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Congressional Briefing, Pandemic in Africa, DC, 11/13/99

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 16, 1999

The Honorable Richard A. Gephardt
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-2503

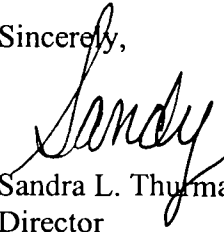
Dear Mr. Leader:

Thank you for inviting me to participate in the briefing for your upcoming trip to Africa. Your leadership on the global AIDS pandemic will impact countless thousands of lives for generations to come.

Enclosed please find recent articles from *USA Today* and *The Economist* that you might find of interest.

I look forward to working with you to secure the support that is so desperately needed to fight the epidemic in Africa and around the world. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,


Sandra L. Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 16, 1999

The Honorable John Lewis
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-1005

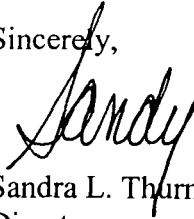
Dear Representative Lewis:

It was wonderful to see you at the briefing for your upcoming trip to Africa. I am confident that your leadership on the global AIDS pandemic will impact countless thousands of lives for generations to come.

Enclosed please find recent articles from *USA Today* and *The Economist* that you might find of interest.

I look forward to working with you to secure the support that is so desperately needed to fight the epidemic in Africa and around the world. Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sandy", written in dark ink.

Sandra L. Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 16, 1999

The Honorable Jack Quinn
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-3230

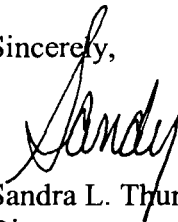
Dear Representative Quinn:

I am delighted to hear that the Congressional delegation to Africa will include AIDS as a vitally important issue on its agenda. I am confident that your leadership on the global AIDS pandemic will impact countless thousands of lives for generations to come.

Enclosed please find recent articles from *USA Today* and *The Economist* that you might find of interest.

I look forward to working with you to secure the support that is so desperately needed to fight the epidemic in Africa and around the world. Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,



Sandra L. Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 16, 1999

The Honorable Donald M. Payne
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-3010

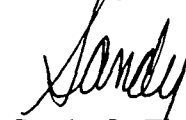
Dear Representative Payne:

It was wonderful to see you at the briefing for your upcoming trip to Africa. I am confident that your leadership on the global AIDS pandemic will impact countless thousands of lives for generations to come.

Enclosed please find recent articles from *USA Today* and *The Economist* that you might find of interest.

I look forward to working with you to secure the support that is so desperately needed to fight the epidemic in Africa and wound the world. Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,



Sandra L. Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 16, 1999

The Honorable Maxine Waters
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-0535

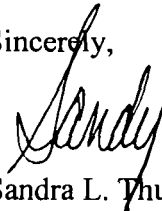
Dear Representative Waters:

I am delighted to hear that the Congressional delegation to Africa will include AIDS as a vitally important issue on its agenda. I am confident that your leadership on the global AIDS pandemic will impact countless thousands of lives for generations to come.

Enclosed please find recent articles from *USA Today* and *The Economist* that you might find of interest.

I look forward to working with you to secure the support that is so desperately needed to fight the epidemic in Africa and around the world. Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sandy", written over the printed name.

Sandra L. Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 16, 1999

The Honorable Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-2215

Dear Representative Kilpatrick:

It was wonderful to see you at the briefing for your upcoming trip to Africa. I am confident that your leadership on the global AIDS pandemic will impact countless thousands of lives for generations to come.

Enclosed please find recent articles from *USA Today* and *The Economist* that you might find of interest.

I look forward to working with you to secure the support that is so desperately needed to fight the epidemic in Africa and around the world. Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,



Sandra L. Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 16, 1999

The Honorable William J. Jefferson
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-1802

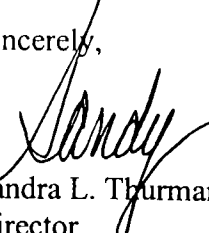
Dear Representative Jefferson:

It was wonderful to see you at the briefing for your upcoming trip to Africa. I am confident that your leadership on the global AIDS pandemic will impact countless thousands of lives for generations to come.

Enclosed please find recent articles from *USA Today* and *The Economist* that you might find of interest.

I look forward to working with you to secure the support that is so desperately needed to fight the epidemic in Africa and around the world. Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,



Sandra L. Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 16, 1999

The Honorable Amo Houghton
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-3231

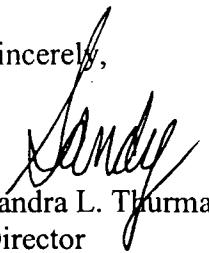
Dear Representative Houghton:

It was wonderful to see you at the briefing for your upcoming trip to Africa. I am confident that your leadership on the global AIDS pandemic will impact countless thousands of lives for generations to come.

Enclosed please find recent articles from *USA Today* and *The Economist* that you might find of interest.

I look forward to working with you to secure the support that is so desperately needed to fight the epidemic in Africa and around the world. Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,



Sandra L. Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 16, 1999

The Honorable Sue Kelly
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-3219

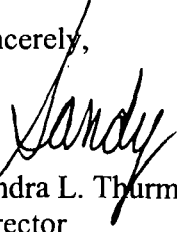
Dear Representative Kelly:

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I look forward to working with you to secure the support that is so desperately needed to fight the epidemic in Africa and around the world. Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,


Sandra L. Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 16, 1999

The Honorable Michael N. Castle
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-0801

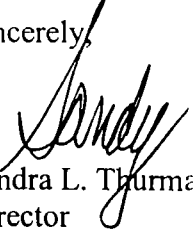
Dear Representative Castle:

It was wonderful to see you at the briefing for your upcoming trip to Africa. I am confident that your leadership on the global AIDS pandemic will impact countless thousands of lives for generations to come.

Enclosed please find recent articles from *USA Today* and *The Economist* that you might find of interest.

I look forward to working with you to secure the support that is so desperately needed to fight the epidemic in Africa and around the world. Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,



Sandra L. Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 16, 1999

The Honorable Jennifer Dunn
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-4708

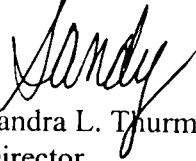
Dear Representative Dunn:

It was wonderful to see you at the briefing for your upcoming trip to Africa. I am confident that your leadership on the global AIDS pandemic will impact countless thousands of lives for generations to come.

Enclosed please find recent articles from *USA Today* and *The Economist* that you might find of interest.

I look forward to working with you to secure the support that is so desperately needed to fight the epidemic in Africa and around the world. Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,



Sandra L. Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 16, 1999

The Honorable Jay Dickey
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515-0404

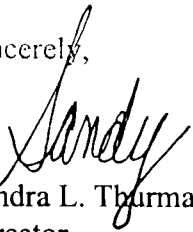
Dear Representative Dickey:

It was wonderful to see you at the briefing for your upcoming trip to Africa. I am confident that your leadership on the global AIDS pandemic will impact countless thousands of lives for generations to come.

Enclosed please find recent articles from *USA Today* and *The Economist* that you might find of interest.

I look forward to working with you to secure the support that is so desperately needed to fight the epidemic in Africa and around the world. Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,



Sandra L. Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 16, 1999

The Honorable Barbara Lee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

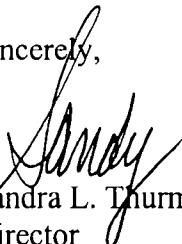
Dear Representative Lee:

I am delighted to hear that the Congressional delegation to Africa will include AIDS as a vitally important issue on its agenda. I am confident that your leadership on the global AIDS pandemic will impact countless thousands of lives for generations to come.

Enclosed please find recent articles from *USA Today* and *The Economist* that you might find of interest.

I look forward to working with you to secure the support that is so desperately needed to fight the epidemic in Africa and around the world. Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

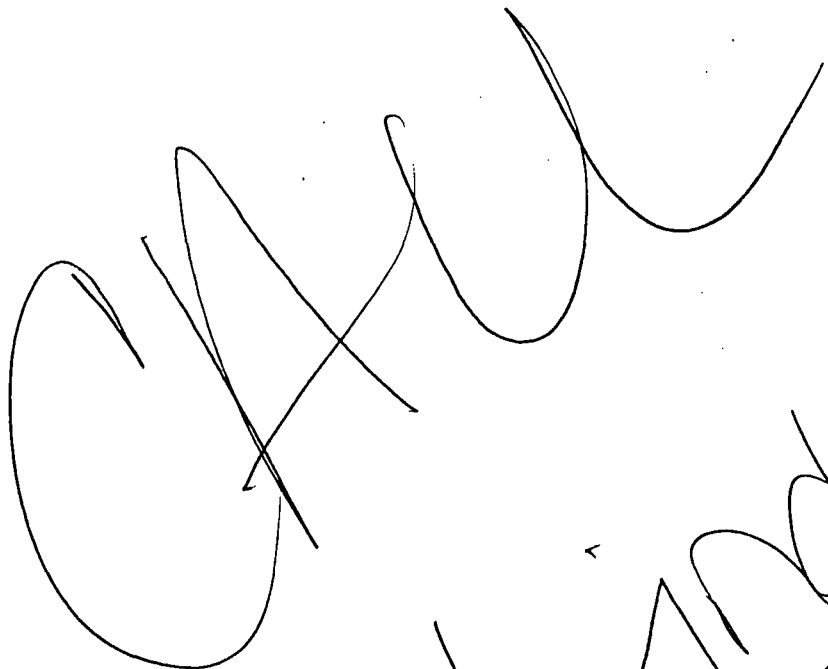


Sandra L. Thurman
Director

Office of National AIDS Policy

BRIEFING MATERIAL

11/3/99
Congressional Briefing



OFFICE OF NATIONAL AIDS POLICY

Sandra L. Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy
Congressional HI/AIDS Taskforce Briefing on regional Approaches to the AIDS
Pandemic in Africa
HC-5 the Capitol, 1:30PM
November 3, 1999

1:10 PM	Car from West Basement to the Capitol
1:30 PM	Room HC-5. Briefing Begins Welcome and Introductions from: • Representative McDermott and Representative Juanita Millender-McDonald, Co-chairs of the Congressional Taskforce on International HIV/AIDS Remarks from: • Representative Gejdenson, Representative Barbara Lee, and Dr. Nils Daulaire List of speakers include: • Sandra Thurman, Director, ONAP • Mpule Kwalegobe, Miss Universe • Fisho Mwale, Former Mayor of Lusaka, Zambia • Fikile Mthembu, Lady Mayor of Manzini, Swaziland • Dr. Emmanuel Ibo Bainguie, General Secretary, Alliance; Director, Quality of Life, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire • Major Rubaramira Ruranga, National Coordinator, National Guidance and Empowerment Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS, Uganda • Charles Keenja, Chairman of City Commission, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania • Peter Anthony Mavunde, Lord Mayor, Dodoma, Tanzania
2:30 PM	Car return to 736 Jackson Place

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 29, 1999

Congressional HIV/AIDS Taskforce Briefing
on Regional Approaches to the AIDS Pandemic in Africa
HC-5 the Capitol, 1:30 PM
Wednesday, November 3, 1999

Dear Colleague:

The HIV/AIDS pandemic in Africa can be truly overwhelming. An estimated five million men, women and children will die each year between now and 2005 in Africa. South African president Thabo Mbeki articulated the problems that Africa faces succinctly when he said:

"For too long we have closed our eyes as a nation, hoping the truth was not so real. For many years, we have allowed the human immunodeficiency virus to spread...at times we did not know that we were burying people who had died from AIDS. At other times we knew, but chose to remain silent.

Now we face the danger that half of our youth will not reach adulthood. Their education will be wasted. The economy will shrink. There will be a large number of sick people whom the healthy will not be able to maintain. Our dreams as a people will be shattered."

African nations are beginning to realize the immense challenge that lies before them. What is more, African leaders are publicly speaking out about the pandemic. We have assembled a group of such African leaders to address members and staff about some of the problems they face in Africa. Specifically, they will address how different regions of Africa have a diverse set of problems, and how each area has dealt with AIDS. We are privileged to have Ms. Universe, five mayors of prominent African cities, and a major from the Ugandan military to discuss with us the social, economic, logistical, and military issues that their respective homelands face.

Here is a detailed list of speakers:

- Mpule Kwalegehe, Miss Universe
- Sandra Thurman, Director, White House Office for National AIDS Policy
- Fisho Mwale, Former Mayor of Lusaka, Zambia
- Fikile Mkhembu, Lady Mayor of Manzini, Swaziland
- Dr. Emmanuel Ibo Bainguie, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire
- Major Ruharamira Ruranga, Uganda
- Charles Keenja, Chairman of City Commission, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
- Peter Anthony Mavunda, Lord Mayor, Dodoma, Tanzania

We hope that you and your staff will be able to attend this briefing. If you have any questions, please call Chris Dumm on Mr. McDermott's staff at 5.3106.

Sincerely,


Jim McDermott
Member of Congress


Sam Givens
Member of Congress


Patricia Millender-McDonald
Member of Congress


Barbara Lee
Member of Congress

The Fight against AIDS in Africa: Regional Perspectives

Wednesday November 3, 1:30-3:30pm, US Capitol Building, HC-5

Hosted by the Congressional Task Force on International HIV/AIDS, Chaired by Representative Jim McDermott (D-WA) and Representative Juanita Millender-McDonald (D-CA); Representative Sam Gejdenson (D-CT); Representative Barbara Lee (D-CA) and the Global Health Council

Draft Agenda

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 1:30 - 1:35pm | Welcome and Introduction
Representative Jim McDermott (D-WA) and Representative Juanita Millender-McDonald (D-CA) - Co-chairs of the Congressional Taskforce on International HIV/AIDS |
| 1:35 - 1:40pm | Remarks
Representative Sam Gejdenson (D-CT), Representative Barbara Lee (D-CA) and Dr. Nils Daulaire, President and CEO, Global Health Council |
| 1:40 - 1:50pm | Update on HIV/AIDS in Africa LIFE Initiative
Sandra Thurman, Director, White House Office for National AIDS Policy |
| 1:50 - 2:00pm | AIDS in Africa: An overview
Miss Universe Mpule Kwalegobe |
| 2:00 - 3:00pm | HIV/AIDS from the Perspective of Five Africa Leaders <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fisho Mwale, Former Mayor of Lusaka, Zambia• Dr. Emmanuel Ibo Bainguie, General Secretary, Alliance; Director, Quality of Life, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire• Major Rubaramira Ruranga , National Coordinator, National Guidance and Empowerment Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS, Uganda• Charles Keenja, Chairman of the City Commission, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania• Peter Anthony Mavunde, Lord Mayor, Dodoma, Tanzania |
| 3:00 - 3:30pm | Q & A |

To: Sandy Thurman

ALLIANCE OF MAYORS AND MUNICIPAL LEADERS ON HIV/AIDS IN AFRICA

Dr. Emmanuel Ibo Bainguié is an advisor to the Mayor of Abidjan, and is the Director of "Life Quality" of the City of Abidjan: he manages the divisions of "Education and Training", "Culture and Tourism", "Sports" and "Social Promotion" along with all issues related to youth. As one of its co-founders, he has been the Executive Secretary of the Coordinating Committee of the Alliance of Mayors and Municipal Leaders on HIV/AIDS in Africa since 1997.

Mr. Charles N. Keenja: As the Chairman of the Dar es Salaam City Commission, Mr. Keenja provides leadership to eight Commissioners and the Secretariat of the City Commission, and institutionalizes reforms of the Local Government which is being decentralized into three autonomous Municipal Councils and a City Council. As Chief Executive Officer for the City Council, he is responsible for: the Accounting, overseeing the formulation and revision of the City by-laws, and supervision of 10,000 employees of the City Commission.

His Worship, The Lord Mayor Peter Anthony Mavunde is the Mayor of Dodoma Municipal Council, Chairman of Alliance of Mayors on HIV/Aids in Tanzania, Chairman of Mayors on Sustainable Cities Programme on Environment in Tanzania, and Member of the National Committee of the Association of Local Authorities of Tanzania (ALAT)

Mrs Fikile Mthembu is the Mayor of the City of Manzini, Swaziland's largest City and the first lady Mayor in the Kingdom of Swaziland. Mrs Mthembu is by profession a practising attorney of the High Court of Swaziland, with the firm of Attorneys Samuel S. Earnshaw and Partners where she is a Managing Partner. She also serves on the Board of Directors of the Local Television Authority, Swaziland Television Authority.

Mr. Fisho Mwale: As the mayor of the Greater City of Lusaka, capital city of Zambia, from 1993 to 1998, he has been involved in the response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic, and is one of the co-founders of the Alliance of Mayors and Municipal Leaders on HIV/AIDS in Africa.

Major Rubaramira Ruranga is the coordinator and founder of the National Guidance and Empowerment Network of People living with HIV/AIDS in Uganda (NGEN+). He is also a board member for the Network of African PLWA and a member of Ambassadors' of Hope Mission. A former member of the Ugandan Army, he has been living with HIV for 14 years.



Kim Green <KGREEN@globalhealth.org>
10/22/99 10:29:20 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Cheryl S. Bauerle/OPD/EOP

cc:

Subject: INVITATION: Congressional Briefing with African Mayors, Nov. 3

Cheryl:

Here is the invite. Please let me know when you are able if Sandy will be able to participate in the Nov. 3 Congressional Briefing, 2-4pm, Capitol Room HC-5.

Thanks,
Kim

-----Original Message-----

From: Ron MacInnis

Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 1999 3:01 PM

To: 'thurman_s@A1.Eop.gov'; 'Todd_A._Summers@opd.eop.gov'; 'MElskowitz@aol.com'

Cc: Kim Green; Carol Miller

Subject: INVITATION: Congressional Briefing with African Mayors, Nov. 3

Hi Sandy,

Hello to you. I haven't seen you in quite a while, but am well aware of all your hard work!

I have a request of you.

We are helping Congressman McDermott's office, Congressman Gedjenson, Congresswoman Lee, and the staff of the House International Relations Committee put together a Members' breakfast and an afternoon HIV/AIDS briefing with 5 African Mayors. Both events are scheduled for Novmeber 3, 1999. The breakfast is 8-9:30 a.m., the briefing will be from 2-4 p.m.

We'd like to know if you are available to present an overview of the LIFE Initiative at the opening of the hearing. This will be a great opportunity for you and your staff to highlight the recent and upcoming meetings that put the initiative into action.

The briefing is designed to be a simple update from 5 African Mayors about the HIV/AIDS epidemic in their cities. Your role is to give an overview of the epidemic on the continent and the challenges we have as a donor country to help address the situation.

The mayors, along with a 6th visitor, an HIV-positive military officer from Uganda, will spend one day in DC before heading to the US Conference on AIDS where they are speaking on one of the conference plenary sessions with Jesse Jackson, Jr. and yourself.

The visiting mayors are: Fisho Mwale (past Mayor of Lusaka), the Mayor of Abidjan, The Myaor of Swaziland, the Mayor of Dar Es Salaam, the Mayor of Arusha. They are part of a UNDP project that fosters policy exchange among municipalitites on the African continent.

Look forward to hearing from you and hope you are free to participate!

Regards.

Ron

Global Health Council
Global AIDS Program
1701 K Street, NW
Suite 600
Washington, DC 20006

Testimony by

Sandra Thurman
Director, Office of National AIDS Policy

Before the
Congressional HIV/AIDS Taskforce

Mr. Chairman and members of the Congressional HIV/AIDS Taskforce, I am very pleased to be with you today to talk about the AIDS pandemic in Africa. Your leadership and your longstanding commitment to addressing this ever-growing crisis are very much appreciated. I also want to thank Miss Universe and our distinguished visiting leaders from Africa for their ongoing efforts in the battle against HIV/AIDS.

AIDS is a plague of Biblical proportion, and it is claiming more lives than all armed conflicts in this century combined. While many of us have witnessed its devastation firsthand, it is almost impossible to describe the grip that AIDS has on villages across Africa and on communities around the world.

Twelve million men, women and children in Africa have already died of AIDS. Today and everyday, AIDS buries more than 5,500 Africans – and that number will more than double in the next few years. AIDS is now the leading cause of death among all people of all ages in Africa – as it is for young adult African-American men in the United States.

And the epidemic rages on. Each day, 11,000 people in Africa become HIV infected – one every 8 seconds. Most of these new infections are among young people under the age of 25. And by 2005, more than 100 million people worldwide will have been infected with HIV. Without your help, the pace of these deaths will continue to accelerate.

In a host of different ways and from a variety of different vantagepoints, it is increasingly children and families who are caught in the crossfire of this relentless epidemic.

In Africa, an entire generation is in jeopardy. Within the next decade, more than 40 million children will have lost one or both parents to AIDS. 40 million. That is almost the same number as all children in public school in the entire United States -- or all children living east of the Mississippi river. Left unchecked, this tragedy will continue to escalate for at least another 30 years.

In just a few short years, AIDS has wiped out decades of hard work and steady progress in development -- and will soon double infant mortality, triple child mortality, and slash life expectancy by 20 years or more. In South Africa, from 60 to 40. In Zimbabwe, from 65 to 39. And in Zambia, from 56 to 37.

AIDS has not only had a devastating impact on children and families, but on economic growth and political stability. We must move beyond thinking of AIDS just as a health issue -- AIDS is a development issue, a trade and investment issue, and a security and civil society issue.

AIDS is having a severe impact on economic growth -- striking down skilled workers in their prime and forcing many companies to hire two employees for every one job -- assuming that one will die of AIDS.

Recent studies have found that AIDS is seriously eroding the economies of many of our partner nations. The World Bank has predicted that the GNP in Tanzania will be 15 to 25% lower as a result of AIDS; 14% lower in Kenya. The South African government has estimated that this epidemic costs the country 2% of its GNP each year, a situation that will only worsen in a country experiencing the world's fastest growing epidemic.

AIDS is also a security and stability issue. The prevalence of HIV in the armed forces of many African countries is staggeringly high. According to the *Economist*, the HIV prevalence in the seven armies currently embroiled in the Congo range from 50 to 80%. Other recent reports have projected that the South African military and police are also heavily impacted by HIV. Moreover, as these troops participate in an increasing number of regional interventions and peacekeeping operations, the pace of the epidemic is likely to accelerate.

Extremely high levels of HIV infection among senior officers could lead to rapid turnover in those positions. In countries where the military plays a central or strong role in government, many have cautioned that such rapid turnover could weaken the central government's authority. For those countries in political transition, this kind of instability could slow or even reverse the transition process. This is a dynamic that beckons our attention not only in Africa, but in the Newly Independent States of the Former Soviet Union, and in India where AIDS is intensifying its deadly grip.

The South African Institute for Security Studies has also linked the growing number of children orphaned by AIDS to future increases in crime and civil unrest. As AIDS wipes out the entire adult population in many communities, the number of disaffected, troubled, and under-educated young people increases. Without help and support, many of the 2 million children projected to be orphaned by AIDS in South Africa alone will raise themselves on the streets, often turning to crime, drugs, commercial sex, and gangs to survive. This seriously effects stability and promotes the spread of HIV among these highly vulnerable young people.

Yet my message to you today is not one of hopelessness and desolation. On the contrary, I hope to share with you a sense of optimism. For amidst all of this tragedy, there is hope. Amidst this terrible crisis, there is opportunity: the opportunity for us—working together—to empower women, to protect children, and to support families and communities throughout the world in our shared struggle against AIDS.

In that spirit, on World AIDS Day 1998, the President directed me to lead a fact finding mission to sub-Saharan Africa and to report back with recommendations for an enhanced US battle plan for our global fight against AIDS. I was pleased to lead that Presidential Mission during the Easter recess – accompanied by members and staff from both parties and chambers – to witness firsthand both the tragedies and triumphs of AIDS in Africa. During these trips, we were blessed to visit with some of the real heroes in the battle against AIDS. From Cape Town to Kampala, we were inspired by

women, men, families, and communities who refused to give up or give in, despite the seemingly insurmountable odds.

In response to the findings of that trip, the Administration has launched the LIFE initiative -- a key component of which is a \$100 million new investment in the US government's global AIDS effort for fiscal year 2000.

This investment is a significant increase in our global battle against AIDS – one that begins to reflect the magnitude of this rapidly escalating pandemic. If appropriated by the Congress, this funding increase will more than double our funding for prevention and care programs in Africa, and it will challenge our G7 and other partners to also step up to the plate.

This \$100 million new LIFE investment is focused on four essential program elements:

- prevention;
- home and community based care and treatment;
- support for children orphaned by AIDS; and
- the development of the infrastructure and the capacity needed to effectively implement these vital efforts.

On the prevention front, we hope to help implement a variety of prevention and stigma reduction strategies, especially for women and youth, including: voluntary HIV counseling and testing, interventions to reduce mother-to-child transmission, STD

treatment, HIV education, engagement of political, religious, civic, and military leaders, and the provision of enhanced training and technical assistance. In this context our goal is clear – we seek to help slow and hopefully begin to reverse – the rising tide of HIV.

In the context of home and community-based care and treatment, we will support basic medical care and treatment as well as social support systems through clinics, community-based organizations, home care workers, and traditional healers. Even in the absence of antiretroviral drugs, there is much that can be done. For instance, TB is the leading killer of people with AIDS in Africa. This effort will increase access to the therapies that can cure TB and other opportunistic infections, thereby improving the quality and duration of life for people living with AIDS.

By the year 2000, there will be close to 24 million children that will have lost one or both parents to AIDS in the 19 African countries where the epidemic is most severe. Despite the magnitude of this crisis, services and supports for these children are very limited. This initiative will allow us to continue efforts started this fiscal year through funds pushed by Representatives Callahan and Pelosi and this Taskforce. We hope to improve our ability to assist families and communities in caring for these children through micro-enterprise programs as well as through nutritional assistance, education, training, health, and counseling support.

Finally, within targeted countries, it is critical that political commitment is intensified and infrastructure is strengthened. These funds will help to increase capacity for the effective delivery of essential services through governments, NGOs, and the private sector. We will also enhance surveillance systems so that we can better monitor the epidemic and better target prevention and treatment efforts.

I am extremely pleased by the broad bipartisan support that this essential investment has received. It clearly demonstrates that this is not a Democratic or Republican issue – it is a devastating human tragedy that cries out to all of us for help. I am grateful to the Congress for including \$35 million in the Labor-HHS appropriations bill and an additional \$65 million in the Foreign Operations bill – together forming a new investment of \$100 million in the US government's response to the global battle against AIDS. While these bills have been or will be vetoed by the President for other reasons – this funding remains a top priority for the Administration and we look forward to working closely with the Congress to ensure that it is included in the final fiscal year 2000 budget.

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Twelve million men, women and children in Africa have already died of AIDS. Today and everyday, AIDS buries more than 5,500 Africans – and that number will more than double in the next few years. AIDS is now the leading cause of death among all people of all ages in Africa – as it is for young adult African-American men in the United States.

And the epidemic rages on. Each day, 11,000 people in Africa become HIV infected – one every 8 seconds. Most of these new infections are among young people under the age of 25. And by 2005, more than 100 million people worldwide will have been infected with HIV. Without your help, the pace of these deaths will continue to accelerate.

In a host of different ways and from a variety of different vantagepoints, it is increasingly children and families who are caught in the crossfire of this relentless epidemic.

In Africa, an entire generation is in jeopardy. Within the next decade, more than 40 million children will have lost one or both parents to AIDS. 40 million. That is almost the same number as all children in public school in the entire United States -- or all children living east of the Mississippi river. Left unchecked, this tragedy will continue to escalate for at least another 30 years.

In just a few short years, AIDS has wiped out decades of hard work and steady progress in development -- and will soon double infant mortality, triple child mortality, and slash life expectancy by 20 years or more. In South Africa, from 60 to 40. In Zimbabwe, from 65 to 39. And in Zambia, from 56 to 37.

AIDS has not only had a devastating impact on children and families, but on economic growth and political stability. We must move beyond thinking of AIDS just as a health issue -- AIDS is a development issue, a trade and investment issue, and a security and civil society issue.

AIDS is having a severe impact on economic growth -- striking down skilled workers in their prime and forcing many companies to hire two employees for every one job -- assuming that one will die of AIDS.

Recent studies have found that AIDS is seriously eroding the economies of many of our partner nations. The World Bank has predicted that the GNP in Tanzania will be 15 to 25% lower as a result of AIDS; 14% lower in Kenya. The South African government has estimated that this epidemic costs the country 2% of its GNP each year, a situation that will only worsen in a country experiencing the world's fastest growing epidemic.

AIDS is also a security and stability issue. The prevalence of HIV in the armed forces of many African countries is staggeringly high. According to the *Economist*, the HIV prevalence in the seven armies currently embroiled in the Congo range from 50 to 80%. Other recent reports have projected that the South African military and police are also heavily impacted by HIV. Moreover, as these troops participate in an increasing number of regional interventions and peacekeeping operations, the pace of the epidemic is likely to accelerate.

Extremely high levels of HIV infection among senior officers could lead to rapid turnover in those positions. In countries where the military plays a central or strong role in government, many have cautioned that such rapid turnover could weaken the central government's authority. For those countries in political transition, this kind of instability could slow or even reverse the transition process. This is a dynamic that beckons our attention not only in Africa, but in the Newly Independent States of the Former Soviet Union, and in India where AIDS is intensifying its deadly grip.

The South African Institute for Security Studies has also linked the growing number of children orphaned by AIDS to future increases in crime and civil unrest. As AIDS wipes out the entire adult population in many communities, the number of disaffected, troubled, and under-educated young people increases. Without help and support, many of the 2 million children projected to be orphaned by AIDS in South Africa alone will raise themselves on the streets, often turning to crime, drugs, commercial sex, and gangs to survive. This seriously effects stability and promotes the spread of HIV among these highly vulnerable young people.

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- prevention;
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The Fight against AIDS in Africa: Regional Perspectives

Wednesday, November 3, 1:30-3:30pm, US Capitol Building, HC-5

Hosted by the Congressional Task Force on International HIV/AIDS, Chaired by Representative Jim McDermott (D-WA) and Representative Juanita Millender-McDonald (D-CA); Representative Sam Gejdenson (D-CT); Representative Barbara Lee (D-CA) and the Global Health Council

Agenda

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|---------------|--|
| 1:30 - 1:35pm | Welcome and Introduction
Representative Jim McDermott (D-WA) and Representative Juanita Millender-McDonald (D-CA) - Co-chairs, Congressional Taskforce on International HIV/AIDS |
| 1:35 - 1:40pm | Remarks
Representative Sam Gejdenson (D-CT), Representative Barbara Lee (D-CA) and Dr. Nils Daulaire, President and CEO, Global Health Council |
| 1:40 - 1:50pm | AIDS in Africa: My Commitment to Fighting the Pandemic
Miss Universe Mpule Kwelagobe |
| 1:50 - 2:00pm | The LIFE Initiative and the US Response to AIDS in Africa
Sandra Thurman, Director, White House Office of National AIDS Policy |
| 2:00 - 3:00pm | HIV/AIDS from the Perspective of Six Africa Leaders <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fisho Mwale, Former Mayor of Lusaka, Zambia• Fikile Mthembu, Lady Mayor, Manzini, Swaziland• Dr. Emmanuel Ibo Bainguie, General Secretary, Alliance; Director, Quality of Life, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire• Major Rubaramira Ruranga, National Coordinator, National Guidance and Empowerment Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS, Uganda• Charles Keenja, Chairman of the City Commission, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania• Peter Anthony Mavunde, Lord Mayor, Dodoma, Tanzania |
| 3:00 - 3:30pm | Q & A |

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AMO HOUGHTON
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

November 24, 1999

Ms. Sandra L. Thurman
Director
Office of National AIDS Policy
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Sandra:

Thank you so much for your thoughtful note of November 16.
I look forward to our trip to Africa and I hope, in some small way, we
can be of help with that horrible scourge of AIDS.

Many, many thanks for sending along the article.

Very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amo', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Amo Houghton

/ss

T - 11/3/99
Congressional
Briefing



Kim Green <KGREEN@globalhealth.org>
10/22/99 10:29:20 AM

Record Type: Record

To: Cheryl S. Bauerle/OPD/EOP

cc:

Subject: INVITATION: Congressional Briefing with African Mayors, Nov. 3

Cheryl:

Here is the invite. Please let me know when you are able if Sandy will be able to participate in the Nov. 3 Congressional Briefing, 2-4pm, Capitol Room HC-5.

Thanks,
Kim

-----Original Message-----

From: Ron MacInnis

Sent: Tuesday, October 19, 1999 3:01 PM

To: 'thurman_s@A1.Eop.gov'; 'Todd_A._Summers@opd.eop.gov';
'MElskowitz@aol.com'

Cc: Kim Green; Carol Miller

Subject: INVITATION: Congressional Briefing with African Mayors, Nov. 3

Hi Sandy,

Hello to you. I haven't seen you in quite a while, but am well aware of all your hard work!

I have a request of you.

We are helping Congressman McDermott's office, Congressman Gedjenson, Congresswoman Lee, and the staff of the House International Relations Committee put together a Members' breakfast and an afternoon HIV/AIDS briefing with 5 African Mayors. Both events are scheduled for November 3, 1999. The breakfast is 8-9:30 a.m., the briefing will be from 2-4 p.m.

We'd like to know if you are available to present an overview of the LIFE Initiative at the opening of the hearing. This will be a great opportunity for you and your staff to highlight the recent and upcoming meetings that put the initiative into action.

The briefing is designed to be a simple update from 5 African Mayors about the HIV/AIDS epidemic in their cities. Your role is to give an overview of the epidemic on the continent and the challenges we have as a donor country to help address the situation.

The mayors, along with a 6th visitor, an HIV-positive military officer from Uganda, will spend one day in DC before heading to the US Conference on AIDS where they are speaking on one of the conference plenary sessions with Jesse Jackson, Jr. and yourself.

The visiting mayors are: Fisho Mwale (past Mayor of Lusaka), the Mayor of Abidjan, The Myaor of Swaziland, the Mayor of Dar Es Salaam, the Mayor of Arusha. They are part of a UNDP project that fosters policy exchange among municipalitites on the African continent.

Look forward to hearing from you and hope you are free to participate!

Regards.

Ron

Global Health Council
Global AIDS Program
1701 K Street, NW
Suite 600
Washington, DC 20006

The Fight against AIDS in Africa: Regional Perspectives

Wednesday November 3, 1:30-3:30pm, US Capitol Building, HC-5

Hosted by the Congressional Task Force on International HIV/AIDS, Chaired by Representative Jim McDermott (D-WA) and Representative Juanita Millender-McDonald (D-CA); Representative Sam Gejdenson (D-CT); Representative Barbara Lee (D-CA) and the Global Health Council

Draft Agenda

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 1:30 - 1:35pm | Welcome and Introduction
Representative Jim McDermott (D-WA) and Representative Juanita Millender-McDonald (D-CA) - Co-chairs of the Congressional Taskforce on International HIV/AIDS |
| 1:35 - 1:40pm | Remarks
Representative Sam Gejdenson (D-CT), Representative Barbara Lee (D-CA) and Dr. Nils Daulaire, President and CEO, Global Health Council |
| 1:40 - 1:50pm | Update on HIV/AIDS in Africa LIFE Initiative
Sandra Thurman, Director, White House Office for National AIDS Policy |
| 1:50 - 2:00pm | AIDS in Africa: An overview
Miss Universe Mpule Kwalegobe |
| 2:00 - 3:00pm | HIV/AIDS from the Perspective of Five Africa Leaders <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fisho Mwale, Former Mayor of Lusaka, Zambia• Dr. Emmanuel Ibo Baingule, General Secretary, Alliance; Director, Quality of Life, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire• Major Rubaramira Ruranga, National Coordinator, National Guidance and Empowerment Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS, Uganda• Charles Keenja, Chairman of the City Commission, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania• Peter Anthony Mavunde, Lord Mayor, Dodoma, Tanzania |
| 3:00 - 3:30pm | Q & A |

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Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 29, 1999

Congressional HIV/AIDS Taskforce Briefing
on Regional Approaches to the AIDS Pandemic in Africa
HC-5 the Capitol, 1:30 PM
Wednesday, November 3, 1999

Dear Colleague:

The HIV/AIDS pandemic in Africa can be truly overwhelming. An estimated five million men, women and children will die each year between now and 2005 in Africa. South African president Thabo Mbeki articulated the problems that Africa faces succinctly when he said:

"For too long we have closed our eyes as a nation, hoping the truth was not so real. For many years, we have allowed the human immunodeficiency virus to spread...at times we did not know that we were burying people who had died from AIDS. At other times we knew, but chose to remain silent.

Now we face the danger that half of our youth will not reach adulthood. Their education will be wasted. The economy will shrink. There will be a large number of sick people whom the healthy will not be able to maintain. Our dreams as a people will be shattered."

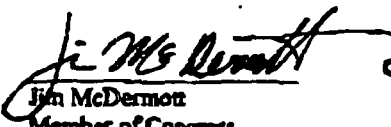
African nations are beginning to realize the immense challenge that lies before them. What is more, African leaders are publicly speaking out about the pandemic. We have assembled a group of such African leaders to address members and staff about some of the problems they face in Africa. Specifically, they will address how different regions of Africa have a diverse set of problems, and how each area has dealt with AIDS. We are privileged to have Ms. Universe, five mayors of prominent African cities, and a major from the Ugandan military to discuss with us the social, economic, logistical, and military issues that their respective homelands face.

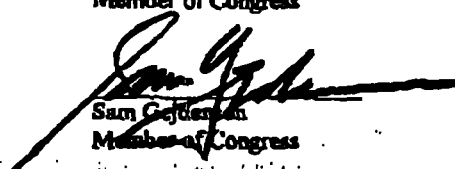
Here is a detailed list of speakers:

- Mphahlele Kwalegohe, Miss Universe
- Sandra Thurman, Director, White House Office for National AIDS Policy
- Fisho Mwale, Former Mayor of Lusaka, Zambia
- Fikile Mthembu, Lady Mayor of Manzini, Swaziland
- Dr. Emmanuel Ibo Bainguie, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire
- Major Robaramira Reranga, Uganda
- Charles Keenja, Chairman of City Commission, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
- Peter Anthony Mavunde, Lord Mayor, Dodoma, Tanzania

We hope that you and your staff will be able to attend this briefing. If you have any questions, please call Chris Dumm on Mr. McDermott's staff at 5.3106.

Sincerely,


Jim McDermott
Member of Congress


Sam Gejdenson
Member of Congress


J. Mike Miller-McDonald
Member of Congress


Barbara Lee
Member of Congress