

Cable

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TO: SECSTATE WASHDC 1883
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SUBJ: CSW INFORMALS/BRIEFING FEBRUARY 4, 1999

TEXT:

UNCLAS USUN NEW YORK 000331

DEPARTMENT FOR IO/ESA - S. KOTOK

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: SOCI, KWMN, UN, AORC, PHUM

SUBJECT: CSW INFORMALS/BRIEFING FEBRUARY 4, 1999

1. ACTION REQUEST - SEE PARA 7.

2. SUMMARY AND ACTION REQUEST: COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (CSW) CHAIR PATRICIA FLOR (GERMANY) HELD A MEETING ON FEBRUARY 4 TO CONDUCT INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS AND BRIEF INTERESTED DELEGATIONS ON THE UPCOMING (MARCH 1-12) 43RD ANNUAL SESSION OF THE CSW AND THE (MARCH 14-19) CSW ACTING AS PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE FIVE YEAR REVIEW OF THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN (FWCW) (BEIJING PLUS 5). UN SECRETARIAT OFFICIAL KATE STARR NEWELL PROVIDED INFORMATION ON HOW OTHER PREPCOMS WERE CONSTITUTED. USUN ASKS DEPARTMENT GUIDANCE WHETHER US SHOULD TRY TO GAIN SEAT ON BUREAU OF THE CSW ACTING AS PREPCOM. END SUMMARY AND ACTION REQUEST.

3. THE G-77 STILL DID NOT HAVE A POSITION REGARDING THE OPTIONS FOR CONSTITUTING THE CSW BUREAU ACTING AS PREPCOM FOR BEIJING PLUS 5. THEREFORE THE CHAIR COULD NOT CONDUCT INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON THE OPTIONS ISSUE. DESPITE THE ABSENCE OF A G-77 POSITION, ALGERIA STATED IT WANTED A SEPARATE BUREAU AND SLOVAKIA EMPHASIZED THAT THE ROTATION ARRANGEMENT MANDATED THAT THE NEXT CHAIR FOR THE REGULAR CSW SESSION COME FROM THE EASTERN EUROPEAN GROUP. COMMENT: WHAT THE G-77 REALLY WANTS IS A SEPARATE BUREAU FOR THE CSW ACTING AS PREPCOM AND THE G-77 WANTS TO CHAIR IT, PREFERABLY WITH A MEMBER

FROM THE AFRICAN REGIONAL GROUP. END COMMENT.

4. KATE STARR NEWELL REVIEWED THE HISTORY OF THE PREPCOM BUREAUS AND THEIR RELATION TO THE FUNCTIONAL COMMISSIONS. REVIEWING THE MAKEUP OF THE BUREAUS FOR THE PREPCOMS OF THE OTHER SPECIAL SESSIONS OF THE 1990'S, (RIO PLUS 5, CAIRO PLUS 5, COPENHAGEN PLUS 5, THE 1998 SPECIAL SESSION ON DRUGS, THE SIDS MEETING IN 1999), NEWELL MADE IT CLEAR THAT THERE ARE PRECEDENTS FOR ANY NUMBER OF PREPCOM BUREAU FORMATS WITH LITTLE IN THE WAY OF PROHIBITIONS.

5. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, NEWELL NOTED THAT BUREAU MEMBERS CAN BE FROM CAPITALS AND THEY CAN BE REPRESENTED BY MISOFFS; HOWEVER, ONLY THE CHAIR OF A BUREAU CAN CALL A BUREAU MEETING--THERE CAN BE NO SHADOW OR SURROGATE CHAIR--MAKING IT ALMOST NECESSARY THAT THE BUREAU CHAIR BE NEW YORK-BASED. NEWELL REMARKED THAT THE CSW IS IN CHARGE OF ITS OWN MECHANISMS AND HAS A LOT OF LEEWAY BECAUSE THE RULES OF PROCEDURE DO NOT OFFER MUCH GUIDANCE. THE BUREAU IS ELECTED AD PERSONAM RATHER THAN BY COUNTRY. REPRESENTATION ON THE BUREAU IS BY REGIONAL GROUP AND THERE IS NOTHING TO PROHIBIT THE CSW FROM HAVING MORE THAN ONE REPRESENTATIVE PER REGION. CSW CHAIR FLOR INTERJECTED THAT THE WORKLOAD FOR THE BEIJING PLUS 5 PREPCOM WOULD BE HEAVY IF THERE WERE ONLY THE FIVE REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES ON THE BUREAU.

6. HAVING THE PRESENT CSW CHAIR SERVE AS AN EX-OFFICIO MEMBER OF THE BUREAU FOR THE CSW ACTING AS PREPCOM MEANS THAT PATRICIA FLOR WOULD FUNCTION IN PARITY WITH OTHER BUREAU MEMBERS. NEWELL ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THERE WAS PRECEDENT FOR HAVING CO-CHAIRS, CITING THE RIO PLUS FIVE PREPCOM ESTABLISHING AN AD HOC OPEN-ENDED INTERSESSIONAL WORKING GROUP WITH CO-CHAIRS FROM THE UK AND BRAZIL. THE CO-CHAIRS BECAME MEMBERS OF THE BUREAU AND PARTICIPATED ACTIVELY IN NEGOTIATIONS.

7. ACTION REQUEST - USUN ASKS DEPARTMENT TO CONSIDER WHETHER US SHOULD ATTEMPT TO GAIN A SEAT ON THE BUREAU OF THE CSW ACTING AS PREPCOM FOR THE FIVE YEAR REVIEW OF THE BEIJING CONFERENCE. THE SPECIAL SESSION WILL DRAW LITERALLY THOUSANDS OF NGO REPRESENTATIVES TO NEW YORK IN JUNE 2000 AND PROBABLY SEVERAL HUNDRED NGO ORGANIZATIONS TO THE PREPCOMS. IF THE 1995 BEIJING CONFERENCE IS ANY INDICATION, MEDIA INTEREST IN THE FIVE YEAR REVIEW WILL BE INTENSE. ASIDE FROM THE SUBSTANTIVE WOMEN'S ISSUES, WE ALSO HAVE HOST COUNTRY, PRESS, AND SECURITY INTERESTS IN HOW THE PREPARATION FOR THE FIVE YEAR REVIEW OF BEIJING PROCEEDS. TRADITIONALLY PERM 5 MEMBERS DO NOT SIT ON BUREAUS BUT THERE APPEARS TO BE NO PROHIBITION ON THEIR DOING SO. GIVEN THE G-77'S LIKELY SUCCESS IN OBTAINING A SEPARATE BUREAU FOR THE CSW ACTING AS PREPCOM AND IN POSSIBLY ELECTING A G-77 CHAIR, HAVING THE U.S. ON THE BUREAU MAY BE PRUDENT TO PROTECT OUR INTERESTS BOTH SUBSTANTIVELY AND AS THE HOST COUNTRY FOR THIS EVENT.
BURLEIGH

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 0331

TOR: 990210144611 M3688368

DIST:

SIT: BABBITT BUSBY GUARNIERI NAPLAN SCHWARTZ STROMSETH VACCARO WIPPMAN

SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: PRIORITY
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: PAAUZYUW RUEHCAA1806 0510114-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
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SUBJ: REQUEST FOR DEMARCHE: UN COMMISSION ON THE
STATUS OF WOMEN -- 43RD SESSION AND PREPARATIONS FOR
BEIJING&5

TEXT:
UNCLAS STATE 031806

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: KWMN, UN, PHUM, CSW
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR DEMARCHE: UN COMMISSION ON THE
STATUS OF WOMEN -- 43RD SESSION AND PREPARATIONS FOR
BEIJING&5

1. THIS IS AN ACION CABLE. PLEASE SEE PARAGRAPHS 11 AND
12. THIS TELEGRAM HAS BEEN CLEARED WITH M/P(SEP).

2. BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY: THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION
ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (CSW) WILL MEET IN NEW YORK, MARCH
1-19. IT WILL CONVENE ITS 43RD SESSION, MARCH 1-12, AND
WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A ONE-WEEK SESSION, MARCH 15-19, TO
PREPARE FOR THE FIVE-YEAR REVIEW OF PROGRESS MADE IN
IMPLEMENTING THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION, ADOPTED AT
THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN. THE FIVE-YEAR
REVIEW, KNOWN AS BEIJING&5, WILL TAKE PLACE JUNE 5-9, 2000,
IN NEW YORK, AS A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL
ASSEMBLY. END SUMMARY.

43RD SESSION OF THE CSW (MARCH 1-12)

3. THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF THIS YEAR'S CSW WILL BE DEVOTED
TO "FOLLOW-UP TO AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM
FOR ACTION," FOCUSING IN PARTICULAR ON "WOMEN AND HEALTH"
AND "INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF
WOMEN." ALSO DURING THE FIRST TWO WEEKS, AN OPEN-ENDED
WORKING GROUP WILL CONTINUE DRAFTING AN OPTIONAL PROTOCOL

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

4. THE UNITED STATES' PRIORITIES FOR THE 43RD SESSION OF
THE CSW INCLUDE:

--ON "WOMEN AND HEALTH," THE U.S. WILL REAFFIRM THE
AGREEMENTS ON WOMEN'S HEALTH MADE AT THE INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT (CAIRO, 1994) AND
THE BEIJING WOMEN'S CONFERENCE IN 1995. WE WILL ALSO
ADDRESS EMERGING HEALTH ISSUES SUCH AS THE HEALTH OF OLDER
WOMEN, WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES, MENTAL HEALTH, HIV/AIDS,
TOBACCO USE, VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, AND THE DIFFERENTIAL
IMPACTS OF DRUGS AND ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS ON WOMEN AND
MEN.

--ON "INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF
WOMEN," THE U.S. WILL HIGHLIGHT THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE
PRESIDENT'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON WOMEN (WHICH SERVES AS
THE U.S. INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISM) AND ADDRESS THE ENORMOUS
POSSIBILITIES AN EFFECTIVE MECHANISM CAN ACHIEVE.

-- ON THE OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE CONVENTION ON THE
ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN
(CEDAW), THE U.S. SUPPORTS A STRONG OPTIONAL PROTOCOL THAT
COULD HELP THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MONITOR AND RESPOND
TO VIOLATIONS OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS AROUND THE WORLD. WE HOPE
THAT DELEGATIONS WILL WORK TOGETHER SO THAT THE OPTIONAL
PROTOCOL CAN BE ADOPTED DURING THIS YEAR'S SESSION OF THE
CSW.

-- THE UNITED STATES INTENDS TO INTRODUCE A RESOLUTION ON
THE SITUATION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN AFGHANISTAN. THIS
RESOLUTION WILL FOLLOW-UP ON THE RESOLUTION THE UNITED
STATES INTRODUCED LAST YEAR, WHICH WAS ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS
WITH 45 CO-SPONSORS. THIS YEAR'S TEXT WILL CONTAIN A
PARTICULAR FOCUS ON THE DENIAL TO WOMEN AND GIRLS OF EQUAL
ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE. IT WILL ALSO ADDRESS OTHER FORMS OF
DISCRIMINATION AND ABUSE.

BEIJING&5 PREPARATIONS (MARCH 15-19)

5. DURING THE THIRD WEEK, THE CSW WILL MEET AS THE
PREPARATORY COMMITTEE (PREPCOM) FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION OF
THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE JUNE 5-9,
2000, TO REVIEW PROGRESS MADE IN IMPLEMENTING THE BEIJING
PLATFORM FOR ACTION, ADOPTED AT THE 1995 FOURTH WORLD
CONFERENCE ON WOMEN. THE FIVE-YEAR REVIEW IS KNOWN AS
BEIJING&5. DURING THIS THIRD WEEK, THE CSW WILL ACT AS A
"COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE," IN WHICH ALL UN MEMBER STATES
WILL PARTICIPATE EQUALLY.

6. THE PRESIDENT'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON WOMEN,
ESTABLISHED BY PRESIDENT CLINTON IN AUGUST 1995 TO ENSURE
U.S. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION,
WILL BE INTEGRALLY INVOLVED IN U.S. PREPARATIONS FOR
BEIJING&5.

7. BEIJING&5 PREPARATIONS WERE DISCUSSED IN 1998, DURING THE 42ND SESSION OF THE CSW AND THE 53RD SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY. THE FOLLOWING DECISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE:

- # BEIJING&5 WILL TAKE PLACE AS A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, JUNE 5-9, 2000.
- # THE SPECIAL SESSION WILL BE ENTITLED: "WOMEN 2000: GENDER EQUALITY, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY."
- # THE SPECIAL SESSION SHOULD REVIEW AND ASSESS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION AND SHOULD REAFFIRM THE COMMITMENT TO THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION--IT SHOULD FOCUS ON OBSTACLES ENCOUNTERED IN IMPLEMENTING THE PLATFORM AND STRATEGIES TO OVERCOME THOSE OBSTACLES.
- # THE SPECIAL SESSION SHOULD BE ATTENDED BY HIGH LEVEL OFFICIALS.
- # THERE SHOULD BE APPROPRIATE REGIONAL-PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES.
- # ALL ENTITIES OF THE UN SYSTEM SHOULD BE ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES AND SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE SPECIAL SESSION AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL.

8. THE BEIJING&5 PREPCOM WILL DISCUSS FURTHER INITIATIVES AND ACTIONS THAT MIGHT BE CONSIDERED DURING THE BEIJING&5

UNGA SPECIAL SESSION. THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAS SUGGESTED THE FOLLOWING TOPICS BE CONSIDERED FOR "FURTHER INITIATIVES AND ACTIONS": "POLITICAL WILL AND COMMITMENT," "CAPACITY BUILDING AND GENDER MAINSTREAMING," "ACCOUNTABILITY AND ASSESSMENT," "COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIP FOR IMPLEMENTING THE PLATFORM," "ASSISTANCE TO WOMEN AND GIRLS CURRENTLY SUBJECT TO DISCRIMINATION AND DISADVANTAGE," "GLOBALIZATION AND THE ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN" "WOMEN, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE NEW INFORMATION AGE," "WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP," AND "HUMAN SECURITY AND SOCIAL PROTECTION."

9. THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THE TOPICS SUGGESTED BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL ARE APPROPRIATE AND RELEVANT. DURING OUR DISCUSSION OF THESE TOPICS, THE U.S. WILL EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF POLITICAL WILL AND HIGH LEVEL COMMITMENT; AND STEPS THAT CAN BE TAKEN:

- TO IMPROVE A GOVERNMENT'S OR ORGANIZATION'S CAPACITY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN--INCLUDING MEASURES TO IMPROVE ASSESSMENT AND INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTABILITY;
- TO INCREASE GOVERNMENTAL, NON-GOVERNMENTAL, AND PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS;
- TO ENSURE THAT ALL WOMEN AND MEN BENEFIT FROM GLOBALIZATION;
- TO INCREASE WOMEN'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP;
- TO INCREASE WOMEN'S INVOLVEMENT IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; AND
- TO PROTECT WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS AND FREEDOM FROM VIOLENCE, WITH A PARTICULAR FOCUS ON WOMEN AND GIRLS WHO SUFFER FROM DISCRIMINATION OR OTHER DISADVANTAGE.

CSW MEMBER STATES

10. THE CSW HAS 45 MEMBER STATES: BELGIUM, BOLIVIA, BRAZIL, BURUNDI, CHILE, CHINA, COTE D'IVOIRE, CUBA, DPRK, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, EGYPT, ETHIOPIA, FRANCE, GERMANY, GHANA, INDIA, IRAN, ITALY, JAPAN, LEBANON, LESOTHO, LITHUANIA, MALAYSIA, MALI, MEXICO, MONGOLIA, MOROCCO, NORWAY, PARAGUAY, PERU, POLAND, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, RWANDA, SANTA LUCIA, SENEGAL, SLOVAKIA, SRI LANKA, SUDAN, SWAZILAND, THAILAND, TURKEY, UGANDA, UNITED KINGDOM, AND THE UNITED STATES.

ACTION REQUESTED--FOR EMBASSTES IN CSW MEMBER STATES:

11. ACTION ADDRESSEES IN CSW MEMBER STATES ARE REQUESTED TO MEET WITH HOST GOVERNMENTS, AS APPROPRIATE, TO INFORM THEM OF U.S. OBJECTIVES DURING THE 43RD SESSION OF THE CSW AS WELL AS THE CSW ACTING AS THE PREPCOM FOR BEIJING&5; TO SEEK THEIR SUPPORT FOR U.S. OBJECTIVES AND FOR THE DRAFT U.S. RESOLUTION ON THE SITUATION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN AFGHANISTAN; AND TO FIND OUT THEIR INTERESTS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE UPCOMING CSW. ACTION ADDRESSEES ARE REQUESTED TO PROVIDE THE HOST GOVERNMENT WITH A COPY OF THE DRAFT U.S. RESOLUTION (TEXT IN PARAGRAPH 13); AND TO REPORT ON HOST GOVERNMENTS' REACTIONS. PLEASE SEND RESPONSES TO STATE (10 AND S/PICW) AND TO USUN NEW YORK, WITH AN INFO COPY TO GENEVA. PLEASE USE THE KWMN TAG.

BEGIN TALKING POINTS:

-- THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (CSW) WILL MEET IN NEW YORK, MARCH 1-19. IT WILL CONVENE ITS 43RD SESSION, MARCH 1-12, AND WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A ONE-WEEK SESSION, MARCH 15-19, TO PREPARE FOR THE FIVE-YEAR REVIEW OF PROGRESS MADE IN IMPLEMENTING THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION, ADOPTED AT THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN. THE FIVE-YEAR REVIEW, KNOWN AS BEIJING&5;, WILL TAKE PLACE JUNE 5-9, 2000, IN NEW YORK, AS A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

-- THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF THIS YEAR'S CSW WILL BE DEVOTED TO "FOLLOW-UP TO AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION," FOCUSING IN PARTICULAR ON "WOMEN AND HEALTH" AND "INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN." ALSO DURING THE FIRST TWO WEEKS, AN OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP WILL CONTINUE DRAFTING AN OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW)

-- THE UNITED STATES HOPES THAT THIS YEAR'S CSW WILL PROVIDE THE OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:

-- ON "WOMEN AND HEALTH:" WE HOPE THE CSW WILL REAFFIRM THE AGREEMENTS ON WOMEN'S HEALTH MADE AT THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT (CAIRO, 1994) AND THE BEIJING WOMEN'S CONFERENCE IN 1995. WE HOPE THE CSW WILL ALSO ADDRESS EMERGING HEALTH ISSUES SUCH AS THE HEALTH

OF OLDER WOMEN, WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES, MENTAL HEALTH, HIV/AIDS, TOBACCO USE, VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, AND THE DIFFERENTIAL IMPACTS OF DRUGS AND ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS ON WOMEN AND MEN.

-- ON "INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN," WE HOPE THE CSW WILL ADDRESS THE ENORMOUS POSSIBILITIES AN EFFECTIVE MECHANISM CAN ACHIEVE. THE PRESIDENT'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON WOMEN, ESTABLISHED BY PRESIDENT CLINTON IN AUGUST 1995 TO ENSURE U.S. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION, IS THE U.S. MECHANISM. SECRETARY OF STATE MADELEINE ALBRIGHT CHAIRS THE COUNCIL; FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON SERVES AS HONORARY CHAIR.

-- ON THE OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW), THE U.S. SUPPORTS A STRONG OPTIONAL PROTOCOL THAT COULD HELP THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MONITOR AND RESPOND TO VIOLATIONS OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS AROUND THE WORLD. WE HOPE THAT DELEGATIONS WILL WORK TOGETHER SO THAT THE OPTIONAL PROTOCOL CAN BE ADOPTED DURING THIS YEAR'S SESSION OF THE CSW.

-- THE UNITED STATES INTENDS TO INTRODUCE A RESOLUTION ON THE SITUATION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN AFGHANISTAN. THIS RESOLUTION WILL FOLLOW UP ON THE RESOLUTION THE UNITED STATES INTRODUCED LAST YEAR, WHICH WAS ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS WITH 45 CO-SPONSORS. THIS YEAR'S TEXT WILL CONTAIN A PARTICULAR FOCUS ON THE DENIAL TO WOMEN AND GIRLS OF EQUAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE. IT WILL ALSO ADDRESS OTHER FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AND ABUSE.

-- THE U.S. IS SEEKING HOST COUNTRIES' SUPPORT AND CO-SPONSORSHIP OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION.

-- DURING THE THIRD WEEK, AS THE BEIJING-5 PREPCOM, THE CSW WILL DISCUSS FURTHER INITIATIVES AND ACTIONS THAT MIGHT BE CONSIDERED DURING THE BEIJING-5 SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

-- THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THE TOPICS SUGGESTED BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO BE DISCUSSED AT BEIJING-5 ARE APPROPRIATE AND RELEVANT. WE HOPE THE CSW WILL MAKE CONCRETE RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW TO:

- INCREASE POLITICAL WILL AND HIGH LEVEL COMMITMENT;
- IMPROVE A GOVERNMENT'S OR ORGANIZATION'S CAPACITY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN--INCLUDING MEASURES TO IMPROVE ASSESSMENT AND INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTABILITY;
- INCREASE GOVERNMENTAL, NON-GOVERNMENTAL, AND PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS;
- ENSURE THAT ALL WOMEN AND MEN BENEFIT FROM GLOBALIZATION;
- INCREASE WOMEN'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP;
- INCREASE WOMEN'S INVOLVEMENT IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY;

AND

-- PROTECT WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS AND FREEDOM FROM VIOLENCE, WITH A PARTICULAR FOCUS ON WOMEN AND GIRLS WHO SUFFER FROM DISCRIMINATION OR OTHER DISADVANTAGE.

ACTION REQUESTED--FOR EMBASSIES WHOSE HOST GOVERNMENTS ARE NOT/NOT 05W MEMBERS:

12. ACTION ADDRESSEES, WHOSE HOST GOVERNMENTS ARE NOT/NOT CSW MEMBERS, ARE REQUESTED TO MEET WITH HOST GOVERNMENTS, AS APPROPRIATE, TO INFORM THEM OF U.S. OBJECTIVES DURING THE BEIJING&5 PREPCOM; TO SEEK THEIR SUPPORT FOR U.S. OBJECTIVES; AND TO FIND OUT THEIR INTERESTS AND OBJECTIVES FOR BEIJING&5 AND ITS PREPCOM. SINCE NON-CSW MEMBER STATES ARE PERMITTED TO CO-SPONSOR 05W RESOLUTIONS, EMBASSIES ARE REQUESTED TO PROVIDE HOST GOVERNMENTS WITH A COPY OF THE DRAFT U.S. RESOLUTION ON THE SITUATION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN AFGHANISTAN AND SEEK THEIR SUPPORT AND CO-SPONSORSHIP. ACTION ADDRESSEES ARE REQUESTED TO REPORT ON HOST GOVERNMENTS' REACTIONS TO THE DEMARCHE. PLEASE SEND RESPONSES TO STATE (S/PICW AND 10) AND TO USUN NEW YORK, WITH AN INFO COPY TO GENEVA. PLEASE USE THE KWMN TAG.

BEGIN TALKING POINTS:

-- THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (05W) WILL MEET IN NEW YORK, MARCH 1-19. IT WILL CONVENE ITS 43RD SESSION, MARCH 1-12, AND WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A ONE-WEEK SESSION, MARCH 15-19, TO PREPARE FOR THE FIVE-YEAR REVIEW OF PROGRESS MADE IN IMPLEMENTING THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION, ADOPTED AT THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN. THE FIVE-YEAR REVIEW, KNOWN AS BEIJING&5, WILL

TAKE PLACE JUNE 5-9, 2000, IN NEW YORK, AS A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

-- ALL UN MEMBER STATES, WHETHER OR NOT THEY ARE CSW MEMBERS, WILL PARTICIPATE EQUALLY IN THE THIRD WEEK OF THE CSW, WHEN IT WILL BE ACTING AS THE BEIJING&5 PREPCOM. THE PREPCOM WILL DISCUSS FURTHER INITIATIVES AND ACTIONS THAT MIGHT BE CONSIDERED DURING THE BEIJING&5 SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

-- THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THE TOPICS SUGGESTED BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL TO BE DISCUSSED AT BEIJING&5 ARE APPROPRIATE AND RELEVANT. WE HOPE THE PREPCOM WILL MAKE CONCRETE RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW TO:

- INCREASE POLITICAL WILL AND HIGH LEVEL COMMITMENT;
- IMPROVE A GOVERNMENT'S OR ORGANIZATION'S CAPACITY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN--INCLUDING MEASURES TO IMPROVE ASSESSMENT AND INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTABILITY;
- INCREASE GOVERNMENTAL, NON-GOVERNMENTAL, AND PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS;
- ENSURE THAT ALL WOMEN AND MEN BENEFIT FROM GLOBALIZATION;
- INCREASE WOMEN'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP;
- INCREASE WOMEN'S INVOLVEMENT IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY;

AND

-- PROTECT WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS AND FREEDOM FROM VIOLENCE, WITH A PARTICULAR FOCUS ON WOMEN AND GIRLS WHO SUFFER FROM DISCRIMINATION OR OTHER DISADVANTAGE.

-- DURING THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CSW (MARCH 1-12), THE UNITED STATES INTENDS TO INTRODUCE A RESOLUTION ON THE SITUATION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN AFGHANISTAN. THIS RESOLUTION WILL FOLLOW-UP ON THE RESOLUTION THE UNITED STATES INTRODUCED LAST YEAR, WHICH WAS ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS WITH 45 CO-SPONSORS. THIS YEAR'S TEXT WILL CONTAIN A PARTICULAR FOCUS ON THE DENIAL TO WOMEN AND GIRLS OF EQUAL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE. IT WILL ALSO ADDRESS OTHER FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AND ABUSE. SINCE NON-CSW MEMBER STATES ARE PERMITTED TO CO-SPONSOR CSW RESOLUTIONS, WE ARE REQUESTING YOUR SUPPORT AND CO-SPONSORSHIP.

13. TEXT OF DRAFT U.S. RESOLUTION ON "THE SITUATION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN AFGHANISTAN":

BEGIN QUOTE:

DRAFT RESOLUTION

SITUATION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN AFGHANISTAN

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

GUIDED BY THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS, THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS, THE CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL, INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT, THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN, THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD, THE BEIJING DECLARATION AND PLATFORM FOR ACTION ADOPTED AT THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN, AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW.

DEEPLY CONCERNED BY THE CONTINUING AND SUBSTANTIATED REPORTS OF VIOLATIONS OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS, INCLUDING ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST THEM, PARTICULARLY IN AREAS UNDER CONTROL OF THE TALIBAN, RESULTING, INTER ALIA, IN DENIAL OF EQUAL ACCESS OF WOMEN TO HEALTH CARE, RESTRICTIONS UPON MOVEMENT, PROHIBITION OF MOST FORMS OF FEMALE EMPLOYMENT, RESTRICTIONS UPON EDUCATION FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS, THE CLOSING OF GIRLS' SCHOOLS, AND SEVERE LIMITATIONS UPON THE ENROLLMENT OF FEMALES IN INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND UPON THEIR ACCESS TO HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE.

WELCOMING THE ONGOING WORK OF THE SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR OF THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS ON THE SITUATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN AFGHANISTAN, IN PARTICULAR HIS SPECIAL FOCUS ON VIOLATIONS OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS, ESPECIALLY IN TERRITORIES UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE TALIBAN FACTION.

WELCOMING ALSO THE GENDER MISSION TO AFGHANISTAN IN NOVEMBER 1997, CONDUCTED BY THE SPECIAL ADVISER TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON GENDER ISSUES AND ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE REPORT OF THE MISSION, HOPING THAT THIS MISSION WILL SERVE AS A MODEL FOR FUTURE EFFORTS TO ADDRESS THE GENDER DIMENSION OF CRISIS/CONFLICT SITUATIONS, AND ENCOURAGING THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO

CONTINUE TO SEND SUCH HIGH-LEVEL MISSIONS, WHEN APPROPRIATE.

EXPRESSING ITS APPRECIATION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY'S SUPPORT OF AND SOLIDARITY WITH THE WOMEN AND GIRLS OF AFGHANISTAN, BEING SUPPORTIVE OF THE WOMEN OF AFGHANISTAN WHO PROTEST VIOLATIONS OF THEIR HUMAN RIGHTS, AND ENCOURAGING THE WOMEN AND MEN WORLDWIDE TO CONTINUE EFFORTS TO DRAW ATTENTION TO THEIR SITUATION AND TO PROMOTE THE IMMEDIATE RESTORATION OF THEIR ABILITY TO ENJOY THEIR HUMAN RIGHTS.

CONDEMNS THE CONTINUING VIOLATIONS OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS, INCLUDING ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AND BRUTALITY AGAINST THEM, IN ALL AREAS OF AFGHANISTAN.

CONDEMNS ALSO THE TALIBAN'S RESTRICTIONS ON THE DELIVERY OF HEALTH CARE TO WOMEN, AND NOTES WITH CONCERN THAT THE OPPRESSIVE HUMAN RIGHTS ENVIRONMENT IMPOSED ON AFGHAN WOMEN, INCLUDING SEVERE RESTRICTIONS ON ACCESS TO EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES, FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT, AND FREEDOM FROM INTIMIDATION, HARASSMENT, AND BRUTALITY HAS A SERIOUS DETRIMENTAL IMPACT ON THE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH OF AFGHAN WOMEN AND THE CHILDREN IN THEIR CARE.

CALLS UPON ALL PARTIES WITHIN AFGHANISTAN TO RECOGNIZE, PROTECT, PROMOTE AND ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH ALL HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, REGARDLESS OF GENDER, ETHNICITY OR RELIGION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS, AND TO RESPECT INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW.

STRONGLY URGES ALL OF THE AFGHAN FACTIONS TO END DISCRIMINATORY POLICIES AND TO RECOGNIZE, PROTECT AND PROMOTE THE EQUAL RIGHTS AND DIGNITY OF WOMEN AND MEN, INCLUDING THEIR RIGHTS TO FULL AND EQUAL PARTICIPATION IN THE LIFE OF THE COUNTRY, FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT, ACCESS TO EDUCATION AND HEALTH FACILITIES, EMPLOYMENT OUTSIDE THE HOME, PERSONAL SECURITY, AND FREEDOM FROM INTIMIDATION, HARASSMENT, AND BRUTALITY, WITH SPECIAL RESPECT TO THE IMPLICATIONS OF DISCRIMINATORY POLICIES FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF AID.

ENCOURAGES THE CONTINUING EFFORTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INTERNATIONAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND DONORS TO ENSURE THAT ALL UNITED NATIONS-ASSISTED PROGRAMMES IN AFGHANISTAN ARE FORMULATED AND COORDINATED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO PROMOTE AND ENSURE THE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN THOSE PROGRAMMES AND THAT WOMEN BENEFIT EQUALLY

WITH MEN FROM SUCH PROGRAMMES;

APPEALS TO ALL STATES AND TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO ENSURE THAT ALL HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE PEOPLE OF AFGHANISTAN, INCLUDING THE DELIVERY OF HEALTH SERVICES, IN CONFORMITY WITH PRINCIPLED COMMON PROGRAMMING, INTEGRATES GENDER CONCERNS AND ACTIVELY ATTEMPTS TO PROMOTE THE PARTICIPATION OF BOTH WOMEN AND MEN AND TO PROMOTE PEACE AND HUMAN RIGHTS.

WELCOMES THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE POSITIONS OF GENDER COORDINATOR AND HUMAN RIGHTS COORDINATOR AT THE UN OFFICE OF COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE FOR AFGHANISTAN (UNOCHA), IN ORDER TO ENSURE MORE EFFECTIVE CONSIDERATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND GENDER CONCERNS INTO ALL UN PROGRAMMES, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE REPORT OF THE GENDER MISSION TO AFGHANISTAN CONDUCTED BY THE SPECIAL ADVISER TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON GENDER ISSUES AND ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN IN NOVEMBER 1997.

END QUOTE.

TALBOTT

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 1806

TOR: 990219202134 M3704282

DIST:

SIT: ARVIZU BABBITT BADER BUSBY GUARNIERI LIEBERTHAL NAPLAN OSIUS
PRITCHARD SCHWARTZ STROMSETH VACCARO WILLIAMSON WIPPMAN
SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: PRIORITY

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED

LINE1: PAAUZYUW RUEHWA0840 0600731-UUUU--RHEHAAX.

LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH

LINE3: P 010731Z MAR 99

LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY BERN

OSRI: RUEHSW

DTG: 010731Z MAR 99

ORIG: AMEMBASSY BERN

TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8011

INFO: RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 1518
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0823

SUBJ: UN COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN: PARTICIPATION BY
SWITZERLAND AND LIECHTENSTEIN

TEXT:

UNCLAS BERN 000840

DEPT FOR IO AND S/PICW

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KWMN, UN, PHUM, CSW, SZ

SUBJECT: UN COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN: PARTICIPATION BY
SWITZERLAND AND LIECHTENSTEIN

REF: STATE 31806

1. EMBOFF MET FEBRUARY 24 WITH ANNEGRET ZIMMERMANN OF THE UNITED NATIONS SECTION OF THE SWISS DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO SEEK SUPPORT FOR U.S. OBJECTIVES AT THE UPCOMING MEETING OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (CSW) AND THE BEIJING&5 PREPCOM. ZIMMERMANN SAID THAT ALTHOUGH NOT A UN MEMBER, SWITZERLAND HAD BEEN AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT IN THE BEIJING WOMEN'S CONFERENCE AND WILL BE REPRESENTED IN NEW YORK FOR THE CSW AND THE BEIJING&5 PREPCOM. THE HEAD OF THE SWISS DELEGATION WILL BE PATRICIA SCHULZ, DIRECTOR OF THE FEDERAL OFFICE FOR THE EQUALITY OF WOMEN AND MEN, WHO WILL ONLY BE IN NEW YORK FOR THE FIRST WEEK OF THE CSW MEETING. TWO OTHER SWISS OFFICIALS FROM BERN, INCLUDING ZIMMERMANN, AS WELL AS A NONGOVERNMENTAL EXPERT ON WOMEN'S ISSUES WILL ALSO BE PRESENT FOR THE CSW MEETING AND/OR THE PREPCOM.

2. ZIMMERMANN SAID THAT SHE WOULD SHARE U.S. OBJECTIVES WITH PATRICIA SCHULZ, WHO IS ON VACATION, AND OTHER RELEVANT OFFICIALS IN THE SWISS GOVERNMENT. HER INITIAL REACTION, HOWEVER, WAS THAT THE OBJECTIVES WERE FULLY CONSISTENT WITH SWISS GOVERNMENT POLICY AND PRIORITIES. ZIMMERMANN ALSO INDICATED THAT SHE WOULD SHARE THE TEXT OF THE U.S. DRAFT RESOLUTION ON THE SITUATION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN AFGHANISTAN AND DETERMINE WHETHER IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR SWITZERLAND TO LEND ITS SUPPORT. SPEAKING PERSONALLY, ZIMMERMANN SAID THAT SHE HAS RECEIVED APPEALS FOR SUPPORT ON THIS ISSUE FROM NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, AND HAS BEEN APPALLED BY THE

POLICIES AND ACTIONS OF THE TALIBAN.

3. WE ALSO PROVIDED AN OUTLINE OF U.S. OBJECTIVES AND THE DRAFT RESOLUTION ON THE SITUATION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN AFGHANISTAN TO LIECHTENSTEIN OFFICIALS, URGING LIECHTENSTEIN ESPECIALLY TO CONSIDER CO-SPONSORING THE LATTER. THERE WAS NO IMMEDIATE REACTION. LIECHTENSTEIN WILL LIKELY BE REPRESENTED AT THE CSW MEETING AND AT THE BEIJING&5 PREPCOM BY ITS PERMANENT AMBASSADOR TO THE UN, CLAUDIA FRITSCH. KUNIN

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 0840

TOR: 990301020324 M3718416

DIST:

SIT: BABBITT BANDLER BLINKEN BROWN BUSBY BUTLER DAVIDSON EBITZ GORDON
GUARNIERI MCELDOWNEY NAPLAN SAPIRO SCHWARTZ STROMSETH VACCARO WIPPMAN
SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: ROUTINE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: RAAUZYUW RUEHGVA1892 0750957-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: R 160957Z MAR 99
LINE4: FM USMISSION GENEVA
OSRI: RUEHGV
DTG: 160957Z MAR 99
ORIG: USMISSION GENEVA
TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 3160
INFO: RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 3677
SUBJ: INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY IN GENEVA

TEXT:

UNCLAS GENEVA 001892

DEPT FOR IO AND RMP

PASS TO HHS FOR HOHMAN AND KOVNER, OPHS FOR PAPPAS,
W.JONES, D.SMITH; OFFICE OF REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT

PASS TO USAID FOR GB

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: TPHY, PREF, UNHCR, KWMN

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY IN GENEVA

1. INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY WAS CELEBRATED IN GENEVA AT A LUNCH-TIME EVENT ON MARCH 8 AT THE PALAIS DES NATIONS. M. VLADIMIR PETROVSKY, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE UN OFFICE IN GENEVA SERVED AS HOST. THE THEME OF THE EVENT WAS WOMEN'S HEALTH.

MARY ROBINSON, HIGH COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, WHO SPOKE ON HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN IN THE FIELD OF HEALTH.

DANUTA HUBNER, FOCAL POINT FOR QUESTIONS RELATIVE TO WOMEN OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE, WHO SPOKE ON PREVENTION PROGRAMS WHICH PROMOTE WOMEN'S HEALTH.

DR. OLIVE SHISANA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HEALTH SYSTEMS AND COMMUNITY HEALTH, W.H.O., WHO SPOKE ON REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH ISSUES.

MIREILLE KINGMAN, INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF NURSES, WHO SPOKE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN. FOCUS OF THE EVENT WAS ON HEALTH OF WOMEN.

2. A PRESS RELEASE WAS ISSUED BY UNHCR, QUOTING UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES, SADAOKO OGATA, WHO "DENOUNCED VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND URGED GOVERNMENTS TO OFFER ASYLUM

TO THOSE FLEEING GENDER-RELATED PERSECUTION" THE PRESS STATEMENT SAID "UNHCR ARGUES THAT WOMEN WHO FACE PUNISHMENT FOR TRANSGRESSING SOCIAL MORES CAN BE REGARDED AS A SOCIAL GROUP FOR THE PURPOSE OF REFUGEE STATUS DETERMINATION." UNHCR FURTHER NOTED THAT WOMEN AND GIRLS, WHO COMPRISE WELL OVER 50 PERCENT OF ANY REFUGEE POPULATION, ARE PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE. "REFUGEE WOMEN OFTEN RISK SEXUAL ABUSE WHILE COLLECTING FIRE WOOD OR PERFORMING DAILY CHORES. PUTTING A STOP TO THIS KIND OF BRUTALITY IS ONE OF MY ORGANIZATION'S TOP PRIORITIES," SAID OGATA. THE STATEMENT ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT UNHCR HAD LAUNCHED A PROJECT TO COMBAT SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN REFUGEE COMMUNITIES IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA, BACKED BY A \$1.65 MILLION GRANT FROM THE UN FOUNDATION. THE PROJECT IS BEING CARRIED OUT IN KENYA, TANZANIA, GUINEA, LIBERIA AND SIERRA LEONE.

3. AMONG PAPERS DISTRIBUTED WERE: A WHO TECHNICAL PAPER ON GENDER AND HEALTH; A PANEL PRESENTATION ON HIV/AIDS AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN GIVEN BY DR. PETER PIOT, UNAIDS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON MARCH 3, 1999, AT THE 43RD SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN; UNGA A/53/308 ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OUTCOME OF THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN; A UN BACKGROUNDER ON WOMEN AND VIOLENCE; AND THE FEBRUARY 26, 1999, PRESS RELEASE REPORTING ON THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL'S CALL FOR REDEDICATION TO ELIMINATING DISCRIMINATION AND DISADVANTAGE TO WHICH WOMEN ARE STILL SUBJECTED.

MOOSE

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 1892

TOR: 990316045957 M3745273

DIST:

SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: IMMEDIATE

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED

LINE1: OAAUZYUW RUEHCAA7829 0610419-UUUU--RHEHNSC.

LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH

LINE3: O 020412Z MAR 99

LINE4: FM SECSTATE WASHDC

OSRI: RUEHC

DTG: 020412Z MAR 99

ORIG: SECSTATE WASHDC

TO: ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE

RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8912

RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2896

RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 8576

RUESLE/AMCONSUL SHANGHAI IMMEDIATE 4246

RUEHSH/AMCONSUL SHENYANG IMMEDIATE 1551

RUEHGZ/AMCONSUL GUANGZHOU IMMEDIATE 8375

RUEHJA/AMCONSUL SURABAYA IMMEDIATE 9570

INFO: RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE 5919

RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE 4007

RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA IMMEDIATE

RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE 2380

RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE 1354

RUEHOL/AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE 3848

RUEHLE/AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY 6123

RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 1577

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC//USDP PRIORITY 7290

RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS PRIORITY

RHHMUNA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI PRIORITY

RUAGAMS/COMUSKOREA SEOUL KOR//CC/BJ/CJ/EJ/PAJ/SJS//PRIORITY

RUAGAMS/CHJUSMAG SEOUL KOR PRIORITY

RHHMHAH/CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI PRIORITY

RUCJACC/USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY

RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC PRIORITY 3326

RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY 8131

RUETIAA/NSA FT GEORGE G MEADE MD PRIORITY

RUEATRS/TREASURY DEPT WASHDC PRIORITY 3154

RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY 5550

SUBJ: MARCH 1. 1999 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

TEXT:

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 19 STATE 037829

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 1. 1999 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

ALL POSTS - ALSO FOR USIS

SECDEF - ALSO FOR OASD/PA

USCINCPAC FOR FPA TWINING

UNVIE FOR FITZPATRICK
BEIJING - PASS CHENGDU
USEU FOR RUTH

1. INDEX:

- DPRK: KUMCHANG-NI TALKS UPDATE (PARAS 2 AND 3)
- CHINA: HONG KONG "RIGHT OF ABODE: COURT CASE (PARAS 4 AND 5)
- TAIWAN: AEGIS SALE (PARAS 4 AND 6)
- SENSE OF THE SENATE RESOLUTION ON CHINA RESOLUTION AT UN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS (PARAS 4 AND 7)
- ARREST- OF CHINESE SMUGGLER (PARAS 4 AND 8)
- INDONESIA: FURTHER VIOLENCE IN AMBON (PARAS 4 AND 9)
- CAMBODIA: HUN SEN'S DISMISSAL OF EXPERTS RECOMMENDATIONS ON APPROPRIATE MECHANISMS FOR KHMER ROUGE ACCOUNTABILITY (PARAS 4 AND 10)

- INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT PREPCOM CONCLUDES (PARAS 4 AND 11)
- ENTRY INTO FORCE OF OTTAWA TREATY BANNING LANDMINES: U.S. ACTIONS ON GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN DEMINING (PARAS 4 AND 12)
- OTTAWA CONVENTION ON ENTRY INTO FORCE (PARAS 4 AND 13)
- U.S. HUMANITARIAN DEMING PROGRAM (PARAS 4 AND 14)
- BURMA: HUMAN RIGHTS (PARAS 15 AND 16)
- VIETNAM: HUMAN RIGHTS (PARAS 15 AND 1V)
- CAMBODIA: HUMAN RIGHTS (PARAS 15 AND 18)
- CHINA: HUMAN RIGHTS (PARAS 15 AND 19)
- INDONESIA: HUMAN RIGHTS (PARAS 15 AND 20)
- HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS (PARAS 15 AND 21)
- TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN (PARAS 15 AND 22)
- CHILD LABOR (PARAS 15 AND 23)

2. THE FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED ON 3/1/99. DEPUTY SPOKESMAN JAMES B. FOLEY USED THE FIRST ANSWER AT THAT DAY'S PRESS BRIEFING. POSTS MAY DRAW FROM THE REMAINDER OF THE GUIDANCE FOR USE ON AN IF ASKED BASIS.

3. DPRK: KUMCHANG-NI TALKS UPDATE

CONTEXT: ON FEBRUARY 16, WE ANNOUNCED THE RESUMPTION OF BILATERAL TALKS ON THE SUSPECT UNDERGROUND SITE AT KUMCHANG-NI TO COMMENCE FEBRUARY 27 IN NEW YORK. THE TALKS BEGAN AS SCHEDULED AND ARE CONTINUING TODAY AFTER A BREAK YESTERDAY (SUNDAY).

THE PREVIOUS ROUND WAS HELD JANUARY 16 -17 AND JANUARY 23-24 IN GENEVA, WHERE BOTH DELEGATIONS TOOK PART IN THE FOUR PARTY TALKS, JANUARY 18-22. (THE U.S. AND DPRK DELEGATIONS MET IN NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON DECEMBER 4 THROUGH 11, 1998 TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS THAT HAD BEGUN IN AUGUST AND WHICH WERE FOLLOWED BY A ROUND IN PYONGYANG, NOVEMBER 16-18.) U.S. SPECIAL ENVOY FOR THE KOREAN PEACE TALKS, AMBASSADOR CHARLES KARTMAN, LEADS THE U.S. DELEGATION. THE DPRK DELEGATION IS HEADED BY VICE

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 19 STATE 037829

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 1. 1999 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

FOREIGN MINISTER KIM GYE GWAN.

THE DPRK TOLD THE PRESS AT THE END OF THE GENEVA SESSION THAT "GAPS WERE NARROWED" BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES. SUBSEQUENT PRESS REPORTING HAS SPECULATED THAT A DEAL WAS CLOSE AND, ACCORDING TO SOME TOKYO AND SEOUL NEWSPAPERS, THAT MULTIPLE ACCESS TO KUMCHANG-NI WOULD BE GRANTED IN

RETURN FOR FOOD AID, THE AMOUNTS VARYING IN THE REPORTS FROM 400 TO 800 THOUSAND TONS.

Q. CAN YOU GIVE US DETAILS ON THE TALKS?

A. BILATERAL TALKS ON THE SUSPECT UNDERGROUND SITE AT KUMCHANG-NI COMMENCED FEBRUARY 27 IN NEW YORK. NO TALKS TOOK PLACE SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28. THE SIDES WILL MEET AGAIN TODAY AT THE U.S. MISSION IN NEW YORK.

Q: IS A DEAL CLOSE AT HAND? ARE YOU OFFERING FOOD FOR ACCESS?

A: THE U.S. IS SEEKING STEPS BY THE DPRK TO REMOVE FULLY OUR SUSPICIONS ABOUT THE SITE, INCLUDING BY PROVIDING ACCESS TO IT.

I AM NOT ABLE TO GET INTO DETAILS OF OUR NEGOTIATING POSITION. HOWEVER, WE HAVE REPEATEDLY STATED THAT WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO PAY NORTH KOREA TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE AGREED FRAMEWORK.

(IF PRESSED)

IT HAS BEEN LONG-STANDING U.S. POLICY TO PROVIDE FOOD AID BASED ON HUMANITARIAN NEED. WE DETERMINE OUR RESPONSE BASED ON THE ASSESSMENTS BY THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM (WFP) AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN AGENCIES AND THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO US.

4. THE FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCES WERE PREPARED ON 3/1/99 AND WERE NOT USED BY THE DEPUTY SPOKESMAN AT THAT DAY'S PRESS BRIEFING. POSTS MAY DRAW FROM THESE GUIDANCES FOR USE ON AN IF ASKED BASIS.

5. CHINA: HONG KONG "RIGHT OF ABODE" COURT CASE

CONTEXT: ON JANUARY 29, HONG KONG'S HIGHEST COURT, THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL, ISSUED A DECISION REGARDING THE "RIGHT OF ABODE" OF TENS OF THOUSANDS OF MAINLAND-BORN CHILDREN OF HONG KONG RESIDENTS. THE CASE WAS NOTEWORTHY BECAUSE IT RAISED FOR THE FIRST TIME THE ISSUE OF THE

RELATIVE POWERS OF THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL AND MAINLAND CHINA'S NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS (NPC) TO INTERPRET HONG KONG'S MINI-CONSTITUTION, THE BASIC LAW. ON FEBRUARY 8, THE DIRECTOR OF CHINA'S STATE COUNCIL INFORMATION OFFICE CRITICIZED THE DECISION, ASSERTING THAT THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL HAD ADDRESSED BASIC LAW QUESTIONS THAT SHOULD HAVE

BEEN INTERPRETED BY THE NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS. SHORTLY AFTERWARD, MARTIN LEE WROTE A LETTER TO THE SECRETARY EXPRESSING CONCERN ABOUT THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE "RIGHT OF ABODE" CASE FOR JUDICIAL INDEPENDENCE IN HONG KONG. A REPLY IS CURRENTLY PENDING CLEARANCE. MEANWHILE, HOWEVER, THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT SUBMITTED A FEBRUARY 25 REQUEST TO THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL SEEKING CLARIFICATION OF THE JANUARY 29 DECISION. ON FEBRUARY 26, THE COURT GRANTED THE GOVERNMENT'S REQUEST, AND ISSUED A STATEMENT UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 19 STATE 037829

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 1. 1999 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

ASSERTING THAT THE "RIGHT OF ABODE" DECISION WAS NOT INTENDED TO CALL INTO QUESTION THE NPC'S ULTIMATE AUTHORITY TO INTERPRET THE BASIC LAW. ON FEBRUARY 27, AN NPC SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE CLARIFICATION HAD BEEN "NECESSARY," AND SIGNALLED ACCEPTANCE OF THE COURT'S STATEMENT THROUGH REPORTS IN CHINA'S OFFICIAL PRESS. HONG KONG NEWSPAPERS SPECULATED OVER THE WEEKEND OF FEBRUARY 27-28 THAT THE CLARIFICATION AND SUBSEQUENT NPC STATEMENT MAY HAVE RESOLVED THE CONTROVERSY CAUSED BY THE JANUARY 29 DECISION.

Q: WHAT IS YOUR COMMENT ON THE CONTROVERSY IN HONG KONG OVER THE HONG KONG COURT OF APPEALS RULING ON THE "RIGHT OF ABODE" ISSUE?

A: THE JANUARY 29 RULING BY THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL IN THE "RIGHT OF ABODE" CASE WAS AN IMPORTANT EXAMPLE OF BOTH RULE OF LAW AND JUDICIAL INDEPENDENCE, WHICH HAVE BEEN KEY INGREDIENTS OF HONG KONG'S STABILITY AND PROSPERITY.

WE NOTE THAT THE COURT CLARIFIED ITS ORIGINAL RULING ON FEBRUARY 26, REAFFIRMING ITS RESPECT FOR THE SOVEREIGN POWERS OF CHINA'S NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS WHILE MAINTAINING ITS OWN RIGHTS OF JUDICIAL INTERPRETATION.

IF PRESSED:

AS WE HAVE SAID PREVIOUSLY, ANY ATTEMPT TO UNDERMINE THE INDEPENDENT AUTHORITY OF THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL WOULD BE A MATTER OF CONCERN FOR THE U.S. AND MANY OTHER GOVERNMENTS THAT HAVE INTERESTS IN HONG KONG.

6. TAIWAN: AEGIS SALE

CONTEXT: ON MARCH 1, THE WASHINGTON TIMES, CITING STORIES IN THE TAIWAN MEDIA, REPORTED THAT TAIWAN PLANNED TO BUY AN UNSPECIFIED NUMBER OF ADVANCED AEGIS CLASS DESTROYERS. ACCORDING TO THE TIMES, THE DESTROYERS WOULD BOLSTER TAIWAN'S MISSILE DEFENSE CAPABILITY AGAINST PRC MISSILES

AIMED AT THE ISLAND. WE DO NOT DISCUSS DETAILS OF OUR ARMS SALES DISCUSSIONS WITH TAIWAN. THE PRC OPPOSES U.S. ARMS SALES TO TAIWAN.

Q: WOULD THE ADMINISTRATION APPROVE A REQUEST BY TAIWAN TO PURCHASE AEGIS WARSHIPS?

A: THE ADMINISTRATION REMAINS FIRMLY COMMITTED TO FULFILLING THE SECURITY AND ARMS TRANSFER PROVISIONS OF THE TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT. WE WILL CONTINUE TO ASSIST TAIWAN IN MEETING ITS LEGITIMATE DEFENSE NEEDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TRA AND THE 1982 JOINT COMMUNIQUE WITH THE PRC.

CONSISTENT WITH OUR OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE TRA, WE REGULARLY CONSULT WITH TAIWAN ON ITS DEFENSE REQUIREMENTS.

THE TAIWAN AUTHORITIES ARE CURRENTLY ASSESSING THEIR OWN CAPABILITIES AND NEEDS.

IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO COMMENT ABOUT ANY SPECIFIC SYSTEMS AT THIS TIME.

7. SENSE OF THE SENATE RESOLUTION ON CHINA RESOLUTION AT UN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS.

UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 19 STATE 037829

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 1. 1999 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

CONTEXT: LAST WEEK, A SENSE OF THE SENATE RESOLUTION WAS PASSED BY A 99.0 VOTE. HUTCHINSON, WELLSTONE, MACK, FEINGOLD, ABRAHAM, LEAHY, HELMS, TORRICELLI, LOTT, SESSIONS, ASHCROFT, DEWINE, KYL, BROWNBACK AND LUGAR SUBMITTED THE RESOLUTION. THE RESOLUTION CALLED UPON THE UNITED STATES "TO INTRODUCE AND MAKE ALL NECESSARY EFFORTS TO PASS A RESOLUTION CALLING THE PRC TO END ITS HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES." A SIMILAR RESOLUTION WAS INTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE, ALSO LAST WEEK. ON SUNDAY, THE WASHINGTON POST, IN ITS LEAD EDITORIAL, CALLED ON THE ADMINISTRATION TO SUPPORT A CHINA RESOLUTION.

Q: DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THE SENSE OF THE SENATE RESOLUTION URGING THE U.S. TO INTRODUCE AND LOBBY FOR A CHINA RESOLUTION AT THE UNHRC IN LIGHT OF CONTINUED SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IN CHINA?

A: WE PLAN TO BE VERY ACTIVE IN GENEVA ON A RANGE OF

COMMISSION ISSUES, INCLUDING THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN CHINA. WE ARE CONSULTING WITH OUR ALLIES ABOUT THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO ADDRESS OUR SHARED HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS

ABOUT CHINA AT THIS YEAR'S SESSION OF THE UN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS.

8. ARREST OF CHINESE SMUGGLER

CONTEXT: THE NEW YORK TIMES REPORTS THAT FEDERAL AGENTS HAVE ARRESTED A CHINESE CITIZEN, YAO YI, IN CALIFORNIA LAST WEEK AND CHARGED HIM WITH TRYING TO OBTAIN FIBER-OPTIC GYROSCOPES--A COMPONENT VITAL TO MISSILE GUIDANCE SYSTEMS. ACCORDING TO THE STORY, YAO TRIED TO BUY THE GYROSCOPES FROM A MASSACHUSETTS DEFENSE CONTRACTOR, BUT THE STATE DEPARTMENT DENIED THE LICENSE APPLICATIONS. YAO SUBSEQUENTLY DEALT WITH ANOTHER BOSTON COMPANY, WHICH PROMISED TO HELP GET THE GYROSCOPES OUT OF THE U.S. HOWEVER, THAT COMPANY TURNED OUT TO BE A DUMMY CORPORATION SET UP AS PART OF A STING OPERATION BY THE CUSTOMS SERVICE. THE ARTICLE ALSO ASSERTS THAT THE ARREST "SHEDS LIGHT ON WHAT MANY IN WASHINGTON SAY IS AN EFFORT BY CHINA TO SMUGGLE U.S. TECHNOLOGY TO IMPROVE THE ACCURACY OF ITS WEAPONS."

THE STATE DEPARTMENT DISAPPROVED 2 LICENSE APPLICATIONS, ON JUNE 11, 1998, TO EXPORT GYROSCOPES AND FIBER OPTIC MATERIAL TO THE PRC. HOWEVER, DUE TO THE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION, WE SHOULD NOT DISCUSS THIS IN ANY DETAIL.

Q: WHAT CAN YOU SAY ABOUT THE ARREST OF THE CHINESE CITIZEN YAO YI FOR TRYING TO SMUGGLE GYROSCOPES TO CHINA?

A: THIS MATTER IS THE SUBJECT OF AN ACTIVE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION. I REFER YOU TO THE U.S. CUSTOMS SERVICE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FOR ANY INFORMATION THAT MIGHT BE AVAILABLE.

Q: HAD THE STATE DEPARTMENT PREVIOUSLY APPROVED HIS EXPORT TO CHINA?

A: THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAS NOT APPROVED ANY MUNITIONS LICENSES FOR GYROSCOPES TO CHINA. CONSISTENT WITH OUR POSITION ON ONGOING CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS, WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO DISCUSS SPECIFICS BEYOND THAT.

9. INDONESIA - FURTHER VIOLENCE IN AMBON

UNCLAS SECTION 05 OF 19 STATE 037829

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 1. 1999 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

CONTEXT: ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, VIOLENCE FLARED AGAIN TODAY ON THE ISLAND OF AMBON IN EASTERN INDONESIA.

ACCORDING TO ONE REPORT, NINE PEOPLE WERE KILLED, BRINGING THE DEATH TOLL FOR THIS MOST RECENT WAVE OF VIOLENCE TO

MORE THAN 20. RECENT UNREST FOLLOWS ON THE HEELS OF VIOLENCE LAST MONTH THAT CLAIMED MORE THAN 100 LIVES AND THAT SAW SCORES OF RESIDENCES AND PLACES OF WORSHIP LOOTED AND BURNED.

Q: PLEASE PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON THE VIOLENCE IN AMBON.

A: ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, UNREST FLARED UP AGAIN TODAY ON THE ISLAND OF AMBON IN EASTERN INDONESIA. INDONESIAN POLICE REPORTEDLY FIRED ON RIVAL CHRISTIAN AND MUSLIM MOBS. NINE PEOPLE WERE REPORTEDLY KILLED. THIS LATEST FIGHTING FOLLOWS THE WAVE OF VIOLENCE THAT SHOOK THE ISLAND OF AMBON OVER RECENT MONTHS.

WE DO NOT HAVE INDEPENDENT CONFIRMATION OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS, BUT ARE CONCERNED ABOUT CONTINUING REPORTS OF VIOLENCE ON AMBON.

WE DEPLORE OUTBREAKS OF RIOTING, LOOTING AND VIOLENCE. WHILE INDONESIA IS GOING THROUGH A DIFFICULT PERIOD OF ECONOMIC HARDSHIP AND TRANSITION WHICH HAS GENERATED TENSIONS, WE URGE ALL PARTIES TO SHOW RESTRAINT AND TO REFRAIN FROM VIOLENCE.

WE HAVE RECEIVED NO REPORTS OF AMERICANS ENDANGERED BY THIS LATEST UNREST.

10. CAMBODIA: HUN SEN'S DISMISSAL OF EXPERTS
RECOMMENDATIONS ON APPROPRIATE MECHANISMS FOR KHMER ROUGE
ACCOUNTABILITY

BACKGROUND: LAST WEEK, THE LONG-AWAITED REPORT BY THREE EXPERTS APPOINTED BY THE UN WAS SUBMITTED TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL. ALTHOUGH NOT YET AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC OR MEMBER STATES, THE REPORT WAS ALSO FORWARDED TO THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT.

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON CAMBODIAN PRIME MINISTER HUN SEN'S DISMISSAL OF THE UN EXPERTS' REPORT ON KHMER ROUGE ACCOUNTABILITY AND HIS REMARKS THAT IT'S TIME TO FOCUS ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT?

A. ALTHOUGH PRIME MINISTER HUN SEN IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT THE EXPERTS' REPORT COMES TWENTY YEARS TOO LATE, WE CONTINUE TO HOLD THE VIEW WE STATED ON DECEMBER 27TH: ALTHOUGH JUSTICE FOR CAMBODIA HAS BEEN LONG DELAYED, IT SHOULD NOT NOW BE DENIED.

WE BELIEVE THAT BRINGING THE MOST SENIOR KHMER ROUGE LEADERS TO JUSTICE WILL ENHANCE THE PROSPECTS FOR LONG-TERM RECONCILIATION AND PEACE IN CAMBODIA.

WE ARE CONTINUING TO WORK TO THIS END AND TO CONSULT CLOSELY WITH THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT AND OTHER CONCERNED GOVERNMENTS.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO REVIEWING THE EXPERTS REPORT AND REGARD IT AS PROVIDING A WELCOME OPPORTUNITY FOR INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSION OF THIS ISSUE.

11. INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT PREPCOM CONCLUDES UNCLAS SECTION 06 OF 19 STATE 037829

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 1. 1999 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

BACKGROUND:

THE UNITED NATIONS HELD A TWO-WEEK PREPARATORY COMMISSION (PREPCOM) IN NEW YORK THAT ENDED ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26. THE TWO SUBJECTS DISCUSSED WERE RULES OF PROCEDURE AND EVIDENCE AND ELEMENTS OF CRIMES. ELEMENTS OF CRIMES ARE SPECIFIC POINTS THAT MUST BE PROVED TO ESTABLISH THAT A CRIME HAS OCCURRED. FOR EXAMPLE, UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW, THE "CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY OF EXTERMINATION" HAS A NUMBER OF SPECIFIC ELEMENTS THAT MUST BE PRESENT. THE "CRIME AGAINST HUMANITY OF TORTURE" HAS SOME DIFFERENT ELEMENTS.

SO FAR, 76 COUNTRIES HAVE SIGNED THE ROME TREATY, BUT ONLY ONE (SENEGAL) HAS RATIFIED IT.

Q. WHAT IS THE STATUS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT?

A. THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT (ICC) WAS DISCUSSED AT THE UNITED NATIONS IN A 2-WEEK PREPARATORY COMMISSION ("PREP-COM") THAT ENDED FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26.

THE PREPCOM DISCUSSED TECHNICAL ISSUES INVOLVING ELEMENTS OF CRIMES AND THE RULES OF PROCEDURE AND EVIDENCE. THE DISCUSSIONS WERE CONSTRUCTIVE AND PRODUCTIVE. WE WERE PLEASED WITH THE PROGRESS MADE ON THE DISCUSSIONS. FURTHER TALKS WILL TAKE PLACE LATER THIS YEAR.

THE PREPCOM ALSO APPOINTED CONTACT PEOPLE TO FACILITATE DISCUSSIONS ON A RANGE OF ISSUES, INCLUDING ISSUES OF FUNDAMENTAL CONCERN TO THE UNITED STATES.

WE HAVE A NUMBER OF FUNDAMENTAL CONCERNS ABOUT THE ROME TREATY TEXT, INCLUDING THE FACT THAT, EXCEPT FOR A

SECURITY COUNCIL REFERRAL, THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT SHOULD NOT HAVE JURISDICTION OVER THE OFFICIAL ACTIONS OF STATES THAT DO NOT JOIN THE TREATY.

Q. WILL THE ICC BEGIN OPERATING IN 3-5 YEARS?

A. THE ICC WILL BEGIN OPERATING WHEN 60 COUNTRIES RATIFY THE ROME TREATY. WE CANNOT PREDICT IF OR WHEN THE TREATY WILL ENTER INTO FORCE.

OBVIOUSLY, WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE OUR FUNDAMENTAL CONCERNS ADDRESSED BEFORE THE TREATY ENTERS INTO FORCE.

Q. WHAT ARE "ELEMENTS OF CRIMES"?

A. ELEMENTS OF CRIMES PROVIDE A CHECKLIST OF THE POINTS A PROSECUTOR MUST PROVE TO CONVICT AN ACCUSED. PROSECUTORS OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNALS IN THE HAGUE AND IN ARUSHA HAD TO DEVELOP ELEMENTS OF CRIMES FOR THEMSELVES FOR USE IN ONGOING CASES.

WE BELIEVE THAT ELEMENTS SHOULD BE OPEN AND TRANSPARENTLY AGREED TO BY ALL PARTIES TO THE ICC TREATY. THIS IS IMPORTANT TO ENSURE PROPER DEVELOPMENT OF THE LAWS OF WAR.

12. ENTRY INTO FORCE OF OTTAWA TREATY BANNING LANDMINES:
U.S. ACTIONS ON GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN DEMINING

CONTEXT: ON MARCH 1, 1999, THE OTTAWA TREATY BANNING THE USE, TRANSFER, PRODUCTION AND SALE OF ANTI-PERSONNEL
UNCLAS SECTION 07 OF 19 STATE 037829

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 1. 1999 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

LANDMINES ENTERS INTO FORCE. A TOTAL OF 133 NATIONS HAVE SIGNED THIS TREATY, AND 64 HAVE RATIFIED IT. THE UNITED STATES HAS NOT SIGNED THE TREATY, CITING OUR UNIQUE GLOBAL SECURITY RESPONSIBILITIES, INCLUDING IN KOREA. EVENTS ARE SCHEDULED TO MARK THE TREATY'S ENTRY INTO FORCE, INCLUDING A DEMONSTRATION OUTSIDE THE WHITE HOUSE BY SURVIVORS OF LANDMINE ACCIDENTS AT NOON AND A RALLY ON CAPITOL HILL AT 1:15 P.M. A DOZEN LANDMINE SURVIVORS HAVE ASKED TO MEET WITH THE PRESIDENT TODAY.

Q: WHAT IS THE US DOING TO ADDRESS THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS CAUSED BY THE PRESENCE OF 60 MILLION LANDMINES IN SOME 60 COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD?

A: IN LATE 199V, PRESIDENT CLINTON ANNOUNCED THE "DEMINING 2010 INITIATIVE," AN INTER-AGENCY PROGRAM THAT SEEKS TO ELIMINATE THREATS TO CIVILIANS FROM ANTI-PERSONNEL LANDMINES WORLD-WIDE BY THE YEAR 2010. AT

PRESENTR ABOUT 26,000 PEOPLE ARE INJURED OR KILLED IN LANDMINE ACCIDENTS AROUND THE WORLD EACH YEAR.

IN 1999, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WILL SPEND MORE THAN \$100 MILLION ON HUMANITARIAN DEMINING ACTIVITIES, BUILDING ON THE \$250 MILLION PROVIDED OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS. THROUGH THE STATE DEPARTMENT, DEFENSE DEPARTMENT, AND USAID WE ARE NOW SPONSORING PROJECTS IN 24 OF THE WORLD'S MOST HEAVILY MINED COUNTRIES.

THE U.S. IS PROVIDING GLOBAL LEADERSHIP IN ACTIVITIES SUCH AS TRAINING HOST COUNTRY DEMINERS, TEACHING PEOPLE IN HEAVILY MINED COUNTRIES TO IDENTIFY AND AVOID LANDMINES, AIDING SURVIVORS OF LANDMINE ACCIDENTS, SPONSORING DEMINING BY NGOS AND U.N. ENTITIES, AND PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF NEW DEMINING TECHNOLOGIES.

Q: WHAT HAS THE DEMINING 2010 INITIATIVE ACCOMPLISHED?

A: THE CHALLENGE OF MAKING CIVILIANS AROUND THE WORLD SAFE FROM ANTI-PERSONNEL LANDMINES IS A DIFFICULT AND LENGTHY TASK, BUT THERE ARE ALREADY SIGNS THAT OUR GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS ARE YIELDING RESULTS.

FOR EXAMPLE, WORKING WITH THE U.N. AND OTHER FOREIGN DONORS, WE HAVE HELPED CAMBODIA CUT ITS ACCIDENT RATE FROM LANDMINES IN HALF OVER THE PAST DECADE. IN AFGHANISTAN, THOUSANDS OF SQUARE MILES OF PREVIOUSLY MINED FARMLAND HAVE BEEN PUT BACK INTO CULTIVATION, AND IN MOZAMBIQUE, TENS OF THOUSANDS OF DISPLACED PERSONS HAVE BEEN ABLE TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMES.

IN CENTRAL AMERICA, THE U.S. IS WORKING THROUGH THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES AND THE INTER-AMERICA DEFENSE BOARD TO HELP RID THAT REGION OF THE THREAT OF LANDMINES TO CIVILIANS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, A GOAL THAT IS WITHIN REACH EVEN DESPITE THE COMPLICATIONS OF HURRICANE MITCH. IN RECENT YEARS, THE U.S. HAS PROVIDED MORE THAN \$10 MILLION TO PURCHASE AND TRAIN MINE-DETECTING DOGS, TRAIN LOCAL DEMINERS, SUPPORT MINE AWARENESS, AND PROVIDE MEDICAL AND COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT.

Q. WHAT NEW INITIATIVES ARE IN THE WORKS TO ADDRESS THE GLOBAL CHALLENGE OF LANDMINES?

A. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS SUPPORTING A NUMBER OF UNCLAS SECTION 08 OF 19 STATE 037829

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 1. 1999 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

EXCITING PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS TO ADDRESS THE

LANDMINE PROBLEM AROUND THE WORLD. THREE NEW INITIATIVES WHICH WILL BE ANNOUNCED SOON ARE:

THE "ADOPT-A-MINEFIELD" PROGRAM, UNDER WHICH THE U.N. ASSOCIATION OF THE USA AND THE HUMPTY DUMPTY INSTITUTE ARE WORKING WITH THE U.N. TO FUND DEMINING EFFORTS IN AFGHANISTAN, BOSNIA, CAMBODIA, CROATIA, AND MOZAMBIQUE. ALREADY, 75 COMMUNITY-BASED GROUPS IN THE U.S. HAVE PLEDGED TO RAISE MONEY TO SUPPORT U.N. AND HOST COUNTRY EFFORTS TO DESTROY THE MOST DANGEROUS MINEFIELDS IN THESE NATIONS.

MINE AWARENESS COMIC BOOKS IN PORTUGUESE, PRODUCED BY DC COMICS, THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT AND UNICEF FOR THE CHILDREN OF MOZAMBIQUE AND ANGOLA, IN WHICH SUPERMAN AND WONDER WOMAN HELP TEACH CHILDREN TO IDENTIFY AND AVOID CONTACT WITH THESE WEAPONS. THIS PROJECT BUILDS ON THE SUCCESSFUL VERSIONS ALREADY PRODUCED FOR BOSNIA AND CENTRAL AMERICA.

A: "CANINE CORPS" SPONSORED BY THE MARSHALL LEGACY INSTITUTE, DESIGNED TO EXPAND THE USE OF DOGS IN MINE DETECTION EFFORTS AROUND THE WORLD. THIS PROJECT WORKS WITH THE HUMANE SOCIETY, UNDP, DC COMICS AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT. THE HUMANE SOCIETY IS ENGAGED BECAUSE WHILE LANDMINES HARM ABOUT 26,000 HUMAN BEINGS EACH YEAR, THEY ALSO KILL AS MANY AS TEN TIMES THAT NUMBER OF ANIMALS.

Q: MINE VICTIMS -- INCLUDING VETERANS WHO WERE INJURED IN DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES -- HAVE COME TO WASHINGTON FOR ACTIVITIES SURROUNDING THE ENTRY-INTO-FORCE OF THE OTTAWA CONVENTION TODAY. WHY WON'T THE PRESIDENT MEET WITH THEM?

A: THE PRESIDENT DEEPLY RESPECTS THE SACRIFICES THAT THESE PEOPLE HAVE MADE IN DEFENSE OF THEIR COUNTRY. PREVENTING OTHERS FROM SUFFERING SIMILAR ACCIDENTS IS THE PRIME MOTIVATION BEHIND THE PRESIDENT'S DEMINING 2010 INITIATIVE.

THE PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR GLOBAL HUMANITARIAN DEMINING, AMBASSADOR DONALD STEINBERG; THE PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS, ERIC SCHWARTZ; AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE USAID LEAHY WAR VICTIMS FUND, LLOYD FEINBERG WILL RECEIVE A DELEGATION OF LANDMINE ACCIDENT SURVIVORS THIS AFTERNOON, AND REPORT THE RESULTS OF THIS MEETING TO THE PRESIDENT.

13. OTTAWA CONVENTION ENTRY-INTO-FORCE

(SBU) CONTEXT: THE OTTAWA CONVENTION BANNING THE USE, PRODUCTION, STOCKPILING, AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONNEL LANDMINES (APL) ENTERS INTO FORCE ON MARCH 1, WITH 64 STATES HAVING RATIFIED IT (69 OTHERS HAVE SIGNED) . THIS MILESTONE, FOLLOWED BY THE FIRST MEETING OF STATES PARTIES IN MAPUTO MAY 3-7 (WHICH WE ARE CONSIDERING ATTENDING TO PARTICIPATE IN DEMINING DISCUSSIONS) WILL PROMPT RENEWED CRITICISM OF USG POLICY BY THOSE WHO WANT US TO SIGN THE CONVENTION. WE ARE AWARE OF SEVERAL PLANNED NGO ACTIVITIES TIED TO THESE EVENTS, INCLUDING A RALLY AT THE WHITE HOUSE ON MARCH 1, WHERE AMERICAN SURVIVORS OF LANDMINE ACCIDENTS WILL LEAVE THEIR PROSTHESES AND CRITICIZE THE PRESIDENT'S REFUSAL TO MEET WITH THEM BEFORE PROCEEDING TO A RALLY AT THE CAMTOL. MEDIA ATTENTION UNCLAS SECTION 09 OF 19 STATE 037829

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 1. 1999 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

ALSO IS INCREASING (THERE WILL BE POTENTIALLY CRITICAL ARTICLES IN THE NEW DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL EDITIONS OF NEWSWEEK.)

Q: WHAT ARE USG VIEWS ON THE ENTRY-INTO-FORCE OF THE OTTAWA CONVENTION? WHAT IS THE U.S. DOING TO END ITS USE OF ANTI-PERSONNEL LANDMINES?

A: WE WELCOME ALL EFFORTS TO END THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS CAUSED BY ANTI-PERSONNEL LANDMINES. WE SHARE THIS GOAL.

ALTHOUGH U.S. SECURITY CONCERNS HAVE PREVENTED US FROM SIGNING THE CONVENTION, WE CONTINUE TO WORK TOWARD AN APL-FREE WORLD.

THE U.S. WILL SIGN THE OTTAWA CONVENTION BY 2006 IF WE SUCCEED IN IDENTIFYING AND FIELDING SUITABLE ALTERNATIVES TO OUR APL AND OUR MIXED ANTI-TANK SYSTEMS BY THEN. WE ARE WORKING AGGRESSIVELY TO IDENTIFY SUITABLE ALTERNATIVES.

WE HAVE MADE CLEAR THAT THE U.S. WILL: END ALL APL USE OUTSIDE KOREA BY 2003; SEEK TO HAVE APL ALTERNATIVES READY FOR KOREA BY 2006; AND AGGRESSIVELY EXPLORE ALTERNATIVES TO OUR MIXED ANTI-TANK SYSTEMS, WHICH ALSO ARE PROHIBITED BY THE CONVENTION.

(IF ASKED:)

Q: WILL THE U.S. ATTEND THE CONVENTION'S FIRST MEETING OF STATES PARTIES IN MAPUTO MAY 3-7?

A: THE U.S. MAY ATTEND TO PARTICIPATE IN DEMINING-RELATED DISCUSSIONS. WE HAVE NOT MADE A FINAL DECISION.

ANTI-PERSONNEL LANDMINES (APL)
U.S. POLICY

THE U.S. REMAINS COMMITTED TO ELIMINATING THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS CAUSED BY ANTI-PERSONNEL LANDMINES (APL) . ALTHOUGH SECURITY CONCERNS HAVE PREVENTED US FROM SIGNING THE OTTAWA CONVENTION, WE CONTINUE TO WORK TOWARD AN APL-FREE WORLD.

FIRST, WE WILL END ALL USE OF OUR APL OUTSIDE OF KOREA-BY 2003 AND SEEK TO HAVE APL ALTERNATIVES READY FOR KOREA BY 2006.

--WE ALREADY HAVE DESTROYED 3.3. MILLION NON-SELF DESTRUCTING APL. THESE ARE THE TYPE THAT CAN LAST FOR DECADES AND CAUSE THE HUMANITARIAN PROBLEMS WHEN USED IRRESPONSIBLY.

--WE ARE KEEPING ONLY THOSE NON-SELF DESTROYING APL NEEDED FOR THE DEFENSE OF KOREA AND FOR TRAINING.

SECOND, THE U.S. WILL SIGN THE OTTAWA CONVENTION BY 2006 IF WE SUCCEED IN IDENTIFYING AND FIELDING SUITABLE ALTERNATIVES TO OUR APL AND OUR MIXED ANTI-TANK SYSTEMS BY THEN. (U.S. MIXED ANTI-TANK SYSTEMS ARE CONSIDERED APL UNDER THE CONVENTION.)

--WE ARE WORKING AGGRESSIVELY TO IDENTIFY SUITABLE ALTERNATIVES.

THIRD, WE ARE SEEKING A BAN ON THE EXPORT AND TRANSFER OF UNCLAS SECTION 10 OF 19 STATE 037829

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 1. 1999 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

ALL APL WITHIN THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT, WHICH INCLUDES KEY STATES (RUSSIA, CHINA, INDIA, PAKISTAN) NOT PART OF THE OTTAWA CONVENTION.

--THE U.S. ALREADY ANNOUNCED A UNILATERAL EXPORT BAN IN JANUARY 199- (PREVIOUSLY, A MORATORIUM IN PLACE SINCE 1992)

FOURTH, WE ARE SEEKING U.S. RATIFICATION OF THE AMENDED MINES PROTOCOL TO THE CONVENTION ON CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS (CCW), WHICH ALSO LIKELY WILL CAPTURE KEY STATES NOT PART OF THE OTTAWA CONVENTION. (CHINA ALREADY HAS RATIFIED.) IT IS BEFORE THE SENATE.

--THE PROTOCOL'S RESTRICTIONS ELIMINATE IRRESPONSIBLE APL USE. IT ENTERED INTO FORCE ON DECEMBER 3, 1998.

FINALLY, WE ARE THE WORLD LEADER IN HUMANITARIAN DEMINING EFFORTS. THROUGH PRESIDENT CLINTON'S DEMINING 2010 INITIATIVE, WE ARE WORKING TO BUILD EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION AND RAISE \$1 BILLION PER YEAR - FROM PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SOURCES -- TO REACH OUR GOAL OF REMOVING BY 2010 ALL MINES THAT THREATEN CIVILIANS.

--USG ASSISTANCE, BEGUN IN 1993, SUPPORTS HUMANITARIAN DEMINING PROGRAMS IN 24 COUNTRIES WITH EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND EQUIPMENT. THE U.S. HAS CONTRIBUTED MORE THAN \$272 MILLION SINCE 1993 TO THIS EFFORT.

--THE U.S. ALSO SUPPORTS ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS OF LANDMINES AND OTHER WAR-RELATED CASUALTIES THROUGH THE PATRICK J. LEAHY WAR VICTIMS FUND. THE U.S. HAS PROVIDED ALMOST \$46 MILLION TO THE FUND SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 1989.

14. U.S. HUMANITARIAN DEMINING PROGRAM

Q: HOW MANY LANDMINES ARE THERE IN THE GROUND TODAY?

A: WE ESTIMATE THERE ARE BETWEEN 60 AND 70 MILLION LANDMINES IN MINE-AFFECTED COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD. CURRENT AND DOCUMENTED DEMINING EXPERIENCE OVER THE LAST SIX YEARS PERMITS US TO PRESENT THIS MORE RIGOROUS AND REALISTIC ESTIMATE OF THE PROBLEM.

SPECIFICALLY, SURVEYS WE HAVE CONDUCTED, AS WELL AS NATIONAL SURVEYS IN MINE-AFFECTED COUNTRIES, MATURE MINE CLEARANCE PROGRAMS, AND STRONG NGO AND COMMERCIAL PRESENCE IN SEVERAL COUNTRIES INDICATE THAT THE ORIGINAL ESTIMATES OF 80-110 MILLION MINES ARE NO LONGER ACCURATE.

Q HOW MANY-MINE AFFECTED COUNTRIES ARE THERE?

A: BASED ON RESPONSES TO A STATE DEPARTMENT REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON MINE-AFFECTED NATIONS, SENT TO ALL DIPLOMATIC POSTS LAST YEAR, WE ESTIMATE THAT THERE ARE ABOUT SIXTY MINE-AFFECTED COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD TODAY.

THE RESPONSES TO OUR REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ENABLED US TO SEE THAT THE ORIGINAL ESTIMATES OF SEVENTY OR MORE MINE-AFFECTED COUNTRIES WERE TOO HIGH.

Q: HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE KILLED OR INJURED BY LANDMINES ANNUALLY?

A: THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS
UNCLAS SECTION 11 OF 19 STATE 037829

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 1. 1999 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

ESTIMATES, BASED ON THEIR EXPERIENCE WITH SURVIVOR ASSISTANCE, THAT THERE ARE SOME 26,000 CASUALTIES A YEAR. WE DO NOT DISPUTE THIS ESTIMATE.

HOWEVER, IT IS STILL VERY DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE A SPECIFIC NUMBER. THE COUNTRIES WITH THE HIGHEST CASUALTIES ARE POOR AND UNDERDEVELOPED AND LACK THE INFRASTRUCTURE OR SOCIAL SERVICES TO COMPILE ACCURATE RECORDS. THE NUMBERS MUST BE EXTRAPOLATED FROM WHAT WE DO KNOW FROM THE DATA AVAILABLE.

Q: HOW MANY MINES HAVE BEEN DESTROYED?

A: WE DO NOT BELIEVE THE TOTAL NUMBER OF MINES DESTROYED IS THE PRIMARY INDICATOR OF SUCCESS. INDEED, THE MORE SIGNIFICANT MEASURE OF THE LANDMINE PROBLEM IS NEITHER THE TOTAL NUMBER OF LANDMINES BELIEVED TO BE IMPLANTED AROUND THE WORLD, NOR THE TOTAL NUMBER OF LANDMINE-AFFECTED COUNTRIES. RATHER, THE MOST SIGNIFICANT MEASURE OF THE PROBLEM IS THE NUMBER OF SQUARE KILOMETERS RENDERED UNUSABLE BY THE THREAT OR PRESENCE OF LANDMINES.

THEREFORE, REDUCTION IN CASUALTY RATES, LAND ONCE AGAIN IN

PRODUCTIVE USE, INFRASTRUCTURE RESTORED TO OPERATION, ALL ARE VITAL INDICATORS OF A SUCCESSFUL DEMINING EFFORT. WE ARE SEEING MEASURES OF SUCH SUCCESS IN OUR PROGRAMS AROUND THE WORLD. IN AFGHANISTAN, CAMBODIA, TWO OF THE MOST HEAVILY MINE-AFFECTED COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD, CASUALTY RATES ARE GOING DOWN. IN NAMIBIA, MUCH OF THE PREVIOUSLY MINED LAND HAS BEEN RETURNED TO PRODUCTIVE USE. IN NICARAGUA, LAND HAS BEEN CLEARED AROUND TWO ELECTRIC POWER PLANTS, ALLOWING NICARAGUA TO SELL ELECTRICITY TO ITS NEIGHBORS.

Q: HOW MANY COUNTRIES ARE RECEIVING U.S. HUMANITARIAN DEMINING ASSISTANCE?

A: TODAY, TWENTY-FOUR COUNTRIES ARE RECEIVING DEMINING ASSISTANCE FROM THE UNITED STATES. THAT NUMBER WILL SOON GROW TO TWENTY-SIX, AS PROGRAMS BEGIN IN ECUADOR AND PERU. THE TWENTY-FOUR COUNTRIES NOW IN THE U.S. HUMANITARIAN DEMINING PROGRAM ARE: AFGHANISTAN, ANGOLA, BOSNIA, CAMBODIA, CHAD, COSTA RICA, EGYPT, ERITREA, ESTONIA, ETHIOPIA, GUATEMALA, HONDURAS, JORDAN, LAOS, LEBANON,

MAURITANIA, MOZAMBIQUE, NAMIBIA, NICARAGUA, RWANDA, SWAZILAND, THAILAND, YEMEN, AND ZIMBABWE.

Q: HOW MUCH MONEY IS THE STATE DEPARTMENT SPENDING ON HUMANITARIAN DEMINING THIS YEAR?

A: CONGRESS HAS AUTHORIZED \$35 MILLION FROM THE NONPROLIFERATION, ANTITERRORISM, DEMINING, AND RELATED ACTIVITIES, OR NADR, ACCOUNT FOR HUMANITARIAN DEMINING.

NADR FUNDS CAN BE USED IN A VARIETY OF WAYS. THEY ARE USED TO SUPPORT THE PROGRAMS OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN DEMINING ASSISTANCE (UNOCHA) IN AFGHANISTAN. THEY CAN ALSO BE USED TO SUSTAIN THE OPERATIONS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS. FINALLY, THROUGH NADR FUNDS, THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE IS ABLE TO TRANSFER MONEY TO THE DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY (DSCA), DIRECTLY TO A U.S. EMBASSY, OR TO SOME OPERATIONAL ELEMENT OF DOD. THUS, NADR FUNDS PERMITS US TO PURCHASE EQUIPMENT NEEDED TO SUPPORT DEMINING OPERATIONS IN AN EXPEDITIOUS AN UNCLAS SECTION 12 OF 19 STATE 037829

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 1. 1999 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

ACCOUNTABLE MANNER.

I SHOULD ALSO MENTION THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S BUREAU OF POPULATION, REFUGEES, AND MIGRATION, AND THE U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, THROUGH THE PATRICK J. LEAHY WAR VICTIMS ASSISTANCE FUND, ALSO PROVIDE FINANCIAL SUPPORT IN ADDITION TO NADR FUNDS.

FINALLY, THERE IS ANOTHER \$14 MILLION IN THE SLOVENE TRUST FUND FOR DEMINING, MINE CLEARANCE, AND ASSISTANCE TO MINE VICTIMS IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA AND OTHER LAND-MINE AFFECTED COUNTRIES IN THE REGION.

15. THE FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCES WERE PREPARED ON 02/26/99 IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE RELEASE OF THE 1998 COUNTRY REPORTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES. POSTS MAY DRAW FROM THESE GUIDANCES FOR USE ON AN IF ASKED BASIS.

16. BURMA: HUMAN RIGHTS

CONTEXT: SINCE 1962, BURMAVS MILITARY GOVERNMENT HAS REPRESSED THE POPULACE, EXACTING FORCED LABOR AND MISMANAGING THE ECONOMY. IN 1990'S ACCURATE AND HONEST ELECTIONS, THE MILITARY WON BUT TEN OF 485 SEATS. IT NULLIFIED THE ELECTION AND CONTINUES TO DETAIN MANY ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NATIONAL LEAGUE FOR DEMOCRACY (WHICH WON 392 SEATS) AS WELL AS SUPPORTERS OF

THE PARTY -- OVER A THOUSAND PEOPLE. THE BURMESE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN IN ARMED CONFLICT WITH ETHNIC GROUPS WITHIN BURMA, INCLUDING THE SHAN, CHIN, KAREN AND KARENNI. Q: HOW WOULD YOU CHARACTERIZE THE BURMESE GOVERNMENT'S OVERALL HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD?

A: THE GOVERNMENT'S LONG-STANDING SEVERE REPRESSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS CONTINUED DURING THE YEAR.

Q: HOW ARE THE BURMESE GOVERNMENT'S RELATIONS WITH THE ETHNIC REBELS?

A: THE GOVERNMENT HAS MADE PEACE WITH SEVERAL GROUPS OF ETHNIC REBELS. HOWEVER ITS CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENTS HAVE ALLOWED SOME GROUPS TO CONTINUE EXPORTING OPIUM.

Q: WHY ARE REFUGEES FLEEING BURMA?

A: POVERTY WITHIN BURMA, MISTREATMENT BY THE MILITARY AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS CONTINUE TO CREATE THE CONDITIONS THAT CAUSE PEOPLE TO FLEE ACROSS THE BORDER.

Q: WHAT IS THE SITUATION OF THE ROHINGYAS?

A: THE BURMESE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT RECOGNIZE AS BURMESE THE ROHINGYAS, AN ETHNIC GROUP PUSHED BACK AND FORTH ACROSS THE BORDER WITH BANGLADESH.

Q: IS THERE A PROBLEM WITH TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN BURMA?

A: TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN, A GROWING ADDICTION RATE AND RISING INCIDENCE OF HIV/AIDS THREATENS THE SOCIAL FABRIC AND HEALTH OF THE BURMESE.

Q: WHAT IS U.S. POLICY TOWARD BURMA?

A: WE ENCOURAGE THE SPDC (STATE PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT UNCLAS SECTION 13 OF 19 STATE 037829

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 1. 1999 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

COUNCIL) TO MEET THE NLD (NATIONAL LEAGUE FOR DEMOCRACY) INCLUDING AUNG SAN SUU KYI AND ETHNIC GROUPS IN DIALOGUE LEADING TO A REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT.

WE SUPPORT THE WORLD BANK INITIATIVE - INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE IN RETURN FOR SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL REFORMS -- IFI ASSISTANCE CAN START ONLY ONCE THE GOVERNMENT MAKES IRREVERSIBLE STEPS TOWARD CHANGE.

Q: WHAT IS THE US DOING TO BRING ABOUT CHANGE IN BURMA?

A: WE HAVE DOWNGRADED OUR REPRESENTATION IN RANGOON TO THE CHARGE LEVEL, SUSPENDED ECONOMIC AID, ENDED GSP AND OPIC, BLOCKED IFI LENDING TO BURMA, AND BANNED NEW U.S. INVESTMENT. ASKED OTHER COUNTRIES TO PRESS FOR DIALOGUE WITH THE DEMOCRATIC OPPOSITION AND CREDIBLE COUNTER NARCOTICS EFFORTS.

IN FY 99 \$6.5 MILLION FOR HUMANITARIAN AND DEMOCRACY ACTIVITIES FOR BURMESE REFUGEES ALONG THE THAI BORDER, SCHOLARSHIPS TO BURMESE STUDENTS, AND SUPPORT TO DEMOCRACY ACTIVITIES INSIDE BURMA.

17. VIETNAM: HUMAN RIGHTS

CONTEXT: THE UNITED STATES NORMALIZED RELATIONS WITH VIETNAM IN 1995. THE MOST IMPORTANT PRIORITY OF THE US IN THE BILATERAL RELATIONS IS THE FULLEST POSSIBLE ACCOUNTING OF POW/MIAS. REFUGEE/EMIGRATION ISSUES AND RESPECT FOR AND PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ARE ALSO VERY IMPORTANT U.S. INTERESTS IN VIETNAM. THE U.S. AND VIETNAM ARE MOVING TOWARD A BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENT, WHICH SHOULD BE FINALIZED THIS YEAR. PRESENTLY, VIETNAM REQUIRES A JACKSON-VANIK WAIVER IN ORDER TO ENJOY NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. BECAUSE OF ITS EMIGRATION POLICIES. BESIDES EMIGRATION/REFUGEE ISSUES, POW/MIA AND HUMAN RIGHTS ARE VITAL CONCERNS OF THE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP. WE CONDUCT AN ANNUAL HUMAN RIGHTS DIALOGUE WITH VIETNAM.

Q: WHAT HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS DO YOU SEE IN VIETNAM?

A: UNDEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT, HARSH PRISON CONDITIONS, ARBITRARY DETENTION, NO INDEPENDENT JUDICIARY, INTERFERENCE WITH CHURCHES, TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN, ALL REMAIN PROBLEMS.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE DETENTION DECREE LETS AUTHORITIES ARBITRARILY DETAIN INDIVIDUALS FOR UP TO TWO YEARS.

POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS INCLUDE RELAXED CONTROL OVER RELIGION, RELEASE OF SOME POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE. OVERALL VIETNAM'S EMIGRATION POLICY HAS LIBERALIZED DRAMATICALLY IN THE LAST TEN TO FIFTEEN YEARS.

Q: WHAT IS THE U.S. POLICY ON HUMAN RIGHTS TOWARD VIETNAM?

WE SUPPORT EXPANDED AND IMPROVED HUMAN RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE FREEDOM TO PEACEFULLY EXPRESS POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS BELIEFS, RULE OF LAW AND INDEPENDENT JUDICIARY.

Q: WHAT IS THE US DOING TO IMPROVE THE OVERALL HUMAN RIGHTS PICTURE IN VIETNAM?

UNCLAS SECTION 14 OF 19 STATE 037829

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 1. 1999 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

WE HAVE CONTINUED TO PRESS FOR IMPROVED CONDITIONS, INCLUDING PRISONER RELEASES, IN OUR HUMAN RIGHTS DIALOGUES.

NORMAL TRADE RELATIONS WITH VIETNAM ARE SUBJECT TO CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF A BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENT, AND EXTENSION OF THE JACKSON-VANIK WAIVER, WHICH CONCERNS COOPERATION ON REFUGEE AND IMMIGRATION PROCESSING.

THE U.S. SUPPORTS A RULE-OF-LAW PROGRAM WHICH IS FOCUSED ON TRANSPARENCY AND CONSISTENCY OF COMMERCIAL LAWS.

18. CAMBODIA: HUMAN RIGHTS

CONTEXT: THE 1991 PARIS ACCORDS BROUGHT CAMBODIA BACK INTO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. IN JULY 199- FIGHTING SHATTERED THE UNEASY POLITICAL PARTNERSHIP OF HUN SEN (CPP) AND RANARRIDH (FUNCINPEC). THE SAME TWO MEN ARE ONCE AGAIN TOP LEADERS OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT FORMED AFTER THE 1998 ELECTIONS THROUGH THREE MONTHS OF DIFFICULT NEGOTIATIONS.

Q: COULD YOU CHARACTERIZE THE CURRENT HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN CAMBODIA?

A: TORTURE, ARBITRARY DETENTION, HARSH PRISONS, NON-SYSTEMATIC BUT PERVERSIVE POLITICAL KILLINGS, DISAPPEARANCES, ATTEMPTS TO COW THE MEDIA, TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN, AND DISCRIMINATION AGAINST ETHNIC VIETNAMESE ARE ALL SERIOUS PROBLEMS. HOWEVER, IMPROVED LABOR LAWS AND SOME SIGNS OF IMPROVED GOVERNMENT TREATMENT OF LABOR UNIONS ROUND OUT THE PICTURE.

THE JUDICIARY IS WEAK, A CLIMATE OF INTIMIDATION DOMINATED THE PRE-ELECTION PERIOD, MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY FORCES ABUSE THEIR POSITIONS TO GAIN MONEY AND REVENGE.

Q: WHAT ABOUT NUON CHEA (NOO-UHN CHAY-UH) AND KHIEU SAMPHAN (KYEW SAHMPAHN)?

AT YEAR'S END THE LAST TWO SURVIVING POLITBURO MEMBERS OF THE KHMER ROUGE'S 1975-79 GOVERNMENT DEFECTED. THEY MAY FACE TRIAL FOR GENOCIDE, IN CAMBODIA OR ABROAD. SEVERAL YEARS AGO, WE FIRST DISCUSSED WITH THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT CONCERNING ESTABLISHMENT OF A TRIBUNAL TO TRY KHMER ROUGE FOR GENOCIDE.

Q: WHAT IS THE US POLICY TOWARD CAMBODIA?

WE ENCOURAGE THE RULE OF LAW, AND DEMOCRATIC CHOICE OF GOVERNMENT BY THE GOVERNED.

Q: WHAT CONCRETE STEPS HAS THE U.S. TAKEN TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION IN CAMBODIA?

BY DIRECTING OUR AID TO CAMBODIA THROUGH NGOS, WE HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGING THE STRENGTHENING OF CIVIL SOCIETY.

WE HAVE TRIED TO ENCOURAGE CAMBODIA HUMAN RIGHTS THROUGH OUR TRADE POLICY. ONE STEP THE WE HAVE TAKEN IS TO RAISE OUR OWN QUOTAS FOR TEXTILES IMPORTED FROM CAMBODIA, BASED ON THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT'S COMPLIANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL LABOR STANDARDS.

WE HAVE WORKED THROUGH THE UN TO ESTABLISH AN INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL TO TRY CAMBODIAN WAR CRIMINALS.
UNCLAS SECTION 15 OF 19 STATE 037829

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 1. 1999 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

19. CHINA: HUMAN RIGHTS

CONTEXT: THE 1998 CHINA HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT "TELLS IT LIKE IT IS." IN THE OVERALL ASSESSMENT, WE STATE "THE GOVERNMENT'S HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD DETERIORATED SHARPLY BEGINNING IN THE FINAL MONTHS OF THE YEAR WITH A CRACKDOWN AGAINST ORGANIZED DISSENT. THE LOOSENING OF RESTRICTIONS ON POLITICAL DEBATE AND ACTIVISM BY AUTHORITIES FOR MUCH OF 1997 AND 1998, INCLUDING TOWARD PUBLIC CALLS FOR POLITICAL REFORM AND EXPRESSIONS OF OPPOSITION TO GOVERNMENT POLICIES, ABRUPTLY ENDED IN THE FALL." THE REPORT NOTES THAT "BEGINNING IN THE FALL, COMMUNIST PARTY LEADERS MOVED TO "NIP IN THE BUD" ORGANIZED CHALLENGES THEY BELIEVED THREATENED NATIONAL STABILITY OR COMMUNIST PARTY AUTHORITY." WE ALSO REPORT THAT "RESTRICTIONS ON RELIGION AND OTHER FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS INTENSIFIED IN TIBET AND XINJIANG (SHINJAANG)," AND "UNAPPROVED RELIGIOUS

GROUPS, INCLUDING PROTESTANT AND CATHOLIC GROUPS, CONTINUED TO EXPERIENCE VARYING DEGREES OF OFFICIAL INTERFERENCE AND REPRESSION." COERCIVE FAMILY PLANNING PRACTICES ARE DISCUSSED AT LENGTH AND THE ISSUES OF ORGAN

HARVESTING AND PRISON LABOR ARE COVERED IN SOME DETAIL. THE REPORT ALSO ACKNOWLEDGES THAT POSITIVE TRENDS CONTINUED DESPITE THE CRACKDOWN. WE NOTE THAT CHINA CONTINUED TO TAKE STEPS TO IMPROVE THE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF ITS LEGAL AND JUDICIAL SYSTEMS; TO EXPAND NONGOVERNMENTAL VILLAGE ELECTIONS; AND TO COMBAT CORRUPTION AS WELL AS THE FACT THAT CHINESE SOCIETY CONTINUES TO BECOME MORE OPEN AND DIVERSE. HOWEVER, RECENT NEGATIVE DEVELOPMENTS HAVE DETERMINED THE TONE OF THE REPORT AND OUR OVERALL ASSESSMENT IS CONSIDERABLY TOUGHER THAN IT WAS LAST YEAR.

Q: HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THE CONTRAST BETWEEN THIS YEAR'S REPORT AND LAST YEAR'S?

A: LAST YEAR'S REPORT ACCURATELY REFLECTED THE LOOSENING OF CONTROLS ON FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS AND ACKNOWLEDGED POSITIVE STEPS CHINA HAD TAKEN TO ADDRESS INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS ABOUT ITS HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION.

BEGINNING IN THE FALL THIS LOOSENING ABRUPTLY ENDED AND THIS YEAR'S REPORT ACCURATELY PORTRAYS THE SITUATION IN CHINA AT THE END OF THE YEAR. THE REPORTS DISCUSSES AT LENGTH CHINA'S SHARP AND DISAPPOINTING CRACKDOWN ON ORGANIZED POLITICAL DISSENT AS WELL AS OTHER NEGATIVE DEVELOPMENTS THAT OCCURRED, INCLUDING THE INTENSIFICATION OF RESTRICTIONS ON RELIGION AND OTHER FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS IN TIBET AND XINJIANG, AND THE VARYING DEGREES OF OFFICIAL INTERFERENCE AND REPRESSION EXPERIENCED BY RELIGIOUS GROUPS.

WE HAVE ALSO DISCUSSED OTHER KEY HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES OF CONCERN SUCH AS COERCIVE FAMILY PRACTICES, TRANSPLANTING ORGANS FROM EXECUTED PRISONERS, AND PRISON LABOR.

IN SHORT, WE HAVE TOLD IT "LIKE IT IS."

HOWEVER, THE REPORT ALSO GIVES CREDIT WHERE IT IS WARRANTED. WE ALSO NOTE THAT POSITIVE TRENDS SUCH AS CONTINUED EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF CHINA'S JUDICIAL AND LEGAL SYSTEMS; THE EXPANSION OF THE NONGOVERNMENTAL VILLAGE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS, AND GREATER OPENNESS AND DIVERSITY IN CHINESE
UNCLAS SECTION 16 OF 19 STATE 037829

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 1. 1999 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION
SOCIETY.

WE WORK EXTREMELY HARD TO MAKE ALL 194 REPORTS FAIR AND OBJECTIVE. SPOTLIGHTING ABUSES IS AN IMPORTANT HUMAN

RIGHTS TOOL BUT SO IS ACKNOWLEDGING PROGRESS. WE STRIVE TO MAKE ALL OUR REPORTS BALANCED AND FAIR.

Q: YOU APPEAR TO HAVE CHANGED YOUR ASSESSMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS IN CHINA. DOES THIS MEAN THAT YOU WILL REVERSE YOUR DECISION IN GENEVA AND SUPPORT A CHINA HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION IN GENEVA? YESTERDAY THE SENATE, 99-0, PASSED A RESOLUTION URGING YOU TO DO SO.

A: AS WE HAVE SAID BEFORE, WE PLAN TO BE VERY ACTIVE IN GENEVA ON A RANGE OF ISSUES, INCLUDING CHINA. WE ARE CONSULTING WITH OUR ALLIES ABOUT THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO ADDRESS OUR HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS ABOUT CHINA AT THIS YEAR'S SESSION OF THE UN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS.

20. INDONESIA: HUMAN RIGHTS

CONTEXT: OUR REPORT NOTES IMPROVEMENT IN MANY AREAS IN INDONESIA: MORE FREEDOM OF SPEECH, PRESS, AND ASSOCIATION, AND PROGRESS TOWARD ELECTIONS IN 1999. AT THE SAME TIME, IT REPORTS THAT THE GOVERNMENT CONTINUED TO COMMIT HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES. THE GOVERNMENT HAS NOT BEEN EFFECTIVE IN INVESTIGATING MOST ABUSES BY SECURITY FORCES (INCLUDING TORTURE AND EXTRAJUDICIAL KILLING), NOR HAVE SECURITY FORCES ACTED CONSISTENTLY TO PREVENT FREQUENT INTERCOMMUNAL CLASHES OR ATTACKS ON MINORITIES. MOST POLITICAL AND STUDENT GROUPS ARE PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ELECTIONS, DESPITE THEIR CONCERNS OVER SOME ASPECTS OF THE ELECTION LAW (GUARANTEED ABRI SEATS, SUPERIOR GOLKAR ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT RESOURCES, ETC.) ANTI-GOVERNMENT DEMONSTRATIONS HAVE QUIETED SINCE RAMADAN BEGAN.

Q: WHAT ARE WE DOING ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IN INDONESIA?

A: IN OUR HIGH-LEVEL BILATERAL CONTACTS THROUGHOUT 1998, WE URGED THE GOI TO PROTECT VULNERABLE MINORITIES. WE HAVE EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF RESPECT FOR THE RIGHTS OF RELIGIOUS AND ETHNIC MINORITIES, AND OF HOLDING HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSERS ACCOUNTABLE. THE SECRETARY'S SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE ON RELIGIOUS FREEDOM ABROAD WAS IN JAKARTA LAST MONTH TO MAKE THESE POINTS.

ALL MILITARY TO MILITARY CONTACT WITH INDONESIA IS CAREFULLY REVIEWED AND EACH ACTIVITY IS APPROVED AT THE UNDERSECRETARY OF DEFENSE LEVEL. FOR THE COMING YEAR, WE HAVE OFFERED E-IMET TRAINING ON HUMAN RIGHTS, CIVIL

SOCIETY AND NON-LETHAL TOPICS. WE ALSO HAVE A SMALL PROGRAM UNDER WHICH U.S. MILITARY UNITS ARE INVOLVED IN TRANSPORTATION, LOGISTICS, ENGINEERING, MEDICAL, AND OTHER CIVIL AND HUMANITARIAN PROJECTS THAT BENEFIT THE INDONESIAN PEOPLE

WORKING WITH USAID, WE HAVE ALREADY ALLOCATED 23 MILLION DOLLARS TOWARDS SUPPORTING THE ELECTION EFFORT AND PLAN TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE. THIS WILL INCLUDE SUPPORT FOR VOTER EDUCATION, DOMESTIC AND U.S. OBSERVERS, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

UNCLAS SECTION 17 OF 19 STATE 037829

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 1. 1999 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

21. HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

CONTEXT: HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS PERSIST AROUND THE WORLD. THE UNITED STATES CONTINUES TO EXPRESS CONCERN OVER ACTS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN GIRLS, INCLUDING RAPE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, TRAFFICKING, FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION. MOREOVER, WE ADAMANTLY CONDEMN THE TALIBAN REGIME'S OPPRESSIVE SANCTIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS IN AFGHANISTAN

Q: WHAT IS THE U.S. DOING TO ADVANCE WOMEN'S RIGHTS?

THE U.S. FOREIGN POLICY PRIORITIES ON WOMEN'S ISSUES ARE ELIMINATING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND INCREASING WOMEN'S POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION.

THE UNITED STATES CONTINUES TO ADVOCATE GOVERNMENTS' ADHERENCE TO WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS. THE PRESIDENT'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON WOMEN IS CHARGED WITH COORDINATING U.S. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION ADOPTED AT THE 1995 UN FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN.

THE STATE DEPARTMENT HEADS AN INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP ON FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION THAT WORKS WITH AFRICAN AND AMERICAN NGOS TO ERADICATE THE PRACTICE.

THE U.S. CONTINUES TO WORK BILATERALLY, MULTILATERALLY, WITH NGOS AND WITH CONGRESS TO SECURE GOVERNMENT ADHERENCE TO WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS AROUND THE WORLD.

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE'S ANNUAL COUNTRY REPORTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES DETAIL HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS, INCLUDING VIOLATIONS AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS. THESE REPORTS FORM THE BASIS FOR BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS.

THE ADMINISTRATION IS COMMITTED TO THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE RATIFICATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN (CEDAW). THIS IS THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE AND DETAILED INTERNATIONAL TREATY TO DATE THAT ADDRESSES THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN. RATIFICATION OF CEDAW WILL STRENGTHEN U.S. EFFORTS TO ADVANCE THE STATUS OF WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD.

22. TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN

CONTEXT: TRAFFICKING IS THE RECRUITMENT, SALE OR TRANSPORT OF PERSONS ACROSS INTERNATIONAL BORDERS OR WITHIN OR A COUNTRY THROUGH FRAUD, COERCION OR DEBT BONDAGE FOR PURPOSES OF FORCED LABOR OR SERVICES, INCLUDING SEXUAL SERVICES, DOMESTIC SERVITUDE OR OTHER SLAVERY-LIKE PRACTICES. EVERY YEAR, 1-2 MILLION WOMEN AND CHILDREN ARE TRAFFICKED AROUND THE WORLD. APPROXIMATELY 125,000 OF THESE ARE TRAFFICKED IN THE U.S., PRIMARILY FROM SOUTHEAST ASIA AND THE FORMER SOVIET UNION.

Q: WHAT IS THE U.S. DOING TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN?

A: PRESIDENT CLINTON ISSUED A DIRECTIVE ON MARCH 11, 1998 ESTABLISHING THE U.S. STRATEGY TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING AROUND THE WORLD. THIS STRATEGY INCLUDES PREVENTION; PROTECTION FOR THE VICTIMS; AND PROSECUTION OF THE TRAFFICKERS. THE PRESIDENT'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON WOMEN, CHAIRED BY SECRETARY ALBRIGHT, DEVELOPS DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN POLICY TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING.
UNCLAS SECTION 18 OF 19 STATE 037829

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 1. 1999 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

THE U.S. IS SPONSORING PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS AROUND THE WORLD TO WARN POTENTIAL VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKERS' RECRUITING METHODS AND DANGERS OF THE INDUSTRY. OUR EMBASSIES IN SOURCE, TRANSIT AND DESTINATION COUNTRIES ARE WORKING TO PROTECT TRAFFICKING VICTIMS, EXPOSE TRAFFICKERS AND ENHANCE ANTI-FRAUD TRAINING.

THE UNITED STATES IS SPONSORING A PROTOCOL TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH THE TRANSNATIONAL CRIME CONVENTION THAT REQUIRES STATES TO ENACT LAWS TO PROHIBIT TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS AND PROTECT VICTIMS.

WE ARE WORKING WITH OTHER STATES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING.

23. CHILD LABOR

CONTEXT: AWARENESS OF THE SEVERITY OF THE WORLDWIDE PROBLEM OF CHILD LABOR HAS INCREASED DRAMATICALLY IN RECENT YEARS. ACCORDING TO THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION, (ILO) AS MANY AS 250 MILLION CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 15 AROUND THE WORLD ARE EMPLOYED FULL OR PART TIME. THE U.S. VIEWS EXPLOITATIVE CHILD LABOR AS A HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSE AND AN IMPEDIMENT TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. THE U.S. WORKS FOR THE ELIMINATION OF EXPLOITATIVE CHILD LABOR THROUGH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, THE BUSINESS AND NGO SECTORS, AND BILATERAL GOVERNMENTAL CONTACTS.

Q: WHAT IS THE U.S. DOING TO COMBAT CHILD LABOR?

A: THE PRESIDENT IN HIS 1998 STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS ANNOUNCED A MAJOR CHILD LABOR INITIATIVE. THE GOAL IS FOR THE US TO TAKE THE LEAD WORLDWIDE TOWARDS THE ELIMINATION OF THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR. AN INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP HAS BEEN MEETING SINCE THEN TO COORDINATE USG POLICIES REGARDING CHILD LABOR.

THE U.S. HAS BECOME THE LEADING CONTRIBUTOR TO THE ILO'S INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM ON THE ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOR (IPEC), WHICH BEGAN IN 1992. CONGRESS APPROVED IN THE FALL OF 1998 A TEN-FOLD INCREASE IN THE ANNUAL U.S. CONTRIBUTIONS TO IPEC (FROM \$ 3 MILLION TO -30 MILLION). THIS MONEY HAS BEEN APPROPRIATED FOR FY 1999 AND AUTHORIZED FOR FY 2000 THROUGH FY 2003 (THIS MEANS CONGRESS MUST STILL APPROVE APPROPRIATIONS FOR EACH FY FROM FY 2000 TO FY 2003). THE USG CONTRIBUTIONS TO IPEC ARE ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

THE U.S. HAS ACTIVELY PARTICIPATED IN SEVERAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES ON CHILD LABOR AND USED THOSE OCCASIONS TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF U.S. CONCERNS AND WILLINGNESS TO CONTRIBUTE TO SOLUTIONS.

THE U.S. HAS AN ACTIVE OUTREACH PROGRAM TO U.S. BUSINESSES, NGOS AND TRADE UNIONS TO INCREASE EFFORTS TO COMBAT EXPLOITATIVE CHILD LABOR. WE ARE ACTIVE DIPLOMATICALLY, THROUGH OUR LABOR REPORTING OFFICERS, IN MONITORING CONDITIONS AND MAKING U.S. VIEWS KNOWN.

THE LABOR DEPARTMENT, THROUGH ITS ANNUAL CONGRESSIONALLY MANDATED STUDIES, CONTINUES TO EXPAND OUR DATA ON CHILD LABOR. THESE REPORTS ARE WIDELY DISTRIBUTED AND HAVE COVERED AREAS SUCH AS CHILD LABOR IN THE MANUFACTURING, MINING, AND COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURE INDUSTRIES, BONDED AND FORCED CHILD LABOR, CORPORATE CODES OF CONDUCT AND UNCLAS SECTION 19 OF 19 STATE 037829

USIA FOR EA; TOKYO FOR YAMAUCHI; MOSCOW FOR ANDERTON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, XE, US

SUBJECT: MARCH 1. 1999 PRESS GUIDANCES FOR THE EAP REGION

CONSUMER LABELS, AND GOVERNMENTAL EFFORTS TO ELIMINATE CHILD LABOR.

THE CUSTOMS BUREAU STARTED IN LATE 1998 A "CHILD LABOR ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM" TARGETING COMPANIES IMPORTING PRODUCTS PRODUCED OVERSEAS BY FORCED CHILD LABOR.

AT ITS JUNE 1999 CONFERENCE, THE ILO IS EXPECTED TO ADOPT A NEW CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF THE WORSE FORMS OF CHILD LABOR. THE U.S. HAS BEEN CLOSELY INVOLVED OVER THE PAST YEAR IN DISCUSSIONS OF THE FORM THIS NEW CONVENTION WILL TAKE. WE ARE WORKING FOR A CONVENTION WE CAN RATIFY, I.E. THAT IS CONSISTENT WITH EXISTING FEDERAL AND STATE

THE USG SUPPORTS CONSUMER RESPONSE INITIATIVES (E.G. RUGMARK, SOCCER BALL INITIATIVE) THAT ARE LEADING TO LABELING PROGRAMS THAT WILL GIVE CONSUMERS A CHANCE TO IDENTIFY AND PURCHASE PRODUCTS MADE WITHOUT CHILD LABOR.

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 19

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DIST:

SIT: ARVIZU BADER CROWLEY HAMMER LEAVY LIEBERTHAL OSIUS PRITCHARD
SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: ROUTINE

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED

LINE1: RAAUZYUW RUEHCAA8222 1902137-UUUU--RHEHAAX.

LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH

LINE3: R 082137Z JUL 99

LINE4: FM ECSTATE WASHDC

OSRI: RUEHC

DTG: 082137Z JUL 99

ORIG: ECSTATE WASHDC

TO: USMISSION USOSCE VIENNA 0000

INFO: ////

SUBJ: TESTIMONY OFANITA BOTTI, DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR
INTERNATIONA INITIATIVES PRESIDENT'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL
N WOMEN BEFORE THE HEARING ON (BEGIN QUOTE) THESEX TRADE:
TRFFICKING OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN EUROPE AND THE UNITED
STATES (END QUOTE)

TEXT:

UNCLAS STATE 128222

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KWMN, PHUM

SUBJECT: TESTIMONY OFANITA BOTTI, DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR
INTERNATIONA INITIATIVES PRESIDENT'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL
N WOMEN BEFORE THE HEARING ON (BEGIN QUOTE) THESEX TRADE:
TRFFICKING OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN EUROPE AND THE UNITED
STATES (END QUOTE)

1. BEGIN TEXT. CHAIRMAN SMITH, THANK YOU FOR THE
OPPORTUNITY TO TESTIFY THIS AFTERNOON ON TRAFFICKING IN
WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN EUROPE AND THE UNITED STATES, AND THE
U.S. GOVERNMENT'S STRATEGY TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN EUROPE
AND AROUND THE WORLD. IT HAS BEEN A PLEASURE TO WORK ON
THIS ISSUE WITH THE COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION
IN EUROPE AND STAFF OVER THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS.

2. OF ALL THE HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES TO WHICH THE
INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HAS TURNED ITS ATTENTION, THE
TRAFFICKING OF HUMAN BEINGS, PREDOMINANTLY WOMEN AND
CHILDREN, IS CLEARLY ONE OF THE MOST EGREGIOUS VIOLATIONS
OF OUR TIME.

3. THE PROBLEM OF TRAFFICKING IS NOT NEW. IT HAS BEEN
ENDEMIC IN SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA FOR DECADES. NOW, THE
COUNTRIES OF THE FORMER SOVIET UNION (FSU) AND EASTERN

EUROPE ARE EXPERIENCING A REGIONAL CRISIS IN TRAFFICKING.
THERE HAS BEEN A DRAMATIC INCREASE IN THE TRAFFICKING OF
WOMEN AND CHILDREN FROM THE FSU AND EASTERN EUROPE IN
RECENT YEARS BECAUSE OF THE LARGE NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED
WOMEN AND THE PROLIFERATION OF ORGANIZED CRIME
ORGANIZATIONS LURED TO THE BUSINESS BY HIGH PROFITS, WEAK
LAWS AND PENALTIES FOR TRAFFICKERS.

4. THE FORMER SOVIET UNION AND EASTERN EUROPE MAKE UP WHAT

IS PROBABLY THE FASTEST GROWING REGION FOR TRAFFICKING SOURCE COUNTRIES. APPROXIMATELY 175,000 WOMEN AND CHILDREN ARE TRAFFICKED FROM THIS REGION TO EUROPE, NORTH AMERICA, ASIA, AND THE MIDDLE EAST. MOST ARE TRAFFICKED TO WESTERN EUROPE, PARTICULARLY GERMANY, ITALY, AND THE NETHERLANDS.

5. THE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY OF STATE, AND ATTORNEY GENERAL HAVE SHOWN TREMENDOUS COMMITMENT TO COMBATING TRAFFICKING AND THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND OTHER RELEVANT AGENCIES HAVE MADE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS OVER THE PAST YEAR TO ADVANCE THE ADMINISTRATION'S ANTI-TRAFFICKING STRATEGY OF PREVENTION, PROTECTION, AND PROSECUTION.

6. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THIS ISSUE IS LED BY THE PRESIDENT'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON WOMEN. THE COUNCIL IS A TASK FORCE OF HIGH-LEVEL USG REPRESENTATIVES CHARGED WITH IMPLEMENTING THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION, ADOPTED AT THE 1995 U.N. FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN BEIJING. THE SECRETARY OF STATE IS THE CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL AND THE FIRST LADY IS THE HONORARY CHAIR. THE PRESIDENT HAS DIRECTED THE COUNCIL TO LEAD THE DEVELOPMENT AND COORDINATION OF U.S. DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL POLICY ON TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN, AS PART OF THE USG'S BROADER COMMITMENT TO ELIMINATE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD.

7. WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WE HAVE MOBILIZED EACH REGIONAL BUREAU AND THE BUREAUS OF DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS AND LABOR, INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT, CONSULAR AFFAIRS, DIPLOMATIC SECURITY, AND POPULATION, REFUGEES AND MIGRATION. THROUGHOUT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THE COUNCIL HAS COORDINATED THE EFFORTS OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, JUSTICE, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, THE U.S. INFORMATION AGENCY AND THE U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

8. TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS, PREDOMINANTLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN, IS A FORM OF MODERN-DAY SLAVERY. AT ITS CORE,

THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN IS ABOUT ABDUCTION, COERCION, VIOLENCE AND EXPLOITATION IN THE MOST REPREHENSIBLE WAYS.

9. THE PROBLEM OF TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS INVOLVES THE RECRUITMENT, TRANSPORT, HARBORING, TRANSFER, SALE OR RECEIPT OF PERSONS WITHIN NATIONAL OR ACROSS INTERNATIONAL BORDERS THROUGH FRAUD, COERCION, FORCE OR KIDNAPPING, FOR PURPOSES OF PLACING PERSONS IN SITUATIONS OF SLAVERY-LIKE CONDITIONS, FORCED LABOR OR SERVICES. EXAMPLES INCLUDE FORCED PROSTITUTION, DOMESTIC SERVITUDE, BONDED SWEATSHOP LABOR OR OTHER DEBT BONDAGE.

10. ALTHOUGH THIS HEARING FOCUSES ON TRAFFICKING INTO THE SEX INDUSTRY, IT IS CLEAR THAT THIS IS MERELY ONE COMPONENT OF THE WORLD OF TRAFFICKING OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN. U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY IS NOT LIMITED TO ADDRESSING TRAFFICKING IN THE CONTEXT OF THE SEX TRADE. PLACING WOMEN AND CHILDREN INTO SLAVERY-LIKE CONDITIONS IN ANY CONTEXT IS AN INTOLERABLE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATION AND AN EVIL THAT CANNOT BE IGNORED.

11. WE SEE CASES WHERE TRAFFICKERS LURE GIRLS FROM A VILLAGE AND FORCE SOME OF THE GIRLS TO WORK IN DOMESTIC

SERVITUDE OR CARPET-WEAVING, WHILE OTHERS, CONSIDERED MORE ATTRACTIVE, ARE CULLED OUT AND SOLD TO BROTHELS. THUS, IN THE FIGHT AGAINST TRAFFICKING, THERE ARE PRACTICAL REASONS WHY THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT LIMIT ITS EFFORTS TO ONE FORM OF TRAFFICKING OVER ANOTHER.

12. INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIMINAL NETWORKS LURE WOMEN BY POSTING ADVERTISEMENTS OR RECRUITING FOR JOBS OVERSEAS FOR MODELING, DANCING, WAITRESSING AND OTHER KINDS OF ACTIVITIES INVOLVING PROSPECTS FOR TRAVEL AND CULTURAL EXPERIENCES. ONCE THE WOMEN ARRIVE, HOWEVER, THEY ARE FORCED INTO INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE OR OTHER FORMS OF SLAVERY-LIKE CONDITIONS.

13. OVER ONE MILLION WOMEN AND CHILDREN ARE TRAFFICKED AROUND THE WORLD EACH YEAR. OVER 50,000 OF THESE WOMEN AND CHILDREN ARE TRAFFICKED INTO THE U.S. ANNUALLY, PRIMARILY FROM LATIN AMERICA, THE FORMER SOVIET UNION AND SOUTH EAST ASIA. RUSSIA, UKRAINE, POLAND AND THE CZECH REPUBLIC ARE MAJOR COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE. ROUGHLY 4,000 ARE FROM THE FORMER SOVIET UNION AND EASTERN EUROPE. THESE ARE CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATES. IT IS WORTH NOTING THAT OF THESE 50,000, APPROXIMATELY HALF ARE

TRAFFICKED INTO COERCED OR BONDED SWEATSHOP LABOR AND DOMESTIC SERVITUDE.

14. MEN ARE ALSO TRAFFICKED, PARTICULARLY INTO FORCED LABOR, BUT WE EMPHASIZE TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND CHILDREN BECAUSE THEY ARE THE PREDOMINANT TARGETS OF THE CRIMINALS

FOR TRAFFICKING.

15. TODAY I WANT TO FOCUS ON THE IMPORTANT ROLE TO BE PLAYED BY OSCE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST TRAFFICKING. ERADICATING TRAFFICKING WILL ONLY BE POSSIBLE IF COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN, TRANSIT AND DESTINATION ARE COMMITTED TO WORKING TOGETHER COOPERATIVELY TO FIND ECONOMIC ALTERNATIVES FOR WOMEN, LEGAL REMEDIES, AND REINTEGRATION AND PROTECTION PROGRAMS FOR VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING. AS A RESULT, OSCE IS AN EXCELLENT FORUM IN WHICH TO ADDRESS THE TRAFFICKING ISSUE. MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES ORIGIN, TRANSIT, AND DESTINATION COUNTRIES.

16. OSCE PARTICIPATING STATES HAVE ADOPTED A COMMITMENT, AS SET OUT IN THE 1991 MOSCOW DOCUMENT, TO -SEEK TO ELIMINATE ALL FORMS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND EXPLOITATION OF PROSTITUTION OF WOMEN INCLUDING BY ENSURING ADEQUATE LEGAL PROHIBITIONS AGAINST SUCH ACTS AND OTHER APPROPRIATE

MEASURES."

17. OSCE FORA, INCLUDING PERMANENT COUNCIL MEETINGS, THE BIENNIAL HUMAN DIMENSION IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW MEETING, AND SUPPLEMENTARY HUMAN DIMENSION MEETINGS PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES TO RAISE CONCERNS ABOUT THE FAILURE OF STATES TO HONOR THIS COMMITMENT AND FOCUS ATTENTION ON HOW WE CAN WORK TOGETHER TOWARD ACHIEVEMENT OF OUR GOALS TO ELIMINATE THIS SCOURGE. I AM PLEASED TO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN TWO FUNCTIONS WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR STAFF - THE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT IMPLEMENTATION REVIEW MEETING IN WARSAW IN NOVEMBER, 1998, AND A SUPPLEMENTARY HUMAN DIMENSION MEETING MORE RECENTLY IN JUNE - BOTH OF WHICH ADDRESSED THE ISSUE

OF TRAFFICKING.

18. ACHIEVEMENT OF PROGRESS ON ELIMINATING TRAFFICKING REQUIRES COOPERATION AMONG STATES. THE OSCE IS AN ORGANIZATION FOUNDED ON THE PRINCIPLE OF COOPERATION. THIS CONCEPT IS NOT ABSTRACT. FROM MY PARTICIPATION IN MEETINGS, I CAN ATTEST TO THE HIGH QUALITY OF DEBATE IN OSCE FORA. MORE IMPORTANTLY I CAN ATTEST TO THE WILLINGNESS OF STATES TO WORK TOGETHER TO TACKLE THIS

PROBLEM.

19. AS YOU KNOW, WHAT MAKES THE OSCE SO EFFECTIVE ARE NOT MERELY THE COMMITMENTS STATES HAVE MADE TO UPHOLD HIGH HUMAN RIGHTS STANDARDS BUT THE EFFECTIVE MECHANISMS OSCE HAS CREATED TO REVIEW IMPLEMENTATION OF THOSE STANDARDS.

20. ALSO IMPRESSIVE IS THE OPERATIONAL AND PRACTICAL NATURE OF THE OSCE. WITH MISSIONS IN 20 OSCE-PARTICIPATING STATES, THE OSCE TAKES ITS MESSAGE TO THE FIELD ALL ACROSS THE OSCE REGION.

21. OSCE INSTITUTIONS ARE ALSO VEHICLES OF ACTION. THE OFFICE OF DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS (ODIHR) CREATES PROGRAMS TO ASSIST STATES IMPLEMENT COMMITMENTS.

22. I BELIEVE THE OSCE OFFERS AN EXCELLENT VENUE TO TACKLE THE PROBLEM OF TRAFFICKING. CAN IT DO MORE? THE ANSWER IS YES, AND WE ARE WORKING TO ENSURE THAT IT DOES.

23. FIRST, THE USG HAS SECONDED AN EXPERT TO THE OFFICE OF DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS TO EXAMINE THE PROBLEM OF TRAFFICKING IN THE OSCE REGION WITH A VIEW TO RECOMMENDING PROGRAMS TO ASSIST STATES IN ADDRESSING THIS MATTER. THIS STUDY AND THE PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS IT MAKES WILL FOCUS ON PROVIDING BETTER PROTECTION FOR VICTIMS -- A MUCH NEGLECTED FACET OF THE TRAFFICKING PROBLEM. IMPROVING PROTECTION WILL ENABLE STATES TO DO A BETTER JOB IN PREVENTING VICTIMS FROM LIVING REPEATED HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AND IN MAKING VICTIMS MORE WILLING TO COOPERATE IN THE PROSECUTION OF TRAFFICKERS. WE STRONGLY SUPPORT GREATER ODIHR ATTENTION TO CREATING PROGRAMS TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING.

24. SECOND, WE WILL CONTINUE TO HOLD PARTICIPATING STATES TO THEIR COMMITMENTS TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING, AND TO SPEAK FRANKLY IN OSCE FORA WHEN THEY DO NOT.

25. THIRD, WE ARE EXPLORING WAYS TO ENHANCE OSCE COMMITMENTS TO ADDRESS TRAFFICKING. WE ARE LOOKING TO THE STUDY DESCRIBED ABOVE TO INSTRUCT US IN THIS ENDEAVOR.

26. FOURTH, WE WILL USE OSCE FORA TO STRATEGIZE ABOUT HOW OSCE PARTICIPATING STATES CAN EFFECTIVELY COOPERATE TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING. I CAME AWAY FROM THE RECENT VIENNA MEETING IMPRESSED BY THE POTENTIAL THE OSCE OFFERS TO BRING ALL THE PLAYERS TOGETHER. THE STATE DEPARTMENT IS COMMITTED TO WORKING WITH YOU AND YOUR STAFF TO TAP THAT POTENTIAL IN THE FULLEST POSSIBLE WAY.

27. CURRENTLY, WE HAVE MULTILATERAL AND BILATERAL INITIATIVES UNDERWAY WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION, THE UNITED NATIONS, ITALY, THE BALTICS, UKRAINE, AND FINLAND TO COMBAT

TRAFFICKING.

28. WE ARE DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING A COMPREHENSIVE AND INTEGRATED STRATEGY WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF UKRAINE TO

COMBAT TRAFFICKING.

29. THE UNITED STATES AND ITALY HAVE LAUNCHED AN INITIATIVE FOCUSING ON THE PROTECTION OF VICTIMS, COOPERATION WITH NGOS, TRAINING FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND STRENGTHENING COOPERATION OF OUR CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS. RECENTLY,

30. THE UNITED STATES AND FINLAND AGREED TO COLLABORATE ON AN INITIATIVE TO ASSIST IN THE PREVENTION OF TRAFFICKING AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN THE BALTIC COUNTRIES.

31. THERE ARE NOW FEARS AND SOME INDICATIONS THAT ORGANIZED CRIMINAL ELEMENTS ARE TRYING TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF REFUGEE WOMEN AND CHILDREN DISPLACED BY THE CONFLICT IN KOSOVO. ONE CONCRETE ACTION THAT THE OSCE CAN TAKE IS TO ENSURE THAT THE TRAFFICKING OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IS ADDRESSED AS PART OF THE PEACE PROCESS IN KOSOVO. WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN POST-CONFLICT SITUATIONS - THOSE DISPLACED FROM THEIR HOMES AND PARTICULARLY IN REFUGEE CAMPS - ARE EXTREMELY VULNERABLE TO TRAFFICKING..

32. WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP ON THIS ISSUE. WE HAVE HIGH REGARD FOR COMMISSION STAFF, WITH WHOM WE HAVE HAD THE PLEASURE OF WORKING IN RECENT MONTHS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO FUTURE COLLABORATION.

33. AS SECRETARY OF STATE MADELEINE ALBRIGHT HAS SAID, (BEGIN QUOTE) OUR GOAL, ULTIMATELY, IS TO MOBILIZE PEOPLE EVERYWHERE SO THAT TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS IS MET BY A STOP SIGN VISIBLE AROUND THE EQUATOR AND FROM POLE TO POLE. (END QUOTE) END TEXT.

TALBOTT

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 8222

TOR: 990709062336 M3951416

DIST:

SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: PRIORITY
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: PAAUZYUW RUEHCAA8109 2032019-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: P R 222019Z JUL 99
LINE4: FM SECSTATE WASHDC
OSRI: RUEHC
DTG: 222019Z JUL 99
ORIG: SECSTATE WASHDC
TO: RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 4233
INFO: RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 7673
SUBJ: U.S. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR
TEXT:

UNCLAS STATE 138109

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KWMN, UN, PHUM

SUBJECT: U.S. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION

1. THIS IS AN ACTION MESSAGE. PLEASE SEE PARA 4.

2. UNGA RESOLUTION 53/120 (O.P.14) ENCOURAGES GOVERNMENTS TO SUBMIT RESPONSES TO THE UN QUESTIONNAIRE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION ADOPTED AT THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN. THE QUESTIONNAIRE WAS DISTRIBUTED TO UN MEMBER STATES IN NOVEMBER 1998.

3. THE PRESIDENT'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON WOMEN (S/PICW) HAS PREPARED THE USG RESPONSE TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE. BY POUCH, THE DEPARTMENT IS SENDING TO USUN (TO THE ATTENTION OF GLENN CARLE) THE USG RESPONSE, ALONG WITH THE 1999 UPDATE OF "AMERICA'S COMMITMENT," A SUMMARY OF RECENT USG ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION.

4. MISSION IS REQUESTED TO DELIVER THESE DOCUMENTS TO THE UN DIVISION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN. RESPONSES TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE WILL FORM THE BASIS THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT TO BEIJING&5, THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL

ASSEMBLY THAT WILL TAKE PLACE JUNE 5-9, 2000. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES MISSION ASSISTANCE.
TALBOTT

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 8109

TOR: 990722162449 M3972690

DIST:

SIT: ARVIZU BABBITT BUSBY GUARNIERI HILLJ KEITH LIEBERTHAL NAPLAN OSIUS
PRITCHARD SCHWARTZ STROMSETH VACCARO
SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: PRIORITY

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED

LINE1: PAAUZYUW RUEHMOA9326 2241141Z--RHEHAAX.

LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH

LINE3: P 121141Z AUG 99

LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

OSRI: RUEHMO

DTG: 121141Z AUG 99

ORIG: AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6387
RUEHC/DEPT OF LABOR WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO: RUEHDX/MOSCOW POLITICAL COLLECTIVE
RUCNCIS/CIS COLLECTIVE
RUEHTL/AMEMBASSY TALLINN 1198
RUEHVL/AMEMBASSY VILNIUS 1526
RUEHRA/AMEMBASSY RIGA 3815
RUEHLN/AMCONSUL ST PETERSBURG 1739
RUEHVK/AMCONSUL VLADIVOSTOK 0770
RUEHYG/AMCONSUL YEKATERINBURG 9645

SUBJ: LABOR PROGRAMS WHICH BENEFIT WOMEN

TEXT:

UNCLAS MOSCOW 019326

STATE FOR DRL/IL/ALLER, S/NIS/COOK, G/LOAR, EUR/RUS

DOL FOR ILAB/BRUMFIELD

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, EAID, SOCI, PHUM, KWMN, RS

SUBJECT: LABOR PROGRAMS WHICH BENEFIT WOMEN

REF: A) STATE 147580 B) 98 MOSCOW 33195

1. PER REF A, PROGRAMS DURING THE LAST FIVE YEARS WHICH HAVE BENEFITED WOMEN, IN TERMS OF THE CRITICAL AREAS OF CONCERN FROM THE U.N. FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN PLATFORM FOR ACTION, ARE DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPHS 2 AND 3, BELOW.

2. VIOLENCE: THE U.S.-RUSSIAN JOINT CONFERENCE ON FAMILY VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN TOOK PLACE OCTOBER 28-30, 1998, AT MOSCOW STATE UNIVERSITY FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOR AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (REF B). THIS WAS THE FIRST CONFERENCE IN RUSSIA ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE WHICH INVOLVED BOTH FEDERAL AND REGIONAL OFFICIALS AND THE FIRST BI-NATIONAL EVENT TO TAKE A MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH TO THE ISSUE. THE CONFERENCE ATTRACTED 200 PARTICIPANTS FROM VARIOUS REGIONS AND PROFESSIONAL DISCIPLINES. BOTH RUSSIAN AND AMERICAN

PARTICIPANTS FELT THE CONFERENCE WAS AN EXCELLENT FIRST STEP WHICH RAISED THE PROFILE OF THE ISSUE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN RUSSIA. AS A RESULT OF THE CONFERENCE, STUDY TOURS FOR EXPERTS TO THE UNITED STATES, IN-COUNTRY TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR ACTIVISTS AND LAW-ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS, PUBLICATIONS PROJECTS, AND PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS WERE CREATED. ANOTHER RESULT WAS INCREASED PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR USAID'S 34-MONTH, USD 500,000 PROGRAM FOR WOMEN'S CRISIS CENTERS.

3. HUMAN RIGHTS: USAID'S THREE-YEAR, USD 3.4 MILLION PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE UNIONS PROVIDES TRAINING IN ADVOCACY AND UNION ORGANIZING, AS WELL AS LEGAL SERVICES AND COURT REPRESENTATION. THE PROGRAM IS IMPLEMENTED BY THE AMERICAN CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL LABOR SOLIDARITY, WHICH ESTIMATES THAT AT LEAST 45 PER CENT OF PARTICIPANTS ARE WOMEN.

ORDWAY

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 9326

TOR: 990812074329 M3999077

DIST:

SIT: BLACK BRODY DAVIDSON ELKIND HARRISC KAUFMAN PASCUAL TEDSTROM WEISS
SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: ROUTINE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: RAAUZYUW RUEHSNA2811 2282212-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: R 162212Z AUG 99
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
OSRI: RUEHSN
DTG: 162212Z AUG 99
ORIG: AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 1231
INFO: RUEHZA/ALCA COLLECTIVE
RUMIAAA/USCINCSO MIAMI FL
SUBJ: LABOR PROGRAMS BENEFITING WOMEN - EL SALVADOR

TEXT:

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

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 SAN SALVADOR 002811

DEPT FOR DRL/IL:JALLER

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, SOCI, EAID, ES

SUBJECT: LABOR PROGRAMS BENEFITING WOMEN - EL SALVADOR

REF: STATE 147580

1. DURING THE LAST FIVE YEARS, EMBASSY SAN SALVADOR HAS SUPPORTED A MULTITUDE OF POLICIES, PROGRAMS, AND ACTIVITIES WHICH DIRECTLY AND INDIRECTLY BENEFITED WOMEN. WHILE THE MISSION HAS BEEN STRONGLY PROACTIVE IN LABOR DIPLOMACY, WE HAVE ONLY A MODERATE LEVEL OF FORMAL USG/AID-FUNDED PROJECTS OR PROGRAMS SPECIFICALLY DEDICATED TO LABOR. MUCH OF OUR ACTIVITIES WITH OR AFFECTING WOMEN IN THE LABOR SECTOR HAS BEEN THROUGH NON-LABOR SPECIFIC PROGRAMMING OR RESULTING FROM LABOR POLICY ENDEAVORS.

LABOR PROGRAMS

2. THE FOLLOWING IS LIST OF LABOR AND LABOR-RELATED PROGRAMS BENEFITING WOMEN. EACH ITEM NOTES WHICH OF THE TWELVE CRITICAL AREAS OF CONCERN OF THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION FROM THE UN FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN ARE COVERED:

AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR FREE LABOR DEVELOPMENT -AIFLD

IN THE LAST TWO YEARS OF AIFLD (WHICH AID FUNDED THROUGH 1998), THE FOCUS OF THE PROGRAM WAS ON ASSISTING PUBLIC SECTOR UNIONS (WHICH REPRESENTS A LARGE NUMBER OF WOMEN EMPLOYEES) TO COPE WITH THE PRIVATIZATION PROCESS AND PROTECTING WORKER RIGHTS IN THE IN-BOND ASSEMBLY (MAQUILA) SECTOR (WHOSE 65,000 WORKERS ARE ABOUT 85 PERCENT WOMEN). THESE PROGRAMS DIRECTLY FURTHERED GOALS (1) AND (9). IN ADDITION, AIFLD CONDUCTED SPECIALIZED VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMS AND PROVIDED BASIC TRADE UNION EDUCATION TO 1,179 WOMEN, ASSISTING THEM IN GOALS (1), (2), (6), (7), AND (9).

PROJECT ON POLICY ANALYSIS AND TRAINING OF MINISTRY OF LABOR PERSONNEL

THIS AID-FUNDED PROJECT PROVIDED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING TO 30 SALVADORAN LABOR INSPECTORS, 12 OF WHOM WERE WOMEN. THE TRAINING CENTERED ON PROFESSIONALIZING THE INSPECTION PROCESS AND IMPROVING DISPUTE RESOLUTION CAPABILITIES. THIS PROJECT DIRECTLY ASSISTED IN GOALS (2), (5), (7). INDIRECTLY, THROUGH THE IMPROVED ENFORCEMENT OF THE LABOR CODE RESULTING FROM THIS PROGRAM, THIS ASSISTS IN GOALS (3) AND (9).

HUMAN CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

THIS AID-FUNDED PROGRAM FUNDED ONE WOMAN LABOR LEADER IN 1995 AND A SECOND IN 1996 FOR THREE WEEKS OF TRAINING IN THE U.S. COVERING LABOR ORGANIZATION AND LABOR UNION ADMINISTRATION TO INCREASE PROFESSIONAL CAPACITY AND ENCOURAGE WOMEN LEADERSHIP IN THE SALVADORAN TRADE UNION MOVEMENT. THIS ADDRESSED GOALS (2), (6), (7), (8), AND, INDIRECTLY, (9).

CARIBBEAN AND LATIN AMERICAN SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

THIS AID-FUNDED PROGRAM SPONSORED A GROUP OF NINE WOMEN SALVADORAN LABOR LEADERS FOR FOUR WEEKS OF LEADERSHIP TRAINING IN THE U.S. IN 1994. THIS ADDRESSED GOALS (2), (6), (7), (8), AND, INDIRECTLY, (9).

INTERNATIONAL VISITOR (IV) PROGRAM

ONE WOMAN LABOR LEADER PARTICIPATED IN THE 1995 USIS-FUNDED IV PROGRAM "UNIONS IN THE U.S." THIS ADDRESSED GOALS (2), (6), (7), (8), AND, INDIRECTLY, (9).

USIS WIRELESS FILE

LABOR ATTACHE ROUTINELY COPIES AND SHARES ITEMS FROM THE WIRELESS FILE, ESPECIALLY THOSE TRANSLATED INTO SPANISH, ON EVENTS AFFECTING WOMEN'S RIGHTS, WORKER RIGHTS, AND THE BROAD LABOR SECTOR AND DISTRIBUTES THEM TO GOES OFFICES, UNIONS, NGO'S, AND POLITICAL AND CIVIL SOCIETY LEADERS. THESE ARTICLES PROVIDE TIMELY AND IMPORTANT INSIGHT INTO WOMEN AND LABOR ISSUES TO THE MAJOR ACTORS, ARE A RESOURCE FOR ACTIVIST GROUPS, AND

ARE CONCRETE EVIDENCE OF THE USG COMMITMENT TO THESE
ISSUES. RECENT TOPICS COVERED HAVE INCLUDED THE VITAL
VOICES PROGRAM, CHILD PROSTITUTION, TRAFFICKING IN
WOMEN AND CHILDREN, EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK -- JUST TO
NAME A FEW OF HUNDREDS. THIS SERVICE ADDRESSES ALL OF
THE GOALS.

LABOR DIPLOMACY ACTIVITIES

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 02

SSN: 2811

TOR: 990816181551 M4004408

DIST:

SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: PRIORITY
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: PAAUZYUW RUEHCAA5105 2302031-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: P 182032Z AUG 99
LINE4: FM SECSTATE WASHDC
OSRI: RUEHC
DTG: 182032Z AUG 99
ORIG: SECSTATE WASHDC
TO: ALL DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY
SPECIAL EMBASSY PROGRAM PRIORITY
INFO: RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0000
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 0000
RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA PRIORITY
SUBJ: WOMEN 2000: BEIJING&5 -- FIVE YEAR REVIEW OF THE
BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION

TEXT:
UNCLAS STATE 155105

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: KWMN, PHUM, SOCI, UN, UNGA, AORC
SUBJECT: WOMEN 2000: BEIJING&5 -- FIVE YEAR REVIEW OF THE
BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION

1. THIS TELEGRAM HAS BEEN CLEARED WITH M/P(SEP).
2. THIS IS AN ACTION REQUEST. SEE PARAS 15-17.

SUMMARY:

3. A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, JUNE 5-9, 2000, WILL CONDUCT A FIVE-YEAR REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION ADOPTED AT THE 1995 FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN. THIS REVIEW, KNOWN AS BEIJING&5, HAS AS ITS THEME "WOMEN 2000: GENDER EQUALITY, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE FOR THE 21ST CENTURY." (U.S. PREPARATIONS ARE CALLED "WOMEN 2000: BEIJING&5.")

4. THE REVIEW WILL BE A MAJOR EVENT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND THE USG AS A WHOLE, INVOLVING INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC PREPARATORY MEETINGS AND THE PRODUCTION OF A

REPORT ON USG ACTIONS OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS TO IMPLEMENT

THE BEIJING PLATFORM. BUILDING UPON OUR EXPERIENCE WITH THE RECENTLY COMPLETED FIVE-YEAR REVIEW OF THE 1994 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT (AKA ICPD&5), THE USG IS COMMITTED TO MAKING THE FIVE-YEAR REVIEW OF THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION AN EFFECTIVE, VALUABLE, AND FORWARD-LOOKING EVENT.

5. POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO: SUBMIT INFORMATION ON IMPLEMENTATION OF USG POLICIES, PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES IN YOUR COUNTRIES OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS TO INCORPORATE INTO THE USG REPORT; APPROACH APPROPRIATE HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND NGOS TO TELL THEM OF USG GOALS FOR THE FIVE-YEAR REVIEW AND TO ELICIT INFORMATION ON THEIR GOALS AND PREPARATIONS; AND DESIGNATE AN EMBASSY POINT OF CONTACT FOR WOMEN 2000: BEIJING&5 COORDINATION. WE WILL DISTRIBUTE TO POSTS COPIES OF THE MOST RECENT VERSION OF "AMERICA'S COMMITMENT," THE REPORT OF USG ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION, TO GIVE TO HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND NGOS IN DISCUSSING WOMEN 2000: BEIJING&5.

6. THE PRESIDENT'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON WOMEN (S/PICW), WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE BUREAU OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS (IO), HAS THE SUBSTANTIVE LEAD FOR WOMEN 2000: BEIJING&5, BUT INITIAL INPUT FOR THE FIVE-YEAR UPDATE SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO POSTS' REGIONAL BUREAUS. FYI, PRESIDENT CLINTON ESTABLISHED THE PRESIDENT'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON WOMEN TO COORDINATE USG IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION. FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON SERVES AS HONORARY CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL, SECRETARY OF STATE MADELEINE K. ALBRIGHT SERVES AS THE CHAIR. THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL ARE HIGH LEVEL REPRESENTATIVES FROM EXECUTIVE BRANCH AGENCIES. END SUMMARY.

THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN

7. THE UN FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN, HELD IN BEIJING IN 1995, MARKED A SIGNIFICANT TURNING POINT IN INTERNATIONAL VIEWS ON WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS. THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION, THE DOCUMENT ADOPTED AT THE CONFERENCE, WAS THE STRONGEST POLICY STATEMENT ON WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT EVER MADE BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. EQUALLY IMPORTANT, IT REPRESENTED THE FIRST TIME A UN

DOCUMENT DIRECTED AT ADVANCING WOMEN HAD BEEN FRAMED IN THE CONTEXT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE. IT RECOGNIZED THAT HUMAN RIGHTS ARE WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS. IT REAFFIRMED THAT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS MUST NEVER BE TOLERATED. IT EMPHASIZED WOMEN AS AGENTS OF CHANGE RATHER THAN AS PASSIVE BENEFICIARIES OR VICTIMS. IT OUTLINED ACTIONS TO ENABLE WOMEN TO PARTICIPATE FULLY IN DECISION-MAKING AT ALL LEVELS IN POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS. AND IT CONSISTENTLY ENCOURAGED THEM TO DO SO IN FULL PARTNERSHIP WITH MEN.

8. THE GOALS OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION COINCIDE WITH USG PRIORITIES.

WOMEN 2000: BEIJING&5

9. THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF THE UNITED NATIONS, WILL UNDERTAKE A FIVE-YEAR REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION. THE EVENT WILL TAKE PLACE AS A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, JUNE 5-9, 2000, IN NEW YORK. UN MEMBER STATES HAVE AGREED THAT THE EVENT SHOULD BE A FORWARD-LOOKING, ACTION-ORIENTED REVIEW OF BEST PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED; THAT IT SHOULD IDENTIFY OBSTACLES ENCOUNTERED IN IMPLEMENTING THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION AND RECOMMEND STRATEGIES TO OVERCOME THOSE OBSTACLES; THAT IT SHOULD REAFFIRM THE COMMITMENT TO THE PLATFORM AND NOT/NOT RE-OPEN OR RE-NEGOTIATE IT; AND THAT IT SHOULD BE ATTENDED BY HIGH LEVEL OFFICIALS.

PREPARATORY EVENTS

10. THE FIVE UN REGIONAL COMMISSIONS WILL CONVENE PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES TO REVIEW REGIONAL PROGRESS TOWARD IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION. THE RESULTS OF THESE REVIEWS WILL FEED INTO THE UNGA SPECIAL SESSION. THE TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR THE REGIONAL PREPCOMS IS AS FOLLOWS:

- ESCAP: OCTOBER 26-29, 1999, IN BANGKOK;
- ECA: NOVEMBER 22-27, 1999, IN ADDIS ABABA;
- ESCWA: DECEMBER 15-18, 1999, IN BEIRUT;
- ECE: JANUARY 19-21, 2000, IN GENEVA;
- ECLAC: JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2000, IN LIMA.

11. CONCURRENTLY, THE PRESIDENT'S INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON WOMEN -- IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LOCAL NGOS, UNIVERSITIES, AND REGIONAL COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS - WILL COORDINATE VARIOUS OUTREACH EVENTS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES TO CELEBRATE PROGRESS MADE AND TO PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR INDIVIDUALS TO DISCUSS THEIR VIEWS WITH USG OFFICIALS AS AN INPUT TO WOMEN 2000: BEIJING&5.

12. ADDITIONALLY, THE 1999 UNGA WILL DISCUSS THE UNGA SPECIAL SESSION UNDER ITS AGENDA ITEM "ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN." AND THE YEAR 2000 SESSION OF THE UN COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 17, IN NEW YORK) WILL BE DEVOTED PRIMARILY TO PREPARATIONS FOR THE FIVE-YEAR REVIEW.

NGO PARTICIPATION

13. IN LIGHT OF EXPERIENCES AND LESSONS LEARNED FROM ICPD&5, ISSUES OF NGO ACCESS TO AND PARTICIPATION IN BEIJING&5 ARE CRITICAL TO THE USG. IT IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT THAT GOVERNMENTS INCLUDE NGO REPRESENTATIVES ON

THEIR OFFICIAL DELEGATIONS. (AS A REFERENCE POINT, ICPD&5 HAD OVER 100 NGO REPRESENTATIVES ON OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT DELEGATIONS, INCLUDING TEN YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES.) ALTHOUGH THE U.S. DELEGATION HAS NOT YET BEEN DESIGNATED, WE ANTICIPATE THAT, AS AT THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN, IT WILL INCLUDE U.S. NGO REPRESENTATIVES, INCLUDING YOUTH.

USG GOALS AND EFFORTS

14. THE USG BELIEVES THAT THE FORM AND STRUCTURE OF THE SPECIAL SESSION WILL BE CRITICAL TO TELLING THE STORY OF USG AND UN SUCCESSES. BASED ON THE EXPERIENCE OF ICPD&5, THE USG HAS BELIEVES THAT BEIJING&5 SHOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- A CELEBRATION AND REAFFIRMATION OF THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION.
- A HIGHLIGHT OF ACHIEVEMENTS MADE WORLDWIDE AS A RESULT OF THE UN FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN.
- A BRIEF DESCRIPTION BY ALL DELEGATIONS OF BEST PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED THROUGH SESSIONS BY EXPERT DIALOGUE PANELS.
- THE IDENTIFICATION OF FURTHER ACTIONS AND INITIATIVES NEEDED TO FULLY IMPLEMENT THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION.
- THE IDENTIFICATION OF TOOLS OR INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES THAT COULD ACCELERATE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLATFORM, E.G. GENDER MAINSTREAMING, PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS, ETC.
- THE ADOPTION OF A SHORT STATEMENT SUCH AS A "DECLARATION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY" THAT RENEWS THE WORLDWIDE COMMITMENT TO THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION AND KEEPS THE FOCUS ON FUTURE ACTION.
- HIGH LEVEL PARTICIPATION BY ALL DELEGATIONS, INCLUDING THE UNITED STATES.
- THE ANNOUNCEMENT BY HEADS OF DELEGATIONS OF CONCRETE COMMITMENTS (OR ACTIONS) INDIVIDUAL GOVERNMENTS PLAN TO TAKE TO FURTHER IMPLEMENT THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION.
- PARTICIPATION OF NGOS, INCLUDING A YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE, ON OFFICIAL DELEGATIONS.
- PARTICIPATION BY UN ACCREDITED NGOS IN THE UNGA SPECIAL SESSION AND A RE-AFFIRMATION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF NGOS AND OTHER MEMBERS OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN IMPLEMENTING THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION.
- A SHORT, INTER-ACTIVE INTERNATIONAL SATELLITE CONFERENCE DURING THE SPECIAL SESSION TO INVOLVE WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD.

ACTION REQUESTED

15. S/PICW IS PREPARING A 2000 EDITION OF "AMERICA'S COMMITMENT," COMPILING USG POLICIES, PROGRAMS, AND INITIATIVES BENEFITING WOMEN WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE OVER THE LAST FIVE YEARS, FROM 1995 TO THE PRESENT. POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO PROVIDE THEIR REGIONAL BUREAUS WITH THIS INFORMATION BY AUGUST 31. PLEASE INCLUDE KWMN IN YOUR

TAGS.

16. IN ADDITION, POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO DESIGNATE A POINT OF CONTACT IN THE EMBASSY FOR FUTURE COMMUNICATION/ACTION REQUESTS ON WOMEN 2000: BEIJING&5. PLEASE PROVIDE NAME, PHONE AND FAX NUMBERS TO THE DEPARTMENT TO THE ATTENTION OF S/PICW - LIDIA SOTO-HARMON, IO/ESA - SHARON KOTOK, AND YOUR REGIONAL BUREAUS. PLEASE USE THE KWMN TAG IN YOUR REPLY. WE UNDERSTAND THAT SUMMER TURNOVER MAY MAKE THIS

DESIGNATION DIFFICULT, BUT WE WOULD VERY MUCH APPRECIATE POSTS' DESIGNATION OF OFFICERS NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 15.

17. WITHIN THE NEXT WEEK, DEPARTMENT WILL SEND COPIES OF "AMERICA'S COMMITMENT" TO ALL POSTS. THIS DOCUMENT IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE S/PICW WEBSITE:
[HTTP://SECRETARY.STATE.GOV/WWW/PICW/INDEX.HTML](http://secretary.state.gov/www/picw/index.html). POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO MEET WITH APPROPRIATE HOST COUNTRY OFFICIALS AND NGOS, PROVIDE THEM A COPY OF THE REPORT, AND DRAW ON THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OUTLINED IN PARA 14 TO DETERMINE AND REPORT BACK ON HOST GOVERNMENT GOALS AND PREPARATIONS FOR THE UNGA SPECIAL SESSION.

18. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES POSTS' CONTINUING INTEREST AND REPORTING ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN AROUND THE WORLD.
ALBRIGHT

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01

SSN: 5105

TOR: 990818163709 M4007866

DIST:

SIT: BABBITT BUSBY GUARNIERI NAPLAN SCHWARTZ STROMSETH VACCARO
SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: ROUTINE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: RAAUZYUW RUEHAEA3022 2380649-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: R 260649Z AUG 99
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY ASMARA
OSRI: RUEHAE
DTG: 260649Z AUG 99
ORIG: AMEMBASSY ASMARA
TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5467
INFO: RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0119
RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC 1690
SUBJ: WOMEN 2000: BEIJING 5 -- DESIGNATION OF
COORDINATOR FOR EMBASSY ASMARA

TEXT:
UNCLAS ASMARA 003022

STATE FOR S/PICW, ATTN. LIDIA SOTO-HARMON;IO/ESA FOR
SHARON KOTOK, AND AF/E FOR EIRIZ

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: KWMN, SOCI, UNGA, ASOC, ER
SUBJECT: WOMEN 2000: BEIJING 5 -- DESIGNATION OF
COORDINATOR FOR EMBASSY ASMARA

REF: STATE 155105

THE COORINATOR FOR JUNE 2000 SPECIAL SESSION OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO REVIEW IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLATFORM
FOR ACTION ADOPTED AT THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN
(BEIJING 5) WILL BE MS. COLETTE CHRISTIAN, PUBLIC
DIPLOMACY OFFICER. SHE CAN BE REACHED AT 291-1-120-738;
OR 120-637; FAX 291-1-20-685. MS. CHRISTIAN CAN BE REACHED
BY E-MAIL AT PAO#USISASM.EOL.COM.ER

PERLOW

SECT: SECTION: 01 OF 01
SSN: 3022
TOR: 990826034806 M4018978
DIST:
SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: ROUTINE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: RAAUZYUW RUEHGIA1190 2381516-UUUU--RHEHAAX.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: R 261516Z AUG 99
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI
OSRI: RUEHGI
DTG: 261516Z AUG 99
ORIG: AMEMBASSY BANGUI
TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0441
INFO: RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0090
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0012
RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA
SUBJ: WOMEN 2000: BEIJING+5 - FIVE YEAR REVIEW OF THE
BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION

TEXT:
UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 BANGUI 001190

STATE FOR S/PICW - LIDIA SOTO-HARMON,
IO/ESA - SHARON KOTOK, AF/C

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: KWMN, PHUM, SOCI, UNGA, CT

SUBJECT: WOMEN 2000: BEIJING+5 - FIVE YEAR REVIEW OF THE
BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION

REF: STATE 155105

1. CENTRAL AFRICAN WOMEN TOOK VALUABLE ACTIONS AND INITIATIVES OVER THE LAST FIVE YEARS TO FULFILL BEIJING GOALS. THEY ARE WORKING IN HARD CONDITIONS AND A TOUGH ENVIRONMENT TO IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS. THE COUNTRY EXPERIENCED NEARLY TWO YEARS OF MILITARY MUTINIES WHICH DERAILED THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS AND DAMAGED THE ECONOMY. CIVIC SOCIETY INCLUDING WOMEN NGOS ALONG WITH THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN THE MEDIATION AND RECONCILIATION PROCESS. FULL OF THE SPIRIT OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM, GROUPS OF ACTIVE WOMEN REFUSED TO BE VICTIMS, COURAGEOUSLY INVOLVED THEMSELVES IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION TO STOP THE FIGHTING AND THE CYCLES OF VIOLENCES. THEY ORGANIZED ROUND-TABLE DISCUSSIONS, MEETINGS, DAYS OF THOUGHT WITH GOVERNMENT, POLITICAL PARTIES AND MUTINEERS TO HELP IN PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THEIR DIFFERENCES. DURING ALL THESE YEARS WOMEN CONTRIBUTED TO FOSTERING A CULTURE OF PEACE THROUGH OPEN DIALOGUE.

2. DESPITE THE DIFFICULT CLIMATE, POST INITIATED SOME ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT WOMEN'S EFFORTS FOR THEIR SOCIAL

ADVANCEMENT. ON SEPTEMBER 1995, AMB. AND CHARGE'S WIFE INVITED WOMEN'S NGOS AND CAR DELEGATES TO BEIJING UN FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE TO AN INFORMAL WORKING LADIES'TEA TO DISCUSS THE BEIJING PLATFORM OF ACTION. THE KEY POINT FOCUSED ON THE DRAFTING OF THE FAMILY CODE TO STRENGTHEN WOMEN'S RIGHTS. AT THE YEAR'S END, THE FAMILY CODE AMENDED BY NGOS, WAS ADOPTED BY GOVERNMENT, AND ENACTED IN 1997.

IN THE BEGINNING OF 1996, WORLDNET DIALOGUES FEATURED ON WOMEN'S ISSUES WERE ORGANIZED AT THE CULTURAL CENTER. DEBATES FOCUSED ON WOMEN'S ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT, AND ON IMPROVING EDUCATION AND HEALTH CARE.

3. DURING THE EMBASSY'S TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF ACTIVITIES DUE TO MILITARY UNREST IN 1997, POST WELCOMED THE VISIT OF DR. SUSAN ROOSEVELT WELD WITH HER SISTER WHO DID ARCHEOLOGICAL RESEARCH IN THE WESTERN PART OF THE COUNTRY. DR. WELD, U.S. DELEGATE TO BEIJING CONFERENCE, AND HONORARY CHAIR OF MASSACHUSETTS ACTION FOR WOMEN, SERVED AS U.S. SPEAKER. SHE MET WITH PROMINENT FIGURES OF ACTIVE WOMEN, WHO INITIATE CONCRETE ACTIONS TO PROMOTE SOCIAL, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC STATUS OF CAR WOMEN. THEY SPOKE ABOUT THEIR INPUT IN TRANSLATING THE BEIJING GOALS INTO CONCRETE ACTIONS. THEY ALSO DISCUSSED DIFFICULTIES FACED IN IMPLEMENTING THE PLATFORM OF ACTION. SHE LEARNED ABOUT THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS, THEIR VALUES AND THEIR STRUGGLE TO IMPROVE THEIR LIVES. THE VISIT CONCLUDED WITH A CONFERENCE/DEBATE AT THE CULTURAL CENTER WHERE ABOUT 70 WOMEN GATHERED TO LISTEN ON THE TOPIC "BRINGING BEIJING HOME". DR. WELD'S FOUR DAYS WORKING VISIT WERE HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL. PAMPHLETS AND BOOKS ON HUMAN RIGHTS, DEMOCRACY, ELECTIONS WERE DISTRIBUTED TO THE PARTICIPANTS.

4. THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND THE WOMEN'S NGOS IMPLEMENTED PROGRAMS OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS. THEY LAUNCHED AN EXTENSIVE PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN AND CREATED A NETWORK TO PROVIDE VALUABLE GUIDELINES AND ADVICE TO ADVANCE WOMEN AND GIRLS'STATUS. A COALITION IS FORMING MADE UP OF RELIGIOUS, ACADEMIC, BUSINESS AND ACTIVIST WOMEN AS WELL AS MEMBERS OF THE PARLIAMENT TO DELIVER THE MESSAGE OF PEACE AND POST-CONFLICT RECONCILIATION. RADIO SERVED AS AN IMPORTANT TOOL TO COMMUNICATE THEIR IDEALS, EXPLAIN THEIR ACTIONS, RIGHTS AND THE CONTENT OF THE FAMILY CODE.

5. ACCORDING TO THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS, THE MAIN ISSUE IS THE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT. HER DEPARTMENT'S PRIORITY IS TO HELP WOMEN GET ACCESS TO MICRO-CREDITS AND DEVELOP AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES. THE DEPARTMENT JOINTLY WITH NGOS SET UP A LOBBYING GROUP FOR GENDER EQUALITY TO ENSURE WOMEN'S FULL AND EQUAL PARTICIPATION IN DECISION-MAKING, INCREASE THEIR CAPACITY TO BE IN THE LEADERSHIP. FOR EXAMPLE, DURING THE 1998 LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS, WOMEN ASSOCIATIONS ORGANIZED WORKSHOPS/ MEETINGS, CAMPAIGN OF SENSITIZATION ON CIVIC EDUCATION, ENCOURAGE WOMEN TO GET REGISTERED TO VOTE AND TO COMPETE BESIDE THE MEN. THE GOAL WAS ACHIEVED; 80 WOMEN COMPETED AND 8 WOMEN WON THE SEATS AT THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. THE GOVERNMENT, FOR THE FIRST TIME, APPOINTED

FIVE WOMEN AS PREFECTS (GOVERNORS). MANY SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS ARE ORGANIZED IN THE RURAL AREAS TO ENCOURAGE GIRLS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION, TRAIN WOMEN ON MANAGEMENT OF ACTIVITIES WHICH GENERATE INCOME. IN SOME VILLAGES, THE DEPARTMENT CREATED A COMMUNITY SCHOOL FOR THE DROPOUT GIRLS AND SET UP AN ILLITERACY PROGRAM. THE DEPARTMENT COMMITTEE AND NGOS ARE STILL PREPARING THE BEIJING+5 FINAL DOCUMENT ON THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION.

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 BANGUI 001190

STATE FOR S/PICW - LIDIA SOTO-HARMON,
IO/ESA - SHARON KOTOK, AF/C

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: KWMN, PHUM, SOCI, UNGA, CT

SUBJECT: WOMEN 2000: BEIJING+5 - FIVE YEAR REVIEW OF THE
BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION

6. POST IS PLEASED TO DESIGNATE OUR CULTURAL AFFAIRS ASSISTANT MS. GUILLAUMINE GAZEMBITI AS A POINT OF CONTACT FOR FUTURE COMMUNICATION/ACTION ON WOMEN 2000: BEIJING+5. SHE COULD BE REACHED AT (236) 61-02-00; FAX: (236) 61-44-94.

PERRY

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

SSN: 1190
<^SSN>1190

TOR: 990826131717 M4019840
<^TOR>990826131753 M4019842

DIST:
SIT: BABBITT BUSBY GUARNIERI HUSO JONES KEITH LIEBERTHAL NAPLAN OSIUS
PRITCHARD SCHWARTZ STROMSETH VACCARO
SIT: NSC

Cable

PREC: ROUTINE
CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
LINE1: RAAUZYUW RUEHANA3925 2431153-UUUU--RHEHNSC.
LINE2: ZNR UUUUU ZZH
LINE3: R 311153Z AUG 99
LINE4: FM AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO
OSRI: RUEHAN
DTG: 311153Z AUG 99
ORIG: AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO
TO: RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 3412
INFO: RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0271
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0090
RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 8982
RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS 0395
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC
RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC 2499
SUBJ: WOMEN 2000: BEIJING+5

TEXT:
UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 05 ANTANANARIVO 003925

STATE FOR AF/E, S/PICW:LSOTO-HARMON, IO/ESA:SKOTOK

PARIS FOR BISA WILLIAMS

EMBASSY BRUSSELS FOR HINSON-JONES

USIA FOR AF

NSC FOR AFRICA DIRECTORATE

E.O.:12958: N/A
TAGS: KWMN, PHUM, SOCI, UN, UNGA, AORC, MA
SUBJECT: WOMEN 2000: BEIJING+5

REF: STATE 155105

1. POST APPRECIATES REFTTEL INFORMATION ON THE UPCOMING FIVE-YEAR REVIEW ("BEIJING +5") OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION ADOPTED AT THE 1995 FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN. AS REQUESTED REFTTEL, WE PROVIDE A SUMMARY OF USG INITIATIVES BENEFITING WOMEN IN MADAGASCAR OVER THE PAST FIVE YEARS, BEGINNING AT PARAGRAPH 3.

POINT OF CONTACT

2. REFTTEL ALSO REQUESTED THAT POST DESIGNATE A POINT OF CONTACT FOR FUTURE COMMUNICATION/ACTION REGARDING

BEIJING+5. THAT POC IS POST'S POLITICAL OFFICER,
RICHARD BELL, PHONE (261) 20 22 212 57,
FAX (261) 20 22 345 39, EMAIL (UNCLASS):
BELLRK(AT SYMBOL)ANTANANARI.US-STATE.GOV

POST INITIATIVES BENEFITING WOMEN

3. WITH A FEMALE AMBASSADOR, DCM, USAID DIRECTOR, AND
PAO, THIS MISSION SETS AN ELOQUENT EXAMPLE OF THE U.S.
COMMITMENT TO WOMEN IN THE WORKPLACE. IN ADDITION TO
THE EXTENSIVE USAID, USIS, AND PEACE CORPS ACTIVITIES
NOTED BELOW, WE HAVE USED THE AMBASSADOR'S SELF-HELP
FUND (SSH) AND THE DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS FUND
(DHRF) TO SUPPORT MICRO-CREDIT AND INCOME-GENERATION
(SERICULTURE, VEGETABLE FARMING) FOR WOMEN, AND FUNDED
PUBLICATIONS BY WOMEN'S NGO'S.

USIS

4. USIS'S APPROACH HAS BEEN ONE OF INTEGRATION AND
PROMOTION RATHER THAN A SERIES OF "WOMEN ONLY" PROGRAMS
THAT OFTEN TRIVIALIZE OR GHETTOIZE THE WOMEN AND/OR THE
PROGRAMS. WE HAVE ENSURED THAT ALL PROGRAMS AND
PARTICIPANTS ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF WOMEN IN MADAGASCAR
AND FAIRLY REPRESENT THE FEMALE HALF OF THE POPULATION.
FOR EXAMPLE, IN FISCAL YEAR 1999, 80 PERCENT OF OUR
PARTICIPANTS IN THE INTERNATIONAL VISITOR PROGRAM ARE
FEMALE AND 75 PERCENT OF OUR MALAGASY INTERNS ARE
FEMALE. ONE ONGOING SPECIAL PROJECT HAS BEEN SUPPORT OF
THE WOMEN JOURNALISTS' ASSOCIATION (AFJM). THIS
PROVIDES SUPPORT AND TRAINING TO FEMALE JOURNALISTS, AND
LEADS TO BETTER COVERAGE OF ISSUES IMPORTANT TO WOMEN.
THIS YEAR, USIS ANTANANARIVO IS FINANCIALLY SUPPORTING
THEIR EFFORTS TO REPORT ON THE GROWING PROBLEM OF SEXUAL
TOURISM. IN ADDITION, USIS PROMOTES INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S DAY EACH YEAR WITH PRESS RELEASES, EXHIBITS,
SPEAKERS, AND SEMINARS. WE ALSO MAKE SURE THE USIS
LIBRARY INCLUDES TITLES RELATING TO RIGHTS OF WOMEN,
BREAKING THROUGH THE GLASS CEILING, ETC.

PEACE CORPS

5. SINCE 1995, PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS HAVE WORKED WITH
WOMEN TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF PREVENTIVE HEALTH AND
ENCOURAGE BEHAVIORS AT HOUSEHOLD LEVEL THAT CAN REDUCE
MORBIDITY AND MORTALITY OF CHILDREN AND MOTHERS BY
PROVIDING HEALTH AND NUTRITION MESSAGES AND TRAINING
TEACHERS. SECONDARY PROJECTS HAVE INCLUDED INCOME-
GENERATING ACTIVITIES AND CONSTRUCTION OF WELLS AND
ROADS. SOME 49 VOLUNTEERS HAVE REACHED NEARLY 30,000
WOMEN THROUGH 1998, WITH A TARGET OF OVER 50,000 FOR
1999. USAID HAS PROVIDED OVER USDOLS 1.6 MILLION IN
SUPPORT OF THIS ACTIVITY.

USAID

6. USAID'S PORTPOLIO DOES NOT INCLUDE ANY ACTIVITY
SINGULARLY TARGETTING WOMEN. THE MISSION OPTED FOR A

MAINSTREAMING APPROACH, ENSURING THAT WOMEN ARE SIGNIFICANTLY REPRESENTED IN ALL ASPECTS OF ITS ACTIVITIES, AND THAT GENDER CONSIDERATIONS ARE APPROPRIATELY INTEGRATED INTO ITS PROGRAM AT ALL STAGES. BY SO DOING, THE MISSION ENSURES THAT THE ISSUES RAISED UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 05 ANTANANARIVO 003925

STATE FOR AF/E, S/PICW:LSOTO-HARMON, IO/ESA:SKOTOK

PARIS FOR BISA WILLIAMS

EMBASSY BRUSSELS FOR HINSON-JONES

USIA FOR AF

NSC FOR AFRICA DIRECTORATE

E.O.:12958: N/A

TAGS: KWMN, PHUM, SOCI, UN, UNGA, AORC, MA

SUBJECT: WOMEN 2000: BEIJING+5

IN THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION ARE SYSTEMATICALLY ADDRESSED UNDER ITS THREE OBJECTIVES: 'IMPROVED ENVIRONMENT FOR PRIVATE INITIATIVE' (ECONOMIC GROWTH/DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE); 'SMALLER, HEALTHIER FAMILIES' (HEALTH, POPULATION, NUTRITION, FOOD SECURITY AND DISASTER RELIEF); AND "BIOLOGICALLY-DIVERSE ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS CONSERVED IN PRIORITY CONSERVATION AREAS' (ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE).

7. USAID HAS ALSO UNDERTAKEN TARGETED ACTIVITIES WITH A FOCUS ON CAPACITY BUILDING TO RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT GENDER ISSUES. BOTH THE ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN AS PART OF THE MISSION'S COUNTRY PROGRAM AND THE TARGETED INITIATIVES HAVE FALLEN UNDER A NUMBER OF THE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES OF THE PLATFORM FOR ACTION, AS DESCRIBED BELOW.

- MACROECONOMIC POLICIES AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES THAT ADDRESS THE NEEDS AND EFFORTS OF WOMEN IN POVERTY: USAID'S FOOD SECURITY STRATEGY EMPHASIZES THE CRITICAL ROLE OF WOMEN REGARDING THE THREE INTER-RELATED DIMENSIONS OF FOOD SECURITY, NAMELY FOOD AVAILABILITY, ACCESS AND UTILIZATION. GENDER-SENSITIVE MONITORING AND EVALUATION MECHANISMS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED, USING GENDER-DISAGGREGATED DATA REPORTED BY THE VARIOUS PARTNERS, TO DOCUMENT BOTH THE DIFFERENCES IN POVERTY LEVELS OF FEMALE- AND MALE-HEADED HOUSEHOLDS, AND THE NUTRITIONAL STATUS OF FEMALE VERSUS MALE CHILDREN.

- ACCESS TO SAVINGS AND CREDIT: FROM 1992 TO 1998, THE MISSION HAS HELPED EXPAND FINANCIAL SERVICES TO LOW-INCOME CLIENTS THROUGH ITS ASSISTANCE TO THE CEM, MADAGASCAR'S FOREMOST FINANCIAL INSTITUTION SERVING POOR HOUSEHOLDS AND SMALL SAVERS. SINCE 1992, THE CEM'S CLIENTS BASE HAS GROWN BY NEARLY 657, TO REACH 460,000 CLIENTS IN 1998, OF WHICH NEARLY HALF ARE WOMEN. NO OTHER MICROFINANCE INSTITUTION IN MADAGASCAR COMES ANYWHERE NEAR THIS LEVEL OF CLIENT REACH. IN THE

TRAINING DONE DURING THE SAME PERIOD TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FINANCIAL MARKET, 40% OF THE TRAINEES WERE WOMEN. IN JUNE 1999, THE MISSION ALSO FUNDED THE PARTICIPATION OF A WOMAN TO THE MICROCREDIT SUMMIT IN ABIDJAN.

- GENDER-BASED METHODOLOGIES AND RESEARCH TO ADDRESS THE PEMINIZATION OF POVERTY: THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS (INSTAT) AND CORNELL UNIVERSITY PRODUCED A JOINT STUDY ENTITLED 'THE STRUCTURE AND DETERMINANTS OF POVERTY IN MADAGASCAR' IN APRIL 1998, WITH FUNDING FROM USAID/MADAGASCAR. THE DATA USED IN THIS STUDY IS GENDER-DISAGGREGATED, WHILE A CHAPTER IS DEVOTED TO FEMALE-HEADED HOUSEHOLDS. THIS DOCUMENT IS A MAJOR DATA SOURCE FOR THE ANALYSIS OF THE POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF POLICY CHANGE ON THE POOR, INCLUDING WOMEN. A USAID-FUNDED CASE STUDY ENTITLED 'WOMEN HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS' HAS ALSO BEEN CARRIED OUT BY INSTITUTIONAL PARTNER IMATEP TO BETTER UNDERSTAND THE WOMEN'S LIVELIHOODS AND COPING STRATEGIES, AS COMPARED TO OTHER CATEGORIES OF HOUSEHOLDS. THIS CASE STUDY WILL BE PUBLISHED BY THE END OF 1999. A WORKSHOP ON PRIVATE SAFETY NETS HELD IN MAY 1999 PAID SPECIAL ATTENTION TO POOR WOMEN AND FEMALE-HEADED HOUSEHOLDS. THE FINDINGS FROM THOSE STUDIES ARE BEING WIDELY DISSEMINATED TO PROVIDE POLICYMAKERS WITH OPTIONS THAT WILL MAXIMIZE BENEFITS FOR THE POOR.

- WOMEN'S ACCESS TO TRAINING: A MAJOR PART OF THE MISSION'S 'WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT' (WID) ACTIVITIES HAS BEEN FOCUSING ON TRAINING (BOTH IN-COUNTRY AND OVERSEAS). SINCE 1995, 22 WOMEN HAVE UNDERTAKEN GRADUATE STUDIES IN THE U.S. WITH USAID SUPPORT, IN THE FIELDS OF COMPUTER SCIENCES, MANAGEMENT, FINANCE, AGRICULTURE, AGROFORESTRY, AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS, ANIMAL SCIENCES AND PUBLIC HEALTH. THE MISSION'S 'LEGAL AND JUDICIAL REFORM' ACTIVITY, BEGUN IN 1997, PROVIDED OVERSEAS SHORT-TERM TRAINING FOR MAGISTRATES AND LAWYERS ; THUS FAR, 80% OF THE PARTICIPANTS ARE WOMEN. IN ADDITION, USAID HAS FUNDED SHORT-TERM TRAINING FOR 58 WOMEN IN A LARGE ARRAY OF SUBJECTS RELATED TO MADAGASCAR'S NEEDS IN TERMS OF UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 05 ANTANANARIVO 003925

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EXPERTISE.

- ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES: SINCE 1992, USAID HAS SUPPORTED THE RAPID EXPANSION OF HIGH QUALITY AND ACCESSIBLE FAMILY PLANNING AND CHILD SURVIVAL SERVICES THROUGH ITS ASSISTANCE FOR (A) IMPROVED POLICIES, STANDARDS OF CARE, QUALITY CONTROL AND SUPERVISION SYSTEMS; (B) THE DEVELOPMENT OF STRATEGIES, TRAINING AND MATERIALS TO ENCOURAGE USE OF SERVICES; (C) THE TRAINING OF HEALTH WORKERS IN CLINICAL FAMILY PLANNING, MANAGEMENT AND SUPERVISION; AND (D) THE AWARD OF SERVICE DELIVERY SUPPORT ACTIVITIES (SDSA) GRANTS TO PUBLIC, PRIVATE AND PARASTATAL GROUPS. AS A RESULT, THE NUMBER OF FAMILY PLANNING SITES REACHED 751 IN 1997 AND 820 IN 1998.

- GENDER-SENSITIVE INITIATIVES THAT ADDRESS SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH ISSUES: USAID'S MAIN CONTRIBUTION TO PREVENTION OF SEXUALLY-TRANSMITTED DISEASES AND AIDS HAS BEEN THE EXTRAORDINARILY SUCCESSFUL CONDOM SOCIAL MARKETING PROGRAM. SALES BEGAN IN JULY 1996, AND BY THE END OF 1997, OVER FOUR (4) MILLION CONDOMS HAD BEEN SOLD AT OVER 6,600 SALES POINTS (THE INITIAL OBJECTIVE WAS 750). THE GENDER-SENSITIVE APPROACH THAT HAS BEEN APPLIED GREATLY CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF THE PROGRAM, WHICH IS NOW ACTIVE IN ALL CITIES AT HIGHEST RISK, AND ALONG ALL MAJOR TRANSPORT ROUTES. IN ADDITION, GRANTS HAVE BEEN AWARDED TO NGOS AND UNICEF FOR AIDS PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF SEXUALLY-TRANSMITTED DISEASES, AND BEHAVIOR CHANGE COMMUNICATION IN HIGH RISK GROUPS.

- RESEARCH AND INFORMATION ON WOMEN'S HEALTH: THE NATIONAL DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEYS (1992 AND 1997), WHICH ARE THE MAJOR SOURCES OF DATA AND INFORMATION ON WOMEN'S HEALTH, WERE FUNDED BY USAID. SUPPORT FOR ANALYSIS, DISSEMINATION AND USE OF THE DATA FROM THOSE SURVEYS, ALONG WITH THE TRAINING OF POLICY MAKERS, PLANNERS AND JOURNALISTS TO UNDERSTAND AND USE SUCH INFORMATION WILL CONTINUE THROUGHOUT THE LIFE OF THE MISSION'S PROGRAM.

- BUSINESS SERVICES, TRAINING AND ACCESS TO MARKETS, INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY: USAID SUPPORTS WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT BY ENABLING THEM TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY OFFERED BY THE STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT PROGRAM. THUS, USAID HAS FUNDED THE PARTICIPATION OF MALAGASY WOMEN IN VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS (JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1998 IN ROME, APRIL-MAY 1998, JUNE 1998 AND JUNE 1999 IN THE USA) ORGANIZED FOR THE PROMOTION OF WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP. USAID REGULARLY PROVIDES WID/GENDER-RELATED INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS TO A FEDERATION OF LOCAL WOMEN'S GROUPS (CAFED). TO IMPROVE ITS ACCESS TO INFORMATION, THE MISSION WILL SUPPORT AN INTERNET TRAINING SESSION FOR 24 OF ITS MEMBERS IN SEPTEMBER 1999.

- WOMEN'S ECONOMIC CAPACITY AND COMMERCIAL NETWORKS: IN MAY 1999, THE MISSION SPONSORED THE PRESENTATION OF THE PRODUCTS OF THREE WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESSES WHICH HAVE BEEN ASSISTED BY USAID THROUGH ITS COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURE

PROJECT (CAP) AND LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT INTERVENTIONS (LDI) PROJECT DURING THE EXHIBITION ORGANIZED BY THE MALAGASY WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS ASSOCIATION (FEM). THE PRODUCTS WERE RELATED TO SILK PRODUCTION AND WEAVING, TOURISM/ECO-TOURISM, AND THE PROCESSING OF FRUITS AND OTHER FOOD. IN JULY 1999, USAID ASSISTED IN THE ORGANIZATION OF AN ANNUAL WOMEN'S NATIONAL FAIR. THE MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THIS FAIR WERE TO SUPPORT THE INCOME-GENERATING EFFORTS OF WOMEN WHO COME FROM REMOTE AND ISOLATED REGIONS, TO IMPROVE THEIR PRODUCTIVITY, TO HELP THEM TO MOVE TOWARD SELF-SUFFICIENCY, AND TO PROMOTE WOMEN'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP, WHILE ENCOURAGING WOMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS BUSINESS NETWORKING AND GIVING THEM A SOUND UNDERSTANDING OF SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS PRACTICES AND FAIR COMPETITION RULES. THE EVENT ENABLED ABOUT 2,000 MEMBERS OF CAFED FROM ALL THE REGIONS TO DISPLAY AND SELL THE PRODUCTS OF THEIR INCOME-GENERATING ACTIVITIES, UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 05 ANTANANARIVO 003925

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AND TO FIND OUT NEW BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES, WHILE SHARING INFORMATION AND EXPERIENCES WITH EACH OTHER.

- WOMEN'S CAPACITY TO PARTICIPATE IN DECISION-MAKING AND LEADERSHIP: AS PART OF ITS WORK UNDER THE 'NEW PARTNERSHIP' INITIATIVE, USAID HAS DEVELOPED A STRONG AND EFFECTIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS, ESPECIALLY WOMEN'S GROUPS. CONSULTATION IS CURRENTLY TAKING PLACE WITH CAFED TO ASSESS THEIR NEEDS IN TERMS OF INSTITUTIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING. THE MISSION HAS FUNDED THE PARTICIPATION OF MALAGASY WOMEN REPRESENTATIVES IN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES/COURSES ON GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT (FOR EXAMPLE, CEDPA'S COURSE ON "WOMEN IN MANAGEMENT: LEADERSHIP FOR THE 21ST CENTURY", JUNE-JULY 1997 IN WASHINGTON, AND THE 'LESSONS WITHOUT BORDERS' CONFERENCE IN AUGUSTA, MAY APRIL-1998). THE EVALUATION OF THEIR PARTICIPATION BY THOSE WOMENS THEMSELVES INDICATES THAT THEY WERE ENABLED TO HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF GENDER ISSUES AND THEIR IMPACT ON WOMEN'S LIVES, TO EXCHANGE EXPERIENCES AND IDEAS WITH OTHER WOMEN FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD, TO INCREASE THEIR LEADERSHIP AND CONSTITUENCY BUILDING SKILLS, AND TO BUILD A NETWORK FOR THEIR OWN EMPOWERMENT.

- IN DECEMBER 1998, THE MISSION PARTICIPATED IN A

WORKSHOP DURING WHICH A COMPREHENSIVE NUMBER OF WOMEN LEADERS IN VARIOUS FIELDS DISCUSSED THE MORE EFFICIENT AND PRACTICAL WAYS TO INCREASE WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN DECISION-MAKING. MANY WOMEN MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (DEPUTIES), MINISTERS AND LEADERS OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS PARTICIPATED IN THE WORKSHOP, AND ONE OF THE OUTCOMES WAS THE CREATION OF A WOMEN LEADERS NETWORK. THE MISSION IS FOLLOWING UP WITH THAT NETWORK WHICH IS INTENDED TO ACT AS A TOOL FOR INCLUDING THE WOMEN'S CONCERNS AND NEEDS IN THE GOVERNMENT'S PROGRAM, AS WELL AS A "WATCHDOG" FOR THE RESPECT OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS.

- NATIONAL MACHINERIES AND OTHER GOVERNMENTAL BODIES: REGARDING PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, USAID FUNDED THE PARTICIPATION OF THE MALAGASY MINISTER OF POPULATION, WOMEN AND CHILDREN'S CONDITION IN THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN AFRICA WHICH TOOK PLACE IN INDIANAPOLIS FROM OCTOBER 23 TO 28, 1998. THE MISSION ALSO HELPED TO SECURE FUNDING FROM ANOTHER DONOR FOR TWO OTHER MEMBERS OF THE MALAGASY DELEGATION.

- LEGISLATION, PUBLIC POLICIES, PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS: USAID PROVIDED FUNDING FOR THE PARTICIPATION OF FOUR (4) PARTICIPANTS IN THE 1995 FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN BEIJING. THOSE PARTICIPANTS HAVE BEEN KEY IN THE INTRODUCTION OF THE "GENDER" CONCEPT IN MADAGASCAR, AND PLAY A LEADING ROLE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION. AMONG THE RESULTS WAS THE CREATION OF A NATIONAL NETWORK (DRV) GATHERING MORE THAN 250 NGOS, ASSOCIATIONS, TRADE AND CORPORATIVE ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDING WOMEN, MEN AND EXPERTS IN VARIOUS AREAS. IN PREPARATION FOR THE "BEIJING + 5' REVIEW IN 2000, THIS NETWORK WILL HOLD A NATIONAL MEETING, SPONSORED BY USAID THROUGH ITS 'RARE' PROJECT, IN END SEPTEMBER 1999 FOR A SECOND ASSESSMENT OF THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION. THE MISSION INTENDS TO BUILD ON THE MOMENTUM OF THE DRAMATIC DEMOCRATIC TRANSFORMATION IN MADAGASCAR TO WORK TOWARDS THE INCORPORATION OF WOMEN'S ISSUES AS PART OF THE NATIONAL DEBATE AND TO PROMOTE WOMEN'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION.

- GENDER-DISAGGREGATED DATA AND INFORMATION FOR PLANNING AND EVALUATION: IN ADDITION TO THE RESEARCH ON WOMEN AND POVERTY, THE MISSION HAS PLAYED A LEADING ROLE IN THE GENERATION AND DISSEMINATION OF GENDER-DISAGGREGATED DATA AND INFORMATION FOR PLANNING AND EVALUATION THROUGH ITS SUPPORT TO THE ANALYSIS AND USE OF THE NATIONAL 1993 CENSUS AND THE 1992 AND 1997 DEMOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH SURVEYS FOR PROGRAM MONITORING AND EVALUATION. BESIDES, WEB PAGES AND CD ROMS HAVE BEEN USED TO DISSEMINATE DATA ON THE INTERNET, AND WORKSHOPS IN DATA FOR DECISION-
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MAKING HAVE BEEN HELD IN EACH OF THE SIX PROVINCES SINCE THE BEGINNING OF 1999. SINCE MARCH 1999, USAID/MADAGASCAR IS ALSO AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE NEWLY-CREATED UNITED NATIONS WORKING GROUP ON GENDER.

- MEDIA AND NEW TECHNOLOGIES OF COMMUNICATION: THROUGH A PARTICIPATING AGENCY SERVICE AGREEMENT (PASA) WITH USIS, USAID HAS SUPPORTED THE TRAINING OF JOURNALISTS IN 1995 AND 1996 IN ORDER TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY AND PROFESSIONALISM OF THE MALAGASY PRESS.

THE MALAGASY WOMEN'S JOURNALISM ASSOCIATION BENEFITTED FROM THIS TRAINING. UNDER THE LELAND INITIATIVE WHICH STARTED IN 1996, USAID SUPPORTED THE CONNECTION OF ITS PARTNERS TO THE INTERNET. AS PART OF THE EFFORT TO IMPROVE THEIR ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND TO HELP THEM TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF THE INTERNET'S INCREDIBLE POTENTIAL, TRAINING SESSIONS FOR KEY PARTNERS, INCLUDING WOMEN, WERE REGULARLY ORGANIZED SINCE DECEMBER 1997. ANOTHER TRAINING SESSION WILL BE EXCLUSIVELY DEVOTED TO REPRESENTATIVES OF WOMEN ASSOCIATIONS AND WOMEN PROFESSIONALS IN MID-SEPTEMBER 1999.

- ENVIRONMENTAL DECISION-MAKING: WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN ENVIRONMENTAL DECISION-MAKING IS KEY TO USAID'S WORK IN THE AGRICULTURAL/ENVIRONMENTAL SECTOR, ESPECIALLY AT THE COMMUNITY LEVEL. FOR INSTANCE, UNDER ITS INTEGRATED CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (ICDPS), USAID/MADAGASCAR HAS SUPPORTED COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN THE SUSTAINABLE USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES. WOMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS TOOK THE LEAD IN SPECIFIC CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES SUCH AS SOIL CONSERVATION AND AGROFORESTRY, AS WELL AS IN INCOME-GENERATING ACTIVITIES. SOME 38 WOMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS WERE FORMED IN 1996 AND WERE INVOLVED IN MARKET GARDENING, TREE NURSERIES, HANDICRAFTS AND EXPORT PRODUCTS.

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