM "BANKER" TO DEVELOPER OF INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS. THIS SHIFT, HOWEVER, WILL REQUIRE A CHANGE IN MEMBER STATE OPINIONS THAT, ACCORDING TO DANIELS, IS NOT LIKELY TO HAPPEN ANY TIME SOON.

5. THE EC'S DISCUSSION SHIFTED TO POLICY AND PROJECT ISSUES. DANIELS STATED THAT THE EC'S CURRENT REVIEW OF THE CAIRO AND BEIJING PLANS OF ACTION SHOULD RESULT IN A SPECIFIC POLICY STATEMENT OF THE FOLLOWING ISSUES: GENDER, HIV/AIDS, SEXUAL EXPLOITATION, AND ADOLESCENT REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH. A DRAFT OF THi DECLARATION IS SCHEDULED TO BE CIRCULATED INTERNALLY THIS MONTH. HE COULD NOT, HOWEVER, SPECIFY A PUBLIC RELEASE DATE. DG VIII'S STROM POINTED OUT THAT THERE'S A NEED FOR GENDER SENSITIVE I%DICATORS AND THAT GENDER EQUALITY SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN ALL AREAS OF ASSISTANCE (E.G. TRADE, MACROECONOMICS). A MEP POINTED OUT THAT THIS ISSUE RECEIVES ALMOST NO ATTENTION IN THE EC'S TACIS AND PHARE NITIATIVES. TO MAKE THE POINT THAT THE EC

HAS AT LEAST BEGUN TO ADDRESS THIS INEQUALITY, STROM MENTIONED A NEW MICRO-ENTERPRISE INITIATIVE FOR WOMEN. HOWEVER, HE SAID THAT IT WAS TOO SOON TO EVALUATE ITS EFFECTIVENESS.

NGO VIEWS

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 BRUSSELS 004095

QQQQ
STATE PASS FOR USAID FOR G/PHN/FPS, G/AA

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: SOCI, UNFPA, EUN, KWMN, IN

SUBJECT: CAIRO AND BEIJING CONFERENCES: WHAT HAPPENED TO THE EU'S COMMITMENTS?

6. NADINI AZAD, OF THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION FOR THE RIGHTS OF PEOPLE (INDIA), DISCUSSED THREE AREAS THAT SHE SAID NEED IMMEDIATE ATTENTION BY THE DONOR COMMUNITY: 1) LAND REFORM AND PROPERTY OWNERSHIP, WHICH HE BELIEVES IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE HOLDING BACK SOUTHEAST ASIAN WOMEN TODAY; 2) ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THE POOREST WOMEN IN INDIAN SOCIETY; 3) INCREASED INVOLVEMENT OF FEMALE LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES IN INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS, AS THEY ARE A PROGRESSIVE FORCE FOR CHANGE IN INDIAN SOCIETY.

7. HILKKA PIETILA FROM THE UN INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH AND EDUCATION FOR WOMEN (INSTRAW) FOCUSED ON THE ISSUE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN. THE TOPIC WAS FIRST RAISED AT AN INTERNATIONAL LEVEL AT THE THIRD WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN NAIROBI IN 1985. PIETILA EXPLAINED THAT THE ISSUE HAS NOW BEEN BROADENED TO INCLUDE VIOLENCE IN ALL ITS FORMS (E.G. SPOUSAL ABUSE AND RAPE AS A WAR CRIME). IT LINE WITH THIS DISCUSSION, ONE OF THE CHAIRING MEP'S STATED THAT THE PARLIAMENT IS PLANNING TO LAUNCH AN INFORMAION CAMPAIGN ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN 1999. THE FOCUS WILL BE ON EU MEMBER STATES AS WELL AS ON DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. (NOTE: VAN DIJK HAD MENTIONED EARLIER IN THE MEETING THAT DESPITE SEVERAL MONTHS OF NEGOTIATIONS, FUNDING FOR 1998 ACTIVITIES IN THIS FIELD WERE ONLY SEVERAL MILLION ECU, A RELATIVELY SMALL AMOUNT BY EU STANDARDS. END NOTE.)

8. GENDER ISSUES WERE THE FOCUS OF GUEST SPEAKER CARMEN DE LA CRUZ FROM WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT (WIDE). SHE POINTED OUT THAT THESE TOPICS ARE NOT ADDRESSED IN SUCH IMPORTANT AREAS AS EC ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES AND MANY OF THE AGREEMENTS UNDER THE CURRENT LOME CONVENTION. (NOTE: THE CURRENT LOME CONVENTION EXPIRES AT THE END OF 1999. A STRENGTHENING OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS CLAUSE IS UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR THE NEXT AGREEMENT. HOWEVER, THERE IS NO MENTION OF WOMEN'S ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE. END NOTE.) SHE CALLED FOR A GREATER INTEGRATION OF THIS ISSUE INTO ALL LEVELS OF ASSISTANCE PROGRAMMING. MS. HINZ, REPRESENTING THE GERMAN POPULATION FUND, STRESSED THE

BASIC PRINCIPLES OF THE CONFERENCES' PLANS OF ACTION. SHE ALSO URGED GREATER NGO INVOLVEMENT IN ALL PHASES OF EC-FUNDED ACTIVITIES IN THESE AREAS.

9. COMMENT: DESPITE THE APPARENT LACK OF STRONG MEP INTEREST IN THE ISSUES OF CAIRO AND BEIJING FOLLOW-UP, THERE IS AN UNDERCURRENT OF CHANGE WITHIN THE COMMISSION. THE CURRENT REORGANIZATION OF EC ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION, ALONG WITH A MORE "QUALITY-DRIVEN" APPROACH BY SOME EC STAFF, ARE IMPORTANT FIRST STEPS TOWARDS MORE EFFECTIVE USE OF THE EC'S SIGNIFICANT FUNDS IN THE AREAS OF POPULATION/REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN. IN MISSION'S VIEW, THIS IS LIKELY TO BE A SLOW PROCESS HINDERED BY POLITICS AND UNEVEN COMMITMENT TO THESE ISSUES WITHIN THE COMMISSION. THIS MAY, HOWEVER, BE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE USG TO SHARE ITS REGIONAL ANALYSES AND PROJECT ACTIVITIES IN THESE FIELDS. END COMMENT.

(DRAFTED BY: POL:MDERFUSS)

WEAVER

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

SSN: 4095
<^SSN>4095

TOR: 980702012337 M3360566
<^TOR>980702012814 M3360569

DIST:

SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: PRIORITY
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: PAAUZYUW RUEHUMA0879 1950945-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: P 140945Z JUL 98
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY ULAANBAATAR
OSRI: RUEHUM
DTG: 140945Z JUL 98
ORIG: AMEMBASSY ULAANBAATAR
TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0991
RUEAWJA/DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 0147
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 0092
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 0539
INFO: ////
SUBJ: EAST ASIAN WOMEN'S FORUM, AUGUST 23-26, 1998

TEXT:

UNCLAS ULAANBAATAR 000879

FOR G - ACTING U/S SHERMAN AND INTL. WOMEN'S COORDINATOR

EAP FOR DAS SHIRK, EAP/RSP AND EAP/CM

ALSO FOR DRL AND INL

PASS AID FOR G-S.JAY AND ANE-C.DOWNEY

JUSTICE FOR WOMEN'S DIV.-B.CAMPBELL AND W. PATTO

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: PHUM, KWMN, SOCI, MG, XB
SUBJECT: EAST ASIAN WOMEN'S FORUM, AUGUST 23-26, 1998

REF: ULAANBAATAR 13

1. SUMMARY: THIS MESSAGE CONTAINS UPDATED INFORMATION ON THE AGENDA OF THE EAST ASIAN WOMEN'S FORUM TO BE HELD IN ULAANBAATAR ON AUG. 23-26. THE U.S. HAS BEEN INVITED TO SEND A DELEGATION. ACTION REQUESTED (PARA 4 BELOW): WE URGE THAT WASHINGTON AGENCIES RESPOND FAVORABLY TO THIS INVITATION AS A FOLLOW-UP TO THE SECRETARY'S VISIT AND THAT G COORDINATE PLANS FOR U.S. REPRESENTATION. END SUMMARY

2. PLANNING FOR THE THIRD EAST ASIAN WOMEN'S FORUM TO BE HELD IN ULAANBAATAR ON AUG. 23-26 IS IN THE ADVANCED STAGE. THIS REGIONAL WOMEN'S FORUM WAS CREATED AS A RESULT OF THE BEIJING WOMEN'S CONFERENCE; DELEGATIONS FROM CHINA, HONG KONG, TAIWAN, SOUTH KOREA, NORTH KOREA, JAPAN, AND THE RUSSIAN FAR EAST, AS WELL AS MONGOLIA, ARE

EXPECTED TO ATTEND. THE UNITED STATES, AMONG NON-REGIONAL COUNTRIES THAT HAVE GIVEN SUPPORT TO THE CONFERENCE, HAS BEEN INVITED TO SEND A DELEGATION. (NOTE: DURING HER MAY 2 VISIT TO MONGOLIA, SECRETARY ALBRIGHT ANNOUNCED A SPECIAL DONATION OF $75,000 TO HELP DEFRAY THE COSTS OF THE THIRD FORUM MEETING.) ALSO, THE JAPANESE ARE EXPECTED TO HAVE A LARGE DELEGATION OF ABOUT 60 "OFFICIAL DELEGATES" AND OTHERS. (COMMENT: FOR POLITICAL REASONS RELATING TO PRC SENSITIVITIES, THE CHARACTER OF NATIONAL DELEGATIONS - WHETHER GOVERNMENTAL OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL - HAS BEEN BLURRED. WE ARE ASSURED THAT A SENIOR USG OFFICIAL REPRESENTING SECRETARY IS WARMLY WELCOME.)

3. THE UPDATED CONFERENCE AGENDA IS CONTAINED IN PARA 5 BELOW. THE LEADER OF THE U.S. DELEGATION WILL BE INVITED TO GIVE OPENING REMARKS EITHER AT THE OPENING CEREMONY/WELCOME DINNER ON AUG. 23 OR AT THE INITIAL PLENARY SESSION ON AUG. 24. ALSO, IF THERE IS A RESOURCE PERSON ON THE U.S. DELEGATION WHO WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A PRESENTATION IN ONE OF THE SUB-GROUPS INDICATED BELOW OR IN A SIDE MEETING, THIS CAN BE ARRANGED WITH THE CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS. FYI, BEGINNING JULY 20, EMBASSY WILL HAVE A FULL-TIME WOMEN'S FORUM COORDINATOR TO WORK WITH THE CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS AND HANDLE ARRANGEMENTS FOR U.S. PARTICIPATION. ALSO, THE ASIA FOUNDATION (TAF) HAS BEEN WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE LIBERAL WOMEN'S BRAIN TRUST (LEOS) AND THE LOCAL WORKING GROUP OF MONGOLIAN WOMEN'S NGO SPONSORS.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: G IS REQUESTED TO COORDINATE USG PARTICIPATION IN THE EAST ASIAN WOMEN'S FORUM AS A REGIONAL FOLLOW-UP TO THE SECRETARY'S VISIT TO MONGOLIA IN EARLY MAY. WE STRONGLY URGE THAT ACTING U/S SHERMAN OR ANOTHER SENIOR WASHINGTON OFFICIAL HEAD A SMALL DELEGATION OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM INTERESTED WASHINGTON AGENCIES AND NGOS. THE WOMEN'S FORUM IS AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR THE USG TO OBTAIN A BROAD VIEW OF WOMEN'S ISSUES IN NORTHEAST ASIA AND TO PURSUE BILATERAL INTERESTS WITH NATIONAL DELEGATIONS FROM THIS REGION. EMBASSY WILL PROVIDE ALL ASSISTANCE FOR A DELEGATION VISIT AND ARRANGE SIDE PROGRAMS AS DESIRED. AN EARLY RESPONSE IS REQUESTED SO THAT HOTEL AND OTHER ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE IN A TIMELY FASHION.

5. FOLLOWING IS THE UPDATED CONFERENCE AGENDA:

SUNDAY, AUG. 23
- - - - - - - -

4:00 PM - REGISTRATION OPENS
6:00 PM - OPENING CEREMONY AND WELCOME DINNER

MONDAY, AUG. 24
- - - - - - - -

8:30 AM - REGISTRATION
9:00 AM - PLENARY SESSION ANDQKEYNOTE SPEECHES:

THEME - GLOBALIZATION AND WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

- INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION (UNIFEM)
- EAST ASIAN COUNTRY (JAPAN)
- HOST COUNTRY (MONGOLIA)

11:00 AM - COUNTRY AND REGIONAL PRESENTATIONS: WOMEN'S

DEVELOPMENT IN THE LAST TWO YEARS (SINCE THE SECOND EAST ASIAN WOMEN'S FORUM)
12:30 PM - LUNCH
2:00-6:30 PM - WORKSHOP SESSIONS

WORKSHOP NO. 1 - GLOBALIZATION AND WOMEN'S WORK AND LIVES

SUB-GROUP 1: EMPLOYMENT, INCOME GENERATION AND PROMOTION OF WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EDUCATION
SUB-GROUP 2: RURAL WOMEN'S ISSUES
SUB-GROUP 3: STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT, THE ECONOMIC CRISIS IN ASIA AND THEIR IMPACT ON WOMEN

WORKSHOP NO. 2 - WOMEN'S RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS

SUB-GROUP 1: DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN
SUB-GROUP 2: VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN
SUB-GROUP 3: HEALTH, SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

WORKSHOP NO. 3 - POLITICS AND THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

SUB-GROUP 1: POLITICAL SYSTEM AND ELECTION LAWS
SUB-GROUP 2: WOMEN IN LEGISLATIVE BODIES AND DECISION-MAKING
SUB-GROUP 3: POLITICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

8:00 PM - INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL PERFORMANCE

TUESDAY, AUG. 25
- - - - - - - -

8:30 AM - WORKSHOP SESSIONS
12:30 PM - LUNCH
2:00 PM - VISITS TO MONGOLIAN WOMEN'S NGO HEADQUARTERS AND SIGHTSEEING

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 26
- - - - - - - - -

9:00 AM - CLOSING SESSION:

- OUTCOME OF THE WORKSHOPS
- RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

NOON - PRESS CONFERENCE

1:30 PM - LUNCH
2:30-9:00 PM - CLOSING PROGRAM (CULTURAL PROGRAM OUTSIDE THE CITY)

LA PORTA
SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01
SSN: 0879
TOR: 980714061147 M3375644
DIST:
SIT: BADER BUSBY GAGNON JORDAN NAPLAN NORRIS PRITCHARD RAGAN SCHWARTZ WIPPMAN
SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: OAAUZYUW RUEHCAA8006 1952208-UUUU--RHEHNSC.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: O R 142203Z JUL 98
LINE4: FM SECSTATE WASHDC
OSRI: RUEHC
DTG: 142203Z JUL 98
ORIG: SECSTATE WASHDC
TO: RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE 2069
INFO: RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 9694
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC 5404
RUEATRS/TREASURY DEPT WASHDC 7743
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC 4987
RUETIAA/DIRNSA MD
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC 3205
RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC 0528
SUBJ: U.S. FIVE-YEAR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VDPA
TEXT:

////////////////////////// INCOMPLETE MESSAGE //////////////////////////

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 08 STATE 128006

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: PHUM, AORC, PREF, SMIG, PREL, US
SUBJECT: U.S. FIVE-YEAR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VDPA

REF: GENEVA 0017

1. AS REQUESTED BY THE SYG AND UNHCHR, THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE USG FIVE-YEAR REVIEW ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VDPA. TEXT SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO OHCHR UNDER COVER OF DIPLOMATIC NOTE.

BEGIN TEXT:

2. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IS PLEASED TO REPORT ON ITS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VIENNA DECLARATION AND PROGRAM OF ACTION (VDPA). THE UNITED STATES STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE VDPA, WHICH REAFFIRMED THE UNIVERSALITY OF HUMAN RIGHTS, THE SALIENT FEATURE OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. THE VDPA STRONGLY REINFORCED INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO PROTECT AND PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS BY PAVING THE WAY FOR THE CREATION OF THE POSITION OF HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. CONTINUAL REVIEWS OF PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING THE VDPA ARE CRUCIAL IN ENSURING THAT THE

UNITED NATNS AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MAINTAIN THEIR COMMITMENTS IN ADVANCING HUMAN RIGHTS.

3. DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS THE UNITED STATES HAS IMPLEMENTED THE VDPA IN A VARIETY OF AREAS, BOTH IN NATIONAL INITIATIVES AND INTERNATIONALLY IN SUPPORT OF DEMOCRATIZATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS. WHILE IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO LIST EVERYTHING, THE FOLLOWING COMPILATION IS INDICATIVE OF ACTION!TAKEN AND MEASURES IMPLEMENTED OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS CONSISTENT WITH ISSUES ADDRESSED BY THE VDPA.

INCREASED COORDINATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

4. THE UNITED STATES STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S REFORMS, WHICH HAVE SIGNIFICANTLY STRENGTHENED THE HIGH COMMISSIONER AND BROADENED THE INTEGRATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM. THE REFORMS UNDERSCORED THE FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS TO PEACE, DEVELOPMENT AND SECURITY.

5. THE UNITED STATES CONTINUES TO RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS TREATIES. ON OCTOBER 21, 1994 THE U.S. RATIFIED THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION (CERD) AND THE CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL, INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT.

RESOURCES

6. THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN A STRONG CONTRIBUTOR TO THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER AND ITS PREDECESSOR, THE CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. FOR EXAMPLE, THE U.S. CONTRIBUTED MORE THAN 6 MILLION DOLLARS IN BOTH 199- AND 1998, COVERING AREAS SUCH AS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, ASSISTANCE FOR VICTIMS OF TORTURE AND HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORING IN RWANDA AND BURUNDI.

RACISM, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, XENOPHOBIA AND OTHER FORMS OF INTOLERANCE

7. THE U.S. HOSTED THE OCTOBER 9-22, 1994 VISIT OF THE UNHRC'S SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON CONTEMPORARY FORMS OF RACISM, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND RELATED INTOLERANCE, MR.

MAURICE GLELE-AHANHANZO. THE RAPPORTEUR VISITED WASHINGTON, D.C., NEW YORK, GEORGIA AND CALIFORNIA.

8. IN JUNE 1997 PRESIDENT CLINTON ANNOUNCED HIS INITIATIVE ON RACE, INCLUDING APPOINTMENT OF AN ADVISORY BOARD ON RACE. THE INITIATIVE'S AIMS ARE THE FOLLOWING:

--TO DEVELOP POLICIES THAT CAN MAKE A REAL IMPACT ON CLOSING THE GAP IN ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY, EDUCATION, HEALTH CARE, HOUSING, CRIME AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE;

--TO RECRUIT LEADERS AND ENCOURAGE COMMUNITY EFFORTS

THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY THAT BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER ACROSS RACIAL LINES; AND
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--TO RAISE THE ISSUE OF RACE ON THE NATIONAL AGENDA THROUGH DIALOGUE THAT EDUCATES THE AMERICAN PUBLIC.

9. PROGRESS ACHIEVED BY THE INITIATIVE AS OF JUNE 1998 INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:

--THE FISCAL YEAR 1999 FEDERAL BUDGET INCREASES FUNDING FOR ENFORCEMENT OF EXISTING CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS TO 602 MILLION DOLLARS, THE LARGEST INCREASE IN ENFORCEMENT FUNDING IN NEARLY TWO DECADES.

--THE BUDGET ALSO PROVIDES 350 MILLION DOLLARS TO BRING NEARLY 35 THOUSAND OUTSTANDING NEW TEACHERS INTO HIGH-POVERTY SCHOOLS IN URBAN AND RURAL AREAS OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

--FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON AND THE BOSTON-BASED TEAM HARMONY FOUNDATION INITIATED A PROGRAM TO WORK WITH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO PREVENT PREJUDICE. STARTING IN BOSTON AND WASHINGTON, D.C., THE TEAM HARMONY PROGRAM HAS BEEN REQUESTED TO EXPAND ITS PROGRAM TO NEW YORK, CHICAGO, ATLANTA AND LOS ANGELES.

--IN THE FIRST WEEK OF APRIL 1998 ALMOST 600 COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES ORGANIZED INITIATIVE-RELATED ACTIVITIES ON THEIR CAMPUSES.

10. IN ADDITION, IN NOVEMBER 199- THE PRESIDENT CONVENED THE FIRST EVER WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON HATE CRIMES. AT THE SAME TIME, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL BEGAN A THOROUGH REVIEW OF THE LAWS CONCERNING HATE CRIMES.

PERSONS BELONGING TO NATIONAL OR ETHNIC, RELIGUS AND LINGUISTIC MINORITIES

11. WITH AN EYE TO PROTECTING FREEDOM OF THOUGHT, EXPRESSION AND RELIGION, THE SECRETARY OF STATE FORMED THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ABROAD IN NOVEMBER 1996. THE COMMITTEE COMPRISES 20 DISTINGUISHED RELIGIOUS LEADERS AND ACADEMICS, REFLECTING THE DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES WITHIN THE AMERICAN RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY, INCLUDING, AMONG OTHERS, EVANGELICAL, PROTESTANT, ORTHODOX, CATHOLIC, MORMON, JEWISH, MUSLIM, BUDDHIST, HINDU AND BAHA'I. IT IS INTENDED TO FACILITATE EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND RELIGIOUS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, PROVIDING A VENUE FOR THESE ORGANIZATIONS TO ENGAGE WITH THE GOVERNMENT ON THE ISSUE OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

12. THE COMMITTEE HAS TWO BROAD TASKS: TO CALL ATTENTION TO PROBLEMS OF RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION AND OTHER VIOLATIONS OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE ABROAD AND ADVISE ON HOW TO END THEM; AND TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON HOW TO BRING ABOUT RECONCILIATION I#AREAS OF CONFLICT, ESPECIALLY CONFLICTS WHERE RELIGION IS A FACTOR, AND PROMOTE RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, SO THAT RELIGIOUS FREEDOM CAN BE FULLY ENJOYED.

13. THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ISSUED AN INTERIM REPORT IN JANUARY 1998.

14. IN JUNE 1998 THE PRESIDENT APPOINTED A SENIOR ADVISOR FOR INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM. THIS POSITION WAS CREATED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE AFTER CONSULTATIONS WITH THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE. THE SENIOR ADVISOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR COORDINATING AND DEVELOPING POLICIES TO PROMOTE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AS AN ISSUE FULLY INTEGRATED IN U.S. FOREIGN POLICY.

15. THE SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE MR. ABDELFATTAH AMOR VISITED THE U.S., JANUARY 22-FEBRUARY 6. HE VISITED WASHINGTON, DC, ILLINOIS, NEW YORK, GEORGIA, UTAH, CALIFORNIA AND ARIZONA.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

16. ALTHOUGH THE QUALITY OF LIFE APPEARS TO HAVE IMPROVED FOR AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKA NATIVES IN RECENT YEARS,

FURTHER IMPROVEMENT IS NEEDED. THIS HAS REQUIRED INTERAGENCY COLLABORATION AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL. UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR AND THE WHITE HOUSE DOMESTIC POLICY COUNCIL, AN INTER-AGENCY WORKING GROUP ON AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKA NATIVES HAS UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 08 STATE 128006

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MET QUARTERLY SINCE 1996 TO COORDINATE NEW FEDERAL/TRIBAL INITIATIVES INTENDED TO STRENGTHEN TRIBAL COMMUNITIES AND TO ENABLE TRIBES TO ADDRESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES PROTECTION, EDUCATION, AS WELL AS ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND JOB TRAINING.

17. SINCE 1996 THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HAS MADE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH DOZENS OF TRIBES, IN ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION AND REHABILITATION, AS WELL AS CRIME PREVENTION AND OFFENDER REHABILITATION. FOR EXAMPLE, THE STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST INDIAN WOMEN DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM LAUNCHED 6-PROGRAMS COVERING V2 ALASKA NATIVE VILLAGES, EIGHT NEW MEXICO PUEBLOS AND 29 INDIAN RESERVATIONS. SIMILARLY, THE CHILDREN'S JUSTICE ACT DISCRETIONARY GRANT PROGRAM FOR NATIVE AMERICANS RESULTED IN GRANTS TO 40 TRIBES TO

IMPROVE INVESTIGATION, PROSECUTION AND HANDLING OF CHILD ABUSE CASES.

18. IN 1997 THE COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, THE PRINCIPAL SOURCE FOR U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY, PROPOSED A FEDERAL STRATEGY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES PROTECTION. THIS INCLUDED THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRIBAL PROJECTS DESIGNED TO FURTHER THE GOAL OF EXCELLENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

19. THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE HAS CONSULTED ANNUALLY WITH AMERICAN INDIGENOUS LEADERS ON A VARIETY OF ISSUES POTENTIALLY AFFECTING THEM, INCLUDING AN OAS AND U.N. DRAFT DECLARATION ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLES. THE MOST RECENT CONSULTATIONS OCCURRED IN JULY 1998.

THE EQUAL STATUS AND HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN

20. THE UNITED STATES STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND HAS DEMONSTRATED THIS COMMITMENT THROUGH VARIOUS MEANS DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS. IN MARCH 1998 THE PRESIDENT URGED THE U.S. SENATE IN WRITING TO RATIFY THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW) THIS YEAR. THE PRESIDENT ASSERTED THAT CEDAW'S RATIFICATION "IS NOT AN ISSUE OF PARTY, BUT OF PRINCIPLE."

21. IN 1995 SOME EIGHT THOUSAND AMERICANS, FROM BOTH THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS, ATTENDED THE UNITED NATIONS FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN BEIJING AND THE PARALLEL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION MEETING. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT JOINED CONSENSUS IN ADOPTING THE BEIJING PLATFOM OF ACTION.

22. JUST PRIOR TO THE CONFERENCE, PRESIDENT CLINTON ANNOUNCED THE FORMATION OF THE PRESIDENT'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON WOMEN. THIS INTRA-GOVERNMENTAL BODY IS CHARGED WITH COORDINATING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLATFORM OF ACTION ADOPTED AT THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN AT BEIJING. THE COUNCIL IS ALSO CHARGED WITH-DEVELOPING RELATED INITIATIVES TO FURTHER WOMEN'S PROGRESS AND TO ENGAGE IN OUTREACH AND PUBLIC EDUCATION TO SUPPORT THE SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONFERENCE AGREEMENTS. SECRETARY OF STATE MADELEINE K. ALBRIGHT IS THE CURRENT CHAIRPERSON OF THE COUNCIL; FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON IS THE HONORARY CHAIR. IN 1997 THE COUNCIL PUBLISHED "AMERICA'S COMMITMENT: FEDERAL PROGRAMS BENEFITING WOMEN AND NEW INITIATIVES AS FOLLOW-UP TO THE U.N. FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN." THIS REPORT HIGHLIGHTED THE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S PROGRAMS AND NEW INITIATIVES ON WOMEN MEASURED AGAINST THE BEIJING PROGRAM OF ACTION. IT IS UPDATED PERIODICALLY.

23. A WIDE RANGE OF MEASURES HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED TO BETTER THE STATUS OF WOMEN OVER PAST FIVE YEARS. SOME OF THE MORE NOTABLE DEVELOPMENTS HAVE BEEN IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN:

--IN 1994 THE U.S. CONGRESS PASSED SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATION, THE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT, WHICH ESTABLISHED A SERIES OF FEDERAL CRIMES TARGETED AT INTERSTATE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND STALKING. IT COMBINED STIFFER PENALTIES WITH PROGRAMS TO BETTER PROSECUTE OFFENDERS AND ASSIST VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE.

--IN 1995 THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, - CO-CHAIRED BY ATTORNEY GENERAL JANET RENO AND SECRETARY OF HEAH AND HUMAN SERVICES DONNA SHALALA, WAS CREATED. IT

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CONSISTS OF SEVERAL DOZEN EXPERTS FROM LAW ENFORCEMENT, MEDIA, HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, VICTIM ADVOCACY AND SURVIVORS WORKING TOGETHER TO PREVENT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN.

--IN 1996 PRESIDENT CLINTON ANNOUNCED THE START OF A 24 HOUR, TOLL-FREE NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE TO PROVIDE CRISIS ASSISTANCE AND LOCAL SHELTER REFERRALS TO VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

--THE U.S. WELCOMED THE JUNE 1-18, 1998 VISIT OF THE SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, MS. RADHIKA COOMARASWAMY. SHE VISITED FEDERAL AND STATE WOMEN'S PRISONS, AS WELL AS IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE DETENTION FACILITIES, IN GEORGIA, MINNESOTA, CONNECTICUT, CALIFORNIA, NEW JERSEY AND NEW YORK, JUNE 1-18, 1998.

TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN:

24. TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN, IN 1998 THE PRESIDENT'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON WOMEN ESTABLISHED A SENIOR GOVERNMENTAL WORKING GROUP TO ADDRESS THE AREAS OF PREVENTION, VICTIM ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION, AND ENFORCEMENT. THE WORKING GROUP, CHAIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE'S SENIOR COORDINATOR FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S ISSUES, CONSULTS CLOSELY WITH OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND MEMBERS OF CONGRESS. SOME OF ITS ACTIVITIES HAVE INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING:

--WORKING JOINTLY WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION, THE GROUP OF EIGHT AND THE UNITED NATIONS, AS WELL AS THE GOVERNMENTS OF ISRAEL, ITALY AND UKRAINE TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING.

--TRAINING FOREIGN IMMIGRATION AND LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL TO ENHANCE THEIR ABILITY EFFECTIVELY TO IMPLEMENT BORDER SECURITY AND TO IDENTIFY TRAFFICKERS AND VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING.

--TRAINING FOREIGN JUDGES AND PROSECUTORS REGARDING

ENHANCED ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS AGAINST TRAFFICKING.

--FUNDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COMPREHENSIVE DATABASE ON U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL LEGISLATION PROTECTING WOMEN AND CHILDREN FROM COMMERCIAL SEXUAL ABUSE. THE PROJECT IS ANALYZING LAWS, PENALTIES, SENTENCING PATTERNS, REPORTING REQUIREMENTS, LAW ENFORCEMENT CAPABILITIES, EXTRADITION PRACTICES AND VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS. AN EXPECTED OUTCOME OF THIS PROJECT IS PROTOTYPE LEGISLATION AND GUIDELINES ON ENFORCEMENT AND VICTIM PROTECTION.

25. IN ADDITION, THE TASK FORCE, IN COORDINATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, WILL WORK WITH OTHER COUNTRIES TO

PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING, TO DEVELOP LEGISLATION TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING AND TO EXPAND EFFORTS TO TRAIN LEGAL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL WORLDWIDE.

26. THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT WILL WORK JOINTLY WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF UKRAINE TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A COMPREHENSIVE AND INTEGRATED STRATEGY TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING OF WOMEN AND GIRLS INTO AND OUT OF UKRAINE. THE UNITED STATES-UKRAINE COOPERATION WILL SERVE AS A#MODEL FOR A MULTI-DIS AFFICKING THAT CAN BE EXPANDED TO OTHER COUNTRIES.

27. THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND THE UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY WILL CONTINUE THEIR EFFORTS TO EXPAND ECONOMIC ALTERNATIVES AND PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS TARGETED TO POTENTIAL VICTIMS TO WARN THEM OF THE METHODS USED BY TRAFFICKERS.

EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN:

28. IN 1997 PRESIDENT CLINTON ISSUED AN EXECUTIVE MEMORANDUM INTENDED TO STRENGTHEN TITLE IX, THE PRINCIPAL FEDERAL LAW WHICH PROHIBITS SEX DISCRIMINATION IN EDUCATION PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES WHICH RECEIVE FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. THIS REQUIRED ALL FEDERAL AGENCIES TO REPORT ON CURRENT MEASURES TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE ENFORCEMENT OF TITLE IX AND TO DETERMINE WHERE REMEDIAL MEASURES ARE NECESSARY.

THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

INCREASING INVESTMENT IN CHILDREN:
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29. AS REPORTED IN ITS 1997 FACT SHEET "HHS INVESTS IN AMERICA'S CHILDREN," SINCE 1993, EXPENDITURE IN CHILDREN'S PRIORITY AREAS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (HHS) HAS INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY. FOR EXAMPLE, THE BALANCED BUDGET ACT OF 1997 CONTAINED THE LARGEST

INCREASE IN SPENDING ON HEALTH INSURANCE FOR CHILDREN OF LOW-INCOME FAMILIES SINCE Y965. OTHER SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES RELATED TO CHILDREN CARRIED OUT BY HHS HAVE INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING:

--AN INTENSIFIED NATIONAL COMMITMENT, INCLUDING INCREASED FUNDING AND RESEARCH, IMPROVED OUT-REACH TO POOR FAMILIES AND PUBLIC EDUCATION ON SUDDEN INFANT DEATH SYNDROME, HAS HELPED REDUCE THE U.S. INFANT MORTALITY RATE (7.2 DEATHS PER THOUSAND LIVE BIRTHS IN 1996) TO RECORD LOWS.

--FUNDING FOR HEAD START, THE COUNTRY'S PRINCIPAL EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, FOCUSING ON EDUCATION AND HELPING TO STRENGTHEN THE SKILLS OF PARENTS TO BETTER NURTURE AND CARE FOR THEIR CHILDREN, HAS INCREASED BY APPROXIMATELY TWO BILLI DOLLARS OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS. IN ADDITION, LEGISLATION IN 1994 ESTABLISHED THE EARLY HEAD START PROGRAM, EXPANDING THE BENEFITS OF EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT TO LOW INCOME FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN UNDER THREE AND TO PREGNANT WOMEN.

--FUNDING FOR CHILDHOOD IMMUNIZATIONS HAS MORE THAN DOUBLED SINCE 1993 UNDER A FEDERAL CHILDHOOD IMMUNIZATION INITIATIVE. AS A RESULT, A RECORD NUMBER OF TWO-YEAR OLDS (AROUND 90 PERCENT) ARE NOW PROPERLY VACCINATED.

--THE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND WORK OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 1996 (WELFARE REFORM) INCLUDED 13.9 BILLION DOLLARS IN MANDATORY CHILD-CARE FUNDING -- AN INCREASE OF 3.5 BILLION DOLLARS OVER SIX YEARS -- ALLOWING MORE MOTHERS TO LEAVE WELFARE FOR WORK OR TO AVOID WELFARE ALTOGETHER. THE LAW ALSO AUTHORIZED SEVEN BILLION DOLLARS IN DISCRETIONARY FUNDING FOR FY 1996-2002. OVERALL, FUNDING FOR CHILD-CARE HAS INCREASED BY 68 PERCENT SINCE 1993.

"GIRL POWER!" -- A MULTIPHASE PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN TO HELP ENCOURAGE AND EMPOWER NINE-TO-14-YEAR OLD GIRLS TO MAKE THE MOST OF THEIR LIVES -- COMMENCED IN NOVEMBER 1996. THE PROGRAM COMBINES "NO-USE" MESSAGES ON NEGATIVE INFLUENCES SUCH AS ALCOHOL, DRUGS AND TOBACCO, WHILE EMPHASIZING POSITIVE ACTIVITIES SUCH AS SPORTS, ARTS, ACADEMICS AND OTHER ENDEAVORS. "GIRL POWER!" HAS OVER 100 PRIVATE AND PUBLIC PARTNERS, INCLUDING OLYMPIC ATHLETES.

30. MOREOVER, THE UNITED STATES IS A LEADING INTERNATIONAL DONOR TO PROGRAMS AIMED AT IMPROVING THE LIVES OF CHILDREN WORLDWIDE. FOR EXAMPLE, THE U.S. CONTRIBUTION TO UNICEF OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS TOTALED ALMOST -00 MILLION DOLLARS. THE U.S. IS ALSO A STRONG SUPPORTER OF PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEE CHILDREN, PRIMARILY THROUGH THE U.N. HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT COMMITTED MORE THAN 1.5 MILLION DOLLARS IN FY 1997 FOR POLICY INITIATIVES TO IMPROVE PROGRAMS FOR REFUGEE CHILDREN; THAT FIGURE WILL EXCEED FIVE MILLION DOLLARS IN FY 1998.

COMBATING MOLESTATION AND SEXUAL ABUSE OF CHILDREN:

31. THE 1994 VIOLENT CRIME CONTROL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT MADE IT A FEDERAL CRIME TO TRAVEL TO ANY FOREIGN COUNTRY WITH THE INTENTION OF ENGAGING IN CRIMINAL SEXUAL ACTIVITY, INCLUDING RAPE, MOLESTATION OF CHILDREN, PROSTITUTION AND PRODUCTION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY. AN ADDITIONAL STATUTE CRIMINALIZED ACTIVITIES BY AMERICAN CITIZENS OR RESIDENTS INVOLVED IN THE PRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION, RECEIPT OR POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY MADE IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY, BUT DESTINED FOR THE UNITED STATES.

32. THE 1996 FEDERAL "MEGAN'S LAW" REQUIRED STATES TO RELEASE RELEVANT INFORMATION ABOUT REGISTERED CHILD ABUSERS WHEN NECESSARY TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC. (THE LAW WAS NAMED FOR A NEW JERSEY CHILD, MEGAN KAFKA, WHO WAS ASSAULTED AND KILLED BY A TWICE-CONVICTED SEX OFFENDER WHO HAD MOVED IN ACROSS THE STREET. NEW JERSEY HAD PASSED ITS OWN MEGAN'S LAW IN 1994.) FURTHER LEGISLATION THAT YEAR REQUIRED THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (FBI) TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL DATABASE TO TRACK CONVICTED SEX OFFENDERS, INCLUDING DIRECT REGISTRATION BY THE FBI FOR UNCLAS SECTION 06 OF 08 STATE 128006

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SEX OFFENDERS IN STATES THAT DO NOT HAVE MINIMALLY SUFFICIENT REGISTRATION PROGRAMS.

33. THE UNITED STATES ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED IN THE 1996 WORLD CONGRESS AGAINST COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN, WHICH CONVENED IN STOCKHOLM. THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, WHICH LED THE U.S. DELEGATION TO STOCKHOLM, CHAIRS AN INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE ON FOLLOW-UP TO THE WORLD CONGRESS.

34. THE UNITED STATES WELCOMED THE SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON THE SALE OF CHILDREN, CHILD PROSTITUTION AND CHILD PORNOGRAPHY, MS. OFELIA CALCTAS-SANTOS, WHO VISITED WASHINGTON, D.C., NEW YORK, ARIZONA AND CALIFORNIA, DECEMBER 9-20, 1996.

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY RISKS:

35. IN APRIL 1997 PRESIDENT CLINTON SIGNED AN EXECUTIVE ORDER CALLING ON ALL FEDERAL AGENCIES, ON A HIGH PRIORITY BASIS, TO IDENTIFY AND ASSESS ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY RISKS THAT MAY DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECT CHILDREN.

EACH AGENCY SHALL ALSO ENSURE THAT ITS POLICIES, PROGRAMS, ACTIVITIES AND STANDARDS ADDRESS THIS QUESTION.

FREEDOM FROM TORTURE

36. THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN THE LEADING DONOR TO THE VOLUNTARY FUND FOR THE VICTIMS OF TORTURE, CONTRIBUTING MORE THAN A QUARTER OF THE FUND'S TOTAL REVENUE OVER THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS. THE U.S. PLEDGED 1.5 MILLION DOLLARS FOR 1998.

THE RIGHTS OF THE DISABLED PERSON

37. A NUMBER OF INITIATIVES HAVE ADVANCED THE RIGHTS AND BENEFITS OF THE DISABLED OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS. AMONG THE MORE NOTEWORTHY HAVE BEEN THE FOLLOWING:

--IN 1993 THE NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION ACT MANDATED THAT DISABILITY SERVICE PROVIDERS MUST PROVIDE VOTER REGISTRATION MATERIAL ON DEMAND TO THEIR CUSTOMERS.

--THE INDIVIDUAL WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT, GUARANTEEING AN EDUCATION IN THE LEAST RESTRICTIVE MANNER TO THE DISABLED, WAS RE-AUTHORIZED BY CONGRESS IN 1997.

--IN JUNE 1997, AS FOLLOW-UP TO THE BEIJING WOMEN'S CONFERENCE, THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE HOSTED AN INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP FORUM FOR WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES, DURING WHICH SECRETARY OF STATE ALBRIGHT ANNOUNCED THE INCORPATION OF DISABILITY POLICY INTO U.S. FOREIGN POLICY.

--IN MARCH 1998 PRESIDENT CLINTON ISSUED AN EXECUTIVE ORDER CREATING THE NATIONAL TASK FORCE ON EMPLOYMENT OF ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES TO DEVELOP A COORDINATED AND AGGRESSIVE POLICY TO BRING ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES INTO EMPLOYMENT AT A RATE AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE TO THAT OF THE GENERAL ADULT POPULATION. AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE TASK FORCE WAS CHARGED WITH ENSURING THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS A MODEL EMPLOYER OF DISABLED PERSONS.

38. IN ADDITION, IN JUNE 1998 THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT RULED THAT THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) COVERED PERSONS AFFLICTED WITH HIV FROM THE MOMENT THEY ARE INFECTED BY THE VIRUS. THE ADA, THE FEDERAL LAW PASSED IN 1990 THAT PROHIBITS DISCRIMINATION AGAINST THE

DISABLED IN JOBS, HOUSING, MEDICAL CARE AND OTHER PLACES THAT SERVE THE PUBLIC, WAS PREVIOUSLY INTERPRETED TO COVER HIV VICTIMS WHO HAD DEVELOPED SYMPTOMS OF AIDS. THE RULING BENEFITS AN ESTIMATED 400 THOUSAND TO 650 THOUSAND AMERICANS WHO ARE INFECTED WITH HIV, BUT HAVE NOT YET DEVELOPED FULL-BLOWN SYMPTOMS OF AIDS.

COOPERATION, DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF HUMAN RIGHTS

39. THE UNITED STATES SUPPORTS DEMOCRATIC TRANSITIONS THROUGH DIPLOMACY, ASSISTANCE, EXCHANGES, BROADCASTS AND INFORMATIONAL EXCHANGES. THE FY 1998 BUDGET FOR DEMOCRACY PROGRAMS (EXCLUDING BROADCASTS) IS APPROXIMATELY 500

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47. IN ADDITION TO THE VISITS MENTIONED ABOVE, THE U.S. ALSO HOSTED THE SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON EXTRAJUDICIAL, SUMMARY OR ARBITRARY EXECUTIONS, MR. BACRE WALY NDIAYE, SEPTEMBER 21-OCTOBER 8, 1997. HE VISITED WASHINGTON, D.C., FLORIDA, TEXAS AND CALIFORNIA.

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RUEHBK/AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 0501
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0728
RUEHLB/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 0021
SUBJ: PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES FOR 5 YEAR REVIEW OF THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN

TEXT:

UNCLAS ADDIS ABABA 008578

E.O. 12958: DECL N/A
TAGS: AORC, UN, ECLAC, ECA, ESCWA, ESCAP, ECE, KWMN
SUBJECT: PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES FOR 5 YEAR REVIEW OF THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN

REF: SECSTATE 200260

1. POLOFF SPOKE TO THE OFFICER IN CHARGE (OIC) OF THE UN ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA'S WOMEN'S CENTER. THE DIRECTOR IS OUT OF THE COUNTRY. THE CENTER DOES NOT APPEAR TO HAVE MEETINGS PLANNED TO SPECIFICALLY ADDRESS THE REVIEW OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM OF ACTION (PFA). HOWEVER, THE OIC CITED A SERIES OF CONFERENCES/MEETINGS THAT HAVE TAKEN AND WILL TAKE PLACE TO DISCUSS THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN AFRICA. THE INFORMATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS DERIVED FROM THESE GATHERINGS CAN BE USED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE PFA REVIEW.

2. THE MEETINGS MENTIONED ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- NOVEMBER 25-27, 1997: SUBREGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR WEST AFRICA, HELD IN DAKAR.

- JUNE 22-25, 1998: SUBREGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR CENTRAL AFRICA, HELD IN BANGUI.

- APRIL 28 - MAY 1, 1998: "AFRICAN WOMEN AND DEVELOPMENT," HELD IN ADDIS ABABA.

- OCTOBER 27-30 1998: SUBREGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR

NORTH AFRICA, HELD IN RABAT.

- DECEMBER 1-3, 1998: MEETING OF THE BUREAU OF THE COMMITTEE ON WOMEN IN ADDIS ABABA. TO ANALYZE THE OUTCOME OF THE "AFRICAN WOMEN AND DEVELOPMENT" CONFERENCE AND TO BEGIN PLANNING FOR THE SIXTH REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON WOMEN (TO BE HELD IN ABIDJAN IN NOVEMBER 1999).

- FEBRUARY 1999: SUBREGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA (SPECIFIC DATES AND VENUE TO BE DETERMINED; MAURITIUS HAS OFFERED TO HOST).

SHINN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 8578

TOR: 981106101926 M3545853

DIST:

SIT: BABBITT BUSBY GUARNIERI HAWLEY NAPLAN SCHWARTZ WIPPMAN
SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: ROUTINE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
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LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: R 062212Z NOV 98
LINE4: FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
OSRI: RUCNDT
DTG: 062212Z NOV 98
ORIG: USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0319
INFO: RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 1882
RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA
SUBJ: 53RD UNGA: AGENDA ITEM 110(D) ON FOLLOW-UP TO VIENNA DECLARATION AND PROGRAMME OF ACTION

TEXT:

////////////////////////// INCOMPLETE MESSAGE //////////////////////////

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 03 USUN NEW YORK 003459

E.0.12958: N/A
TAGS: UNGA, PHUM, SOCI
SUBJECT: 53RD UNGA: AGENDA ITEM 110(D) ON FOLLOW-UP TO VIENNA DECLARATION AND PROGRAMME OF ACTION

1. ON NOVEMBER 2-3 THE THIRO COMMITTEE CONSIDEREO AGENDA ITEM 110(0), "COMPREHENSIVE IMPLEMENTATION ANO FOLLOW-UP TO THE VIENNA DECLARATION AND PROGRAMME OF ACTION."

2. MARY ROBINSON, HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, MADE AN INTROOUCTORY STATEMENT ON PROGRESS MADE IN IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTEO BY THE 1993 WORLD CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS. SHE SAID IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS HUMAN RIGHTS HAD BECOME AN IMPORTANT GUIDING THEME IN HUMAN ACTIVITIES FOR GOVERNMENTS AND CIVIL SOCIETY ALIKE. EMPHASIZING IT WAS NOW TIME TO "PUT UP OR SHUT UP," SHE CALLED ON MEMBER STATES TO STRENGTHEN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL. SHE ALSO RECOMMENDED THAT NATIONS PLACE INCREASEO EMPHASIS ON PREVENTING HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS, ADOING THAT THE ROLE OF NGOS AND CIVIL SOCIETY AT THE VDPA&5 REVIEW, ROBINSON ARGUED THAT NGO PARTICIPATION WOULD ENRICH THE DEBATE.

3. SPEAKING FOR THE U.S., AMBASSADOR BETTY KING NOTEO U.S. OPENNESS TO HUMAN RIGHTS SCRUTINY. SHE POINTED OUT RECENT RATIFICATION OF CONVENTIONS AGAINST RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND TORTURE. SHE LISTED U.S. EFFORTS TO COMBAT RACISM AND ELIMINATE OISCRIMINATION AGAINST

WOMEN. SHE ALSO MENTIONEO NATIONAL ACTIONS TO PROMOTE THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILO, INOIGENOUS PEOPLES, OISABLEO PERSONS, AS WELL AS RELIGIOUS FREEDOM. TURNING TO THE INTERNATIONAL FRONT, SHE PROCLAIMED U.S. ADVOCACY FOR THE AOVANCEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS, DEMOCRACY, AND DEVELOPMENT AROUND THE WORLD. (FULL TEXT IN PARAGRAPH 6 BELOW)

4. BRAZIL, CUBA, BANGLADESH, ECUADOR, AND MOROCCO, AMONG OTHERS, CITED THE PROBLEM OF PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS IN AN ADVERSE ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT CAUSED BY THE CURRENT FINANCIAL CRISIS ANO GLOBALIZATION. EGYPT ANO COLOMBIA REMINDED DELEGATES THAT MEMBER STATES HAD ASSUMED THE COMMITTMENT TO GUARANTEE HUMAN RIGHTS IN THEIR NATIONS REGARDLESS OF THE LEVEL OF ECONOMIC ANO SOCIAL OEVELOPMENT. AUSTRALIA, ARGENTINA, ANO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA EMPHASIZED THE ROLE OF GOOO GOVERNANCE IN PROMOTING RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS.

5. THE EUROPEAN UNION (AUSTRIA), LIECHTENSTEIN, NEW ZEALAND, THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, AND KAZAKHSTAN, AMONG OTHERS, CALLED FOR UNIVERSAL RATIFICATION OF THE CORE HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS. OTHER NATIONS, SUCH AS JAPAN, SINGAPORE, AUSTRALIA, AND IRAN, SUPPORTED UNIVERSAL RATIFICATION BUT ARGUED IT WAS TIME TO CONCENTRATE ON EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. DELEGATES FOR THAILAND AND SINGAPORE CALLED FOR A BALANCE BETWEEN RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

6. CUBA, ARGENTINA, EGYPT, SINGAPORE, INDIA, AND IRAN ARGUED THAT PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS SHOULD NOT BE FLAWED BY POLITICIZATION OR THE USE OF DOUBLE STANDARDS. SINGAPORE DECLARED THAT STATES HAD NO RIGHT TO IMPOSE THEIR VIEWS ON OTHERS, CITING AS AN EXAMPLE HIS GOVERNMENT'S PRACTICE OF APPLYING THE DEATH PENALTY. MEXICO COMPLAINED THERE WERE 39 CASES OF MEXICAN CITIZENS WHO HAD BEEN CONDEMNED TO OEATH ABROAD, SOME OF WHOM HAD NOT BEEN GRANTED "CONSULAR PROTECTION."

7. TEXT OF U.S. STATEMENT:
- FIVE YEARS AGO, THE WORLD CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS MADE A DRAMATIC CONTRIBUTION TO THE BODY OF HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS, LAW AND CUSTOM. THIS CANON ORIGINATES IN THE TEXTS AND TEACHING OF ALL OF THE WORLD'S GREAT CULTURES. IN OUR ERA, ITS UNIVERSALITY HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED FOR ALL OF HUMANKIND. VIENNA ASSESSED THE PROGRESS REALIZED SINCE THE ADOPTION OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AS WELL AS THE SHORTCOMINGS. MOST IMPORTANTLY, AT VIENNA THE NOTION OF A CONFLICT BETWEEN UNIVERSALITY AND COMMON RESPONSIBILITY ON THE ONE HAND, AND RESPECT FOR NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY ON THE OTHER, WAS REC
ONCILED IN
THE FINDING THAT "THE PROMOTION AND PROTECTIONS OF ALL HUMAN RIGHTS IS A LEGITIMATE CONCERN OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY."

- THE UNITED STATES APPRECIATES THE OPPORTUNITY TO HIGHLIGHT WHAT WE HAVE DONE ON THE NATIONAL LEVEL TO IMPLEMENT THE VIENNAQOF
ACTION (VDPA). OVER THE PAST YEAR, WE HAVE HOSTED THREE HUMAN RIGHTS SPECIAL RAPPORTEURS. THESE VISITS COMPLEMENTED TWO OTHER VISITS IN THE YEARS FOLLOWING VIENNA. MOST RECENTLY, A WELL-RESPECTED INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATION PUBLISHED ITS OWN EXAMINATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES IN THE UNITED STATES, TAKING A HARD LOOK AT SOME OF THE ISSUES WHICH
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- CHILDREN ARE AMONG THE MOST VULNERABLE VICTIMS OF HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES. OVER THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS, WE HAVE PASSED A SERIES OF LAWS TO COMBAT CHILD MOLESTATION AND SEXUAL ABUSE. IN WHAT SOME MIGHT CALL A UNILATERAL, EXTRATERRITORIAL MEASURE, THE VIOLENT CRIME CONTROL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT MAKES IT A FEDERAL CRIME TO TRAVEL TO A FOREIGN COUNTRY TO ENGAGE IN CRIMINAL SEXUAL ACTIVITY INVOLVING CHILDREN. ADDITIONAL LEGISLATION REQUIRES THE FBI TO DEVELOP A NATIONAL DATABASE TO TRACK CONVICTED SEX OFFENDERS. THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN TASKED WITH LEADING AN INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE TO IMPLEMENT THE FOLLOW-UP TO THE 1996 STOCKHOLM WORLD CONGRESS AGAINST COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

- THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WORKS WITH FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE TRIBES ON MANY ISSUES. SINCE 1996, AN INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP HAS MET QUARTERLY TO COORDINATE FEDERAL ANO TRIBAL INITIATIVES ON THE HEALTH OF CHILOREN AND YOUTH, PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES, EOUCATION, ANO ENTREPRENEURSHIP ANO JOB TRAINING. THE OEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WORKS WITH DOZENS OF TRIBES ON REHABILITATION FROM ALCOHOL, SUBSTANCE ABUSE, AND CRIME. OUR FEDERAL STRATEGY ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES INCLUDES TRIBAL PROJECTS TO ADVANCE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION. FINALLY, I SHOULD NOTE THAT EACH YEAR THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE ENGAGES IN GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT CONSULTATIONS WITH INDIGENOUS LEADERS ON ISSUES WHICH AFFECT THEM, INCLUDING THE NEGOTIATION OF OAS AND UN DRAFT DECLARATIONS ON INDIGENOUS PEOPLES.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

- THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS LONG WORKED WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO PROTECT RELIGIOUS MINORITIES. IN 1996 THE SECRETARY OF STATE ESTABLISHED THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RELIGIOUS

FREEDOM ABROAD. THE COMMITTEE MAKES RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW TO END RELIGIOUS CONFLICTS AND INFRINGEMENTS ON RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND TOLERANCE. A SENIOR ADVISOR FOR INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WAS RECENTLY APPOINTED AND CONGRESS ADOPTED THE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ABROAD ACT.

DISABLED PERSONS

- AS FOLLOW-UP TO THE BEIJING WOMEN'S CONFERENCE, THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE HOSTED AN INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP FORUM FOR WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES, AT WHICH THE SECRETARY ANNOUNCED THAT DISABILITY POLICY WOULD BE INCORPORATED INTO U.S. FOREIGN POLICY. CONGRESS REAUTHORIZED THE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT, GUARANTEEING AN EDUCATION IN THE LEAST RESTRICTIVE MANNER. AND THE NATIONAL TASK FORCE ON EMPLOYMENT OF ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES WAS CREATED, WITH THE TASK OF RAISING THE PERCENTAGE OF DISABLED ADULTS WHO ARE EMPLOYED. THIS INCLUDED ENSURING THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS A MODEL EMPLOYER OF THE DISABLED.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

- MY GOVERNMENT'S ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR THE PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS WOULD REQUIRE ANOTHER SPEECH AND MY AIM TODAY IS TO FOCUS PRIMARILY ON DOMESTIC ACTION. SUFFICE IT TO SAY THAT THE UNITED STATES CONTINUES TO BE A STAUNCH ADVOCATE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS, DEMOCRACY, AND DEVELOPMENT AROUND THE WORLD, WHETHER THROUGH DIPLOMACY, BILATERAL ASSISTANCE, CONTRIBUTIONS TO MULTILATERAL PROGRAMS, SUPPORT FOR THE INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS MACHINERY , OR IN OUR ONGOING AND INTENSIVE SUPPORT FOR, AND INTERACTION WITH, GLOBAL CIVIL SOCIETY.

- IN CONCLUSION, THE UNITED STATES SHARES THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY'S GOAL OF PROMOTING AND PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. BY WORKING WITH ALL MEMBER STATES AND WITH THE INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS BODIES, WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT GREATER THINGS CAN BE ACHIEVED AND THE DREAM OF UNIVERSALITY REALIZED.
BURLEIGH

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 03
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SSN: 3459
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CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
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LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: R 211627Z DEC 98
LINE4: FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
OSRI: RUCNDT
DTG: 211627Z DEC 98
ORIG: USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 1183
INFO: RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 2156
RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA
SUBJ: THIRD COMMITTEE MORE EFFICIENT, LESS CONFRONTATIONAL IN 53RD UNGA

TEXT:

////////////////////////// INCOMPLETE MESSAGE //////////////////////////

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 05 USUN NEW YORK 003946

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: UNGA, PHUM, SOCT
SUBJECT: THIRD COMMITTEE MORE EFFICIENT, LESS CONFRONTATIONAL IN 53RD UNGA

REF: USUN NEW YORK 3882

1. SUMMARY: THE 53RD UNGA THIRD COMMITTEE WORKED EFFICIENTLY ON THE SOCIAL ISSUES WHICH FILL THE FIRST PART OF ITS AGENDA BUT BOGGED DOWN PREDICTABLY ON HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES. CONSENSUS WAS ACHIEVED ON A NUMBER OF CONTENTIOUS RESOLUTIONS, INCLUDING NIGERIA AND BURMA. A DIFFICULT NEGOTIATION ON RIGHTS OF THE CHILD CONCLUDED SUCCESSFULLY. A BITTER FIGHT ON RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT ENDED IN A U.S.-CALLED VOTE, WITH DEVELOPED COUNTRIES ABSTAINING EN MASSE. THE JUSCANZ GROUP WORKED WELL TOGETHER BUT HAD TO DEAL WITH AN INCREASINGLY NEGATIVE NAM GROUP.

2. DEVELOPING COUNTRIES CITED THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF GLOBALIZATION AND THE FINANCIAL CRISIS AS OBSTACLES TO IMPROVING SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS. MANY DELEGATIONS, NOTABLY THE IRANIAN, EXPLOITED GROWING MISCONCEPTIONS AMONG G-77 MODERATES OF THE USE OF DOUBLE STANDARDS TO UNDERMINE SUPPORT FOR COUNTRY-SPECIFIC RESOLUTIONS. AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL'S REPORT ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN THE U.S. WAS CITED BY A NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS IN RESPONSE TO USDEL

STATEMENTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN OTHER COUNTRIES. END SUMMARY.

PRODUCTION NUMBERS

3. THIS YEAR THE THIRD COMMITTEE FINISHED ITS WORK 3 DAYS EARLIER THAN LAST YEAR AND 6 DAYS EARLIER THAN IN 1996. THE COMMITTEE CONSIDERED 59 DRAFT RESOLUTIONS AND ADOPTED 50 WITHOUT A VOTE. VOTES WERE CALLED ON 12 OCCASIONS--3 ON SPECIFIC PARAGRAPHS OF RESOLUTIONS AND 9 ON WHOLE RESOLUTIONS (SEE PARA 26 FOR VOTE COUNTS). BY COMPARISON, IN 1997 69 RESOLUTIONS WERE CONSIDERED AND VOTES WERE CALLED ON 15 RESOLUTIONS. (NOTE: THE DROP IN VOTED RESOLUTIONS IS DUE IN PART TO THE ABSENCE OF RESOLUTIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN CUBA AND SUDAN, AND TO THE FACT THAT ANOTHER RESOLUTION--ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND TERRORISM--IS A BIENNIAL ITEM. END NOTE.)

4. THE U.S. INTRODUCED 2 RESOLUTIONS (HUMAN RIGHTS IN KOSOVO AND IN BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA/CROATIA/FRY), CO-SPONSORED 23, JOINED CONSENSUS ON 23, AND CALLED A VOTQS. DELEGATES DELIVERED 11 STATEMENTS, GAVE 6 EXPLANATIONS OF POSITION OR VOTE (EOP/EOV) IN COMMITTEE MEETINGS, AND RESERVED THE RIGHT TO GIVE 1 EOV IN PLENARY (ON THE RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT).

THIRD COMMITTEE NEGOTIATING ATMOSPHERE

5. IN GENERAL THE JUSCANZ GROUP ACTED WITH GREATER UNITY AND PURPOSE THAN IN PRIOR GA SESSIONS. THE EU (AUSTRIA) AND JUSCANZ STOOD FIRM AGAINST G-77 EFFORTS TO BURDEN SEVERAL TEXTS WITH DIVERSIONARY LANGUAGE ON POVERTY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND GLOBALIZATION. BUT WEOG AND FRIENDLY DELEGATIONS FOUND THEMSELVES ON THE DEFENSIVE MORE THAN EVER ON HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES RANGING FROM THE DROC AND RWANDA TO THEMATIC ISSUES SUCH AS THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS.

6. DESPITE SOUTH AFRICAN-INDONESIAN CHAIRMANSHIPS IN THE G-77 AND NAM, CUBA, ALGERIA, MALAYSIA (NAM HUMAN RIGQLN SUDAN, INDIA, SYRIA, IRAN, AND EGYPT FREQUENTLY TOOK THE LEAD ON G-77 POSITIONS. THIS SO-CALLED "LIKE-MINDED GROUP" TOOK TURNS ARGUING AGAINST LANGUAGE ON PROMOTING/PROTECTING CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS IN FAVOR OF "COLLECTIVE" RIGHTS AND "COOPERATION" FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT . WHILE THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE CUBAN ROLE WAS POLICY-DRIVEN, THE ALGERIAN AND EGYPTIAN ROLE WAS AT LEAST PARTIALLY DUE TO THE INDIVIDUAL DELEGATES INVOLVED. THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF INDIA AND PAKISTAN WERE OFTEN EQUALLY UNHELPFUL. ALTHOUGH OPPOSED TO COUNTRY-SPECIFIC RESOLUTIONS, CHINA TRIED TO PLAY A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE ON THEMATICS, INCLUDING RIGHTS OF THE CHILD, AND FREQUENTLY SUCCEEDED.

7. DURING THIS SESSION, TWO RESOLUTIONS NORMALLY SPONSORED BY THE U.S. DID NOT MATERIALIZE. IN THE CASE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CUBA, USG DECIDED NOT TO RUN THE RESOLUTION DUE TO THE DEFEAT OF THE U.S.-SPONSORED RESOLUTION ON CUBAN HUMAN RIGHTS AT THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN GENEVA AND THE CONSEQUENT END OF THE MANDATE OF THE SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR.

8. IN THE CASE OF SUDAN, THE U.S. BOMBING OF KHARTOUM IN RESPONSE TO THE TERRORIST ATTACKS ON U.S. EMBASSIES IN NAIROBI AND DAR-ES-SALAAM MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 05 USUN NEW YORK 003946

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ELEVENTH-HOUR FLURRY OF CONSULTATIONS. IN THE END, THE EU PRESENTED TO CO-SPONSORS A MUCH DILUTED TEXT, LACKING ANY MENTION OF THE INCITEMENT OF ETHNIC HATRED AND CAUSING THE USDEL TO WITHDRAW CO-SPONSORSHIP AND PRESENT AN EOP. THE CANADIANS LIKEWISE WITHDREW AND IN THEIR EOP RAISED THE ISSUE THAT THE EU DID NOT CONDUCT TRANSPARENT NEGOTIATIONS.

AMNESTY REPORT USED AGAINST U.S.
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17. DURING THE DISCUSSIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS AGENDA ITEMS, AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL'S RECENTLY PUBLISHED REPORT ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE U.S. WAS CITED BY CUBA, NORTH KOREA, IRAQ, SUDAN, AND BELARUS. ALL USED THE REPORT TO ARGUE THE U.S. HAD NO MORAL GROUNDS FOR JUOGING THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATIONS IN OTHER COUNTRIES WHEN IT FAILED TO OBSERVE HUMAN RIGHTS IN ITS OWN COUNTRY.

NEGOTIATING OTHER RESOLUTIONS
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18. RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT (RTD): THE NAM TEXT ON RTD WAS CIRCULATED LESS THAN A WEEK BEFORE THE END OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE. THE TEXT WAS THE WORST VETERAN WEOG OBSERVERS HAD EVER SEEN, COMBINING IRRELEVANT LANGUAGE ON MACRO-ECONOMIC ISSUES WITH A PROPOSAL TO DRAFT A CONVENTION ON THE RTD AND A REVIVAL OF THE PROPOSAL TO INCLUDE THE DECLARATION ON THE RTD IN THE INTERNATIONAL BILL OF HUMAN RIGHTS. AFTER PROTRACTED AND EXTENSIVE GOOD-FAITH NEGOTIATIONS, THE TEXT STILL CONTAINED TOO MANY OBJECTIONABLE ELEMENTS TO MAKE IT PALATABLE. USDEL WORKED HARD AND IN GOOD FAITH TO ACHIEVE BOTTOM LINE REQUIREMENTS. BY INCREASING

PRESSURE IN THE FINAL STAGES WE DIMINISHED THE PROBABILITY OF AGREEMENT AND SUCCEEDED IN KEEPING THE EU AND ALL OTHER WESTERN STATES IN THE ABSTAIN COLUMN WHEN WE CALLED A VOTE. NAM HARDLINERS, HAVING OVERREACTED FROM THE START, ENDED UP WITH A PYRRHIC VICTORY WITH 40 ABSTENTIONS AND 1 NO (U.S.) (SEE REF FOR TEXT OF U.S. EOV).

19. RIGHTS OF THE CHILD: THIS YEAR'S INFORMALS WERE CHAIRED BY URUGUAY, IN CONCERT WITH THE EU. THE USDEL TOOK POSITIONS ON THE ISSUES OF CHILD SOLDIERS (17 YEARS OLD VERSUS THE EU AND MAJORITY OF OTHER DELS' INSISTENCE ON 18) AND CHILD LABOR (U.S.-FAVORED "EXPLOITATIVE" FORMS VERSUS THE EU AND NORDICS' INSISTENCE ON THE ELIMINATION OF "ALL" FORMS OF CHILD LABOR), WHICH OFTEN PROTRACTED NEGOTIATIONS. U.S. POSITIONS WERE FINALLY ACCOMMODATED SO THAT USDEL COULD JOIN CONSENSUS WITH A STRONG EOP. IN ACHIEVING ITS OBJECTIVES, USDEL WAS ABLE TO DRAW SUPPORT FROM RUSSIA, INDIA, ISRAEL, ROK, AND THE PRC ON THESE TWO ISSUES. ON ANOTHER CONTENTIOUS ISSUE, THE IMPACT OF SANCTIONS ON CHILDREN, U.S. SUGGESTIONS TO MODIFY THE TEXT ALONG THE LINES OF SECURITY COUNCIL LANGUAGE FOUND NO SUPPORT. THE RESULT WAS THAT THE GROUP FELL BACK ON AGREED LANGUAGE IN PRIOR RESOLUTIONS FROM THE TWO PREVIOUS UNGAS.

20. VIENNA DECLARATION AND PROGRAMME OF ACTION (VDPA): APPARENTLY EXHAUSTEO IN TREATING THE QUESTION AFTER NEGOTIATING THE ECOSOC AGREED CONCLUSIONS IN JULY, DELEGATIONS QUICKLY AGREED TO GIVE UP ON SUBSTANCE AND TRY TO ARRIVE AT A SHORT, NEARLY PROCEDURAL TEXT. PUSHING HARD, USDEL SUCCEEDED IN INSERTING AND DEFENDING LANGUAGE REFLECTING DEEP CONCERN ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AND THE GAP BETWEEN THE PROMISE OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND THEIR ACTUAL PROMOTION AND PROTECTION.

21. NGO PARTICIPATION ON THE VDPA RESOLUTION LED TO A CONFRONTATION BETWEEN WEOG MEMBERS AND THE NAM STATES. U.S. AND CANADA DELS ASKED THIRD COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ALI HACHANI TO ALLOW NGOS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DISCUSSION, BUT NAM STATES OPPOSED. HACHANI DELAYED FOR ONE DAY BEFORE ANNOUNCING THAT AN INFORMAL DIALOGUE WOULD BE HELD WITH HCHR MARY ROBINSON ON 11/3. TO ACCOMMODATE THE EVENT, HACHANI CANCELED THE REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETING. HINTS OF FOUL PLAY AROSE WHEN THE UN JOURNAL ANNOUNCED THE DIALOGUE FOR 11/4, BUT HACHANI CONFIRMED THE ORIGINAL DATE AT THE COMMITTEE'S 11/2 MEETING. NAM MEMBERS EXPRESSED THEIR PROTEST BY CALLING A MEETING AT THE SAME TIME AS THE HCHR/NGO DIALOGUE.

22. THE EU WAS PARTICULARLY HELPFUL TO USUN AND CANADA IN OBTAINING A GOOD CONSENSUS CHAIRMAN'S TEXT ON THE RESOLUTION ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OUTCOME OF

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THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN. SIMILARLY, IN THE GA PLENARY, THE EU STOOD FIRM, ENSURING THAT THE RESOLUTION ON THE FOLLOW-UP TO THE WORLD SUMMIT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AVOIDED EXTRANEOUS REFERENCES TO TERRORISM, SANCTIONS, AND FOREIGN OCCUPATION THAT THE G-77 FELT NECESSARY TO TRY TO INSERT IN THE TEXT.

GLOBALIZATION: THE BIG CULPRIT

23. DELEGATIONS FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES BLAMED GLOBALIZATION FOR IMPEDING PROGRESS IN ALMOST EVERYTHING, FROM THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUGS TO THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD. PROTESTS AGAINST THE NEGATIVE EFFECT OF GLOBALIZATION INEVITABLY CAME BUNDLED WITH COMMENTS ON THE IMPACT OF THE FINANCIAL CRISIS AND RESULTING INCREASE IN UNEMPLOYMENT, POVERTY, AND OVERALL SOCIAL DISTRESS. DELEGATES THEN FOLLOWED UP WITH CALLS FOR ASSISTANCE FROM DEVELOPED NATIONS.

24. AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS, DURING THE DISCUSSIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS, ALLEGATIONS OF POLITICIZATION, SELECTIVITY, AND THE USE OF DOUBLE STANDARDS WERE COMMONLY VOICED BY DELEGATES FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, SUCH AS ALGERIA, PAKISTAN, INDIA, MALAYSIA, EGYPT, AND CUBA, AMONG OTHERS.

COMMITTEE CHAIR AND SECRETARIAT

25. THE THIRD COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, TUNISIAN AMBASSADOR ALI HACHANI, FAILED TO DISTINGUISH HIMSELF, SHOWING LITTLE INTEREST IN THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE. HE OFTEN MADE PROCEDURAL AND SUBSTANTIVE ERRORS AND SHIED AWAY FROM ANY HINT OF CONTROVERSY.

26. THE SECRETARIAT, PARTICULARLY THIRD COMMITTEE SECRETARY KATE STARR NEWELL, DESERVES CREDIT FOR MAKING THE THIRD COMMITTEE WORK AS WELL AS IT DID. THE PROVISION OF DOCUMENTATION IN A TIMELY MANNER IMPROVED SIGNIFICANTLY BUT STILL HAS A WAY TO GO. THE WEOG MEMBER OF THE BUREAU, NEW ZEALAND, WAS HELPFUL IN SEEKING WEOG OPINION, ENSURING FULL BRIEFING ON ISSUES OF CONCERN ARISING WITHIN THE BUREAU, AND ACTING AS AN EFFECTIVE ADVOCATE FOR WEOG POSITIONS WITHIN THE BUREAU. THE OTHER BUREAU MEMBERS, ROMANIA AND GUATEMALA, ALSO PROVED EFFECTIVE WHILE THE LEBANESE RAPPORTEUR REPRESENTED THE "LIKE-MINDED."

COMMITTEE VOTE COUNT

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27. RESULTS OF VOTES IN THIRD COMMITTEE WERE AS FOLLOWS:

-- HUMAN RIGHTS IN IRAQ:
(A) OPS 4, 13, 15, 17: FOR 88 (U.S.), AGAINST 1, ABSTAIN 55;
(B) RESOLUTION: FOR 92 (U.S.),AGAINST 2,ABSTAIN 56.

-- HUMAN RIGHTS IN IRAN:
FOR 63 (U.S.), AGAINST 35, ABSTAIN 60.

-- HUMAN RIGHTS IN KOSOVO:
(U.S. MAIN SPONSOR)
FOR 115 (U.S.), AGAINST 3, ABSTAIN 34.

-- HUMAN RIGHTS IN BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA/CROATIA/FRY:
(U.S. MAIN SPONSOR)
(A) CH. III: FOR 127 (U.S.), AGAINST 1, ABSTAIN 17.
(B) RESOLUTION: FOR 132(U.S.),AGAINST 0, ABSTAIN 20.

-- RIGHT TO DEVELOPMENT:
(U.S. CALLED VOTE)
FOR 109, AGAINST 1 (U.S.), ABSTAIN 40.

-- EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS:
(OP 26 ONLY)
FOR 93 (U.S.), AGAINST 7, ABSTAIN 38.

-- HUMAN RIGHTS AND UNILATERAL COERCIVE MEASU RES:
(U.S. CALLED VOTE)
FOR 104, AGAINST 44 (U.S.), ABSTAIN 10.

-- FREEDOM OF TRAVEL, FAMILY REUNIFICATION:
(U.S. CALLED VOTE)
FOR 82, AGAINST 1 (U.S.), ABSTAIN 67.

-- RIGHT OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE TO SELF-DETERMINATION:
(U.S. CALLED VOTE)
FOR 146, AGAINST 2 (U.S.), ABSTAIN 7.

UNCLAS SECTION 05 OF 05 USUN NEW YORK 003946

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: UNGA, PHUM, SOCT
SUBJECT: THIRD COMMITTEE MORE EFFICIENT, LESS CONFRONTATIONAL IN 53RD UNGA

REF: USUN NEW YORK 3882

-- USE OF MERCENARIES AS A MEANS OF VIOLATING HUMAN RIGHTS AND IMPEDING RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION:
(U.S. CALLED VOTE)
FOR 93, AGAINST 17 (U.S.), ABSTAIN 28.

BURLEIGH

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 05
<^SECT>SECTION: 03 OF 05
<^SECT>SECTION: 04 OF 05
<^SECT>SECTION: 05 OF 05

SSN: 3946
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DIST:
SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: ROUTINE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: RAAUZYUW RUEHSGA4266 3571259-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: R 231259Z DEC 98
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
OSRI: RUEHSG
DTG: 231259Z DEC 98
ORIG: AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7887
INFO: RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0388
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0051
SUBJ: PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES FOR 5-YEAR REVIEW OF THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN

TEXT:

UNCLAS SANTIAGO 004266

DEPT FOR IC/ESA AND ARA/BSC

E.O. 12958: DECL: N/A
TAGS: AORC, UN, ECLAC, ECA, ESCWA, ESCAP, ECE, KWMN, CI
SUBJECT: PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES FOR 5-YEAR REVIEW OF THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN

REF: STATE 200260

(U) WE RAISED REF REQUEST WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S SERVICE (SERNAM) ON THREE SEPARATE OCCASIONS. MFA OFFICIAL FIDEL COLOMA TOLD US DECEMBER 23 CHILE IS CURRENTLY PLANNING NO PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES, THOUGH IT MAY TAKE ACTION IN THE FUTURE. HE EXPLAINED THE GOC IS WAITING FOR THE REGIONAL ECLAC SESSION AND THE UN COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN MEETING TO FURTHER DEFINE ITS PLANS. COLOMA PREDICTED "SOMETHING, BUT NOT MUCH" WILL COME OUT OF THE ECLAC SESSION. SERNAM HAS NOT YET REPLIED TO OUR REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION, THOUGH COLOMA SAID HE CHECKED WITH THAT ORGANIZATION PRIOR TO ANSWERING OUR QUERY.

O'LEARY

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01
SSN: 4266
TOR: 981223081211 M3619116
DIST:
SIT: BABBITT BUSBY GUARNIERI NAPLAN SCHWARTZ WIPPMAN
SIT: NSC