

FOIA MARKER

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Folder Title:

[Kenneth W. Berdnard] [2]

Staff Office-Individual:

AIDS Policy

Original OA/ID Number:

CF 2017

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Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001a. memo	Robert Bradtke to Leon Fuerth, et al., re: [Deputies Committee Meeting] (2 pages)	ca. 05/2000	P1/b(1)
001b. agenda	NSC Deputies Committee Meeting Agenda (1 page)	ca. 05/2000	P1/b(1)
001c. paper	Discussion Paper for NSC Deputies Committee Meeting (6 pages)	ca. 05/2000	P1/b(1)
001d. paper	Re: [HIV/AIDS] (5 pages)	05/23/2000	P1/b(1)
001e. calendar	Annotated Calendar of Major International Events (6 pages)	ca. 05/2000	P1/b(1)
001f. paper	Re: [HIV/AIDS] (7 pages)	ca. 05/2000	P1/b(1)
002a. memo	Robert Bradtke to Leon Fuerth, et al., re: [Summary of Conclusions for Deputies Committee Meeting] (2 pages)	06/08/2000	P1/b(1)
002b. paper	Summary of Conclusions for Meeting of the NSC Deputies Committee (2 pages)	05/24/2000	P1/b(1)
003. profile	Re: [Biographical information] (4 pages)	ca. 01/1999	P1/b(1)
004. cable	Re: Treasury Secretary Summers Visits Mozambique (6 pages)	07/31/2000	P1/b(1)
005. cable	Re: Treasury Secretary Summers Visits Mozambique (6 pages)	07/31/2000	P1/b(1)
006. cable	Re: [HIV/AIDS in Africa] (11 pages)	06/19/2000	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
AIDS Policy

OA/Box Number: CF 2017

FOLDER TITLE:

[Kenneth W. Bernard] [2]

2007-1550-F

ke1996

RESTRICTION CODES

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

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

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

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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007a. memo	Kenneth Bernard to Secretary Shalala and Sandra Thurman, re: [Proposal for a Conference] (2 pages)	06/05/2000	P1/b(1)
007b. talking points	Talking Points re: [proposal] (1 page)	06/05/2000	P1/b(1)
008. memo	Kenneth Bernard to Secretary Shalala and Sandra Thumran, re: [Proposal for a Conference] (3 pages)	06/02/2000	P1/b(1)

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

FAX COVER SHEET

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Washington, D.C.
20504

Did you get a complete,
clear transmission? If not,
please call:

Chris Keenan at
(202) 456-9394

From: Kenneth W. Bernard
International Health Affairs
Phone: 202 456-9391, Fax: 202 456-9390

To: Sandy Thurman
Michael Iskowitz
Fax Number: 6-2439
Date/Time: May 23, 2000
No. of pages to follow: 34

**Message: FYI - Please note this is a draft
uncleared copy sent to EXECSEC.**

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001b. agenda	NSC Deputies Committee Meeting Agenda (1 page)	ca. 05/2000	P1/b(1)

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AIDS Policy

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001c. paper	Discussion Paper for NSC Deputies Committee Meeting (6 pages)	ca. 05/2000	P1/b(1)

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001d. paper	Re: [HIV/AIDS] (5 pages)	05/23/2000	P1/b(1)

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001e. calendar	Annotated Calendar of Major International Events (6 pages)	ca. 05/2000	P1/b(1)
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C

Tab C International AIDS Legislative Goals and Calendar

Part I: Appropriations Process

1) **Secure full funding for the President's budget request on international AIDS (including HIPC&IDA money) in Appropriations process.** Key Appropriations subcommittees are Agriculture, Foreign Operations, Defense and Labor/HHS (to be reviewed by Martha Foley (WH Legislative Affairs), OMB, USAID first). Attached Appropriations calendar to follow.

2) **Organize interagency briefings for above subcommittees.** Also target and work with friends on the Committee (Pelosi, Leahy, Durbin, Jackson (Il), Feinstein etc).

Part II: Non-Appropriations Measures

1) **Secure passage of Administration proposals.** Seek legislative vehicle for our vaccine tax credit proposal (Ways & Means, Finance, Health Care revenue bills).

2) **Devise strategy for managing congressional initiatives.** Leach/Lee (H.R. 3519) passed in the House by voice vote on May 15th. Need to fine-tune administration position and prepare for Senate strategy. Currently OMB, Treasury and USAID are reviewing H.R. 3519's language and devising coordinated strategy for future negotiations with members.

Part III: General Education and Outreach to Members and Committee Education

1) **Draft and clear interagency talking points on the AIDS crisis and highlight the Administration's proposals.**

2) **Design outreach (including specific talking points) for interested congressional groups (CBC, Women's, Asian, Military Committees etc).**

3) **Develop and utilize existing core groups of interested members (for dear colleagues, floor debates, one minutes, "whipping"- internal lobbying, etc).**

Legislative Calendar

May

4 Senate & House Ag Appropriations - Subcommittee

9 Senate Ag & Foreign Ops Appropriations - Full Committee

10 House Ag Appropriations - Full Committee,
House Labor/H Approps - Subcommittee &
Senate Labor/H Approps - Subcommittee

11 Senate Labor/H Approps - Full Committee
House Defense Approps - Subcommittee

18 Senate Defense Approps - Full Committee
(subcommittee date?)

19 House Agriculture Appropriations Bill - Floor Action

24 House Labor/H Approps Bill - Full Committee

25 House Defense Approps Bill - Full Committee

29 Begin House and Senate Recess (May 29 - June 4)

tbd Senate Agriculture Appropriations Bill - Floor Action

tbd Senate Defense Approps bill - Floor Action

tbd Senate Foreign Ops bill - Floor Action

tbd Senate Labor/H Approps bill - Floor Action

June

5 House and Senate Return from Recess

7 House Defense Approps Bill - Floor Action

8 House Labor/H Approps Bill - Floor Action

12 House Foreign Ops Approps Bill - Subcommittee

20 House Foreign Ops Approps Bill - Full Committee &
House Foreign Ops Approps Bill - Floor Action

July

2-9 Projected House and Senate Recess

29 Projected House and Senate Recess (July 29 - Sept 5)

August

House and Senate out all month

September

6 House and Senate return from Recess

13-16 CBC Week, DC

October House and Senate Adjourn

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20504

June 10, 1999

Sandy T.

NOTE TO SECRETARY SHALALA

THROUGH: DAVID HOHMAN
FROM KENNETH BERNARD
SUBJECT: Revised G-8 Communiqué

During the G-8 discussions by the Finance Sous-Sherpas, the following paragraph was added to the Cologne communiqué:

"26. We have decided to give a fresh boost to debt relief to developing countries. In recent years the international creditor community has introduced a number of debt relief measures for the poorest countries. The Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) framework has made an important contribution in this respect. Recent experience suggests that further efforts are needed to achieve a more enduring solution to the problem of unsustainable debt burdens. To this end we welcome the 1999 Köln Debt Initiative, which is designed to provide deeper, broader and faster debt relief through major changes to the HIPC framework. **The central objective of this initiative is to provide a greater focus on poverty reduction by releasing resources for investment in health, education and social needs.**" (emphasis mine)

There is good language, later in the communiqué, which refers to UNAIDS, TB, malaria and other infectious diseases. However, the paragraph on debt relief provides a new opening to leverage funds for AIDS, especially in Africa.

The President leaves Tuesday, June 15, for Europe and the G-8. It would be useful to call Deputy Secretary Summers to suggest that, given the economic and health disaster of AIDS in Africa, the last line be modified to read: "... by releasing resources for investment in health, **especially HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment**, education and social needs.

Attachment: Talking Points

Talking Points

- The HIV/AIDS epidemic is a true international humanitarian disaster. Over 90 percent of the cases are in the developing world and 22 million in Africa alone.
- HIV/AIDS is now the number one cause of death in Africa. It can and will destroy development, and destabilize the military, social structures, and economy of the continent.
- And as you know, AIDS disproportionately kills persons with college degrees, professionals, workers and others with jobs and money - just those who are most needed in developing economies.
- We must do more - and invest more - if we are to stem this tragic situation. And we have an opportunity:
 - ✓ The latest version of the Cologne G-8 communiqué has a revised section on Debt Relief. Paragraph 26 ends with, "The central objective of this initiative is to provide a greater focus on poverty reduction by releasing resources for investment in health, education and social needs."
 - ✓ We could suggest adding a phrase after the word "health" that highlights the special economic needs resulting from AIDS. I would suggest changing the last line to read, "...releasing resources for investment in health, **especially HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment**, education and social needs."
 - ✓ The President, in proposing this addition to the HIPC framework, would help to provide countries in greatest need with a real incentive for community spending to help control the impact of this epidemic. And convincing other G-8 countries to join in this endeavor would leverage even greater funds.

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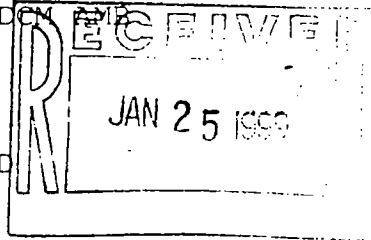
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FM AMEMBASSY HARARE

INFO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 2254

RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA 0674

RUEHNR/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 0341

RUEHLS/AMEMBASSY LUSAKA 0310

RUEHOR/AMEMBASSY GABORONE 0314

RUEHLG/AMEMBASSY LILONGWE 0297

RUEHTO/AMEMBASSY MAPUTO 0187

RUEHWD/AMEMBASSY WINDHOEK 0249

RUEHDR/AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM 0074

RUEHLS/AMEMBASSY LUSAKA 0311

RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 0068

RUEHKM/AMEMBASSY KAMPALA 0111

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AIDAC

FOR STATE, PDAS JCARSON, DAS SCHNEIDMAN, AF/S JBLANEY
AND PKIM-SCOTT, AID/W, AA/AFR VDERRYCK, AFR/SA WJEFFERS
AND DCOHN, AFR/SD JWOLGIN AND HSUKIN, G/PHN, PAUL DELAY,
MISSIONS FOR PEN OFFICERS

E.O. 12958: N/A

SUBJECT: ZIMBABWE: THE STATE OF THE AIDS EPIDEMIC
AND USAID'S RESPONSE

1. SUMMARY: ZIMBABWE, WITH A POPULATION OF 12 MILLION,
HAS ONE OF THE NIGHEST HIV/AIDS INFECTION RATES IN THE
WORLD. UNAIDS ESTIMATES THAT 25% OF THE SEXUALLY ACTIVE
ADULT POPULATION IS HIV-INFECTED. ALTHOUGH THE EFFECTS
OF THE EPIDEMIC ARE ALREADY BEING FELT, THE FULL SOCIAL

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5. ORPHANS: AS A CONSEQUENCE OF AIDS DEATHS TO MEN AND WOMEN, THE NUMBER OF ORPHANS IS PROJECTED TO RISE QUICKLY, FROM A SMALL NUMBER IN 1990 TO 150,000 IN 1995, 543,000 IN THE YEAR 2000 AND 910,000 IN 2005. THIS WILL PUT A TREMENDOUS STRAIN ON BOTH FORMAL AND FAMILIAR SOCIAL SYSTEMS TO COPE WITH SUCH LARGE NUMBERS AND PROVIDE THE NEEDED SUPPORT AND CARE. AT THE HOUSEHOLD LEVEL, THERE IS ALREADY AN INCREASED BURDEN AND STRESS ON THE EXTENDED FAMILY WHICH HAS TRADITIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF CARING FOR ORPHANS. MANY GRANDPARENTS ARE LEFT TO TAKE CARE OF THE YOUNG, AND IN SOME CASES CHILDREN OR ADOLESCENTS ARE HEADING FAMILIES. AT PROVINCIAL AND NATIONAL LEVELS, SOCIETY IS ALREADY SADDLED WITH AN INCREASED BURDEN OF PROVIDING SERVICES FOR CHILDREN, INCLUDING ORPHANAGES, HEALTH CARE AND SCHOOL FEES. THIS BURDEN WILL GROW IN THE COMING YEARS. ALREADY, THE NUMBER OF STREET CHILDREN IN URBAN AREAS HAS DEMONSTRABLY INCREASED, AND WITH IT THE BELATED PROBLEMS SUCH AS THEFT, STREET VIOLENCE, DRUG USE AND TRAGIC DEATHS AT YOUNG AGES. IN SOME CASES, BECAUSE OF THE STIGMA AND OTHER REASONS, THE EXTENDED FAMILY SYSTEM IS BREAKING DOWN AS THE NUMBERS OF ORPHANS INCREASE AND THE FAMILIES ARE UNABLE TO COPE FINANCIALLY OR PSYCHOLOGICALLY.

6. HEALTH: ZIMBABWE'S CONSIDERABLE GAINS IN THE HEALTH SECTOR SINCE INDEPENDENCE IN 1980 ARE NOW IN JEOPARDY. THE IMPACT OF THE AIDS EPIDEMIC HAS BEEN EXACERBATED BY THE CONCURRENT ECONOMIC CRISIS OF THE 1990S WHICH HAS LED TO REDUCED GOVERNMENT OF ZIMBABWE EXPENDITURE, LIMITING THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH'S (MOH) ABILITY TO COMBAT THE AIDS EPIDEMIC. CONSEQUENTLY, THE HEALTH CARE INFRASTRUCTURE IS LEFT CRIPPLED: THERE IS LOW MORALE AMONG SERVICE PROVIDERS AND SUBSEQUENTLY A HIGH ATTRITION RATE; INCREASINGLY FREQUENT DRUG SHORTAGES IN CLINICS; LACK OF AMBULANCE SERVICES AND OTHER FORMS OF TRANSPORTS LACK OF VITAL TELEPHONE AND OTHER COMMUNICATION FACILITIES; AND REDUCED EXPENDITURES ON CRITICAL DISCRETIONARY ACTIVITIES SUCH AS SUPERVISION. INDEED, THE STAFF OF THE NATIONAL AIDS COORDINATION PROGRAM (NACP), A DEPARTMENT OF THE MOH, IS ALMOST ENTIRELY DONOR FUNDED AND SUBJECT TO THE VICISSITUDES OF PROJECT END DATES AND FUNDING CUTS. ITS LIMITED STAFF AND TIGHT BUDGET ARE TESTIMONY THAT IT SIMPLY DOES NOT HAVE THE CAPACITY TO EFFECTIVELY COMBAT AIDS.

7. ZIMBABWE'S HEALTH INDICATORS ARE BEGINNING TO SHOW THE IMPACT OF THE EPIDEMIC. THE 1997 INTERCENSAL DEMOGRAPHIC SURVEY (ICDS) CONDUCTED BY THE CENTRAL

LABOR, EDUCATION, TRAINED SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE. ZIMBABWEAN COMPANIES HAVE REPORTED LOSS OF EXPERIENCED PERSONNEL, INCREASED EXPENDITURE TO HIRE AND TRAIN REPLACEMENTS (SOME COMPANIES HIRE TWO PERSONS FOR EACH VACANCY), INCREASED ABSENTEEISM, INCREASED LABOR TURNOVER, DECREASED PRODUCTIVITY, A SHRINKING POOL OF AVAILABLE HIRES, AND INCREASED HEALTH CARE COSTS DUE TO HIV/AIDS. AIDS CAN ALSO BE EXPECTED TO HAVE ADVERSE EFFECTS ON THE MAINSTAY OF ZIMBABWE'S ECONOMY, THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR.

11. IN SUM, HIV/AIDS HAS POTENTIALLY MORE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES ON DEVELOPMENT THAN ANY EPIDEMIC IN MODERN HISTORY. IDENTIFICATION OF EFFECTIVE, AFFORDABLE AND SUSTAINABLE INTERVENTIONS IS A CHALLENGE AND AN URGENT PUBLIC HEALTH PRIORITY.

12. USAID RESPONSE: SINCE 1994, THE THRUST OF USAID HIV/AIDS STRATEGY HAS BEEN COMMUNICATION TO ENCOURAGE RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOR CHANGE. THE STRATEGY COMPRISED A COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF COORDINATED ACTIVITIES TARGETING HIGH-RISK POPULATIONS IN THE COMMERCIAL FARMS, THE TRANSPORT INDUSTRY, THE MILITARY, AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR. MASS MEDIA (PRINT, ELECTRONIC AND RADIO MESSAGES) WAS USED TO TARGET THE GENERAL POPULATION. TO REACH THE YOUNG GENERATION, HIV/AIDS EDUCATION WAS INTEGRATED INTO COLLEGE AND SCHOOL CURRICULA. OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS, THE STRATEGY HAS CONTRIBUTED TO UNIVERSAL AWARENESS -- MOST STUDIES SHOW THAT 98-100 PERCENT OF THE GENERAL POPULATION IS AWARE OF HIV/AIDS, WITH FEW EXHIBITING ANY MYTHS OR MISCONCEPTIONS REGARDING THE TRANSMISSION OF HIV. THE CORE OF THE MISSION'S STRATEGY HAS TO MOTIVATE FOR BEHAVIOR CHANGE. UNFORTUNATELY, AS IN OTHER AFRICAN PROGRAMS, ATTEMPTS BY USAID AND OTHER PARTNERS TO TRANSLATE AWARENESS INTO DEFINITIVE BEHAVIOR CHANGE AND SLOW THE HIV EPIDEMIC HAS HAD VERY LIMITED SUCCESS.

13. IN 1997, THE MISSION MADE A STRATEGIC SHIFT IN VIEW OF ITS RESULTS TO DATE. AFTER A CAREFUL ANALYSIS OF BEST PRACTICES IN HIV PREVENTION IN OTHER AFRICAN CONTEXTS, THE MISSION REFOCUSED ITS EFFORTS. A NEW HIV VOLUNTARY COUNSELING AND TESTING (VCT) INITIATIVE HAS BECOME THE CENTERPIECE OF A PORTFOLIO THAT INCLUDES SEVERAL COMPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES THAT SEEK TO PROMOTE RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOR CHANGE. THE USAID/ZIMBABWE TEAM NOW SEES THIS AS THE CORNERSTONE OF A PROMISING NEW STRATEGY FOR THE FUTURE--FACE-TO-FACE COUNSELLING SUPPLEMENTED WITH AFFORDABLE, ACCESSIBLE HIV TEST RESULTS.

14. VCT: STUDIES HAVE SHOWN THAT VCT IS EFFECTIVE IN

EFFORT TO SOCIALLY MARKET MALE CONDOMS HAS BEEN HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL, EXCEEDING SALES TARGETS BY 70%. GIVEN THE SOCIETAL AND CULTURAL CONTEXT, WOMEN ARE PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE TO HIV/AIDS INFECTION, YET MANY WOMEN ARE UNABLE TO NEGOTIATE CONDOM USE WITH THEIR PARTNERS. IN RECOGNITION OF THIS, USAID INTRODUCED A SOCIALLY MARKETING FEMALE CONDOM -- LOCALLY KNOWN AS CARE CONTRACEPTIVE SHEATH -- AS AN OPTION FOR WOMEN. WHILE SALES OF THE FEMALE CONDOM ARE STILL RELATIVELY LOW, GROUNDBREAKING LESSONS ARE BEING LEARNED ABOUT ADVOCACY, SOCIAL MOBILIZATION OF WOMEN, AND OTHER PERTINENT ISSUES TO CONSIDER WHEN INTRODUCING A NEW REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH PRODUCT WITH MAJOR CULTURAL IMPLICATIONS. MORE IMPORTANTLY, A FEMALE-CONTROLLED BARRIER METHOD IS NOW WIDELY AVAILABLE FOR THOSE WOMEN WHO DO CHOOSE TO USE IT.

17. POLICY: POLITICAL WILL AND LEVEL OF COMMITMENT AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS IN ZIMBABWE DO NOT MATCH THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE SITUATION. PRESIDENT MUGABE HAS SAID LITTLE ABOUT HIV/AIDS. MAJOR POLITICAL FIGURES INCLUDING THE PRESIDENT, NEED TO GIVE THE ISSUE THE ATTENTION IT DESERVES. HIV/AIDS IS STILL A VERY HIGHLY STIGMATIZED DISEASE AND THOSE INFECTED ARE DISCRIMINATED AGAINST AND MARGINALIZED. AT FUNERALS IN THE CITIES AND IN RURAL AREAS, WHERE FAMILY, FRIENDS, COLLEAGUES AND PARTY OFFICIALS GATHER TO BURY YET ANOTHER LOVED ONE, AIDS IS SHROUDED IN WHISPERS AND MURMURS. THE MEDIA LAMENT THE SHOCKING AND SUDDEN PASSING AWAY OF AN ILLUSTRIOUS PERSONALITY "AFTER A SHORT ILLNESS." RELATIVES EXPRESS RELIEF THAT THE DECEASED HAS BEEN MERCIFULLY "CALLED HOME" AFTER SUFFERING A "LONG ILLNESS." BUT NOWHERE IS AIDS ACKNOWLEDGED AS THE CAUSE OF DEATH. CONSEQUENTLY, USAID IS SUPPORTING THE NATIONAL AIDS COORDINATION PROGRAM AND THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION TO SEEK PRACTICAL WAYS TO HELP THE NATION TO FIND ITS COLLECTIVE VOICE AND BREAK THE NATIONAL CODE OF SILENCE. BY SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT AND DISSEMINATION OF COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL HIV/AIDS POLICY, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR A NATIONAL COMMUNICATION STRATEGY, THE MISSION HOPES TO INCREASE THE VISIBILITY OF HIV/AIDS WITHIN THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENDA. PUBLIC ENDORSEMENTS AND SUPPORTIVE ACTION BY THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF LEADERSHIP PARTICULARLY THE PRESIDENT AT BOTH THE NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY LEVELS WILL HEIGHTEN AWARENESS OF THE EPIDEMIC AND PROMOTE A MULTISECTORAL RESPONSE TO AIDS AT EVERY LEVEL OF SOCIETY.

18. NEXT STEPS. ZIMBABWE IS AT THE CENTER OF THE MOST INSIDIOUS, DEBILITATING SOCIAL CRISIS IN MODERN HISTORY. THE HIV/AIDS EPIDEMIC SHOWS NO SIGNS OF SLOWING; THE

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AVAILABILITY OF AFFORDABLE CONTRACEPTIVE TECHNOLOGY AND SERVICES.

21. FINALLY, USAID/ZIMBABWE IS WORKING COLLABORATIVELY WITH NEIGHBORING MISSIONS TO DEVELOP A REGIONAL STRATEGY THAT IS WITHIN OUR MANAGEABLE INTEREST BUT BEGINS TO TACKLE THE EPIDEMIC THAT SEES NO BORDERS. THREE STRATEGIC REGIONAL ACTIVITIES THAT COMPLEMENT AND ADD VALUE TO BILATERAL PROGRAMS WERE IDENTIFIED AT THE RECENT MEETING IN PRETORIA OF REGIONAL MISSIONS AND COOPERATING AGENCIES. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THAT MEETING WILL BE REPORTED BY PRETORIA IN A SEPARATE CABLE.

22. THE EMBASSY AND USAID/ZIMBABWE WELCOME COMMENTS AND SUPPORT FROM AFRICAN BUREAU OF STATE, USAID/WASHINGTON OFFICES AND OPERATING UNITS. MCDONALD

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AID 1/22/99

AID: WNORTH

AID: WNORTH

1. DCM: RWHITEHEAD; 2. POL: LPETERSON
AAID

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO

SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

WHITE HOUSE FOR OFFICE OF NATIONAL AIDS POLICY

STATE PASS AID

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OTRA, PREL, EAID, PGOV, ECON, ZA

SUBJECT: SCENE SETTER FOR THE JANUARY 27-29 VISIT OF WHITE
HOUSE NATIONAL AIDS POLICY DIRECTOR SANDRA THURMAN

REF: STATE 4596

1. SUMMARY: THE FOLLOWING SCENE SETTER FOR THE JANUARY 27-29 VISIT TO ZAMBIA BY NATIONAL AIDS POLICY DIRECTOR SANDRA THURMAN IS IN TWO SECTIONS. PART ONE BRIEFLY DESCRIBES THE COUNTRY SETTING, INCLUDING THE CURRENT POLITICAL-ECONOMIC SCENE, AND PART TWO OUTLINES HIV/ORPHANS ISSUES IN ZAMBIA. END SUMMARY.

PART 1.A COUNTRY SETTING

2. ZAMBIA IS A SMALL, PEACEFUL COUNTRY WITH A WEAK ECONOMY AND SERIOUS SOCIAL PROBLEMS. MOST CITIZENS IN ITS POPULATION OF 9 MILLION ARE POOR, EARNING LESS THAN 1 DOLLAR A DAY, AND DEPEND ON RAINFED AGRICULTURE FOR THEIR INCOMES. BY AFRICAN STANDARDS THE COUNTRY IS HIGHLY URBANIZED WITH ABOUT TWO IN FIVE ZAMBIANS LIVING IN URBAN AREAS.

ALTHOUGH RAINFED AGRICULTURE EMPLOYS THE MOST PEOPLE, THE NATIONAL INCOME IS HEAVILY DEPENDENT ON EARNINGS FROM MINERAL RESOURCES, PARTICULARLY COPPER. AREAS ADJACENT TO THE INFRASTRUCTURE BUILT TO SUPPORT THE MINING SECTOR - THE LINE OF RAIL - TEND TO BE BETTER SERVED AND BETTER OFF. THE DUALISTIC STRUCTURE OF THE DOMESTIC ECONOMY REENFORCES AND PERPETUATES DEEP INEQUALITIES.

UNFORTUNATELY, MISMANAGEMENT OF THE MINING INDUSTRY, MISDIRECTED AND UNSUSTAINABLE SOCIAL INVESTMENTS AND POLICIES WHICH PREVENTED PRIVATE SECTOR GROWTH DURING THE SEVENTIES AND EIGHTIES, ESSENTIALLY BANKRUPTED THE MODERN SECTOR OF THE ECONOMY AND KEPT THE RURAL POPULATION IN EXTREME POVERTY. THE CURRENT RULING PARTY (MOVEMENT FOR MULTIPARTY DEMOCRACY - MMD) CAME TO POWER IN THE EARLY NINETIES WITH A MANDATE TO REVERSE THESE TRENDS BY OPENING UP THE ECONOMY AND POLITICAL SYSTEM.

PART 1 B. POLITICAL-ECONOMIC

EXTERNAL RELATIONS

3. THE ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT (GRZ) IS UNDERSTANDABLY PREOCCUPIED WITH THE CONFLICT IN CONGO (DRC), ZAMBIA'S IMMEDIATE NEIGHBOR TO THE NORTH. ZAMBIA HAS MAINTAINED A NEUTRAL MILITARY POSTURE, AND PRESIDENT CHILUBA IS LEADING SADC AND OAU EFFORTS TO FIND A MEDIATED CEASE-FIRE AND RESOLUTION TO THE CONFLICT. THE ZAMBIAN APPROACH TO THE DRC IS COMPATIBLE WITH OUR OWN AND SOME PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE TOWARDS A CEASE-FIRE AND DIALOGUE. ZAMBIA AND PRESIDENT CHILUBA WERE ALSO INSTRUMENTAL IN THE 1994 LUSAKA PROTOCOLS, WHICH ATTEMPTED TO SETTLE THE DECADES OLD CONFLICT IN ANGOLA, ZAMBIA'S NEIGHBOR TO THE WEST. ZAMBIA IS CONCERNED THAT THIS INITIALLY SUCCESSFUL AGREEMENT HAS NOW DESCENDED INTO RENEWED FIGHTING, AND ZAMBIA CONTINUES TO URGE NEGOTIATION ON BOTH SIDES IN ANGOLA.

U.S.-ZAMBIAN RELATIONS

4. EMBASSY ACCESS TO THE ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT IS GENERALLY VERY GOOD, AND ZAMBIA HAS SUPPORTED MANY U.S. INTERNATIONAL POLICY POSITIONS. DIFFERENCES HAVE ARISEN OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS: IN 1996 OVER THE PROCESS OF CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT; AND MOST RECENTLY IN 1997/98 DUE TO HEAVY-HANDED GOVERNMENT ACTIONS SUBSEQUENT TO AN ATTEMPTED COUP. EVEN DURING THESE LOWS, HOWEVER, THE GRZ REMAINED RECEPTIVE AND VIEWED THE U.S. AS AN HONEST BROKER. ZAMBIAN OFFICIALS HAVE REPEATEDLY REQUESTED MORE HIGH-LEVEL VISITS FROM THE U.S., AND SEEM TO DESIRE CLOSER CONNECTIONS.

DOMESTIC POLITICS

5. COUNTRY-WIDE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS WERE HELD ON DECEMBER 30, ALTHOUGH VOTER TURNOUT AND INTEREST WERE LOW. INTER-PARTY POLITICAL TALKS ARE UNDERWAY, SETTING THE STAGE FOR THE MORE SIGNIFICANT NATIONAL ELECTIONS IN 2001, FOR WHICH THERE ARE A NUMBER OF POTENTIAL PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES. PRESIDENT CHILUBA HAS SAID THAT HE WILL RESPECT THE CONSTITUTIONAL LIMIT OF TWO TERMS AND NOT STAND FOR REELECTION. THE TRIAL CONTINUES FOR THOSE ACCUSED OF PARTICIPATING IN THE ATTEMPTED MILITARY COUP OF OCTOBER 1997. SEVERAL CIVILIAN POLITICAL LEADERS ARRESTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE COUP ATTEMPT -- INCLUDING FORMER PRESIDENT KENNETH KAUNDA -- HAVE BEEN RELEASED.

THE ECONOMY

6. THE ZAMBIAN ECONOMY HAS GONE THROUGH HARD TIMES THE PAST TWO YEARS. BAD WEATHER HAS HURT THE SMALL FARMER AGRICULTURAL SECTOR. STRAPPED WITH THE MONEY-LOSING MINING COMPANY ZCCM, FOLLOWING THE FAILURE OF PRIVATIZATION NEGOTIATIONS LAST SPRING, THE GRZ HAS SEEN COPPER PRICES FALL AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE RESERVES NEARLY DISAPPEAR. THE

ZCCM ISSUE ALSO DERAILED THE IMF PROGRAM AND CAUSED BILATERAL DONORS TO BLOCK DISBURSEMENT OF BOP SUPPORT. (THE U.S. DOES NOT PROVIDE BOP SUPPORT TO ZAMBIA.) ALTHOUGH NON-TRADITIONAL EXPORTS ARE UP AND PRIVATIZATION OUTSIDE OF THE MINING SECTOR HAS CONTINUED, THE ECONOMY HAS REMAINED IN THE DOLDRUMS.

7. DEVELOPMENTS IN EARLY 1999 MAY INDICATE GOOD NEWS. THE CURRENT RAINY SEASON APPEARS TO BE GOING WELL. THE GRZ AND ANGLO-AMERICAN CORPORATION ARE ENGAGED IN FINAL NEGOTIATIONS ON THE SALE OF THE REMAINING ZCCM ASSETS. IN LIGHT OF THIS, A RECENT IMF MISSION CAME TO TENTATIVE AGREEMENT WITH ZAMBIA ON A NEW AGREEMENT AND HAS ISSUED A "LETTER OF COMFORT" TO DONORS THAT IS INTENDED TO UNBLOCK BOP SUPPORT. ADHERENCE TO THE IMF AGREEMENT COULD LEAD TO ZAMBIA'S INCLUSION IN THE HIGHLY INDEBTED POOR COUNTRY (HIPC) INITIATIVE, RESULTING IN ADDITIONAL DEBT FORGIVENESS. CURRENT U.S. BILATERAL ASSISTANCE TO ZAMBIA IS COMPRISED OF PROJECT AID AND (IN 1998-99) A GRANT OF EMERGENCY FOOD AID. THE GRZ HAS RAISED WITH THE MISSION THE POSSIBILITY OF PL-480 DEBT RELIEF. THE SALE OF ZCCM AND FINALIZATION OF THE NEW IMF AGREEMENT MIGHT MAKE THIS FEASIBLE.

PART 2. HIV/ORPHANS

HIV-AIDS SITUATION

8. HIV INFECTION IN ZAMBIA CONTINUES TO SPREAD RAPIDLY. IN 1997, THE ESTIMATED HIV ADULT PREVALENCE FOR THE ENTIRE COUNTRY WAS 19.9%. THE RATES ARE ABOUT TWICE AS HIGH IN URBAN AREAS (28%) AS IN THE RURAL AREAS (15%), AND ARE AMONG THE HIGHEST IN THE WORLD. IN ZAMBIA, THE LARGEST MODE OF HIV/AIDS TRANSMISSION IS HETEROSEXUAL INTERCOURSE. THE NUMBER OF AIDS ORPHANS IS EXPECTED TO RISE FROM ABOUT 70,000 IN 1993 TO OVER 600,000 IN THE YEAR 2000, MEANING THAT OVER ONE IN THREE ZAMBIAN CHILDREN WILL BE ORPHANED TO AIDS. INFANT AND CHILD MORTALITY RATES ARE EXPECTED TO

INCREASE TO 129 AND 269 RESPECTIVELY BY 2005; LIFE EXPECTANCY IS EXPECTED TO FALL FROM 51 IN 1990 TO 43 IN 2002, REVERSING TWO DECADES OF PROGRESS IN CHILD SURVIVAL AND DEVELOPMENT. THE RATE OF POPULATION GROWTH IS EXPECTED TO DECLINE FROM 3.5 TO ABOUT 2.6 PER CENT AS A RESULT OF AIDS DEATHS. THE EPIDEMIC CONTINUES TO SERIOUSLY THREATEN THE COUNTRY'S PROSPECTS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AS IT DEPLETES THE COUNTRY'S MOST EDUCATED, ENERGETIC AND PRODUCTIVE POPULATION.

GRZ RESPONSE TO HIV/AIDS IN ZAMBIA

9. IN 1986, THE ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZED HIV/AIDS AS A MAJOR THREAT TO THE NATION'S HEALTH AND WELL-BEING AND ESTABLISHED A NATIONAL AIDS SURVEILLANCE COMMITTEE AND AN INTER-SECTORAL AIDS HEALTH EDUCATION COMMITTEE TO COORDINATE ALL ACTIVITIES OF AIDS PREVENTION AND CONTROL IN ZAMBIA. THESE INITIAL EFFORTS, WHILE WELL INTENTIONED, WERE NOT EFFECTIVE IN PREVENTING THE ENSUING EPIDEMIC.

MORE RECENTLY, IN LINE WITH ZAMBIA'S AMBITIOUS AND INNOVATIVE HEALTH REFORMS, WHICH EMPHASIZE PROVIDING INTEGRATED CARE AS CLOSE TO THE FAMILY AS POSSIBLE, THESE STRUCTURES WERE DISMANTLED. THE GOAL WAS TO RESTRUCTURE VERTICAL PROGRAMS INTO A MORE INTEGRATED HEALTH PACKAGE WHICH COULD BE DELIVERED AT THE COMMUNITY LEVEL. REGRETTABLY, IN MAKING THE CHANGE, CRITICAL MOMENTUM WAS LOST IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST HIV/AIDS.

WHILE ZAMBIA'S EFFORTS ARE TECHNICALLY SOUND AND HAVE IN MANY RESPECTS BEEN EXTRAORDINARILY LAUDABLE, OVERALL, THE GRZ RESPONSE TO THE EPIDEMIC HAS BEEN SPORADIC AND DISAPPOINTING. THE GRZ'S TOP POLITICAL LEADERSHIP CONTINUES TO NEED TO BE ENCOURAGED TO GIVE THE ISSUE A HIGHER PROFILE. IN ADDITION TO ENCOURAGING THAT LEADERSHIP TO SPEAK OUT MORE REGULARLY AND FORCEFULLY ON THE ISSUE, THEY SHOULD MOVE MORE ENERGETICALLY TO SET UP A LONG AWAITED NEW FOCAL POINT FOR HIV/AIDS PREVENTION AND CONTROL ACTIVITIES

IN THE GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING APPOINTING PEOPLE IN EACH MINISTRY AS INFORMATION COORDINATORS FOR HIV/AIDS PREVENTION.

A REPORT CARD ON CURRENT INTERVENTIONS

10. MANY EXPERTS IN THE AREA OF HIV/AIDS AGREE THAT SUCCESSFUL HIV/AIDS PREVENTION AND MITIGATION PROGRAMS SHOULD CONTAIN ELEMENTS OF THE FOLLOWING INTERVENTIONS: INFORMATION, EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION EFFORTS; TREATMENT AND REDUCTION OF SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS; VOLUNTARY COUNSELING AND TESTING; CONDOM DISTRIBUTION; POLICY DEVELOPMENT; SERVICES FOR HIGH RISK GROUPS; SUPPORT TO ORPHANS; AND COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION.

WHILE THE GOVERNMENT AND KEY DONORS HAVE MADE EFFORTS IN ALL OF THESE AREAS, RESOURCES ARE LIMITED AND MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE. THE FOLLOWING IS A QUICK SNAPSHOT OF THE STATUS OF; OVERALL EFFORTS IN EACH OF THESE CRITICAL AREAS.

INFORMATION, EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION (IEC) EFFORTS

AWARENESS OF HIV/AIDS IS HIGH IN ZAMBIA AND MOST OBSERVERS BELIEVE THAT CURRENT SUPPORT FOR IEC INTERVENTIONS IS ADEQUATE.

TREATMENT AND REDUCTION OF SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS

THERE ARE GOOD SERVICES AVAILABLE FOR THE TREATMENT AND REDUCTION OF SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS, ALTHOUGH OUTREACH FOR SOME HIGH RISK GROUPS IS INADEQUATE. THE MOST CRITICAL ISSUE IN THIS AREA IS A RECURRENT PROBLEM WITH THE CONSISTENT SUPPLY OF DRUGS. PART OF THIS IS DUE TO RESOURCE CONSTRAINTS BUT PART IS DUE TO WEAK MANAGEMENT.

VOLUNTARY TESTING AND COUNSELING

WHILE THERE ARE SOME SERVICES IN URBAN CENTERS WHICH
COMPLEMENT TESTING WITH COUNSELING, THIS IS AN AREA WHERE
MUCH MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE.

CONDOM DISTRIBUTION

ADEQUATE.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

THIS TOO IS AN AREA WHICH NEEDS MORE WORK, PARTICULARLY, AS
NOTED BELOW, ON ISSUES RELATED TO ORPHANS, STIGMA AND
POLITICAL COMMITMENT.

SERVICES FOR HIGH RISK GROUPS

THERE HAVE BEEN MANY ATTEMPTS TO REACH OUT TO SUCH GROUPS
BUT MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE.

SUPPORT TO ORPHANS

THIS IS AN AREA OF GROWING CONCERN. GOOD EFFORTS ARE BEING
MADE TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY BASED RESPONSES TO THE ORPHANS
CRISIS. HOWEVER, MORE WORK NEEDS TO BE DONE ON THE POLICY
FRONT TO SUPPORT THOSE EFFORTS, PARTICULARLY ON ISSUES LIKE
ACCESS TO EDUCATION FOR ORPHANS AND RECOGNITION BY
GOVERNMENT OF WORK BY COMMUNITY BASED GROUPS.

COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION

THERE ARE MANY EXCELLENT INITIATIVES IN THIS AREA.

USAID RESPONSE

11. IN COLLABORATION WITH THE GRZ AND OTHER PARTNERS, THE
USG SUPPORTS THE GOVERNMENT'S MULTISECTORAL EFFORTS TO
REDUCE HIV TRANSMISSION RATES AND TO MITIGATE THE IMPACT OF
THE DISEASE THROUGH A NUMBER OF EFFECTIVE AND INNOVATIVE
INTERVENTIONS THAT ADDRESS THE ISSUE. THESE INCLUDE:

- MULTISECTORAL HIV/AIDS DISTRICT INITIATIVES

PROJECT CONCERN INTERNATIONAL/ZAMBIA (PCI/Z), IS
STRENGTHENING DISTRICT-LEVEL MULTISECTORAL HIV/AIDS
PROGRAMMING IN 5 DISTRICTS (LUSAKA, NDOLA, KITWE,
LIVINGSTONE, AND NCHELENGE). WHILE EACH DISTRICT IDENTIFIES
AND PLANS THEIR OWN HIV/AIDS PROGRAMS, USAID IS
STRENGTHENING THEIR ABILITY TO PROVIDE HEALTH
EDUCATION/IEC, STD SYNDROMIC MANAGEMENT, ACCESS TO CONDOMS
(MALE AND FEMALE), VOLUNTARY COUNSELING AND TESTING,
COMMUNITY CARE AND SUPPORT SERVICES (HOME CARE, COUNSELING,
AND ORPHANS).

-COMMUNITY-BASED SUPPORT FOR ORPHANED/VULNERABLE CHILDREN

USAID/WASHINGTON'S DISPLACED CHILDREN'S AND ORPHAN FUND
(DCOF) HAS INITIATED A NEW SET OF ACTIVITIES TO PROTECT AND
IMPROVE THE PROSPECTS OF ORPHANED/VULNERABLE CHILDREN IN
ZAMBIA. THE MAJOR ELEMENTS OF THIS PROGRAM ARE TO ADDRESS
POLICY ISSUES AS THEY RELATE TO MOBILIZING AN EFFECTIVE
NATIONAL RESPONSE AND SUPPORTING COMMUNITY-LED RESPONSE TO
THE EMERGING CRISIS OF ORPHANS.

-CONDOM SOCIAL MARKETING

A SOCIAL MARKETING PROGRAM IMPLEMENTED BY THE SOCIETY FOR

UNCLASSIFIED

FAMILY HEALTH LAUNCHED MAXIMUM BRAND CONDOMS IN DECEMBER 1992. SINCE THEN, MORE THAN 35 MILLION CONDOMS HAVE BEEN SOLD NATIONALLY.

-STD SYNDROMIC MANAGEMENT

THE GRZ IS STRENGTHENING STD SYNDROMIC CARE MANAGEMENT THROUGH HEALTH WORKER TRAINING AND SUPERVISION AND BY IMPROVING DRUG SUPPLY LOGISTICS.

-VOLUNTARY COUNSELING AND TESTING

CURRENT ACCESS TO VOLUNTEER COUNSELING AND TESTING (VCT) IN ZAMBIA IS VERY LIMITED AND AWARENESS OF VCT SERVICES IS PRACTICALLY NON-EXISTENT. IN NDOLA, USAID IS ESTABLISHING A MODEL OF MCH SERVICES WHICH RESPONDS TO THE HIV NEEDS OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN, WITH A SPECIAL FOCUS ON IMPROVING INFANT FEEDING PRACTICES. DURING 1999, AN EXPANDED NETWORK OF VCT SERVICES WILL BE PUT IN PLACE FOR COUPLES AND AT ANTENATAL CARE SITES.

-RED RIBBON CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

AS PART OF THE DECEMBER 1, 1998 WORLD AIDS DAY CELEBRATION, ORGANIZATIONS IN ZAMBIA HAVE COME TOGETHER TO LAUNCH THE RED RIBBON CAMPAIGN TO COMBAT THE INTENSE STIGMA OF HIV/AIDS THROUGH VISIBLE ACTS OF SOLIDARITY WITH AFFECTED COMMUNITIES.

-YOUTH INITIATIVES: THE KEY TO THE FUTURE

THERE IS A NEED TO ACCELERATE EFFORTS TO ADDRESS ADOLESCENTS/YOUTH AS A KEY TARGET GROUP. PEER-EDUCATOR-PROMOTERS (PEPS) WORK IN 4 PROVINCIAL CAPITALS PLANNING AND

PERFORMING SHORT DRAMAS, CONDUCTING CONDOM USE DEMONSTRATIONS AND ANSWERING QUESTIONS ON STD/HIV, SAFE SEX, AND AVOIDING UNWANTED PREGNANCIES. A YOUTH RADIO CALL-IN SHOW CALLED "CLUB NTG" (NEW TEEN GENERATION) AIRS WEEKLY ON THREE STATIONS TO A NATIONAL AUDIENCE. NTG CLUBS HAVE BEEN FORMED IN SCHOOLS AROUND THE COUNTRY, EXPANDING THE FORUM FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE AND TO APPLYING THE NTG ISSUES TO THEIR OWN LIVES. TRENDSETTERS, A MONTHLY NEWSPAPER LAUNCHED IN 1997 AND WRITTEN BY AND FOR YOUTH, FOCUSES ON REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH ISSUES.

-RELIGIOUS GROUP MOBILIZATION

CHURCH UMBRELLA GROUPS WERE MOBILIZED AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL TO DEVELOP CHURCH-SPECIFIC RESPONSES TO THE HIV/AIDS EPIDEMIC AND TO DEVELOP PLANS OF ACTIONS FOR THEIR CHURCHES. TO COMPLEMENT THIS EFFORT, THE FIRST DISTRICT-LEVEL INTERFAITH NETWORK WAS ESTABLISHED IN LUSAKA DISTRICT. THIS NETWORK BRINGS TOGETHER VARIOUS CHRISTIAN DENOMINATIONS, ISLAMIC AND BAHAI COMMUNITIES TO CREATE A CONCERTED EFFORT IN HIV/AIDS PREVENTION AND CARE.

-POLICY ENVIRONMENT TO EXPAND THE NATIONAL RESPONSE

USAID SUPPORTED THE DEVELOPMENT AND DISSEMINATION OF AN AIDS IMPACT MODEL (AIM) FOR ZAMBIA, WHICH WAS LAUNCHED IN DECEMBER 1997. THROUGH PRESENTING DATA AND RECOMMENDATIONS TAILORED TO SPECIFIC AUDIENCES AND SECTORS, IT WILL BE USED TO INCREASE LEADERSHIP SUPPORT FOR HIV/AIDS POLICIES AND PROGRAMS; AND PROVIDE INPUTS FOR ACTION-ORIENTED STRATEGIC PLANNING AT NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND DISTRICT LEVELS.

-STATE-OF-THE-ART MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF THE EPIDEMIC

IN COOPERATION WITH GRZ AND OTHER COLLABORATING PARTNERS INCLUDING UNAIDS AND OTHER USAID MISSIONS IN THE REGION,

USAID/ZAMBIA IS SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF CONSISTENT AND SENSITIVE HIV, AIDS, STI MONITORING AND EVALUATION SYSTEMS TO PROVIDE RELIABLE DATA FOR POLICY DIALOGUE, PROGRAM ASSESSMENT AND STRATEGIC PLANNING.

KEY ISSUES FOR THURMAN VISIT

POLITICAL COMMITMENT

12. ZAMBIA IS SUFFERING FROM AN ATMOSPHERE OF SILENCE, THOUGH 20-25% OF THE POPULATION IS INFECTED, HIV/AIDS IS RARELY DISCUSSED OR MENTIONED BY THE PRESIDENT OR OTHER TOP OFFICIALS. POLITICAL ADVOCACY NEEDS TO BE DRAMATICALLY INCREASED. COMMITMENT AT THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH LEVEL IS OUTSTANDING.

PREPARING FOR THE ICASA MEETING

13. IN SEPTEMBER 1999, ZAMBIA WILL HOST THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON STDs AND AIDS IN AFRICA (ICASA). THIS CONFERENCE IS EXPECTED TO BRING IN OVER 3000 PARTICIPANTS TO DISCUSS AND SHARE IDEAS ON BEST PRACTICES AS WELL AS RESEARCH ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD. THE UPCOMING ICASA MEETING OFFERS AN OPPORTUNITY TO THE GRZ TO INCREASE HIV/AIDS VISIBILITY IN ZAMBIA AND THE REGION. HOWEVER, WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE STATUS OF PREPARATIONS FOR THE MEETING.

THERE APPEARS TO BE A LACK OF ADEQUATE STAFF COMMITTED TO THE TASK AND THE CURRENT STATUS OF PLANNING AND TOP-LEVEL INVOLVEMENT APPEARS WEAK. MOREOVER, FOLLOW-UP AFTER THE CONFERENCE WILL BE CRITICAL IN ORDER TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE MOMENTUM WHICH SHOULD BE GENERATED BY THIS EVENT. IT IS UNCLEAR HOW THAT PROCESS WILL BE MANAGED BY THE GRZ.

MANAGEMENT OF THE RESPONSE BY GOVERNMENT

14. AS NOTED ABOVE THERE ARE CRITICAL GAPS IN ZAMBIA'S PROGRAM WHICH NEED TO BE STRENGTHENED SUCH AS VOLUNTARY COUNSELING AND TESTING, TREATMENT AND REDUCTION OF SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES, AND GREATER PROVISION OF SERVICES TO HIGH RISK GROUPS- I.E., TRUCK-DRIVERS, COMMERCIAL SEX WORKERS. TO TACKLE THIS, INCREASED EFFORTS WILL BE NEEDED BY ALL PARTNERS.

THE ORPHAN SITUATION IN ZAMBIA IS ESPECIALLY GRAVE AND ESCALATING.

WHILE INADEQUATE RESOURCES CONTINUE TO CONSTRAIN THE RESPONSE TO THESE ISSUES, THERE NEEDS TO BE BETTER MANAGEMENT BY THE GOVERNMENT OF ITS EFFORTS. IN PARTICULAR, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AIDS FOCAL POINT IN THE GOVERNMENT IS KEY.

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

15. IN THE PAST, ZAMBIA HAS BENEFITTED FROM AN ACTIVE DONOR COORDINATING BODY WHICH EFFECTIVELY BROUGHT DONORS TOGETHER TO PLAN AND COORDINATE DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS. OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS, MOMENTUM ON THIS FRONT HAS BEEN LOST.

USAID IS THE LARGEST DONOR IN TERMS OF HIV/AIDS PREVENTION ACTIVITIES. (ABOUT THREE MILLION DOLLARS A YEAR OUT OF A TOTAL HEALTH COMMITMENT OF ABOUT 10-12 MILLION DOLLARS). UNICEF, IN THEIR PROGRAM STRATEGY, HAS STATED THAT HIV/AIDS & STDs ARE TOP PRIORITY AREAS FOR 1999. THE SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (SIDA) HAS EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN REGIONAL HIV/AIDS ACTIVITIES, AND THE JAPANESE ARE INTERESTED IN FUNDING VOLUNTARY COUNSELING AND TESTING ACTIVITIES AS WELL AS PROVIDING HIV/AIDS TESTING KITS.

RENDER##

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

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003. profile	Re: [Biographical information] (4 pages)	ca. 01/1999	P1/b(1)

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AIDS Policy

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FOLDER TITLE:

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2007-1550-F
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RESTRICTION CODES

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

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MAPUTO 1809

From: AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
Subject: AFTER THE FLOODS: REGIONAL
HIV/AIDS MEETING

MRN: 1809
ICNbr: TED6007

Date/Time: 031427Z MAY 00
Precedence: IMMEDIATE

Cable Text:

TED6007

ACTION AID-00

INFO LOG-00 AF-00 SRPP-00 UTED-00 TEDE-00 OES-01 IRM-00
G-00 SAS-00 /001W

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FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5145

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY WINDHOEK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY HARARE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 07 MAPUTO 001809

ADM AID

FOR SECSTATE/W PASS TO AF/SA, ARENDER;
USAID/W FOR: AFR/SD, CDIE AND HOPE SUKIN,
FELICIA FEWS; AFR/SA, WJEFFERS; G/PHN AGETSON AND
PDELAY

NAIROBI FOR REDSO

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: NONE

SUBJECT: AFTER THE FLOODS: REGIONAL HIV/AIDS
MEETING

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MAPUTO 01 OF 07 1809

1. SUMMARY: REGIONAL PHN OFFICERS AND COOPERATING
AGENCIES MET IN MAPUTO MARCH 31-APRIL 1, 2000 TO

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SHARE INFORMATION AND TO PLAN NEXT STEPS IN CROSS-BORDER HIV/AIDS PREVENTION AND CONTROL ACTIVITIES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. A DRAFT STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK WAS AGREED WITH THE SO QUOTE REDUCED IMPACT OF THE HIV/AIDS EPIDEMIC IN THE REGION UNQUOTE. FIELD REPRESENTATIVES WERE ENTHUSIASTIC AT THE REPORTS OF PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTATION BUT DISMAYED AT LACK OF CONSULTATION WITH THE FIELD BY WASHINGTON AND URGED THAT THIS BE CORRECTED AS OWNERSHIP OF THIS PROGRAM IS APPROPRIATELY PLACED IN THE FIELD WHERE THE PROGRAM WAS CONCEIVED AND WHERE RESULTS MUST BE ACHIEVED AND SUCCESS MUST BE FOSTERED. END SUMMARY.

2. CYNTHIA ROZELL, USAID/MOZAMBIQUE MISSION DIRECTOR, OPENED AND CLOSED THE MEETING. SHE URGED PARTICIPANTS TO CONTINUE THEIR WORK TO DEVELOP AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE REGIONAL IMPACT OF HIV/AIDS AS WELL AS THOSE INTERVENTIONS THAT ARE NEEDED ACROSS BORDERS. SHE ALSO INTRODUCED VERNE NEWTON, DEPUTY ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR AFRICA WHO WAS VISITING MOZAMBIQUE. THE DAA THANKED THE PARTICIPANTS FOR ALL THEIR HARD WORK AND LEADERSHIP IN THE AREA OF HIV/AIDS IN THE REGION. PARTICIPANTS INCLUDED PHN REPRESENTATIVES, AS WELL AS OTHER USAID STAFF, FROM MOZAMBIQUE, ZAMBIA, ZIMBABWE, NAMIBIA, MALAWI, REDSO/ESA AND AFR/SD. THE DEPUTY DIRECTORS FROM SOUTH AFRICA AND RCSA AND THE DIRECTOR FROM ZIMBABWE ALSO ATTENDED. REPRESENTATIVES OF VOA, CDC, FHI, PSI AND THE FUTURES GROUP WERE ALSO PRESENT.

3. COUNTRY UPDATES AND BEST PRACTICES: SEVERAL MISSION REPRESENTATIVES PROVIDED UPDATES ON BILATERAL ACTIVITIES AND BEST PRACTICES.

--NAMIBIA SHARED THE OUTLINES OF ITS NEW HIV/AIDS SPECIAL OBJECTIVE, WHICH WASHINGTON APPROVED ON MARCH 14, 2000. THEY ARE CURRENTLY SEEKING A USPSC OR TAACS TO MANAGE THE PROGRAM. THEY EXPLORED WAYS TO CONDUCT NECESSARY BASELINE AND SURVEILLANCE SURVEYS. THE NAMIBIA STRATEGY SEEKS TO ESTABLISH A MODEL HIV/AIDS MODEL PREVENTION PROGRAM IN THE COASTAL AREA OF THE ERONGO REGION WHERE 89 PERCENT OF THE REGION POPULATION RESIDES. (THIS REGION ALSO HAS LARGE NUMBERS OF MIGRANT WORKERS, AND HIGH HIV PREVALENCE.) THE STRATEGY INCLUDES: BEHAVIOR CHANGE COMMUNICATION (BCC), VOLUNTARY COUNSELLING AND TESTING (VCT) AND CALLS FOR PROVIDING RAPID HIV TEST KITS. THEY INTEND TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH THE IMPACT PROJECT TO LEAD THE IMPLEMENTATION. NAMIBIA ARGUED THAT IT SHOULD BECOME A LIFE COUNTRY GIVEN THAT IT HAS THE THIRD HIGHEST HIV PREVALENCE IN THE WORLD. THE AFR/SD REPRESENTATIVE INFORMED NAMIBIA THAT IT IS BEING CONSIDERED FOR INCLUSION AS A LIFE COUNTRY IN FY 2001.

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--GOOD NEWS: ZAMBIA ANNOUNCED THAT SENTINEL SURVEILLANCE SHOWS A DOWNWARD TREND IN HIV/AIDS PREVALENCE AMONG 15 TO 19 YEAR OLDS, PARTICULARLY IN URBAN AREAS. THIS TREND IS MOST NOTABLE IN LUSAKA WHERE HIV PREVALENCE DROPPED FROM 28 PERCENT IN 1993 TO 15 PERCENT IN 1998. MANY BELIEVE SUCH DECLINES IN PREVALENCE PROBABLY CORRESPOND TO REDUCTIONS IN NEW HIV/AIDS INFECTIONS AMONG LATE TEENS, AND THAT LOWER INCIDENCE WILL EVENTUALLY BE REFLECTED IN AN OVERALL DROP IN HIV PREVALENCE.

--A COMPREHENSIVE ORPHAN AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN (OVC) ASSESSMENT WAS COMPLETED IN ZAMBIA. THIS INVOLVED GRZ, USAID, UNICEF AND THE WORLD BANK. THE ASSESSMENT SYSTEMATICALLY REVIEWED ALL EXISTING DATA, CURRENT AND FUTURE INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES AND TWELVE CASE STUDIES OF EXISTING PROGRAMS. THIS INFORMATION HAS PROVIDED THE FRAMEWORK FOR COOPERATING PARTNERS' FUTURE COLLABORATION AND FOCUS ON EXPANDING WORK WITH OVC.

--IN USAID/ZAMBIA, AN HIV/AIDS AND ORPHAN WORKING

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GROUP HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED INVOLVING ALL FOUR STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE TEAMS. THE GROUP HAS SPEARHEADED CROSS-SECTORAL HIV/AIDS ACTIVITIES SUCH AS: (1) USING HIV/AIDS MESSAGES ON FERTILIZER BAGS TO REACH FARMERS; (2) ASSESSING THE MICRO-CREDIT PROGRAM IMPACT ON ORPHANS AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN; (3) IMPROVING TEACHER TRAINING AND SCHOOL PROGRAMMING ON HIV/AIDS; AND (4) ASSESSING LAWS AFFECTING ORPHANS AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN.

--THE U.S. EMBASSY IN ZAMBIA HAS ESTABLISHED A MISSION-WIDE HIV/AIDS COORDINATION GROUP, CHAIRED BY THE AMBASSADOR. THIS GROUP HAS REPRESENTATIVES FROM ALL USG AGENCIES IN ZAMBIA. A 30-POINT PROGRAM HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED THAT INCLUDES: (1) DRAFTING A POLICY ON HIV/AIDS IN THE WORKPLACE; (2) SEMINARS FOR FSN STAFF; (3) FREE PROVISION OF CONDOMS AT ALL FACILITIES; AND (4) TOWN MEETINGS ON HIV/AIDS WITH THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY.

--ZIMBABWE: IN FEBRUARY 2000, USAID/ZIMBABWE INITIATED AN ANNUAL MEDIA AWARD TO ENCOURAGE CONSISTENT AND ACCURATE HIV REPORTING. THE AWARD WAS NAMED AFTER THE FIRST WOMAN, AUXILLIA CHIMUSORO, TO PUBLICLY ANNOUNCE HER HIV STATUS. MS. CHIMUSORO WAS A WELL-KNOWN CRUSADER TO REDUCE THE STIGMA FOR

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PEOPLE LIVING WITH AIDS UNTIL HER DEATH IN 1999. DESPITE A HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT, MS. CHIMUSORO PERSEVERED AND FOUNDED A DYNAMIC NGO SUPPORT GROUP. THE USD 5,000 AWARD WAS GIVEN TO ANDREW MUTANDWA, A ZIMBABWEAN JOURNALIST WHO CONSISTENTLY AND ACCURATELY ADDRESSED THE HIV ISSUES IN A HIGHLY STIGMATIZED ENVIRONMENT. THE AWARD CEREMONY WAS LED BY THE U.S. AMBASSADOR AND ATTENDED BY AUXILLIA FAMILY AND THE MEDIA. IN ORDER TO INSTITUTIONALIZE THE AWARD, USAID AND PAO/Z ORGANIZED A LUNCH MEETING WITH OVER THIRTY LOCAL JOURNALISTS TO DEVELOP CRITERIA FOR FUTURE AWARDS. IN ADDITION, USAID AND PAO AGREED TO COMBINE AN INTERNATIONAL VISITORS PROGRAM WITH NEXT YEAR AWARD.

--MALAWI: IN JANUARY, USAID/MALAWI COMPLETED AN EVALUATION OF RAPID HIV TEST KITS FOR USE IN THEIR VOLUNTARY COUNSELING AND TESTING PROGRAM. THE RESULTS SHOWED ALMOST 100 PERCENT ACCURACY WHICH IS SIMILAR TO STANDARDIZED LABORATORY TESTING. THE RAPID TEST KITS HAVE SEVERAL ADVANTAGES: (1) CLIENTS GET THEIR RESULTS WITHIN ONE HOUR; (2) THEY ARE EASY TO USE BY NON-LABORATORY PERSONNEL (FOR EXAMPLE: COUNSELORS); (3) USE REQUIRES MINIMUM TRAINING; (4) THEY CAN BE STORED AT ROOM TEMPERATURE; (5) THE COST IS LOW, BETWEEN USD1.00 AND 1.50 PER TEST.

--MOZAMBIQUE: THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MISSION NEW HIV PROGRAM TO SUPPORT A QUOTE SATURATION APPROACH END QUOTE TO COVER CERTAIN TRANSPORT CORRIDORS WAS DISCUSSED. THE MISSION IS DEVELOPING ITS FIRST PROGRAM TO TARGET THE MAPUTO CORRIDOR WHICH LINKS MOZAMBIQUE TO SOUTH AFRICA AT RESSANO GARCIA AND SWAZILAND AT NAMAACHA. THE MISSION WILL CONSIDER ADDING ADDITIONAL CORRIDORS IF FUNDING PERMITS. THIS STRATEGY WILL FEED INTO THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF MOZAMBIQUE (GRM) NATIONAL STRATEGY TO COMBAT HIV/AIDS AND STDs. THE MISSION STRATEGY EMPHASIZES THREE AREAS: (1) PREVENTION ACTIVITIES (E.G., BEHAVIOR CHANGE COMMUNICATION, CONDOM USE AND STD DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT), ESPECIALLY TARGETED AT HIGH RISK GROUPS SUCH AS TRUCKERS, COMMERCIAL SEX WORKERS, MIGRANT LABORERS AND THE COMMUNITIES WITH WHICH THESE GROUPS COME INTO CONTACT; (2) MITIGATION VCT, CARE AND SUPPORT; AND (3) SURVEILLANCE EXPANDED MOZAMBIKAN CAPACITY TO CONDUCT SURVEILLANCE, EXPANSION OF CURRENT ANTENATAL SITES FROM FIVE TO TWENTY-TWO AND DEVELOPMENT OF CLOSER COLLABORATION WITH CDC ON SURVEILLANCE). HIV PREVENTION NEEDS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR CROSS-BORDER COLLABORATION WILL BE ASSESSED AT THE BORDERS BETWEEN MOZAMBIQUE, SOUTH AFRICA AND SWAZILAND IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS.

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WHILE AWAITING THE LIFE INITIATIVE RESOURCES NECESSARY TO FUND THIS PROGRAM, THE MISSION WILL WORK WITH PSI TO STEP UP ITS CONDOM SOCIAL MARKETING AND HIV PREVENTION ACTIVITIES AT THE BORDERS AND ALONG THE MAPUTO CORRIDOR.

4. UPDATE ON REGIONAL ACTIVITIES: MICHELLE RUSSELL WAS INTRODUCED. RUSSELL WAS RECENTLY HIRED AS THE REGIONAL HIV/AIDS COORDINATOR.

--RUSSELL REPORTED ON HER VISITS TO ANGOLA, ZAMBIA AND THE THREE USAID NON-PRESENCE COUNTRIES (BOTSWANA, LESOTHO AND SWAZILAND). DURING THESE VISITS SHE MET WITH A VARIETY OF STAKEHOLDERS INCLUDING USAID MISSION STAFF, MINISTERS OF HEALTH, DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL AIDS COORDINATION PROGRAMS, PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV AND AIDS, PHYSICIANS AND HEALTH PRACTITIONERS, NGO AND CBO REPRESENTATIVES, AMERICAN EMBASSY STAFF AND AMBASSADORS. AS A RESULT OF THE VISITS TO NON-PRESENCE COUNTRIES, THREE POTENTIAL ACTIVITIES EMERGED: (1) CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION; (2) A SMALL GRANTS FUND, POSSIBLY TO SUBSTITUTE FOR SPECIAL SELF HELP PROGRAMS BUT AT AUGMENTED LEVELS; AND (3) REGIONAL INFORMATION SHARING AND NETWORKING. THE POTENTIAL NEED FOR A LOCAL-HIRE TECHNICAL OFFICER TO BACKSTOP THE NON-PRESENCE COUNTRIES WAS DISCUSSED.

--SHE ADVISED THAT DAVID WILSON OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ZIMBABWE, A CONSULTANT TO FHI, HAS CONDUCTED AN ASSESSMENT FOR THE CORRIDORS OF HOPE ACTIVITY AT THE TWO BORDER CROSSINGS OF THE DURBAN-LUSAKA CORRIDOR (ZAMBIA-ZIMBABWE AND THE ZIMBABWE-SOUTH AFRICA BORDER CROSSINGS). A SIMILAR ASSESSMENT ALONG THE SWAZILAND-MOZAMBIQUE BORDER IS DUE TO BEGIN THIS MONTH.

--NEXT STEPS WERE AGREED: (1) FHI WILL ENSURE THAT COPIES OF THE ASSESSMENTS ARE SHARED WITH EACH MISSION; (2) TWO DISSEMINATION WORKSHOPS, ONE AT EACH OF THE BORDER CROSSINGS, WILL BE PLANNED FOR THE WEEK OF MAY 21; (3) FHI WILL DEVELOP A PROPOSED AGENDA AND SHARE THIS WITH MISSIONS, AS WELL AS A LIST OF PROPOSED PARTICIPANTS IN THE WORKSHOPS; AND (4) PRESENTATION OF THE WORKSHOP RESULTS AT THE NEXT QUARTERLY PHN MEETING TO BE HELD IN JOHANNESBURG ON JUNE 12 FOLLOWING THE SOTA CONFERENCE IN KENYA. AT THIS MEETING PARTICIPANTS WILL IDENTIFY OTHER POTENTIAL CORRIDORS, DEVELOP A PLAN FOR SEQUENCING OTHER CROSS-BORDER ASSESSMENTS AND FOLLOW-ON WORK FOR THE OTHER CORRIDORS, BRAINSTORM ABOUT OTHER POTENTIAL AREAS FOR COLLABORATION AND IDENTIFY KEY

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INTERVENTIONS IN LIGHT OF AVAILABLE BUDGET RESOURCES.

--PROCEDURES WERE ALSO AGREED UPON FOR INFORMATION DISSEMINATION AND COMMUNICATION FOR THE REGIONAL CORRIDORS ACTIVITIES, AS WELL AS GENERAL PROTOCOLS FOR COMMUNICATIONS IN THE REGION ON HIV/AIDS ACTIVITIES. FHI, AND OTHERS, WILL ADDRESS COMMUNICATIONS TO RUSSELL AND COPY IDENTIFIED OFFICERS IN EACH PARTICIPATING MISSION. MISSIONS WILL CHANNEL COMMENTS THROUGH RUSSELL WHO WILL PROVIDE COORDINATED RESPONSES, CRITIQUES AND DECISIONS TO FHI, WASHINGTON AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS IN THE REGIONAL PROGRAM.

--FIELD POSTS WERE SURPRISED TO LEARN THAT IN ADDITION TO THE USD 600,000 THAT HAD BEEN AGREED AS THE BUDGET TO FHI FOR THE ASSESSMENT PHASE, COMMITMENTS HAD BEEN MADE AT THE WASHINGTON LEVEL TO PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL TWO YEARS OF FUNDING FOR APPROXIMATELY USD 1.2 MILLION TO FHI TO IMPLEMENT THE DURBAN-LUSAKA ACTIVITY. PARTICIPANTS LEARNED AT THIS CONFERENCE OF FHI PLANS TO HOLD THE DISSEMINATION WORKSHOPS AND HIRE A REGIONAL COORDINATOR TO BE STATIONED IN ZIMBABWE. PARTICIPANTS WERE CONCERNED THAT COMMUNICATIONS WITH

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FHI HAD NOT INCLUDED RELEVANT FIELD STAFF, NOR INCLUDED DISCUSSION OF PLANS AND PRIORITIES FOR OTHER CORRIDORS. PARTICIPANTS WISH TO EXPRESS THEIR DISMAY WITH THE LACK OF CONSULTATION WITH THE FIELD. WHILE ALL ARE ANXIOUS TO MOVE QUICKLY TO IMPLEMENTATION, FIELD STAFF BELIEVE THAT OWNERSHIP OF THIS PROGRAM IS APPROPRIATELY PLACED IN THE FIELD WHERE THE PROGRAM WAS CONCEIVED AND WHERE RESULTS MUST BE ACHIEVED AND SUCCESS MUST BE FOSTERED.

5. STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK: THE GROUP COLLABORATIVELY DEVELOPED A DRAFT RESULTS FRAMEWORK AND PLANS FOR ARTICULATING THE REGIONAL RESULTS PACKAGES. THE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE, QUOTE REDUCED IMPACT OF THE HIV/AIDS EPIDEMIC IN THE REGION, UNQUOTE IS SUPPORTED BY FOUR INTERMEDIATE RESULTS (IRS) NOT ALL OF WHICH NECESSARILY REQUIRE SIGNIFICANT FUNDING, BUT RATHER CONTINUED EFFORTS TO SHARE INFORMATION AND WORK TOGETHER.

--IR 1, QUOTE RISK REDUCTION AMONG HIGH TRANSMISSION BORDER COMMUNITIES, UNQUOTE COMPRISES THE ON-GOING

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ASSESSMENT AND PREVENTION EFFORTS ALONG THE DURBAN-LUSAKA CORRIDOR, AS WELL AS NEW INTERVENTIONS PLANNED ALONG OTHER MAJOR ROAD NETWORKS IN THE REGION.

--IR 2, QUOTE ENHANCED INFORMATION SHARING IN THE REGION, UNQUOTE WILL CONSIST OF A VARIETY OF EFFORTS TO INCREASE KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE REGIONAL NATURE OF THE EPIDEMIC BY DECISION-MAKERS.

--IR 3, QUOTE IMPROVED POLICY MAKING TO FOSTER MITIGATION OF THE IMPACT OF HIV/AIDS, UNQUOTE COMPRISES ON GOING AND FUTURE EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF POLICIES, REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES THAT ARE RELEVANT TO THE EPIDEMIC.

--IR 4, QUOTE IMPROVED CONSISTENCY AND COMPARABILITY OF DATA UNQUOTE WILL CONSIST OF ALL ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE REGIONAL MONITORING AND EVALUATION. CDC IS EXPECTED TO PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN ACHIEVING THIS RESULT.

--THE GROUP ALSO AGREED ON FUTURE ACTIVITIES. AN ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL ACTIVITIES IN NON-PRESENCE COUNTRIES WILL BE CONDUCTED IN EARLY APRIL. IT IS PROPOSED THAT IN LATE APRIL THE REGIONAL COORDINATOR GO TO WASHINGTON TO HELP DEVELOP THE RESULTS PACKAGE FOR THESE ACTIVITIES IN COLLABORATION WITH ROXANA ROGERS. THE DOCUMENT WILL THEN BE SENT TO THE MISSIONS FOR CLEARANCE. THE GROUP HOPES THAT THIS PROCESS CAN BE COMPLETED QUICKLY, AND THE RP REVIEWED IN WASHINGTON IN MID-MAY DURING THE HOME LEAVE OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN PHNO. DURING THE NEXT REGIONAL MEETING, TO BE HELD IN JUNE, THE GROUP WILL REVIEW WORK PLANS PROPOSED BY FHI AND PSI.

6. OTHER TOPICS AND PRESENTATIONS:
CDC EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING. MIKE ST. LOUIS FROM CDC SHARED AN UPDATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNICAL STRATEGIES AND THE PROPOSED APPROACH TO PLANNING CDC ACTIVITIES IN EACH COUNTRY. CDC ENVISIONS ITS ROLE PRIMARILY AS CAPACITY-BUILDING, INCLUDING BOTH HUMAN AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY, EXPLICITLY WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF HELPING TO ACCOMPLISH SPECIFIC PROGRAMMATIC OBJECTIVES RELATED TO SURVEILLANCE, PREVENTION, AND CARE. SPECIFIC PROGRAM AREAS WILL BE IDENTIFIED BY EACH HOST-COUNTRY, IN COLLABORATION WITH USAID, UN AGENCIES, AND OTHER PARTNERS, ALONG WITH CDC STAFF. WITH USAID STAFF SUPPORT, CDC IS NOW PREPARING TEAMS TO CARRY OUT A PLANNING MISSION

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OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS IN COUNTRIES WITHOUT
RESIDENT CDC STAFF, AND HAS CONTACTED MISSIONS IN
MOST LIFE COUNTRIES TO DISCUSS POTENTIAL DATES FOR
VISITS. ONCE CONSENSUS IS REACHED ON CORE PROGRAM

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AREAS FOR CDC AND ON THE ASSOCIATED ADMINISTRATIVE
MECHANISMS (FOR EXAMPLE: EMBASSY OR MISSION
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT; IN-COUNTRY INSTITUTIONAL
ARRANGEMENTS; NUMBER AND TYPE OF PROPOSED RESIDENT
TECHNICAL ADVISORS; ETC.) FOR EACH COUNTRY, FUNDING
WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE.

--CDC PROVIDED DRAFT DOCUMENTS FOR PHN OFFICERS THAT
SHOWED THE PLANNING MATRIX FOR USAID/CDC JOINT
PLANNING FOR LIFE INITIATIVE ACTIVITIES. IT WAS
EXPLAINED THAT ALL FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE
COMMITMENTS WERE PURELY HEURISTIC AT THIS TIME, AND
COULD BE ENTIRELY DIFFERENT AFTER THE PLANNING
PROCESS WAS INITIATED. DRAFTS OF ALL OTHER STRATEGY
OR PLANNING DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE TO USAID
COLLEAGUES AND A LIST OF TELEPHONE AND EMAIL
CONTACTS WAS ALSO PROVIDED. THE MEETING EXPRESSED
CONCERN ABOUT ISSUES REGARDING THE COORDINATION OF
PROPOSED CDC ACTIVITIES AND ONGOING PROGRAMS. THERE
WAS ALSO CONCERN ABOUT THE SIZE OF THE PROPOSED
STAFFING LEVELS, ESPECIALLY EXPATRIATE ADVISORS.
PARTICIPATION IN THE MEETING GREATLY ADVANCED CDC
APPRECIATION OF USAID NEEDS, INTERESTS, AND CONCERNS
ABOUT HOW THE USAID/CDC COLLABORATION WILL PROCEED.
COPIES OF PRESENTATIONS OR FOLLOW-UP INFORMATION IS
AVAILABLE FROM MIKE ST. LOUIS AT MES2@CDC.GOV.

B. VOA- GREGORY PIRIO (ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, OFFICE
OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING
BUREAU, VOICE OF AMERICA) SKETCHED AN OUTLINE OF A
VOA PLAN TO ENHANCE PROGRAMMING IN ENGLISH AND
PORTUGUESE TO SOUTHERN AFRICA. VOA IS EXPLORING A
PARTNERSHIP WITH USAID TO ACHIEVE THIS. THE VOA
PROJECT BUILDS ON PARTNERSHIP THAT ALREADY EXISTS
WITH USAID/WASHINGTON ON POLIO ERADICATION AND THE
DEVELOPMENT OF A CD-ROM FOR TRAINING JOURNALISTS IN
HEALTH REPORTING.

C. REGIONAL AIM PRESENTATION - JOHN STOVER OF THE
POLICY PROJECT PROVIDED AN OVERVIEW OF THE WORK THAT
HAS BEEN DONE TO COMPILE THE COUNTRY-LEVEL AIDS
IMPACT MODEL (AIM) INFORMATION INTO A REGIONAL LEVEL
PRESENTATION. PARTICIPANTS WERE URGED TO PROVIDE
COMMENTS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. IT WAS AGREED THAT
THE PRESENTATION SHOULD BE USED WITH U.S.-BASED
TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR AMBASSADORS, DEPUTY CHIEFS OF
MISSION, USAID MISSION DIRECTORS AND DEPUTY MISSION

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DIRECTORS AND OTHERS TO EQUIP THEM TO TALK ABOUT HIV/AIDS. THE PRESENTATION SHOULD ALSO BE USED AT REGIONAL FORA. IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT THE PRESENTATION BE MADE AT THE UPCOMING US-SADC FORUM IN MAY (SEE BELOW).

D. SADC - AMBASSADOR BRIAN DEAN CURRAN AND DCM ROBERT LOFTIS JOINED THE MEETING ON SATURDAY MORNING TO BRAINSTORM WITH PARTICIPANTS ON THE POSSIBLE AGENDA FOR THE UP-COMING US-SADC FORUM. THE FOLLOWING IDEAS WERE SUGGESTED FOR CONSIDERATION:

--INCLUDE AN INTRODUCTORY PIECE TO SET THE STAGE FOR SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSIONS. POSSIBILITIES SUGGESTED INCLUDED THE FUTURES GROUP REGIONAL AIDS IMPACT MODEL (AIM) PRESENTATION OR THE RECENT CNN PIECE ON HIV/AIDS. TOPICS THAT COULD THEN BE DISCUSSED WOULD INCLUDE: (1) THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF AIDS; (2) THE IMPACT OF HIV/AIDS ON TOURISM AND THE PERCEPTION OF POTENTIAL TOURISTS; (3) THE NEED FOR AN ACTIVE AND VISIBLE HIV/AIDS PREVENTION PROGRAM IN EACH COUNTRY TO CONTINUE TO ATTRACT U.S. INVESTORS AND TOURISTS; AND (4) THE IMPORTANCE OF FINANCING AND IMPLEMENTING A HIGH-LEVEL HIV/AIDS PROGRAM, WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF A MULTI-SECTORAL APPROACH IN EACH COUNTRY.

--CONSIDER INVITING A PERSON LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS TO SPEAK. CONSIDERATION COULD ALSO BE GIVEN TO INVITING A REGIONAL LEADER TO SPEAK, OR EVEN MAKE THE AIM PRESENTATION. ONE NAME SUGGESTED WAS DR. KATELE KALUMBA, THE CURRENT ZAMBIAN MINISTER OF FINANCE AND FORMER MINISTER OF HEALTH. THE GROUP

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ALSO DISCUSSED WHO WOULD BE REPRESENTING THE U.S. AND WHOM COULD BEST PRESENT THE HIV/AIDS TOPIC ON BEHALF OF THE U.S.

--THE GROUP AGREED THAT A DESIRED OUTCOME WOULD BE AGREEMENT ON SPECIFIC ACTIONS THAT SADC MINISTERS WOULD PROMOTE. THESE COULD INCLUDE (1) POLICY AGREEMENT TO EXPEDITE TRADE PROTOCOLS AND MECHANISMS THAT WOULD SPEED UP IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS SERVICES AT THE BORDERS; (2) ACCEPTANCE OF BEST PRACTICES SUCH AS GRANTING FREE AIR TIME ON STATE-OWNED MEDIA FOR PUBLIC SERVICE AND AWARENESS MESSAGES; (3) REGIONAL LICENSING FOR HIV TESTS THEREBY AVOIDING SEPARATE TESTING AND APPROVAL IN EACH COUNTRY, WHICH IS EXPENSIVE AND TIME-CONSUMING; AND (4) AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH A COMPENDIUM OF BEST (AND EVEN WORST)

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PRACTICES ON A COUNTRY-BY-COUNTRY BASIS.

--IT WAS ALSO SUGGESTED THAT COUNTRY LEVEL HANDOUTS BE PREPARED USING THE COUNTRY LEVEL AIM PRESENTATIONS WHERE THEY ARE AVAILABLE, AS WELL AS PROVIDING COPIES OF THE RECENT CORRIDORS ASSESSMENT.

7. FOLLOW-UP AND ISSUES:

--USAID/WASHINGTON MADE A BRIEF PRESENTATION ON FOLLOW-UP TO THE CABLE SENT AFTER THE OCTOBER MEETING OF AMBASSADORS AND MISSION DIRECTORS IN HARARE. ONE MAJOR FOLLOW-UP ACTION IS THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COMPREHENSIVE PERSONNEL POLICY QUOTE TEMPLATE UNQUOTE. THIS TEMPLATE WILL BE SENT TO MISSIONS WITHIN THE NEXT MONTH AND CAN BE ADAPTED BY EACH POST TO ITS OWN NEEDS AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH LOCAL LAWS. USAID/WASHINGTON NOTED THAT DEVELOPMENT OF THE POLICY WAS NOT SIMPLE BECAUSE IT INVOLVED A NUMBER OF ACTORS IN BOTH STATE AND USAID, AND THE SOUTH AFRICA MISSION NOTED THAT CLEARANCE OF A REVISED PERSONNEL POLICY WAS ALSO COMPLEX. PARTICIPANTS REQUESTED INFORMATION FROM WASHINGTON ON THE PROCEDURES AND STEPS IN OBTAINING APPROVAL OF MISSION PERSONNEL POLICIES.

--ANOTHER MAJOR RESPONSE IS THE PRODUCTION OF E-NOTES FROM USUSAID/WASHINGTON THAT PROVIDE TECHNICAL UPDATES ON HIV/AIDS. THE GROUP APPRECIATES THESE NOTES AND REQUESTED THAT THE SUBJECT LINE INCLUDE QUOTE E-NOTE UNQUOTE TO BRING IT TO THEIR ATTENTION.

--A THIRD MAJOR FOLLOW-UP IS THE SPEAKING POINTS FOR DIPLOMATS DEVELOPED BY THE POLICY PROJECT. PRESENTATION OF THESE POINTS AT THE MEETING ALLOWED ITS DEVELOPERS THE OPPORTUNITY TO OBTAIN FEEDBACK FROM THE MISSIONS. IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT THESE POINTS COULD BE FURTHER ADAPTED TO HIGHLIGHT ISSUES RELEVANT TO PARTICULAR MINISTRIES (FOR EXAMPLE: HEALTH, FINANCE, LABOR, SOCIAL WELFARE, AGRICULTURE, ETC.).

--A FOURTH ACTION IS A REQUEST FOR A BLANKET SOURCE/ORIGIN WAIVER FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF HIV TEST KITS AS A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES (MOZAMBIQUE, ZIMBABWE, SOUTH AFRICA, NAMIBIA AND BOTSWANA) IN THE REGION WILL BE UNDERTAKING VCT ACTIVITIES. CURRENTLY, A WAIVER FROM USAID/WASHINGTON IS REQUIRED FOR EACH COUNTRY AND FOR EACH BRAND OF KIT. THIS REQUIREMENT DELAYS IMPLEMENTATION AND INCREASES COSTS AS COUNTRY SPECIFIC DATA IS REQUIRED FOR THE WAIVER APPLICATION. THUS, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT

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USAID/WASHINGTON DEVELOP A BLANKET WAIVER BASED ON ACCEPTABLE RESULTS FROM ONE COUNTRY. IN AN E-MAIL DATED APRIL 7, 2000, DOUGLAS HEISLER, G/PHN/HN/HIV-AIDS, PROVIDED A DETAILED RESPONSE TO THIS ISSUE. IN SUMMARY, M/OP AND G/PHN/HPSR HAVE BEEN WORKING TO DEVELOP GUIDELINES ON THIS ISSUE AND WILL BE ISSUING THESE GUIDELINES IN DRAFT IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

--ALLOWANCES - PARTICIPANTS ASKED WHEN WASHINGTON WAS PLANNING TO PROVIDE BUDGET ALLOWANCES. INFORMATION FROM AFR/DP INDICATES THAT BUDGET

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ALLOWANCES ARE NOW BEING PROCESSED FOR LIFE INITIATIVE FUNDS.

--FINALLY, PARTICIPANTS ALSO URGED USAID/WASHINGTON TO INITIATE DIALOGUE WITH STATE PERSONNEL TO DISCUSS HIV/AIDS PERSONNEL POLICIES. THE GENERAL FEELING WAS THAT THE UNITED STATES NEEDED TO BE A LEADER IN THIS FIELD SETTING THE QUOTE GOLD STANDARD UNQUOTE ESPECIALLY AS WE ARE URGING BUSINESSES, AND ESPECIALLY U.S. BUSINESSES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA TO ADOPT BEST PRACTICES.

8. NEXT MEETINGS: PARTICIPANTS NOTED THAT THE LAST REGIONAL MEETING HAD OCCURRED IN OCTOBER AND THAT OVER FIVE MONTHS HAD PASSED. A NUMBER OF ACTIONS HAD OCCURRED SINCE THEN OF WHICH THE FIELD REPRESENTATIVES WERE NOT AWARE THEREBY UNDERSCORING THE NEED TO ADHERE TO EARLIER AGREEMENTS TO MEET EVERY THREE TO FOUR MONTHS. IN ADDITION, MOST FELT THAT A DAY AND A HALF WAS INSUFFICIENT TO PROVIDE UPDATES ON BILATERAL ACTIVITIES AND TO DISCUSS AND PLAN FURTHER REGIONAL ACTIVITIES. IT WAS ALSO SUGGESTED THAT IT WOULD BE HIGHLY DESIRABLE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE MEETINGS TO VISIT PROGRAMS IN THE COUNTRIES HOSTING THE MEETINGS. THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD IN JOHANNESBURG ON JUNE 12, 2000 IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SOTA CONFERENCE IN KENYA.

9. THANK YOUS: PARTICIPANTS EXPRESSED STRONG APPRECIATION TO USAID/MOZAMBIQUE FOR HOSTING THE MEETING, ESPECIALLY IN THE WAKE OF THE NATIONAL FLOOD DISASTERS AND THE TREMENDOUS WORKLOAD THAT HAD ALREADY FALLEN UPON THE MISSION. IN ADDITION, PARTICIPANTS WERE EXTREMELY PLEASED THAT ROXANA ROGERS, AFR/SD REPRESENTATIVE WAS PRESENT. WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE FUTURE PARTICIPATION OF ROGERS AND THANK WASHINGTON FOR FUNDING HER TRAVEL TO THIS

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MEETING. LOFTIS
NNNN

End Cable Text

Printed By: Annemarie Brooks 05/03/2000 11:38:00 AM

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
004. cable	Re: Treasury Secretary Summers Visits Mozambique (6 pages)	07/31/2000	P1/b(1)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
AIDS Policy

OA/Box Number: CF 2017

FOLDER TITLE:

[Kenneth W. Bernard] [2]

2007-1550-F
ke1996

RESTRICTION CODES

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

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
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C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

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

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

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

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
006. cable	Re: [HIV/AIDS in Africa] (11 pages)	06/19/2000	P1/b(1)

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FOLDER TITLE:

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COUNCIL**17th & Penn, N.W.
Washington, D.C.
20504Did you get a complete,
clear transmission? If not,
please call:Chris Keenan at
(202) 456-9394**From: Kenneth W. Bernard**
International Health Affairs
Phone: 202 456-9391, Fax: 202 456-9390**To: Sandra Thurman, ONAP 6-2439**
Duff Gillespie, USAID 216-3485
Alan Getson, USAID 216-**Date/Time: June 5, 2000****No. of pages to follow: 3****Draft of background/talking points for meeting with
French Ministry of Health officials. Your comments/
questions will be appreciated.**

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
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007a. memo	Kenneth Bernard to Secretary Shalala and Sandra Thurman, re: [Proposal for a Conference] (2 pages)	06/05/2000	P1/b(1)
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2201(3).

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DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
007b. talking points	Talking Points re: [proposal] (1 page)	06/05/2000	P1/b(1)

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International Health Affairs
Phone: 202 456-9391, Fax: 202 456-9390**To: Sandy Thurman, ONAP 6-2439**
Jack Chow, State 202 647-2746**Date/Time: June 2, 2000****No. of pages to follow: 3****Your comments/concurrence, ASAP, will be
appreciated.**

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008. memo	Kenneth Bernard to Secretary Shalala and Sandra Thumran, re: [Proposal for a Conference] (3 pages)	06/02/2000	P1/b(1)
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