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<PREC> ROUTINE <CLAS> UNCLASSIFIED <DTG> 180824Z DEC 00

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 2593  
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RUEHDJ/AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI 4289  
RUEHLGB/AMEMBASSY KIGALI 0909  
RUEHJB/AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA 1169  
RUEHOR/AMEMBASSY GABORONE 0138  
RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA 1578  
RUEHAB/AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN 0957  
RUEHLG/AMEMBASSY LILONGWE 0710  
RUEHUJA/AMEMBASSY ABUJA 0019  
RUEHTO/AMEMBASSY MAPUTO 0689  
RUEHLS/AMEMBASSY LUSAKA 0400  
INFO RUEHOS/AMCONSUL LAGOS 0073  
RUEHJO/AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG 0060  
RUEHTN/AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN 0741  
RUEH DU/AMCONSUL DURBAN 0027  
UNCLAS ADDIS ABABA 004263

DEPT PASS TO ALAFD COLLECTIVE

DEPT FOR OES/PCI SHIPPE, OES/EID SMITH, AF/E NIBLOCK,  
AF/E WARD, AF/EPS PATARD, EB/IDF/ODF AND IO

DEPT PASS NIH FOR FOGARTY CENTER AND NIAID

USAID/W FOR AA/AFR DERRYCK, AFR/SD GALLEGOS, G/ENV/DAA, G/PHN/HN

EMBASSIES FOR REO, ESTH OFFICERS AND USAID MISSIONS

NAIROBI ALSO FOR USAID/REDSO EVANS AND KNAUSENBERGER

WHITE HOUSE FOR ONAP/PEAC THURMAN

NSC FOR KEN BERNARD

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CIA FOR DESC AND NESAF

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y OF ADDIS ABABA 4213 (ADDRESSEES ADDED)

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KHIV, TBIO, SOCI, SENV, EAID, XA

SUBJECT: UNECA AIDS CONFERENCE WRAP-UP.

REFS: ADDIS ABABA 04023

1. SUMMARY: THE UNECA AIDS CONFERENCE FOCUSSED ON THE TOPIC OF AFRICAN LEADERSHIP. APPROPRIATELY, THE DELEGATES WERE ADDRESSED BY SIX HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT, PAST AND PRESENT, AS WELL AS U.N. SECRETARY GENERAL KOFI ANNAN. THE MOST COMMENTED ON SPEECHES WERE THOSE OF GRACA MACHEL (PARA 11), YOWERI MUSEVENI (PARA 16), AND KOFI ANNAN (PARA 14). THE TEXTS OF THE SPEECHES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE CONFERENCE WEB SITE: WWW.UNECA.ORG/ADF2000. END SUMMARY.

2. THIS MESSAGE PROVIDES A DIGEST OF THE MAJOR SPEECHES PRESENTED AT THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA'S (UNECA) AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FORUM (ADF) 2000 CONFERENCE ON "AIDS -- THE GREATEST LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE." ALL CONFERENCE DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING SPEECHES, THEMATIC PAPERS AND ACTION PLANS, ARE AVAILABLE IN FULL FROM THE UNECA/ADF WEB SITE: WWW.UNECA.ORG/ADF2000. MUCH OF THIS MESSAGE IS DRAWN FROM THOSE DOCUMENTS. SEPTTEL WILL RELAY THE ACTION PLAN ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE DELEGATES.

3. REFTTEL PROVIDES BACKGROUND ON THE CONFERENCE. ABOUT 1,500 CONFEREES MET FOR FIVE DAYS (3-7 DECEMBER) TO DISCUSS LEADERSHIP IN THE FIGHT AGAINST HIV/AIDS. THE CONFEREES WERE ADDRESSED BY SIX HEADS OF STATE, HEADS OF U.N. AGENCIES AND REPRESENTATIVES OF PROMINENT NGOS AND OF BI-LATERAL DONORS. USAID WAS REPRESENTED BY ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR AFRICA VIVIAN LOWERY DERRYCK.

3 DECEMBER OPENING CEREMONY: A CALL TO ACTION  
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4. K.Y. AMOAKO, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA (ECA), APPEALED TO AFRICAN LEADERS TO CHANGE THEIR OWN RESPONSE TO THE HIV/AIDS PANDEMIC. "THE AIDS PANDEMIC IS UNDERMINING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC STRUCTURES AND REVERSING THE FRAGILE GAINS MADE SINCE INDEPENDENCE" HE SAID. IN PARTS OF AFRICA, AIDS IS KILLING ONE IN EVERY THREE ADULTS, MAKING ORPHANS OUT OF EVERY TENTH CHILD AND DECIMATING ENTIRE COMMUNITIES. AMOAKO STATED THAT SINCE THE EMERGENCE OF THE EPIDEMIC 14 YEARS AGO, SOME 12.1 MILLION CHILDREN HAVE BEEN ORPHANED IN AFRICA, OUT OF THE GLOBAL

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ESTIMATE OF 13.2 MILLION. HE ADDED THAT WITHIN THE NEXT 10 YEARS, IT IS PROJECTED THAT THERE WILL BE 40 MILLION AIDS ORPHANS IN AFRICA. AMOAKO ACCUSED AFRICAN LEADERS OF HAVING

SHOWN A LACK OF POLITICAL WILL TO TAKE EARLY ACTION TO COUNTER THE PANDEMIC. HE SUQQUESTED THAT THE CONFERENCE SEND A CLEAR MESSAGE OF ACTION TO THE AFRICAN SUMMIT ON HIV/AIDS SCHEDULED TO BE HELD IN NIGERIA EARLY NEXT YEAR.

5. DR. SALIM AHMED SALIM, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE OAU, STATED THAT DESPITE THE LONG-STANDING RECOGNITION OF HIV/AIDS AS A MENACE TO AFRICA, MINIMAL ACTION HAD BEEN TAKEN TO ARREST THE PANDEMIC. IN MOST AFRICAN SOCIETIES, THE MESSAGE ABOUT HIV/AIDS HAS NOT YET REACHED THE BULK OF THE PEOPLE. HE WAS CRITICAL OF MANY AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS. WHILE AFRICAN STATES HAVE RAPIDLY MOBILIZED FOR CONFLICTS, THESE SAME GOVERNMENTS HAVE BEEN RELUCTANT TO ENGAGE IN THE BATTLE AGAINST AIDS, WHICH HAS KILLED MORE PEOPLE IN THE CONTINENT THAN HAS CONFLICT. HE STRESSED THAT THE PANDEMIC IS A CLEAR THREAT TO THE SECURITY OF AFRICAN NATIONS AND A MAJOR CATASTROPHE CONFRONTING THE VERY SURVIVAL OF AFRICAN SOCIETIES. HE ASKED THAT NATIONS CONSIDER THE BATTLE AGAINST AIDS AS A SERIOUS WAR EFFORT AND CONFRONT IT ON A WAR FOOTING. LIKE ALL CONFLICT SITUATIONS, TOTAL MOBILIZATION IS NECESSARY AND SOCIETIES HAVE TO BE GIVEN THE MEANS OF LIBERATING THEMSELVES FROM THE PANDEMIC.

6. DR. NEGASSO GIDADA, PRESIDENT OF ETHIOPIA, FORMALLY OPENED THE CONFERENCE BY URGING THE DELEGATES TO IDENTIFY THE MAJOR OBSTACLES THAT HAVE UNDERMINED PROGRESS IN ARRESTING THE SPREAD OF THE EPIDEMIC IN AFRICA. THE PRESIDENT EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE DEVASTATING TOLL OF AIDS IN TERMS OF JEOPARDIZING ECONOMIC GROWTH, DEVELOPMENT PROSPECTS AND POLITICAL STABILITY IN THE CONTINENT. "GIVEN THE DEGREE TO WHICH HIV/AIDS IS UNDERMINING PROGRESS IN DEVELOPMENT, IT IS NO LONGER MERELY A HEALTH PROBLEM, BUT POSES A MAJOR DEVELOPMENT CRISIS TO THE CONTINENT." THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN AND RESTORATION OF BASIC EDUCATION SERVICES WERE CRUCIAL ELEMENTS IN THE STRUGGLE. AS CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL COORDINATING COUNCIL, PRESIDENT NEGASSO GIDADA SAID THAT HE HAD ACCEPTED THE CHALLENGE OF OAU SECRETARY GENERAL SALIM AHMED SALIM TO TREAT HIV/AIDS AS A NATIONAL DISASTER THAT REQUIRES AN EVEN GREATER LEVEL OF MOBILIZATION OF PEOPLE AND RESOURCES THAN THAT DEVOTED TO ARMED CONFLICT. HE COMMITTED HIS GOVERNMENT TO LEAD SUCH A MOBILIZATION.

DECEMBER 4: PLENARY SPEAKERS CONTINUE THE "CALL TO WAR"

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7. THE MORNING PLENARY SPEAKERS WERE DR. PETER PIOT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, UNAIDS, AND MR. MARK MALLOCK BROWN, ADMINISTRATOR OF UNDP. THEY EMPHASIZED THAT AIDS, WHICH HAS BECOME AN UNPRECEDENTED CRISIS, THREATENS THE SOCIAL FABRIC AND THE HUMAN SECURITY OF THE AFRICAN CONTINENT. THE IMPACT OF HIV/AIDS GOES FAR BEYOND REDUCING LIFE EXPECTANCY. IT REVERSES ALL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY REDUCTION EFFORTS. "HIV/AIDS DOES TO SOCIETY WHAT IT DOES TO THE HUMAN BODY," SAID DR. PIOT. YET IT IS A CHALLENGE THAT CAN BE OVERCOME. TO MEET THIS EXTRAORDINARY CHALLENGE, MORE EFFECTIVE AND INNOVATIVE LEADERSHIP, AND ACTION BASED ON OPENNESS, REALISM AND HOPE, ARE REQUIRED. THE MAGNITUDE OF THE EPIDEMIC REQUIRES THAT COUNTRIES AND AGENCIES PUT THEMSELVES ON A WAR FOOTING. THERE IS NEED FOR MORE RESOURCES, COMMENSURATE TO THE CHALLENGES. THESE SHOULD INCLUDE TRADITIONAL AND NON-TRADITIONAL SOURCES FROM ALL ACTORS (NATIONAL GOVERNMENT, UN AGENCIES, PRIVATE SECTOR, CIVIL SOCIETY, UN AGENCIES AND DONOR COMMUNITY). THERE IS ALSO A NEED FOR BEHAVIORAL CHANGE TRANSLATED INTO GOOD GOVERNANCE.

8. KEY ISSUES DISCUSSED FOLLOWING THESE REMARKS INCLUDED: BREAKING THE SILENCE AROUND NORMS AND VALUES THAT FUEL THE EPIDEMIC, NAMELY THOSE WHICH PERPETUATE GENDER INEQUALITIES AND DISCRIMINATION; BUILDING ON POSITIVE CULTURAL VALUES WHILE REDUCING THE NEGATIVE ONES WHEN ADDRESSING GENDER BIAS AND INEQUALITY; ALLOCATING APPROPRIATE RESOURCES THROUGH THE NATIONAL BUDGET AND DEVELOPING A NEW RESOURCE AGENDA WHICH COMBINES ALL SOURCES; INTEGRATING HIV/AIDS INTO SECTORS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANS; FULLY INVOLVING PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS PLACING THEM IN THE CENTER OF THE RESPONSE. DELEGATES ALSO RAISED THE FOLLOWING TOPICS: IMPLICATION OF DEBT ON HIV/AIDS, RELEVANCE OF POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGIES TO HIV/AIDS CONTROL, IMPLICATIONS OF HIV/AIDS ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICIES AND PRACTICES AND INCLUSION OF ANTIRETROVIRAL DRUGS IN THE ESSENTIAL DRUG LIST AT AFFORDABLE PRICES.

9. THE AFTERNOON PLENARY SESSION FOCUSSED ON "LEADERSHIP AND PUBLIC POLICY." IN HER INTRODUCTORY REMARKS, MS. VIVIAN LOWERY DERRYCK, ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR AFRICA, USAID, STRESSED THE NEED TO FOCUS ON FIVE LESSONS: LEADERSHIP ON ALL LEVELS, ESPECIALLY SENIOR LEADERSHIP; THE NEED TO INVOLVE CIVIL SOCIETY; THE ELIMINATION OF STIGMA BY

EMPOWERING WOMEN AND EMBRACING MEN; TARGET PREVENTION WITH A SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON YOUTH; AND CREATING MULTI-SECTORAL

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APPROACHES.

10. JUSTIN MALEWEZI, VICE PRESIDENT OF MALAWI, STATED THAT "UNLESS WE SCALE UP OUR RESPONSES, MORE PEOPLE WILL DIE OF AIDS IN AFRICA THAN IN ALL THE WARS OF THE 20TH CENTURY...OUR HOPE LIES WITH THE UNINFECTED YOUTH LESS THAN 15 YEARS OF AGE. KEEPING YOUNG PEOPLE HIV NEGATIVE IS PROBABLY THE GREATEST CHALLENGE TO US AFRICAN LEADERS." HE EMPHASIZED THE NEED TO CHANGE MEN'S BEHAVIOR. MEN MUST BE INCLUDED IN ADVOCACY ABOUT REFORMING SEXUAL BEHAVIOR. ON THE ISSUES OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS, HE LISTED THE FOLLOWING ISSUES AS RELEVANT TO THE FIGHT AGAINST HIV/AIDS: AFRICAN EXTERNAL DEBT, THE UNEQUAL DISTRIBUTION OF BENEFITS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER, THE NEED FOR GREATER ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES IN AFRICA, AND CONFLICT PREVENTION. IN CONCLUSION, HE HIGHLIGHTED THE NEED TO STRENGTHEN THE POLITICAL LEADERSHIP'S COMMITMENT IN ADDRESSING HIV/AIDS. "LEADERSHIP IS NOT ABOUT POWER. IT IS ABOUT TAKING RESPONSIBILITY TO ADDRESS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES FACING OUR PEOPLE."

DECEMBER 5: LEADERSHIP CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES  
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11. MS. GRACA MACHEL GAVE ONE OF THE MOST WIDELY-ACCLAIMED KEYNOTE ADDRESSES. SHE EMPHASIZED THAT AFRICA'S OWN ACTION IS HER MOST VALUABLE RESOURCE. "WE DON'T NEED TO WAIT FOR BILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO COME FROM DONORS. IF WE BEGIN TO DO THIS OURSELVES BILLIONS WILL COME." INTERNAL LEADERSHIP MUST BE PROACTIVE. IT MUST EMPOWER PEOPLE TO USE THEIR CAPACITIES TO EFFECTIVELY MEET THE CHALLENGES OF THE EPIDEMIC. STRONG LEADERSHIP WILL BUILD CONFIDENCE INTERNALLY AND EXTERNALLY THAT AFRICA IS DETERMINED TO CONFRONT THE SITUATION. WE DETERMINE OUR OWN SUCCESS BY ORGANIZING, MOBILIZING AND EDUCATING OUR PEOPLE. THERE ARE NUMEROUS SUCCESS STORIES FROM PEOPLE WHO HAVE NO MONEY. MOTHERS, ORPHANS, TRADITIONAL HEALERS AND PEOPLE LIVING WITH AIDS FOR EXAMPLE, HAVE DEMONSTRATED WHAT AFRICANS CAN DO IN A CRISIS. AFRICANS MUST HAVE COURAGE TO CHALLENGE THOSE CULTURAL TRADITIONS WHICH HAVE NEGATIVE EFFECTS. WE MUST INCORPORATE THE FOLLOWING STRATEGIES: DISCUSS SEXUALITY, CHALLENGE THE ASSUMPTION ABOUT THE ROLE OF WOMEN AND COMBAT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, EARLY MARRIAGE AND RAPE.

DECEMBER 6: LEADERSHIP ACTIONS REQUIRED  
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12. DR. MAMPHELA RAMPHELE OF THE WORLD BANK CHAIRED A DISCUSSION ON THE NEED TO ADDRESS THE EPIDEMIC IN A WAR-LIKE

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FASHION THROUGH THE MOBILIZATION OF ALL KEY ACTORS AT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS. IT IS ESSENTIAL TO DEVELOP A TRUE PARTNERSHIP WITH ALL STAKEHOLDERS, ESPECIALLY COMMUNITIES, FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS, WHO MUST BE EMPOWERED TO DEAL WITH HIV/AIDS ISSUES. IT IS THEREFORE IMPERATIVE THAT INSTITUTIONS ADOPT A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT APPROACH TO THE HIV/AIDS PROBLEM IN TERMS OF BEHAVIORAL AND INSTITUTIONAL CHANGE. TRADITIONAL AND NON-TRADITIONAL APPROACHES SHOULD BE ADOPTED TO MOBILIZE FUNDS AND GOVERNMENTS SHOULD BUDGET INTERNAL RESOURCES TO FIGHT THE EPIDEMIC. THERE IS A NEED FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO ADJUST THEIR POLICIES TO ADDRESS THIS WAR-LIKE SITUATION. AN APPEAL WAS MADE TO THE WORLD BANK TO EXAMINE THE ETHICAL AND MORAL IMPLICATIONS OF LOAN FOR AIDS AND SEVERAL SPEAKERS CALLED FOR DEBT CANCELLATION AND THE CONVERSION OF LOANS TO GRANTS. GOVERNMENTS ARE URGED TO ESTABLISH FUNDING MECHANISMS TO FACILITATE THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS TO THE COMMUNITIES.

13. KENNETH KAUNDA OF ZAMBIA ADDRESSED THE NEED TO MOVE FROM RHETORIC TO ACTION. ALL STAKEHOLDERS WERE ENCOURAGED TO INTENSIFY THEIR RESPONSE TO THE HIV/AIDS EPIDEMIC AS WE CANNOT CONTINUE TO DO BUSINESS AS USUAL. COMMITMENT AND DEDICATION WILL LEAD TO SUCCESS. CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE AT NATIONAL, AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS SINCE THE INTRODUCTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGAINST HIV/AIDS IN JANUARY 1999. ONE ACHIEVEMENT HAS BEEN HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL MOBILIZATION. FOR EXAMPLE, THE ISSUE OF AIDS WAS RAISED AT THE LEVEL OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND THE SECRETARY GENERAL LAUNCHED THE PARTNERSHIP IN SEPTEMBER 1999. THERE HAS ALSO BEEN AN INCREASE IN RESOURCE MOBILIZATION FROM THE STAKEHOLDERS AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL. AT NATIONAL LEVEL THE INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGAINST HIV/AIDS HAS RESULTED IN INCREASED POLITICAL WILL AND COMMITMENT, IMPROVED STRATEGIC PLANS, DECENTRALIZATION OF THE NATIONAL RESPONSE TO DISTRICT AND COMMUNITY LEVELS, INCREASED RESOURCE MOBILIZATION INCLUDING INNOVATIVE WAYS OF RAISING FUNDS. (DEBT RELIEF, HIPIC). THERE IS HOWEVER STILL ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT PARTICULARLY WHEN IT COMES TO

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN AND DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS TO THE COMMUNITIES.

DECEMBER 7: HEADS OF STATE FORUM AND CLOSING CEREMONY

14. UN SECRETARY-GENERAL KOFI ANNAN CONGRATULATED YOUNG PEOPLE ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE FOR THEIR ELOQUENCE AND LEADERSHIP. TODAY MORE PEOPLE ARE AWARE OF THE IMPACT OF AIDS AND ARE CARING FOR THOSE WHO ARE INFECTED. I AM COMING

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TO BRING A MESSAGE OF HOPE; WE ARE FAR FROM POWERLESS. WE CAN EVEN TURN IT AROUND. IN THE FACE OF MULTIPLE BURDENS, WE NEED A COMPLETE SOCIAL MOBILIZATION; WE MUST FIGHT THE WAR ON MANY FRONTS. IT IS AT THE LOCAL LEVEL WHERE THE BURDEN IS GREATEST, ESPECIALLY AMONG WOMEN. ABOVE ALL IT IS A CHALLENGE FOR LEADERSHIP. LEADERSHIP HAS BEEN SHOWN TO OVERCOME TABOOS AND TO RAISE AWARENESS. MEN CAN MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE. WHEN WE THINK ABOUT MEN'S ROLES, WE THINK ONLY OF THE NEGATIVES. MEN CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE; BUT THEIR ROLES HAVE BEEN LIMITED. OFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF THE PROBLEM IS THE FIRST STEP IN DEALING WITH IT. THE LEADERS HERE SHOW THAT THE LEADERSHIP WE NEED IN AFRICA MUST FLOW FROM WITHIN; IT CANNOT COME FROM OUTSIDE.

AIDS IS A GLOBAL PROBLEM; INDIA, RUSSIA, OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD CAN LEARN FROM AFRICA'S EXPERIENCE. WE CAN BE A RESOURCE FOR THE REST OF THE WORLD. THE QUESTION IS NOT WHETHER MORE PEOPLE WILL DIE, BUT HOW MANY GENERATIONS WILL SUFFER AS OURS IS DOING TODAY. AFRICA CAN LEAD IN THIS CRUSADE AND FORM A LEARNING MODEL THAT THE ENTIRE WORLD CAN DRAW ON AS A RESOURCE.

UNAIDS WILL CONTINUE ITS MISSION AND THERE WILL BE A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN JUNE NEXT YEAR DEVOTED TO AIDS. FACING UP TO AIDS IS A POINT OF HONOR, NOT A POINT OF SHAME. AIDS OPENS OUR EYES AND ARMS. WE CAME TOO LATE INTO THIS STRATEGY; FAR TOO MANY GRAVES HAVE BEEN DUG ALREADY. THE RESPONSE HAS BEEN PAINFULLY SLOW, BUT FINALLY, WE ARE GALVANIZED.

15. PRIME MINISTER MELES ZENAWI OF ETHIOPIA STATED THAT ALL SECTIONS OF SOCIETY MUST CONTRIBUTE ACTIVELY TOWARDS ONE OBJECTIVE. SUCCESS LIES FIRST AND FOREMOST ON EFFECTIVE AND SUSTAINED SOCIAL MOBILIZATION. ONLY THEN CAN WE EXPECT SUPPORT AND SOLIDARITY FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. HE

RESPONDED TO A QUESTION ABOUT AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS CONDUCTING WARS WHILE THEIR PEOPLE ARE UNDER ATTACK BY AIDS BY INSISTING THAT SOME WARS ARE JUSTIFIED AND OTHERS ARE NOT. THE FIGHT AGAINST APARTHEID, COLONIALISM AND UNSCRUPULOUS DICTATORS IS JUSTIFIED. VIOLENCE THAT AIMS TO LOOT NATURAL RESOURCES (E.G., IN SIERRA LEONE) IS TOTALLY UNJUSTIFIED. THE MEDIA PORTRAYS WARS IN AFRICA AS SENSELESS, BUT HE SUGGESTED THAT WE LEARN TO DIFFERENTIATE AND SEE THAT THEY ARE NOT ALL SENSELESS. ON THE QUESTION OF CARING FOR THOSE SUFFERING FROM AIDS, HE PROFFERED THAT ETHIOPIA'S PROBLEM IS RESOURCES AND MEDICATION, WHICH IS DIRECTLY RELATED TO POVERTY. ETHIOPIA DOES NOT HAVE THE RESOURCES AND PRICES FOR DRUGS ARE TOO HIGH. WE CAN AT LEAST PROVIDE LOVE AND CARE AND AT THE SAME TIME RAISE OUR VOICES ON THE ISSUE OF DRUG

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PRICES. HE BELIEVES THAT PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES CAN STILL SELL THESE DRUGS AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES AND STILL PROFIT.

16. PRESIDENT YOWERI MUSEVENI OF UGANDA, THE LEADER OF A COUNTRY THAT IS HAILED AS AN AFRICAN SUCCESS STORY IN COMBATING HIV/AIDS, TREATED DELEGATES TO A DOWN TO EARTH COMMENTARY ON HOW EVENTS UNFOLDED IN HIS COUNTRY'S STRUGGLE AGAINST THE DISEASE AND THE REASONS BEHIND THE LEADERSHIP DECISIONS THAT HE TOOK. THE PRESIDENT STARTED BY LISTING TELLING STATISTICS: IN 1993 1.5 MILLION UGANDANS HAD BEEN AFFECTED; TODAY, 2 MILLION ARE INFECTED. 800,000 UGANDANS HAVE DIED AND LEFT 1.7 MILLION ORPHANS. BY 1993, THE INFECTION RATES IN UGANDA WERE THE HIGHEST IN THE WORLD AND DECISIVE ACTION WAS NEEDED. AT THE BEGINNING, IN 1984, HE THOUGHT AIDS HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH HIS COUNTRY AS IT WAS PRESENTED AS A DISEASE FOR HOMOSEXUALS AND DRUG ADDICTS. BUT THE REALITY OF HETEROSEXUAL TRANSMISSION MEANT THAT UGANDA WAS AT HIGH RISK. IN TRADITIONAL CULTURES, SEX WAS TREATED AS A TABOO SUBJECT AND YOUNG PEOPLE ENGAGING IN SEX WERE SEVERELY PUNISHED. THE RELAXING OF TRADITIONAL MORES LED TO SEXUAL FREEDOM AND A VULNERABILITY TO STDS. A SECOND DANGER WAS THE DISCOVERY OF ANTIBIOTICS (PENICILLIN) MAKING PEOPLE NOT TO TAKE STDS SERIOUSLY.

IN FINDING WAYS TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE, HE DREW INSPIRATION FROM TRADITION. "WHEN A LION COMES INTO YOUR VILLAGE, YOU MUST RAISE THE ALARM LOUDLY." THIS IS WHAT WE DID IN UGANDA; WE TOOK IT SERIOUSLY AND WE ACHIEVED GOOD RESULTS. AIDS IS NOT SUCH A SERIOUS PROBLEM; IT IS NOT LIKE SMALL POX OR EBOLA. AIDS CAN BE PREVENTED AS IT IS TRANSMITTED THROUGH A FEW KNOWN WAYS. IF WE RAISE AWARENESS SUFFICIENTLY, IT WILL

STOP. THEREFORE WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO PREACH TO PEOPLE ABOUT THE SIMPLE WAYS TO PREVENT AIDS AND WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO PREVENT IT. HOW DO YOU PREACH? AT THE BEGINNING, WE USED ADVERTISEMENTS AFTER THE TV NEWS. OUR AD QUIETLY TOLD PEOPLE TO "LOVE CAREFULLY." BUT TV WAS ACCESSIBLE TO ONLY A FEW PEOPLE. THIS WAS A SILENT ALARM. WE LEARNED THAT THE BEST CHANNELS FOR MAKING AN ALARM ARE THE POLITICAL LEADERS. POLITICAL RALLIES ARE THE PLACE TO PASS ON THE MESSAGE. CHURCHES AND MOSQUES ARE ANOTHER CRUCIAL AVENUE FOR RAISING AWARENESS. SCHOOLS WERE ALSO ASKED TO PASS ON THE MESSAGE, ONCE A WEEK DURING ASSEMBLIES. RADIO WAS ALSO USED TO PASS ON THE MESSAGE, GUARANTEEING THAT ALMOST EVERYONE WAS REACHED. THE LANGUAGE USED AND THE TIMING IS CRUCIAL. IT MUST BE IN THE VERNACULAR, CLEARLY EXPRESSED AND AT A TIME WHEN PEOPLE ARE LISTENING.

THE AIDS AWARENESS MESSAGE WAS ALSO FACILITATED BY THE DELIBERATE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN AS PART OF THE

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DEMOCRATIZATION PROCESS. WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT WAS ACHIEVED BY PUTTING WOMEN AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF LEADERSHIP. UGANDA'S VICE PRESIDENT IS A WOMAN. THIS WAS AIMED AT BREAKING THE PSYCHOLOGICAL BARRIER AND GIVING WOMEN CONFIDENCE. IT SENT A MESSAGE THAT GIRLS ARE NOT USELESS. IT HAD AN IMPACT ON AIDS EMPOWERMENT; WE KNOW THAT WOMEN NEED TO BE EMPOWERED BEFORE THEY CAN ASSERT THEMSELVES IN A SEXUAL RELATIONSHIP. POSITIVE RESULTS AS A RESULT OF THESE MEASURES: 100% AWARENESS - PEOPLE KNOW WHAT AIDS IS AND HOW IT SPREADS.

IN 1986, 30 OUT OF 100 WOMEN ATTENDING ANTENATAL CLINICS WERE INFECTED, TODAY ONLY 8 OUT OF 100 ARE INFECTED. IN 1986 GIRLS' FIRST SEXUAL ENCOUNTER WAS AT 14, TODAY IT IS 16 AND 17 FOR BOYS. SEX WITH NON-REGULAR PARTNERS HAS ALSO DECREASED. USE OF CONDOMS HAS RISEN FROM 57% IN 1995 TO 76% IN 1998. TESTING FACILITIES HAVE INCREASED; EVERY DISTRICT HOSPITAL NOW HAS TESTING FACILITIES. SINCE 1990, 450,000 HAVE COME FOR VOLUNTARY TESTING. UGANDA HAS SET UP A STATE OF THE ART LABORATORY FOR DRUGS TESTING FOR ANTI-VIRAL DRUGS (ARVS) AND MONITORING THEIR EFFECTS. "I HAVE BECOME A SMALL DOCTOR MYSELF - I KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT THIS!" MUSEVENI PROCEEDED TO GIVE A MEDICAL LECTURE ON THE EFFECTS OF AIDS AND THE EFFECTS OF ARVS.

SOME OTHER MEASURES TAKEN IN UGANDA INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:  
-LEGISLATION AGAINST DEFILEMENT OF MINORS (18 AND BELOW);

-HARSH MEASURES AGAINST RAPE (INCLUDING THE DEATH SENTENCE);  
-MICROCREDIT SCHEMES WHICH AID WOMEN ON THE ROAD TO INDEPENDENCE; AND  
-FREE PRIMARY SCHOOL EDUCATION WHICH MOVES PEOPLE OFF OF THE LIST OF DESPERATION.

17. PRESIDENT FESTUS MOGAE OF BOTSWANA STATED THAT BOTSWANA IS NOW THE COUNTRY WITH THE HIGHEST INCIDENCE OF AIDS IN AFRICA AND IS USING ITS BEST ENDEAVOURS TO EMULATE THE EXAMPLE OF UGANDA. WE HAVE MOBILISED OUR BEST PROFESSIONALS TO DEAL WITH THIS CATASTROPHE WHICH IS ERODING OUR HARD WON ECONOMIC GAINS. IT NOT ONLY UNDERMINES OUR DEVELOPMENT BUT ALSO IMPACTS ON OUR SECURITY. AT THE MILLENIUM SUMMIT, THE PRESIDENT OF BOTSWANA DEVOTED HIS ENTIRE SPEECH TO THE ISSUE OF HIV/AIDS. THE COUNTRY IS TAKING SERIOUS STEPS TO RAISE AWARENESS - THE PRESIDENT CHAIRS THE NATIONAL AIDS COUNCIL AND STRIVES TO PROVIDE LEADERSHIP. RELEVANT MINISTRIES MAINSTREAM AIDS INTO THEIR NATIONAL PLANNING, WITH PROVISIONS FOR SPECIAL GROUPS SUCH AS YOUTH AND WOMEN. THERE IS A STRATEGY FOR REACHING PEOPLE AT THE COMMUNITY LEVEL. THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS ARE ALSO REPRESENTED AT THE AIDS COUNCIL TO ENSURE COUNTRY-WIDE

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MOBILIZATION.

THE WHOLE OF AFRICA NEEDS TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY. WE MUST TAKE THE CRISIS AS AN EMERGENCY AND GIVE IT THE IMPORTANCE IT DESERVES. WE NEED TO DIVERT RESOURCES FROM MILITARY EXPENDITURE TO FIGHT AIDS. WE NEED TO REGARD THE YOUTH AS OUR GREATEST RESOURCE. I AGREE WITH THE CALL OF YOUTH TO CREDITORS TO GIVE GRANTS, NOT LOANS FOR FIGHTING AIDS. BUT WE MUST BE CAREFUL NOT TO DISCOURAGE RESEARCH ON THE DISEASE BY COMPENSATING LEAD RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS APPROPRIATELY. WE SHOULD BE UNITED IN DEMANDING A COMPREHENSIVE CARE PACKAGE - AFFORDABLE PRICES FOR ALL DRUGS REQUIRED IN THE TREATMENT AND CARE OF OUR PEOPLE (NOT JUST ARVS).

18. PRESIDENT PAUL KAGAME OF RWANDA INSISTED THAT POLITICAL LEADERSHIP MUST BE AT THE FOREFRONT OF THE COMBAT AGAINST THE HIV/AIDS SCOURGE, ADDING THAT HIS COUNTRY HAS CONFRONTED A UNIQUE SITUATION OVER THE YEARS RELATED TO THE PANDEMIC. HE RECALLED THAT THE 1994 GENOCIDE INCLUDED A DELIBERATE EFFORT TO INFECT PEOPLE IN RWANDA WITH AIDS. ACCORDING TO THE PRESIDENT, IN 1994 JUST BEFORE THE GENOCIDE BEGAN THE PERCENTAGE OF INFECTED PEOPLE WAS 2%, BUT BY 1998 IT HAD INCREASED TO 11%, CREATING 270,000 ORPHANS. KAGAME

DESCRIBED HIS GOVERNMENT'S NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO SENSITIZE RELIGIOUS LEADERS, CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS AND SCHOOLS ON THE DANGERS OF HIV/AIDS. THE PRESIDENT INFORMED THE FORUM THAT RWANDA IS THE HOST TO A REGIONAL AIDS INITIATIVE, WHICH IS CHARGED WITH MONITORING THE MOVEMENT OF TRUCK DRIVERS IN THE REGION.

WHEN CHALLENGED ABOUT ALLEGED MISALLOCATION OF RESOURCES IN FAVOR OF WAR, PRESIDENT KAGAME RESPONDED BY STATING THE IMPORTANCE OF DEFINING THE UNDERLYING CAUSES OF THE CONFLICTS. IN THE CASE OF RWANDA, THERE WAS A GENOCIDE AND THE CONFLICT WAS AN ATTEMPT TO PURSUE THE PERPETRATORS OF THIS GENOCIDE. HE ASKED IF WE SHOULD AVOID CONFLICT JUST BECAUSE WE ARE AFRAID OF GETTING INVOLVED IN A CONFLICT IN A SITUATION WHERE THERE IS A THREAT AGAINST HUMANITY. IN THE CASE OF RWANDA THERE WAS JUSTIFICATION BECAUSE THEY WERE FIGHTING AGAINST FORCES THAT WERE CREATING PROBLEMS FOR RWANDA AND AFRICA. OTHER WARS MAY NOT BE JUSTIFIED AND OTHER AFRICAN LEADERS CAN RESPOND ON THEIR RESPECTIVE WARS.

19. THE CLOSING CEREMONY WAS HIGHLIGHTED BY A VIDEO TAPE MESSAGE FROM NELSON MANDELA. HE STRESSED IN HIS REMARKS THAT NO EFFORTS SHOULD BE SPARED IN THE FIGHT AGAINST HIV/AIDS WHICH IS CAUSING MORE DEATHS IN AFRICA THAN THE SUM TOTAL OF DEATHS CAUSED BY ALL WARS, FAMINES, FLOODS, AND MALARIA ON THE CONTINENT. WE MUST MOBILIZE ALL OUR ENERGIES

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ROUTINE

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WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

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TO FIGHT THE PANDEMIC. WE NEED TO TAKE BOLD INITIATIVES TO PREVENT NEW INFECTIONS OF THE YOUTH AND TO PREVENT MOTHER-TO-CHILD TRANSMISSION OF THE DISEASE. WE NEED TO INVEST IN INFORMATION AND LIFE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE. INFORMATION DISSEMINATION IS A CRUCIAL ELEMENT IN REVERSING THIS TIDE. WE NEED TO LOOK FOR WAYS TO MAKE HIV/AIDS DRUGS ACCESSIBLE AND AFFORDABLE. THERE IS A NEED TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEM OF STIGMATIZATION AND TAKE ACTIONS TO PROVIDE A CARING ENVIRONMENT FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH AIDS. THE CHALLENGE IS TO MOVE FROM RHETORIC TO ACTION, AND AT AN UNPRECEDENTED SCALE. "OTHERS WILL NOT SAVE US IF WE DO NOT PRIMARILY COMMIT OURSELVES."

NAGY

<PRIOR\_DIST>

SIT: BABBITT BANBURY BERNARD NSC EFROS MCLEAN NAPLAN PATTEN SCHWARTZ  
SHEA SMITHP WILCOX PRINT

<SSN> 4263

<MSGID> M4785335

UNCLASSIFIED

STATE 34645 of 25 FEB 00  
TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS  
SUBJECT: STRENGTHENING OUR RESPONSE TO THE HIV/AIDS  
PANDEMIC

1. THIS IS AN ACTION TELEGRAM.

2. The recent DNSC session on HIV/AIDS highlighted the pandemic as a significant security issue for the United States. This disease threatens to undermine our important long-term policy objectives in Africa. In a single generation, AIDS may wipe out much of the social and economic progress Africa has made over the past 30 years. AIDS is a security threat, an economic threat, and perhaps the single most significant humanitarian and moral challenge of our lifetimes.

3. Africa is now the epicenter of the pandemic. Thus, each of you is uniquely positioned to report and advise on the implications of the disease. We must do more than report, however. Only an all-out war against AIDS will limit the devastation that is descending on Africa. This is an area where concerted U. S. diplomacy, combined with enhanced resource flows and greater international cooperation, can and must make a difference. Some of you live in countries that already have high levels of HIV infection, others in countries where the disease has yet to take firm hold. We now know that the initial spread of the HIV virus occurs relatively slowly, but that once the infection reaches approximately five percent of adults in the general population, there is a rapid acceleration of the epidemic. In Nigeria, for example, it is estimated that 5.2 percent of adults are now infected. Soon Nigeria will have more cases of HIV than any other country in Africa.

4. While 5,500 Africans die of AIDS each day now, that toll will rise to 13,000 deaths each day by 2005 from those persons who have already been infected. We know of nothing at this stage that is likely to prevent that from happening. That is why it is so critical to prevent HIV/AIDS in the first place. AIDS will be an increasingly important economic, social and political factor in Africa for the foreseeable future. But, as you well know, this is not just an African issue, it is an issue of global concern. By 2015, the experts tell us, India will have more HIV infections than all of Africa today, and the disease is spreading to other parts of Asia and to the CIS at an alarming rate.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: It is imperative that every Embassy become fully engaged in the war against HIV/AIDS. Every

USG employee needs to comprehend this issue and become involved in this fight. Personnel at a number of missions, particularly in Southern and Eastern Africa, have long been working heroically against HIV/AIDS. Our colleagues at USAID and HHS have for years been doing outstanding work in the struggle against AIDS. As a result most USAID missions have for some time had strategies for responding to AIDS with a range of programmatic activities. Where this is the case, what I ask you to craft now is a more expansive country strategy that highlights new suggestions and ideas about how public diplomacy can reinforce the USAID HIV/AIDS country strategies. These ideas and the role of each member of the country team in implementing them should be submitted to AF as part of an action plan. Working with USAID/Washington, we will provide posts without USAID missions documentation on best practices and lessons learned regarding HIV/AIDS control. I would also like each of you please to reflect your enhanced plans and resource requirements to combat HIV/AIDS in your MPP.

6. To date, we have only a few examples of countries in Africa where the spread of HIV has been significantly slowed. Uganda has cut the adult prevalence rate by about a third through a comprehensive strategy of high-level political will, aggressive preventive education, voluntary counseling and testing, robust activity on the part of NGOs, civic and religious organizations, and substantial donor financial and technical support. It also took Uganda ten years of sustained effort and donor

support to achieve the results we see today. Senegal, employing a similarly ' robust strategy, has been able to keep AIDS from gaining a foothold in the first place.

7. Your country strategy will be a work in progress as we learn new lessons. Our own AF and Department strategies are in draft and will be available to you soon to provide additional direction. We will also provide you a listing of suggested issues to address, and a general template, especially for those of you in countries without USAID technical staff, or with limited expertise in this area. You will receive separately a copy of the memo "What Ambassadors Can DO" which emerged from the SADC regional HIV/AIDS conference last October.

8. Many questions remain unanswered. Some of you, for example, are in countries where your own staff have been seriously affected by AIDS-related deaths, loss of productivity, and associated management challenges. We need to know more about the financial and personnel dimensions of this disease on our own diplomatic operations. We need your thoughts on the pros and cons of implementing bureau-wide HIV/AIDS personnel policies. We need your views on what can be done within the context of existing and additional resources. These and other questions will require careful study, and your experience And advice are extremely important as we undertake this project.

9. It is my firm view that we as a bureau, and as embassy

communities, need to be doing substantially more now to respond to this challenge. I look to each of you to provide the kind of solid direction, creativity and guidance that a crisis of this magnitude demands. In light of the urgency of this issue, I would ask to receive your action plans NLT April 1. I encourage you to share this message widely among your country team, and look forward to your views and suggestions.

End Cable Text



DATE NEEDED BELIEVE THIS IS MARCH 2000  
SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE FOR ENHANCED MISSION  
HIV/AIDS RESPONSE PLAN

REF: STATE 34645

1. REFTTEL ASKED EACH POST TO SUBMIT BY APRIL 1 AN ENHANCED POST PLAN OF ACTION FOR YOUR COUNTRY TO RESPOND TO THE HIV/AIDS PANDEMIC. THIS CABLE TRANSMITS ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE TO HELP ORGANIZE YOUR THINKING. THE FIGHT AGAINST HIV/AIDS IS ONE THAT INVOLVES EVERY ELEMENT OF EVERY POST IN AFRICA. AMBASSADORS AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNTRY TEAM SHOULD EACH REFLECT ON WAYS THEY CAN BECOME PERSONALLY INVOLVED, AND WHERE THAT IS ALREADY THE CASE, WAYS TO ENCOURAGE A MORE COMPREHENSIVE RESPONSE BY ALL MISSION ELEMENTS. IF YOURS IS AN EMBASSY WHICH HAS BEEN WAGING THIS STRUGGLE FOR MANY YEARS, WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED THAT MAY BE OF BENEFIT TO OTHER POSTS WHICH ARE ONLY NOW CONFRONTING THESE ISSUES?

2. SUBMISSIONS FROM SMALLER POSTS AND THOSE WITHOUT USAID MISSIONS MAY BE LESS AMBITIOUS, BUT THE OVERRIDING OBJECTIVE AT THIS STAGE IS TO TAKE THE FIGHT AGAINST HIV/AIDS FROM WHEREVER IT IS NOW IN YOUR SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES, AND RAISE IT TO A HIGHER LEVEL. WHILE WE ARE NOT INSISTING ON A SPECIFIC FORMAT, WE ARE LOOKING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH THAT INCLUDES ALL MISSION ELEMENTS. IN USAID PRESENCE COUNTRIES, HIV/AIDS COUNTRY PLANS ARE ALREADY IN PLACE. THE INTENTION NOW IS TO

SUPPLEMENT, NOT COMPETE WITH OR DUPLICATE THOSE ACTIVITIES. LARGER EMBASSIES, AND THOSE WITH USAID HIV/AIDS COUNTRY STRATEGIES MAY PRODUCE MORE ELABORATE PLANS, OR SIMPLY ADD NEW ELEMENTS TO EXISTING COUNTRY STRATEGIES WHERE THAT IS MOST APPROPRIATE. KEY TO THIS PROCESS IS TO TAKE STOCK OF WHAT IS ALREADY BEING DONE, BY WHOM, AND TO SEE WHAT MORE CAN BE DONE.

3. WHILE IT IS ENCOURAGING THAT A GROWING NUMBER OF AFRICAN LEADERS ARE SPEAKING OUT ON HIV/AIDS, SOME FOR THE FIRST TIME, IT IS EQUALLY APPARENT THAT MANY INFLUENTIAL AFRICANS REMAIN IGNORANT OF BASIC ISSUES RELATING TO THE PANDEMIC. THIS IS A FIELD OF BATTLE WHERE MYTHOLOGY AND MISINFORMATION STILL LOOM LARGE. THERE IS A ROLE FOR EVERY ECONOMIC-COMMERCIAL OFFICER, EVERY POLITICAL OFFICER, EVERY DAO REPRESENTATIVE, EVERY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, EVERY CONSULAR OFFICER... ALL OF YOU AT POST FROM EVERY AGENCY, TO DO YOUR UTMOST ON THIS ISSUE IN YOUR OFFICIAL CONTACTS ON A DAILY BASIS. TO DO THAT, EVERY MEMBER OF THE U. S. MISSION COMMUNITY MUST BE EDUCATED ON WHAT HIV/AIDS IS, AND WHY IT IS IMPORTANT. THIS IS NOT AN ISSUE TO BE TURNED OVER, WHERE THIS IS STILL POSSIBLE, TO AN ALREADY OVERWORKED HEALTH OFFICER AT THE USAID MISSION.

4. INITIALLY, YOUR PLANNING SHOULD FOCUS ON WHAT CAN BE DONE WITHOUT ANY ADDITIONAL RESOURCES. IT MAY BE THAT ADDITIONAL RESOURCES ARE MADE AVAILABLE IN THE FUTURE, SO IT IS ALSO APPROPRIATE TO REFLECT ON WHAT YOU COULD OR WOULD DO IN THAT EVENTUALITY, BUT DO NOT LIMIT YOUR THINKING TO ACTIVITIES WHICH WOULD REQUIRE MORE MONEY OR STAFF. THUS YOUR FOCUS AT THIS STAGE MAY BE LARGELY DIRECTED TOWARD ENHANCED POLICY DIALOGUE, PUBLIC DIPLOMACY, OUTREACH, AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES. THE ROLE OF PUBLIC DIPLOMACY IS CRUCIAL AS WE ENHANCE OUR EFFORTS TO FIGHT AIDS. SOME POSTS HAVE TARGETED PRIVATE AND OFFICIAL MEDIA, SPONSORED DISCUSSIONS AND GUEST SPEAKERS, AND HAD THE AMBASSADOR GIVE INTERVIEWS ON HIV/AIDS. HOW CAN YOU USE THE AVAILABLE MEDIA RESOURCES, SPECIAL ACCESS TO KEY LEADERS, AND THE EMBASSY'S HIGH PROFILE TO DRAW MORE ATTENTION TO THIS ISSUE? POSTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO INCLUDE CONDUCTING ANALYSES OF THE ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, SOCIAL, MILITARY, AND OTHER IMPACTS OF HIV/AIDS ON THE COUNTRY. WE SUGGEST THAT EACH RELEVANT OFFICER INCLUDE THIS RESPONSIBILITY AS PART OF THEIR WORK.

5. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF ISSUES THAT SHOULD INFLUENCE YOUR STRATEGIC PLANNING. WE HAVE VIRTUALLY NO UNDERSTANDING OF THE MACROECONOMIC IMPACT OF HIV/AIDS. WE DO NOT HAVE AN OVERALL GRASP OF THE WAYS IN WHICH THE PANDEMIC IS IMPACTING OUR OPERATIONS AT OUR POSTS ACROSS THE CONTINENT. WE HAVE ONLY A LIMITED COMPOSITE PICTURE OF HOW RECENT STATEMENTS BY SOME SENIOR AFRICAN LEADERS ON HIV/AIDS ARE FILTERING DOWN TO THE OPERATIONAL LEVEL.

WHILE WE KNOW MUCH ABOUT THE HIV/AIDS ENVIRONMENT IN SOME HEAVILY AFFECTED COUNTRIES, THERE IS LESS INFORMATION FROM SOME LOCATIONS WHERE THE DISEASE IS ONLY NOW BECOMING A LARGER CONCERN. PLEASE KEEP THESE ISSUES IN MIND AS YOU CRAFT YOUR RESPONSES AND REPORTING PLAN FOR THE YEAR AHEAD.

6. DEPARTMENT AND AF ARE ALSO LOOKING FOR CREATIVE SUGGESTIONS, SUCCESS STORIES, LARGE AND SMALL, MORE REPORTING GENERALLY, AND BEST PRACTICES WHICH CAN BE SHARED MORE WIDELY. THE REMAINDER OF THIS TELEGRAM PROVIDES A NUMBER OF SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS FOR "WHAT AMBASSADORS CAN DO" THAT EMERGED FROM THE SADC REGIONAL AMBASSADORS AND MISSION DIRECTORS HIV/AIDS MEETING IN HARARE LAST OCTOBER. THESE SUGGESTIONS SHOULD INFORM AND STIMULATE YOUR OWN DISCUSSIONS. AGAIN, I LOOK FORWARD TO READING YOUR PLANS AND TO SHARING YOUR SUGGESTIONS, VIEWS, AND BEST PRACTICES WITH OUR COLLEAGUES.

7. BEGIN TEXT:

USG RESPONSE TO THE EPIDEMIC "WHAT AMBASSADORS CAN DO"  
(FROM (99)HARARE 7005)

AMBASSADORS CAN MAKE HIV/AIDS A COUNTRY TEAM PRIORITY, INVOLVING ALL MEMBERS IN STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT, BY:

--PERSONALLY LEADING AND COORDINATING COUNTRY TEAM EFFORTS REGARDING HIV/AIDS;

--TALKING ABOUT THE EPIDEMIC IN THE MANAGEMENT TEAM;

--BEING THE POST'S SENIOR ADVOCATE FOR OBTAINING RESOURCES FROM WASHINGTON;

--USING THE MISSION PROGRAM PLAN (MPP) TO FLAG THE IMPORTANCE OF HIV/AIDS AS A GLOBAL AND REGIONAL ISSUE AND ENSURE USG SUPPORT FOR HIV/AIDS PROGRAMS;

--INCORPORATING HIV/AIDS INTO PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAMS BY:  
(1) BELONGING IN HIGH-LEVEL HIV/AIDS SPEAKERS; (2) ESTABLISHING A MEDIA AWARD PROGRAM FOR HIV/AIDS REPORTING TO ENCOURAGE RESPONSIBLE AND SUSTAINED LOCAL MEDIA COVERAGE; (3) INCORPORATING UNIVERSITY-BASED HIV/AIDS AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS INTO THE PROGRAMS OF FULBRIGHT PROFESSORS AND VISITING RESEARCHERS;

--DISCUSSING THE EPIDEMIC WITH THE DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE TO SEEK WAYS FOR THE MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS HIV/AIDS WITHIN THE HOST COUNTRY SECURITY ESTABLISHMENT BY: (1) WORKING WITH DEFENSE COUNTERPARTS TO INCORPORATE HIV/AIDS MESSAGES INTO DEMINING TRAINING AND CONTRACTS; AND (2) ENCOURAGING HIV/AIDS EDUCATION AT MILITARY INSTALLATIONS;

--CONSIDERING WHETHER IT IS APPROPRIATE FOR PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER TEACHERS TO PROMOTE HIV/AIDS AWARENESS IN RURAL SCHOOLS AND THROUGH ANTI-AIDS CLUBS, RECOGNIZING THE LIKELY SENSITIVITY OF LOCAL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS;

--INSTRUCTING THE POLITICAL SECTION TO CONSIDER USING DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS FUNDS TO SUPPORT HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS THAT PERFORM HIV/AIDS ADVOCACY;

--INSTRUCTING THE ECONOMIC SECTION TO: (1) EMPHASIZE COMMUNITY-BASED HIV/AIDS ACTIVITIES IN THE AMBASSADOR'S SELF HELP PROGRAM; AND (2) INCLUDE HIV/AIDS ISSUES IN DISCUSSIONS WITH U. S. COMPANIES;

--INSTRUCTING THE RSO TO ASSIST LOCAL POLICE AND SECURITY GUARD COMPANIES TO DEVELOP HIV/AIDS AWARENESS PROGRAMS;  
AND

--INCLUDING HIV/AIDS ON THE AGENDAS OF VISITING CODELS AND STAFFDELS

AMBASSADORS CAN USE THEIR PUBLIC POSITION TO PROMOTE HIV/AIDS ACTIVISM BY:

--BEING "OUT IN FRONT" AND NOT DELEGATING TO STAFF THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROMOTE HIV/AIDS ACTIVISM;

--SEIZING THEIR POSITION AS THE "PRESIDENT'S REPRESENTATIVE" TO ENSURE THAT THEY PERSONALLY REPRESENT PRESIDENTIAL INITIATIVES, COORDINATE ACCESS TO USG RESOURCES AND STRESS THAT THEY ARE ALSO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE;

--RAISING THE PROFILE OF THE ISSUE BY MENTIONING HIV/AIDS IN ALL MEETINGS WITH THE HOST COUNTRY PRESIDENT, CABINET MEMBERS, AND OTHER SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS;

--BEING PROACTIVE IN CAPTURING MEDIA COVERAGE FOCUSING ATTENTION ON HIV/AIDS IN EVERY PUBLIC SPEECH EVEN IF IT SEEMS UNRELATED;

--MOTIVATING AND MOBILIZING OTHER AMBASSADORS AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, FOR EXAMPLE, BY HOSTING FORUM TO DISCUSS HIV/AIDS CHALLENGES;

--USING THE MEDIA TO ADVERTISE AMBASSADORS' SUPPORT FOR PERSONS LIVING WITH AIDS IN HIV/AIDS AWARENESS BY ATTENDING EVENTS AND FUNCTIONS HOSTED BY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, AND BY PERSONALLY VISITING AND HOLDING HANDS OF THOSE LIVING WITH AIDS;

--URGING HOST GOVERNMENTS TO PROVIDE TAX INCENTIVES TO COMPANIES AND INDIVIDUALS WHO SUPPORT LOCAL NGO

INITIATIVES; AND

--STRESSING TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS THE IMPORTANCE OF FREE PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS, RATHER THAN USING SCARCE DONOR FUNDS TO PURCHASE MEDIA SPOTS.

AMBASSADORS CAN ENGAGE U. S. AND LOCAL PRIVATE SECTORS COMPANIES ON HIV/AIDS ISSUES BY:

--PROVIDING LEADERSHIP IN THE AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY THROUGH AMCHAM OR THE LOCAL AMERICAN BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS;

--DEMONSTRATING TO COMPANIES THAT HIV/AIDS HAS A DIRECT IMPACT ON BOTTOM LINE PROFITS, IN PART BY USING ANALYSES THAT SHOW THE COST OF PREVENTION PROGRAMS VERSUS THE COST OF COPING WITH HIV/AIDS IN THE WORKPLACE:

--HELPING TO ESTABLISH LINKS BETWEEN COMPANIES INTERESTED IN DEVELOPING HIV/AIDS WORKPLACE PROGRAMS AND HIV/AIDS NGOS THAT CAN ASSIST;

--CREATING A PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM TO SHARE HIV/AIDS PREVENTION BEST PRACTICES;

--PUBLICLY RECOGNIZING BUSINESSES THAT HAVE BEST PRACTICES, AND ENCOURAGING COMPANIES TO ADOPT SUCH PRACTICES WHEN MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS OCCUR;

--ENCOURAGING LOCAL ROTARY CLUBS TO PROMOTE HIV/AIDS AWARENESS AND WORKPLACE POLICIES;

--HELPING THE FOREIGN COMMERCIAL SERVICE AND DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PREPARE AND DELIVER APPROPRIATELY BALANCED MESSAGES TO POTENTIAL INVESTORS ABOUT THE IMPACT OF HIV/AIDS, INCLUDING ACCURATE RISK ASSESSMENTS: AND

--ENCOURAGING PRIVATE SECTOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY IT THREE WAYS: (1)ADOPTING PROGRESSIVE INTERNAL WORKPLACE POLICIES: (2)EXTRAMURAL FUNDING OF LOCAL HIV/AIDS PREVENTION AND CARE ACTIVITIES; (3)PROMOTING A PUBLIC IMAGE OF A BUSINESS THAT CARES ABOUT ITS EMPLOYEES AND THE PUBLIC.

HIV/AIDS POLICY IN THE U. S. MISSION.

--WORK WITH MISSION STAFF AND WASHINGTON TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A POLICY OF BEST PRACTICES FOR USG WORKPLACES. ISSUES TO CONSIDER INCLUDE:

--THE PERCEPTION OF A DOUBLE STANDARD OF COMMITMENT BY THE USG TO US AND FSN STAFF.

--LEAVE POLICIES FOR SICK EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE AN

UNDERLYING HIV INFECTION;

--EMPLOYMENT POLICY FOR HIV POSITIVE APPLICANTS;

--HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES;

--DEATH BENEFITS AND WILL PLANNING FOR HIV POSITIVE EMPLOYEES;

--MEDICAL ATTENTION AND FOLLOW-UP CARE FOR RAPE VICTIMS;

--OFFICIAL TRANSPORTATION POLICIES IN AREAS WHERE RAPE IS PREVALENT; AND

--POLICIES FOR INDIRECT STAFF SUCH AS LOCAL SECURITY GUARDS PROVIDED IN CONTRACTS;

--POLICIES IN DOUBLE ENCUMBERING POSITION CEILINGS AND DISABILITY.

ONGOING WORKPLACE PROGRAMS IN THE REGION INCLUDE:

--HIV/AIDS EDUCATION AND PREVENTION PROGRAMS FOR ALL MISSION STAFF AND THEIR DEPENDENTS, INCLUDING CHILDREN;

--USE OF NGOS, PARTICULARLY THOSE REPRESENTING PEOPLE LIVING WITH AIDS, TO PROVIDE WORKPLACE EDUCATION;

--CREATION OF FSN HIV/AIDS AWARENESS GROUPS;

--PROVISION OF FREE CONDOMS IN RESTROOMS AND CONSIDERATION FOR REIMBURSING PERSONNEL FOR VCT SERVICES:

--REVIEW OF LITERATURE SUCH AS THE UNAIDS AND OAU DOCUMENTS ON BEST PRACTICES IN THE WORKPLACE TO DETERMINE WHAT OTHER PROGRAMS ARE NEEDED; AND

--CROSS-TRAINING OF SENIOR FSNS TO FILL GAPS AS ILLNESS AND DEATH INCREASINGLY BECOME-AN ISSUE.

STATE 058033 OF 28 MARCH 2000

SUBJECT: RECENT USG HIV/AIDS AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE INITIATIVES  
AND UPCOMING EFFORTS WITH DIPLOMATIC PARTNERS

REF: LISBON 1071

SUMMARY: IN THE PAST YEAR, THE ISSUE OF INTERNATIONAL EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES (EID), ESPECIALLY HIV/AIDS, HAVE RECEIVED SIGNIFICANT USG ATTENTION. NO LONGER JUST HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT CONCERNS, THE USG HAS MADE CLEAR THAT EID AND HIV/AIDS HAVE ADDITIONAL IMPLICATIONS FOR NATIONAL SECURITY, ECONOMIC GROWTH, AND POLITICAL STABILITY. THIS INFORMATION MESSAGE PROVIDES A SUMMARY OF USG INITIATIVES RELATED TO EID AND HIV/AIDS ISSUES AND A DESCRIPTION OF OUR EFFORTS WITH DIPLOMATIC PARTNERS. THIS IS THE FIRST OF SEVERAL CABLES. AS WE SEEK ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT OF OTHER COUNTRIES, RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POST ACTIVITIES WILL FOLLOW IN SEPTELS.

A YEAR AGO, THE SECRETARY LAUNCHED A DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVE ON INTERNATIONAL HIV/AIDS AND DIRECTED ALL U.S. AMBASSADORS AND COUNTRY TEAMS TO ENGAGE HOST COUNTRY LEADERS AND HIGHLIGHT HIV/AIDS AS A SECURITY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND SOCIETAL ISSUE REQUIRING URGENT ATTENTION. IN JULY 1999 THE ADMINISTRATION ANNOUNCED ITS LIFE INITIATIVE AND COMMITTED AN ADDITIONAL \$100 MILLION IN FY-2000 TO COMBAT HIV/AIDS, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA AND OTHER HIGH-RISK AREAS. TO UNDERScore THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ISSUE, THE VICE PRESIDENT CHAIRED AN UNPRECEDENTED MEETING OF THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL ON HIV/AIDS IN AFRICA AND PROPOSED ADDITIONAL FUNDING (\$100 MILLION) FOR THE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF AIDS WORLDWIDE, BRINGING THE USG TOTAL TO \$325 MILLION. FOLLOWING THE UNSC MEETING, AN INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP ON INTERNATIONAL AIDS WAS FORMED TO DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS ON ENHANCING THE BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL RESPONSE TO THE AIDS CRISIS. THE RECOMMENDATIONS ARE EXPECTED SHORTLY.

IN HIS STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS, THE PRESIDENT ADDRESSED VACCINE DEVELOPMENT, A KEY EID AND HIV/AIDS ISSUE. THE PRESIDENT UNVEILED THE MILLENNIUM INITIATIVE TO PROMOTE DELIVERY OF EXISTING VACCINES IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND TO ACCELERATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW VACCINES FOR HIV/AIDS AND OTHER DISEASES. PROVIDING THE ANALYTICAL UNDERPINNINGS OF THE INCREASED USG ACTIVITY IS THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE COUNCIL'S REPORT, "THE GLOBAL INFECTIOUS DISEASES THREAT AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR THE UNITED STATES." WE WILL SEND A COPY OF THE RECENTLY DECLASSIFIED REPORT TO ALL POSTS. IN MARCH 2000, SECRETARY OF LABOR AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE AFL-CIO CO-HOSTED A U.S.-AFRICA TRADE UNION SUMMIT ON HIV/AIDS.

LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS, DOS SEEKS TO STRENGTHEN OVERSEAS POLITICAL COMMITMENT AS WE FURTHER DEVELOP OUR AGENCY-WIDE STRATEGY TO HIGHLIGHT HIV/AIDS AS AN IMPORTANT FOREIGN POLICY AND SECURITY ISSUE. WE ALSO HOPE TO LEVERAGE SUPPORT TO COMBAT EID AND HIV/AIDS IN INTERNATIONAL FORA. THE U.S.-E.U. SUMMIT PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY TO REAFFIRM HIGH-LEVEL COMMITMENT AND COOPERATION IN THE BATTLE AGAINST EID AND HIV/AIDS IN AFRICA. WE ALSO HOPE THE U.S., ITS EUROPEAN ALLIES, AND JAPAN WILL WORK JOINTLY FOR A COMPREHENSIVE TREATMENT OF HIV/AIDS ISSUES

AT THE G-8 SUMMIT IN OKINAWA. IN ADDITION, WE PLAN TO ADDRESS THE FAR-REACHING IMPLICATIONS OF HIV/AIDS AT THE MAY U.S.-SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY FORUM.  
END SUMMARY.

#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVE ON HIV/AIDS

IN MARCH 1999, THE SECRETARY LAUNCHED A DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVE ON INTERNATIONAL HIV/AIDS TO RAISE THE PROFILE OF GLOBAL HIV/AIDS AND TO FOSTER POLITICAL COMMITMENT TO COMBATING THIS GLOBAL PANDEMIC. THE SECRETARY INSTRUCTED AMBASSADORS AND HIGH-LEVEL U.S. OFFICIALS AT POSTS TO ENCOURAGE FOREIGN LEADERS TO INCREASE ATTENTION AND RESOURCES ALLOCATED TOWARDS COMBATING HIV/AIDS. THE INITIATIVE'S OBJECTIVE IS TO ENCOURAGE FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS TO BROADEN THEIR CONSIDERATION OF HIV/AIDS BEYOND THE HEALTH MINISTRY TO ENSURE HIV/AIDS IS TREATED WITH APPROPRIATE URGENCY. IN IMPLEMENTING THE INITIATIVE, DOS HAS BEEN WORKING WITH THE OFFICE OF NATIONAL AIDS POLICY (ONAP), USAID, AND OTHER USG AGENCIES. WE HAVE ALSO WORKED WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, OTHER GOVERNMENTS, AND THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS TO  
DRAW GREATER ATTENTION AND RESOURCES TO THE HIV/AIDS EPIDEMIC.

#### LIFE INITIATIVE

TO ADDRESS THE GLOBAL AIDS PANDEMIC, THE ADMINISTRATION ANNOUNCED THE LEADERSHIP AND INVESTMENT IN FIGHTING AN EPIDEMIC (LIFE) INITIATIVE IN JULY 1999. AS PART OF THE LIFE INITIATIVE, THE USG COMMITTED AN ADDITIONAL \$100 MILLION IN FY 2000 TO THE FIGHT AGAINST HIV/AIDS IN AFRICA AND OTHER HIGH-RISK AREAS. LIFE FOCUSES ON 15 TARGET COUNTRIES WITH THE MOST SEVERE EPIDEMICS AND THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF NEW INFECTIONS: ETHIOPIA, KENYA, MALAWI, MOZAMBIQUE, NIGERIA, RWANDA, SENEGAL, SOUTH AFRICA, TANZANIA, UGANDA, ZAMBIA, ZIMBABWE AND INDIA. FUNDING LEVELS FOR LIFE INCLUDE \$65 MILLION THROUGH THE U. S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID) AND \$35 MILLION THROUGH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (DHHS) IN FY -2000. THE KEY PROGRAM ELEMENTS OF THE LIFE INITIATIVE INCLUDE: PRIMARY PREVENTION, IMPROVING COMMUNITY AND HOME BASED CARE AND TREATMENT, CARING FOR CHILDREN AFFECTED BY AIDS AND CAPACITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT.

#### U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL

ON JANUARY 10, 2000, VICE PRESIDENT GORE CHAIRED AN OPEN MEETING OF THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL ON HIV/AIDS IN AFRICA. THE JANUARY 10 MEETING WAS SIGNIFICANT IN THAT IT WAS THE FIRST TIME THE SECURITY COUNCIL ADDRESSED A HEALTH ISSUE. AT THIS HISTORIC EVENT, THE VP ANNOUNCED THAT THE ADMINISTRATION WILL SEEK AN ADDITIONAL \$100 MILLION FOR THE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF AIDS IN AFRICA, ASIA, AND OTHER AREAS OF THE WORLD IN THE FY-2001 BUDGET PROPOSAL, BRINGING THE TOTAL USG COMMITMENT TO THE GLOBAL FIGHT AGAINST AIDS TO \$325 MILLION. THE FY-2001 BUDGET PROPOSAL ALSO INCLUDES \$50 MILLION FOR THE CONTRIBUTION TO THE GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR VACCINES AND IMMUNIZATIONS. THIS WILL HELP FUND THE RESEARCH, PURCHASE, AND DISTRIBUTION OF LIFESAVING VACCINES IN DEVELOPING NATIONS INCLUDING HEPATITIS B, CERTAIN FORMS OF MENINGITIS AND YELLOW FEVER.



IN THE WAKE OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING, THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF NATIONAL AIDS POLICY AND THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL (NSC) ORGANIZED AN INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP ON INTERNATIONAL AIDS TO ASSESS HOW THE USG CAN BEST RESPOND TO THIS GLOBAL HEALTH CRISIS. THE INITIAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL AIDS IWG WAS KICKED OFF BY LEON FUERTH, NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR TO THE VICE PRESIDENT, WHO STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE HIV/AIDS ISSUE FOR NATIONAL SECURITY. FIVE WORKING GROUPS WERE DESIGNATED, INCLUDING: 1) PUBLIC DIPLOMACY (CHAired BY STATE/G); 2) BUDGET AND LEGISLATION (CHAired BY ONAP); 3) TRADE, ECONOMICS AND FINANCE (CHAired BY COMMERCE); 4) PREVENTION AND CARE (CHAired B Y USAID); AND 5) SECURITY/MILITARY (CHAired BY NSC). THE AIDS IWG EXPECTS TO COMPLETE WORK SOON. ITS FINDINGS WILL BE SENT TO POSTS IN THE COMING MONTHS. AS PART OF THESE EFFORTS, DOS IS WORKING TO EXPAND THE SECRETARY'S DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVE ON HIV/AIDS AND TO FURTHER DEVELOP AN AGENCY-WIDE STRATEGY TO HIGHLIGHT HIV/AIDS AS AN IMPORTANT FOREIGN POLICY AND SECURITY ISSUE.

MILLENNIUM INITIATIVE TO PROMOTE DELIVERY OF EXISTING VACCINES AND ACCELERATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW VACCINES

IN HIS STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS, PRESIDENT CLINTON UNVEILED THE MILLENNIUM INITIATIVE TO PROMOTE THE DELIVERY OF EXISTING VACCINES IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND TO ACCELERATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW VACCINES. INFECTIOUS DISEASES CAUSE ALMOST HALF OF ALL DEATHS WORLDWIDE OF PEOPLE UNDER AGE 45, KILLING OVER EIGHT MILLION CHILDREN EACH YEAR AND ORPHANING MILLIONS MORE. THE PRESIDENT CALLED FOR CONCERTED INTERNATIONAL ACTION -ASKING FOUNDATIONS, PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES, INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES, AND OTHER GOVERNMENTS TO INCREASE INVESTMENTS IN HEALTH IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THE PRESIDENT ALSO ANNOUNCED A NEW TAX CREDIT FOR SALES OF VACCINES FOR MALARIA, TUBERCULOSIS, AND HIV/AIDS.

AS ANNOUNCED AT THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THE PRESIDENT MET WITH VACCINE MANUFACTURERS, THE HEADS OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION AND UNICEF, AND SECRETARIES SHALALA AND SUMMERS ON MARCH 2. THE MEETING ENDORSED THE MILLENNIUM INITIATIVE AND HELPED TO ENERGIZE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS TO VACCINE DEVELOPMENT AND DELIVERY. AS A RESULT, THE FOUR LARGEST VACCINE MANUFACTURERS WILL DONATE MILLIONS OF DOSES OF STATE OF THE ART VACCINES TO THE DEVELOPING WORLD AND INCREASE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ON VACCINES FOR HIV/AIDS AND MALARIA.

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE THREAT

A COPY OF THE RECENTLY DECLASSIFIED JANUARY 2000 NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE COUNCIL'S REPORT, "THE GLOBAL INFECTIOUS DISEASES THREAT AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR THE UNITED STATES," WILL BE SENT TO ALL POSTS. THIS REPORT REPRESENTS AN IMPORTANT INITIATIVE ON THE PART OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY TO CONSIDER THE NATIONAL SECURITY DIMENSION OF A NONTRADITIONAL THREAT. IT RESPONDS TO A GROWING CONCERN BY DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS AND OTHER SENIOR U.S. LEADERS ABOUT THE IMPLICATIONS IN TERMS OF HEALTH, ECONOMICS, AND

NATIONAL SECURITY OF THE GROWING GLOBAL INFECTIOUS DISEASE THREAT. THE REPORT EXAMINES THE MOST LETHAL DISEASES GLOBALLY AND BY REGION; DEVELOPS ALTERNATIVE SCENARIOS ABOUT THEIR FUTURE COURSE; EXAMINES NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CAPACITIES TO DEAL WITH INFECTIOUS DISEASES; AND ASSESSES THE SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND SECURITY IMPACTS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES, BOTH GLOBALLY AND NATIONALLY. THE REPORT ALSO ASSESSES THE INFECTIOUS DISEASE THREAT TO THE UNITED STATES AND ITS INTERESTS ABROAD.

#### U.S.-AFRICA TRADE UNION SUMMIT ON HIV/AIDS

IN MARCH 2000, SECRETARY OF LABOR ALEXIS HERMAN AND AFL-CIO PRESIDENT JOHN SWEENEY CO-HOSTED THE U.S.-AFRICA TRADE UNION SUMMIT ON HIV/AIDS. THE SUMMIT PROVIDED A FORUM FOR U. S. AND AFRICAN TRADE UNION LEADERS TO DISCUSS WAYS TO OVERCOME AIDS EDUCATION BARRIERS AND DEVELOP COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS AIMED AT WORKPLACE-BASED HIV/AIDS EDUCATION AND PREVENTION.

#### WORKING WITH DIPLOMATIC PARTNERS

THE SECRETARY RAISED THE ISSUE OF ENHANCED U.S.-E.U. COOPERATION ON HIV/AIDS AT THE U. S.-EU MINISTERIAL IN LISBON ON MARCH 3 AND IN HER MEETING WITH COMMISSION PRESIDENT PRODI IN BRUSSELS ON MARCH 10. REFTEL NOTES THE STRONG INTEREST OF THE EU PRESIDENCY TO MAKE GREATER PROGRESS ON HIV/AIDS IN AFRICA A DELIVERABLE FOR THE JUNE U.S.-E.U. SUMMIT IN PORTUGAL. THE U.S. AND EU ALSO CAN EXAMINE WAYS TO STRENGTHEN THEIR SUPPORT FOR UNAIDS' INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGAINST AIDS IN AFRICA.

IN ADDITION, EFFORTS ARE UNDERWAY TO WORK WITH THE EU ON AN EXPANDED HIV/AIDS PROGRAM THROUGH THE US-EU TASK FORCE ON COMMUNICABLE DISEASES. THE TASK FORCE WILL BE CONVENING AN EXPERTS GROUP TO BETTER COORDINATE BILATERAL EFFORTS.

STRONG G-8 ENGAGEMENT ON HIV/AIDS AND EID IS EXPECTED IN THE COMING MONTHS. WE HOPE THE U.S., ITS EUROPEAN ALLIES, AND JAPAN WILL WORK JOINTLY FOR A COMPREHENSIVE TREATMENT OF HIV/AIDS AND EID ISSUES AT THE G-8 SUMMIT IN OKINAWA. WE CAN WORK TOGETHER TO ENCOURAGE MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS TO DEDICATE ADDITIONAL CONCESSIONARY LOANS TO EXPAND IMMUNIZATION AND PREVENT AND TREAT INFECTIOUS DISEASES. AT THE 1999 G-6 LEADERS SUMMIT, THE COLOGNE DEBT INITIATIVE WAS INTRODUCED. IT AIMS TO REDUCE POVERTY AND RELEASE RESOURCES FOR INVESTMENT IN HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL NEEDS. THE LEADERS PLEDGED SUPPORT FOR WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION'S INFECTIOUS DISEASE INITIATIVES, INCLUDING "ROLL BACK MALARIA" AND "STOP TB". WE MAY WISH TO USE THE UPCOMING G-8 SUMMIT TO BUILD ON THE INITIATIVE AND ENCOURAGE HIGHLY INDEBTED POOR COUNTRIES (HIPC) TO USE, AS A PRIORITY, THEIR DEBT SERVICE SAVINGS FOR HIV/AIDS PREVENTION AND CARE ACTIVITIES AND OTHER MEASURES DIRECTED AT INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

THE SECOND ANNUAL U.S.-SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY (SADC) FORUM IS PLANNED FOR MAY 2000. THIS YEAR'S FORUM WILL HIGHLIGHT HIV/AIDS ALONG WITH REGIONAL ECONOMIC INTEGRATION AND

REGIONAL SECURITY. DOS WILL WORK WITH ALL RELEVANT BUREAUS, THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF NATIONAL AIDS POLICY, USAID, THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, AND OTHERS, TO ADDRESS THE IMPACTS OF HIV/AIDS. THE FORUM ALSO WILL ADDRESS THE EFFECTS OF HIV/AIDS ON THE EDUCATION SECTOR AND THE IMPACT OF THE PANDEMIC ON NATIONAL AND REGIONAL SECURITY. WE WILL ADDRESS AIDS AS AN IMPORTANT FOREIGN POLICY AND SECURITY ISSUE AND HIGHLIGHT THE IMPACT OF THE DISEASE ON POLITICAL STABILITY, ECONOMIC GROWTH AND CIVIL SOCIETY.

IN THE FIRST U. S.-SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY FORUM, HIV/AIDS WAS ADDRESSED IN THE TRANSNATIONAL ISSUES PORTION OF THE FORUM. THROUGH THIS VENUE, DOS ALLOCATED \$350,000 IN ESF FUNDS FOR SADC HIV/AIDS PROJECTS. THE FUNDS ARE BEING USED FOR A POLICY PROJECT, GEARED TOWARD HARMONIZING HIV/AIDS POLICIES WITHIN THE SADC COUNTRIES. AN HIV/AIDS COORDINATOR POSITION FOR SADC WILL BE SUPPORTED THROUGH THE ESF FUNDS.

#### FUTURE STEPS

PER PARAGRAPH 8, THE DEPARTMENT WILL CONTACT POSTS FOLLOWING RELEASE OF AIDS IWG REPORT ON POLICY DECISIONS. IN COORDINATION WITH INTERAGENCY EFFORTS, THE DEPARTMENT WILL EXPAND THE SECRETARY'S DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVE ON HIV/AIDS AND DEVELOP AN AGENCY WIDE STRATEGY TO HIGHLIGHT HIV/AIDS AS AN IMPORTANT FOREIGN POLICY AND SECURITY ISSUE.

ALBRIGHT

SUBJECT: U. S.-EU COOPERATION ON HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND  
TUBERCULOSIS IN AFRICA

1. THIS IS AN ACTION REQUEST. PARA TWO CONTAINS A MESSAGE FROM UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR GLOBAL-AFFAIRS FRANK E. LOY TO ALL U. S. AMBASSADORS IN AFRICA.

2. BEGIN MESSAGE FROM UNDER SECRETARY LOY:

THE UNITED STATES AND THE EUROPEAN UNION DECIDED, AT THE RECENT SUMMIT IN QUELUZ, PORTUGAL, ON MAY 31, 2000, TO INTENSIFY THEIR COOPERATION IN FIGHTING HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND TUBERCULOSIS IN AFRICA. THE JOINT STATEMENT ADOPTED ON THAT OCCASION (SEE PARA 6) COMMITS BOTH PARTIES TO WORK TOGETHER TO ADVANCE THE FOLLOWING FOUR OBJECTIVES: DEVELOP INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS; RAISE AWARENESS IN AFRICA AND ELSEWHERE AMONG POLITICAL LEADERS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC; IMPROVE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF NEW MEDICINES, INCREASE ACCESS TO CURRENT TREATMENTS AND VACCINES; AND MOBILIZE RESOURCES. MORE SPECIFIC AREAS OF POTENTIAL COOPERATION SUPPORT EACH OF THESE OBJECTIVES.

THE UNITED STATES AND THE EUROPEAN UNION AGREED, AS REFLECTED IN THEIR SUMMIT STATEMENT, TO MOBILIZE DIPLOMATS AND REPRESENTATIVES IN EACH CONCERNED COUNTRY TO WORK WITH NATIONAL LEADERS AND OTHERS TO INTENSIFY CO-OPERATIVE ACTIONS, TO SHARE RELEVANT INFORMATION NEEDED TO ENCOURAGE PREVENTION, AND TO STRENGTHEN LOCAL CAPACITY TO DELIVER NECESSARY HEALTH SERVICES AND TREATMENTS FOR HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND TUBERCULOSIS.

THE QUELUZ COMMITMENT RESPONDS TO GROWING INTERNATIONAL CONCERN OVER THE THREAT THESE DISEASES POSE TO THE PEOPLE OF AFRICA. THESE CONCERNS WERE ALSO REITERATED IN JANUARY BEFORE THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL, AT THE AFRICA-EUROPE SUMMIT IN APRIL AND AT THE G8 SUMMIT IN OKINAWA IN JULY. IN THE COMING MONTHS, WORK MUST CONTINUE TO IDENTIFY AND IMPLEMENT CONCRETE ACTIONS IN RESPONSE TO THE THREAT POSED BY HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND TUBERCULOSIS.

AS THESE DISEASES PROLIFERATE UNABATED, THEIR COLLECTIVE IMPACT UPON AFRICAN NATIONS WILL EXTEND BEYOND THE HEALTH SECTOR AND BEGIN TO ERODE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, SOCIAL COHESION, AND POLITICAL STABILITY. CONFRONTING THESE INFECTIOUS DISEASES THEN BECOMES A MAJOR FOREIGN POLICY CONCERN REQUIRING AN INTENSIFIED EFFORT. THE SECRETARY BELIEVES THAT THE DEPARTMENT MUST PLAY A LEADING ROLE IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST THESE DISEASES AND STRONGLY ENDORSES

NEW AND CREATIVE AVENUES FOR COLLABORATION AMONG THE US, EU, AND AFRICAN NATIONS. ON HER BEHALF, I URGE YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS CRITICAL EFFORT. I REQUEST THAT YOU MAKE CONTACT WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EU PRESIDENCY (FRANCE) AND THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION, AS WELL AS AMBASSADORS FROM EU NATIONS, IN YOUR COUNTRY TO SHARE INFORMATION, ASSESS HOST COUNTRY NEEDS, AND EXPLORE WAYS OF INTENSIFYING CO-OPERATION. FOR EXAMPLE, AMBASSADORS MAY DECIDE TO CONDUCT A JOINTLY COORDINATED PUBLIC OUTREACH CAMPAIGN. GIVEN THAT THE SITUATION WILL VARY FROM COUNTRY TO COUNTRY, YOU AND YOUR COLLEAGUES IN THE FIELD ARE CLEARLY BEST PLACED TO DETERMINE THE STEPS NECESSARY TO CONVERT IDEAS INTO ACTIONS. ONE ASPECT WHERE YOUR INPUT WOULD BE PARTICULARLY APPRECIATED IS THE QUESTION OF HOW TO INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS AND RESPONSIVENESS TO THE HEALTH CRISIS IN YOUR HOST COUNTRY.

YOUR EFFORTS ARE INTENDED TO BUILD UPON ALREADY EXISTING PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES, NOT TO SUPPLANT OR DUPLICATE THEM.

A HELPFUL GUIDE IS STATE CABLE 34645, WHICH CALLS FOR POSTS TO GENERATE AN ACTION PLAN ON HIV/AIDS. YOUR POST'S RESPONSE MAY FORM THE BASIS OF DISCUSSION WITH YOUR COUNTERPARTS.

THE UNITED STATES HAS AND WILL CONTINUE TO TAKE AN ACTIVE LEAD IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW STRATEGIES AND INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF THE AFRICAN HEALTH CRISIS. WE ARE COMMITTED TO WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE FRENCH PRESIDENCY AND THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION IN RESPONSE TO THIS BURGEONING THREAT.

YOU SHOULD INITIATE CONTACTS WITH YOUR COUNTERPARTS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. BY OCTOBER 1, I REQUEST A REPORT THAT INCLUDES ACTIONS ALREADY UNDERTAKEN AS WELL AS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE U.S.-EU INITIATIVES THAT SUPPORT THE SUMMIT STATEMENT ON HEALTH COOPERATION. THE REPORT MAY ALSO INCLUDE THE PROJECTED LEVEL OF COOPERATION OR RESOURCES NEEDED FOR FUTURE COLLABORATIONS, AND DISCUSS PROPOSALS THAT MAY REQUIRE LONGER TERM ATTENTION.

I THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE ON THIS IMPORTANT MATTER.

END TEXT OF MESSAGE FROM UNDER SECRETARY LOY.

A PARALLEL LETTER CONTAINING SIMILAR OPERATIONAL INSTRUCTIONS IS BEING SENT TO ALL AFRICAN POSTS INCLUDING NORTH AFRICA BY CHRIS PATTEN, COMMISSIONER FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS, AND POUL NIELSON, COMMISSIONER FOR DEVELOPMENT. FOR THE EU PRESIDENCY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS VEDRINE WILL WRITE A SIMILAR LETTER TO THE FRENCH

AMBASSADORS IN AFRICA.

FYI: EU COMMISSIONER FOR DEVELOPMENT NIELSON IS PREPARING FOR TRANSMISSION IN THE AUTUMN A COMMUNICATION TO THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL ON THE SUBJECT OF HIV/AIDS AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN AFRICA. HE WILL ALSO LEAD A MAJOR SEPTEMBER 28 ROUNDTABLE ON THE TOPIC. THE EVENT WILL BE ORGANIZED IN COOPERATION WITH WHO AND WILL INVOLVE THE PARTICIPATION OF KEY PARTNERS FROM THE DEVELOPING WORLD, PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRIES, RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS, THE DONOR COMMUNITY AND NGO'S. WE ALSO EXPECT THE SUBJECT WILL BE DISCUSSED AT THE NEXT US-EU SUMMIT ON DECEMBER 18 IN WASHINGTON.

WHEN RESPONDING TO THIS REQUEST, PLEASE MAKE SURE RESPONSES ARE SLUGGED FOR G (J CHOW); OES/EID (N CARTERFOSTER ); AF/EPS (RPATARD) AND EUR/ERA (WALSER/HUIZINGA).

TEXT OF U. S./EU SUMMIT STATEMENT ON ACCELERATED ACTION ON HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND TUBERCULOSIS IN AFRICA:

FEW CHALLENGES ARE MORE PROFOUNDLY, DISTURBING OR MORE FARREACHING THAN THE COLLECTIVE THREAT POSED TO THE CITIZENS OF AFRICA BY THREE MAJOR COMMUNICABLE DISEASES: HIV/AIDS,

MALARIA AND TUBERCULOSIS.

WHILE THE SCOPE OF THE THREAT IS GLOBAL, AFRICA BEARS A DISPROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE SUFFERING CAUSED BY THESE DISEASES. THIS YEAR ALONE, HIV/AIDS WILL CLAIM MORE THAN TWO MILLION LIVES IN AFRICA WHILE MORE THAN A MILLION WILL BE LOST TO MALARIA AND TUBERCULOSIS. WHILE THERE HAVE BEEN SOME NOTABLE POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS IN AFRICA, THE DEVASTATING EFFECTS OF THESE DISEASES THREATEN TO REVERSE DECADES OF DEVELOPMENT AND TO ROB AN ENTIRE GENERATION OF HOPE FOR A BETTER FUTURE. THIS HEALTH CRISIS IN MUCH OF AFRICA CONTRIBUTES TO A VICIOUS CYCLE OF DISEASE AND POVERTY, ERODING SECURITY AND UNDERMINING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY REDUCTION.

WE, THE U.S. AND THE EU, REITERATE OUR COMMITMENT TO COMBAT HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND TUBERCULOSIS. TOGETHER WITH OTHER COUNTRIES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, WE ARE ALREADY MAKING A MAJOR EFFORT. WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE EXTENSIVE WORK BEING DONE IN THIS FIELD BY MANY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, SUCH AS WHO, WORLD BANK AND UNAIDS. BUT THE SCALE OF THE PROBLEM REQUIRES NEW MECHANISMS TO MOBILIZE INTERNATIONAL OPINION, RESOURCES AND TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO ASSIST AFRICAN COUNTRIES.

WE WELCOME THE WORK DONE IN THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL DURING THE JANUARY 2000 U.S. PRESIDENCY. IN THE CAIRO DECLARATION AND THE ACTION PLAN OF APRIL 2000, THE EU AND AFRICAN LEADERS PLEDGED THEIR COMMITMENT TO PURSUE FURTHER ACTION IN THIS FIELD. THE RENEWAL OF THE ACP-EU PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT IN JUNE 2000 WILL HIGHLIGHT THE NEED TO WORK WITH THE AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN AND PACIFIC PARTNERS ON A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH IN THE CONTEXT OF POVERTY REDUCTION. WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE GE INITIATIVES ON COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND POVERTY AT THE UPCOMING SJMMIT IN OKINAWA.

TODAY, AT THE U.S.-EU SUMMIT, WE AGREED TO JOIN FORCES AND TO DEVELOP NEW MECHANISMS AND PARTNERSHIPS IN RESPONSE TO THE THREATS POSED BY HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND TUBERCULOSIS. THIS WILL BECOME PART OF OUR GLOBAL AGENDA. WE WILL WORK TOGETHER TO ADVANCE THE FOLLOWING OBJECTIVES:

#### INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

--HAVING REINFORCED OUR OWN COMMITMENT, WE CALL UPON OTHERS IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO JOIN US IN COMBATING HIV/AIDS AND CONTROLLING MALARIA AND TUBERCULOSIS IN AFRICA.

--WE WILL WELCOME AND ENCOURAGE INITIATIVES AIMED AT DEVELOPING INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS WITH THE WHO, UNAIDS AND OTHER UN AGENCIES, THE DONOR COMMUNITY, GOVERNMENTS IN DEVELOPED AS WELL AS DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SOCIETY TO DEVELOP NEW AND CO-ORDINATED INTERNATIONAL RESPONSES, SUSTAIN SUCCESSFUL NATIONAL HEALTH STRATEGIES, AND IMPROVE ACCESS TO DRUGS.

--WE RECOGNIZE THE CENTRAL ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF GOVERNMENTS IN AFRICA IN SETTING PRIORITIES AND COORDINATING COUNTRY EFFORTS, AND CALL UPON OUR PARTNERS TO SUPPORT SUCH NATIONAL OWNERSHIP.

--WE WILL MOBILIZE OUR DIPLOMATS AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES IN EACH CONCERNED COUNTRY TO WORK WITH NATIONAL LEADERS AND OTHERS TO INTENSIFY CO-OPERATIVE ACTIONS, TO SHARE RELEVANT INFORMATION NEEDED TO ENCOURAGE PREVENTION, AND TO STRENGTHEN LOCAL CAPACITY TO DELIVER NECESSARY HEALTH SERVICES AND TREATMENTS FOR HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND TUBERCULOSIS.

#### PUBLIC AWARENESS

--WE WILL CO-OPERATE TO INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE SCOPE OF THE CRISIS AND TO PROPAGATE EFFECTIVE HEALTH AND PREVENTION MEASURES. THE ROLES OF PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

SERVICES AND BASIC EDUCATION ARE CRUCIAL, AS ARE INFORMATION AND OTHER DISEASE-TARGETED CAMPAIGNS.

--WE CALL UPON POLITICAL LEADERS IN AFRICA AND ELSEWHERE TO RAGE INFORMATION AND EDUCATION CAMPAIGNS, INCLUDING ON HOW TO PREVENT MOTHER-TO-CHILD TRANSMISSION OF HIV/AIDS. WE WELCOME THE SUCCESS IN SOME COUNTRIES, WHERE STRONG POLITICAL LEADERSHIP, OPENNESS TO THE ISSUES, AND FLEXIBLE RESPONSES COME TOGETHER.

#### DRUGS AND VACCINES: RESEARCH AND ACCESSIBILITY

--TOGETHER WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRY PARTNERS AND WITH INDUSTRY, WE WILL STRENGTHEN OUR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST THESE POVERTY-RELATED DISEASES. IN THIS RESPECT, WE CALL FOR ENLARGED PARTNERSHIPS AIMED AT SPEEDING UP RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT. WE WILL EXPLORE NEW METHODS OF EVALUATING DRUGS AND VACCINES, INCLUDING STRENGTHENING CAPACITY AND TRAINING IN THOSE COUNTRIES MOST IMPACTED BY THESE DISEASES.

--IN ORDER TO MAKE NEW DRUGS, VACCINES AND OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH INTERVENTION METHODS AVAILABLE FASTER, WE WILL STIMULATE INCREASED LINKS BETWEEN OUR RESPECTIVE RESEARCH ACTIVITIES AND CO-ORDINATE RESEARCH TASKS.

--WE WILL SUPPORT THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW FINANCIAL, LEGAL AND INVESTMENT INCENTIVES DESIGNED TO MAKE DRUGS AND VACCINES MORE ACCESSIBLE AND AFFORDABLE TO COUNTRIES IN NEED. TO THIS END, WE WILL ENCOURAGE PARTNERSHIPS AND INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES, SUCH AS THE GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR VACCINES AND IMMUNIZATION (GAVI), THE MULTILATERAL INITIATIVE ON MALARIA, AND THE EU-ACP VACCINE INDEPENDENCE INITIATIVE IN AFRICA.

#### RESOURCES

--THE U. S. AND EU WILL SEEK INCREASED GOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE RESOURCES DEDICATED TO THE FIGHT AGAINST HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND TUBERCULOSIS, INCLUDING THROUGH MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS. WE ACKNOWLEDGE AND ENCOURAGE THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF INDUSTRY, NGOS AND CIVIL SOCIETY.

--IN THE WORLD BANK AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT-BANKS, WE WILL SUPPORT INCREASED FINANCIAL RESOURCES FOR BASIC HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS NEEDED TO COMBAT THESE DISEASES.

--WE WILL SUPPORT GOVERNMENTS THAT UNDERTAKE TO IMPROVE THEIR HEALTH SYSTEMS WITH RESOURCES MADE AVAILABLE UNDER THE HIGHLY INDEBTED POOR COUNTRIES DEBT RELIEF INITIATIVE AND THROUGH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POVERTY REDUCTION



STRATEGIES DEVELOPED IN CONSULTATION WITH CIVIL SOCIETY  
AND INTERNATIONAL DONORS.

END TEXT OF U. S./EU SUMMIT STATEMENT ON ACCELERATED  
ACTION ON HIV/AIDS, MALARIA AND TUBERCULOSIS IN AFRICA.  
ALBRIGHT  
NNNN

FOR CHIEFS OF MISSION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICERS

SUBJECT: HIV/AIDS -FEMALE FOREIGN MINISTERS'LETTER  
ADVANCES ISSUE AT UNGA

REF: STATE 165439 (NOTAL)

1. (U) THIS TELEGRAM HAS BEEN CLEARED BY M/P(SEP).
2. (U) SUMMARY. ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, ON THE MARGINS OF THE 55TH UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN NEW YORK, THE SECRETARY AND TWELVE OTHER FEMALE FOREIGN MINISTERS SIGNED A LETTER TO IJN SECRETARY GENERAL KOFI ANNAN ON THE THREAT OF HIV/AIDS. THE LETTER (SEE PARA. 4 FOR TEXT) NOTES THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE GLOBAL PANDEMIC, CALLS FOR STRONG NATIONAL LEADERSHIP, STRESSES THE NEED FOR HUMAN AND FINANCIAL CAPITAL, AND EMPHASIZES THE PARTICULAR NEEDS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS. IT WAS SIGNED IN A BRIEF CEREMONY DURING A RECEPTION HOSTED BY MARIE CLAIRE MAGAZINE, WHICH PRECEDED THE SECRETARY'S ANNUAL DINNER FOR FEMALE FOREIGN MINISTERS, THE THEME OF WHICH WAS HIV/AIDS. IN HER BRIEF REMARKS THE SECRETARY CALLED ATTENTION TO THE GLOBAL PANDEMIC, THE PARTICULAR THREAT TO WOMEN AND GIRLS, AND THE NEED TO DO MORE. THE SECRETARY'S FOCUS ON HIV/AIDS UNDERSCORES THE IMPORTANCE THAT THE ADMINISTRATION ATTACHES TO THE ISSUE, AS HER COLLEAGUES' PARTICIPATION MARKS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ISSUE TO THEIR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS. DEPARTMENT CALLS ON ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS TO LEND MOMENTUM TO THE GLOBAL EFFORT TO COMBAT HIV/AIDS BY SHARING THE TEXT OF THE LETTER AND THE SECRETARY'S COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE WITH HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND OTHER EMBASSY CONTACTS. END SUMMARY.
3. (U) REFTEL WAS AN ACTION MESSAGE TO EMBASSIES WHOSE HOST GOVERNMENTS' FEMALE FOREIGN MINISTERS PARTICIPATED IN THE SECRETARY'S ANNUAL DINNER ON THE MARGINS OF UNGA. IT FORWARDED THE DRAFT TEXT OF THE LETTER AND SOLICITED COMMENTS AND SIGNATURE COMMITMENTS. THE COMMENTS AND ENDORSEMENT OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF BARBADOS AND THE BAHAMAS, WHO WERE INVITED BUT COULD NOT ATTEND, ALSO WERE SOLICITED. THE DEPARTMENT RECEIVED OVERWHELMINGLY POSITIVE COMMENTS FROM MANY OF THE PARTICIPATING STATES, AND ON SEPTEMBER 11 IN NEW YORK A FINAL TEXT WAS NEGOTIATED AND SIGNED.

4. (U) TEXT OF LETTER FOLLOWS:

HIS EXCELLENCY

MR. KOFI ANNAN,  
SECRETARY-GENERAL,  
UNITED NATIONS,  
NEW YORK.

11 SEPTEMBER 2000

MR. SECRETARY-GENERAL:

WE ARE WRITING AS THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THIRTEEN NATIONS, AND AS CONCERNED WOMEN, TO PROCLAIM OUR JOINT RESOLVE TO COMBAT THE GLOBAL SCOURGE OF HIV/AIDS. WE ARE SADDENED TO NOTE THAT HIV/AIDS CONTINUES TO RAVAGE THE DEVELOPING WORLD, WHERE 95 PERCENT OF GLOBAL INFECTIONS AND DEATHS HAVE OCCURRED. THE WORLDWIDE HIV/AIDS PANDEMIC, AND THE CONTINUED, ASSOCIATED HEALTH CHALLENGES OF OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES, SUCH AS MALARIA AND TUBERCULOSIS, THREATEN TO ROB MULTIPLE GENERATIONS OF THE PROMISES AND HOPE OF A NEW CENTURY.

OUR GOVERNMENTS RECOGNIZE THAT THE HIV/AIDS PANDEMIC IS AN URGENT FOREIGN POLICY ISSUE WITH HUMANITARIAN, SECURITY, ECONOMIC, AND DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS THAT THREATEN DECADES OF HARD-WON PROGRESS, AND WHICH EXTENDS BEYOND THE MEANS AND COMPETENCE OF ANY ONE NATION OR ENTITY TO COUNTER.

THIS IS ESPECIALLY EVIDENT IN THE PANDEMIC'S CURRENT EPICENTER, AFRICA. WE ARE COGNIZANT, HOWEVER, OF THE NEED TO FOCUS INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION ON THE EMERGING HIV/AIDS THREAT IN ASIA, RUSSIA, THE NEWLY INDEPENDENT STATES, REGIONS OF NORTHERN EUROPE, AND PARTS OF THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE, ESPECIALLY THE CARIBBEAN, AS WELL. WE WELCOME THE SUCCESS OF THE RECENT HIV/AIDS CONFERENCE IN DURBAN AND THE URGENCY ATTACHED TO TACKLING HIV/AIDS BY AFRICAN LEADERS, DONORS, INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR. WE ENCOURAGE ALL HEADS OF STATE TO DEVOTE HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL LEADERSHIP AND DIRECTION TO THE STRUGGLE AGAINST HIV/AIDS, NOT ONLY IN AFRICA, BUT ALSO AROUND THE WORLD. EXPERIENCE HAS SHOWN THAT STRONG NATIONAL LEADERSHIP AND OPEN DISCUSSION OF THE PROBLEM ARE CRITICALLY IMPORTANT TO THE FIGHT AGAINST HIV/AIDS, AND WE CALL ON ALL NATIONAL LEADERS, NOT ONLY HEALTH MINISTERS, TO JOIN IN THE PUBLIC FIGHT AGAINST HIV/AIDS.

MR. SECRETARY-GENERAL, OUR GOVERNMENTS ARE COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING YOUR CALL TO STOP AND REVERSE THE SPREAD OF HIV/AIDS BY 2015, AND TO PROVIDE SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO CHILDREN ORPHANED BY HIV/AIDS. WE RECOGNIZE THAT SUPPORT OF THIS GOAL REQUIRES THE DEDICATION OF SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES, AND WE WILL STRIVE TO IDENTIFY AND DEDICATE THOSE RESOURCES. WE ESPECIALLY NOTE

THE CRITICAL NEED TO SUPPORT UNAIDS, INCLUDING THE PROMOTION OF ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THEIR EFFORTS TO TREAT PEOPLE INFECTED WITH HIV/AIDS.

FINALLY, BUT BY NO MEANS THE LEAST OF OUR CONCERNS, WE AS WOMEN NOTE THE SPECIAL NEEDS OF WOMEN IN HIV/AIDS PREVENTION, CARE AND TREATMENT. RECOGNIZING THE INCREASING NUMBER AND GROWING PROPORTION OF WOMEN WITH HIV, WE CALL UPON THE UN MEMBERSHIP TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE NEED FOR THE ENHANCED AVAILABILITY OF EDUCATION, TESTING, COUNSELING, CARE AND TREATMENT DESIGNED TO ADDRESS THE SPECIFIC NEEDS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS. THE DESTRUCTIVE FORCES OF THE AIDS PANDEMIC POSE A FATAL THREAT TO YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN DURING THEIR PRODUCTIVE YEARS, AND, IN THE CASE OF WOMEN, IN THE REPRODUCTIVE PROCESS ITSELF. IN ADDITION, WE CALL FOR AFFORDABLE, ENHANCED MEDICAL INTERVENTIONS AIMED AT LESSENING THE RISK FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH MOTHER-TO-CHILD TRANSMISSION OF HIV/AIDS, AND WHICH ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF MOTHERS AS WELL AS THEIR NEWBORN.

WE THANK YOU, MR SECRETARY-GENERAL, FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP ON THIS ISSUE OF GLOBAL IMPORTANCE. WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU IN OUR COMMON EFFORT TO OVERCOME THIS GLOBAL PLAGUE.

WE ASK THAT YOU CIRCULATE THIS LETTER AS A DOCUMENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

SIGNED:

Benita Ferrero-Waldner  
Foreign Minister  
Austria

Nadezhda Mihailova  
Foreign Minister  
Bulgaria

Maria Eugenia Brizuela de Avila  
Foreign Minister  
El Salvador

Maria Soledad Alvear Valenzuela  
Foreign Minister  
Chile

Lyudia Polfer  
Foreign Minister  
Luxembourg

Dr. Andrea Willi  
Foreign Minister  
Principality of Liechtenstein

Lila Ratsifandrihamanana  
Foreign Minister  
Republic of Madagascar

Lilian Patel  
Foreign Minister  
Malawi

Rosario Green  
Foreign Secretary  
Mexico

Nkosazana Zuma  
Foreign Minister  
Republic of South Africa

Maria E. Levens  
Foreign Minister  
Suriname

Anna Lindh  
Foreign Minister  
Sweden

Madeleine K. Albright  
Secretary of State  
United States of America

5. (U) IN HER BRIEF REMARKS PRECEDING THE SIGNING CEREMONY, THE SECRETARY NOTED THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE FEMALE FOREIGN MINISTERS WAS TO "...LEND MOMENTUM TO THE INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO STOP THE SPREAD OF HIV/AIDS." NOTING THAT "...MORE AND MORE OF THE VICTIMS ARE WOMEN," THE SECRETARY STATED "...THE FACT THAT PREVENTING HIV/AIDS DEPENDS NOT ONLY ON UNLOCKING THE SECRETS OF MEDICAL SCIENCE, BUT ALSO ON EMPOWERING WOMEN SO THAT WE CAN MAKE OUR OWN CHOICES, AND ON CHANGING THE WAY PEOPLE THINK AND ACT TO DEAL WITH THIS TERRIBLE DISEASE." SHE CONDEMNED DENIAL AND SILENCE, AND SUMMED UP THE CURRENT STATE OF AFFAIRS BY SAYING, "TODAY, DESPITE THE EFFORTS OF SO MANY, WE ARE NOT WINNING THE WAR AGAINST AIDS; WE ARE LOSING IT."

6. (U) SHE REPORTED THAT "... VICE PRESIDENT GORE HAS DESCRIBED AIDS NOT JUST AS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS, OR A HUMANITARIAN CHALLENGE, BUT AS A THREAT TO WORLD SECURITY, WHICH IS WHY WE THOUGHT THAT IT WAS TOTALLY APPROPRIATE TO DISCUSS IT WITHIN THE SECURITY COUNCIL ALONG WITH OTHER SECURITY THREATS." THE SECRETARY NOTED THAT THE USG HAS INVESTED THIS YEAR \$225 MILLION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST AIDS, AND THE ADMINISTRATION HAS ASKED FOR A PROPOSED INCREASE OF MORE THAN 50 PERCENT IN FY2001. SHE SAID, "THESE FUNDS ARE NECESSARY ... (AND )...IT'S

GOING TO TAKE A LOT MORE MONEY TO TURN THE TIDE." THE SECRETARY'S COMPLETE REMARKS AS DELIVERED HAVE BEEN POSTED ON THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S WEB SITE (WWW. STATE.GOV), ON THE SECRETARY'S HOME PAGE, ENTITLED "REMARKS AT MARIE CLAIRE RECEPTION FOR WOMEN FOREIGN MINISTERS, NEW YORK CITY." THE BUREAU OF OCEANS, INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS (OES) WILL POST THE LETTER TEXT AND THE SECRETARY'S COMMENTS ON THE OES HOME PAGE AS WELL.

7. (U) COMMENT: THE SECRETARY'S FOCUS ON HIV/AIDS AT THE UNGA UNDERSCORES THE IMPORTANCE THAT THE ADMINISTRATION ATTACHES TO THE ISSUE. THE DEPARTMENT URGES POSTS TO SHARE THE TEXT OF THE LETTER AND THE SECRETARY'S COMMENTS AS APPROPRIATE WITH HIGH-LEVEL HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND OTHER EMBASSY CONTACTS AS PART OF AN AGGRESSIVE, COUNTRY TEAM-WIDE STRATEGY TO FIGHT HIV/AIDS IN YOUR HOST COUNTRIES.

WE WANT TO TARGET ESPECIALLY THOSE OFFICIALS, OTHER EMBASSY CONTACTS AND RELEVANT NGO REPRESENTATIVES IN HOST COUNTRIES WITH THE OFFICIAL POSITION AND/OR PUBLIC STATURE TO FOCUS HIGH-LEVEL ATTENTION ACROSS ALL SECTORS --NOT JUST THE HEALTH MINISTRY --ON THE NEED TO ADDRESS THIS GLOBAL PANDEMIC. END COMMENT.

SUBJECT: WORLD AIDS DAY

1. THIS IS AN ACTION CABLE (SEE PARA 5). WORLD AIDS DAY WILL AGAIN TAKE PLACE ON DECEMBER 1. THIS IMPORTANT ANNUAL, WORLDWIDE EVENT IS INTENDED TO FOCUS THE WORLD'S ATTENTION ON THE SERIOUSNESS OF HIV/AIDS AND ALSO ON WAYS IN WHICH THE PROBLEM CAN BE DIMINISHED AND, EVENTUALLY, ELIMINATED. THIS IS A HIGH PRIORITY EVENT FOR THE DEPARTMENT, USAID, THE WHITE HOUSE, AND THE REST OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, AS WELL AS FOR NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AND FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS. POSTS AROUND THE WORLD HAVE BEEN ACTIVE IN ANTI-HIV/AIDS ACTIVITIES, BOTH ON WORLD AIDS DAY, AND THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS CABLE IS TO LIST A SELECTION OF EXISTING RESOURCES WHICH POSTS CAN UTILIZE, SUGGEST ACTIVITIES WHICH POSTS CAN UNDERTAKE LOCALLY, AND OFFER THE OPPORTUNITY TO REQUEST TELEPRESS CONFERENCES AND DIGITAL VIDEOCONFERENCES. REQUESTS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE ALSO URGE POSTS TO SHARE IDEAS WITH US AND WITH OTHER POSTS, ESPECIALLY POSTS IN YOUR REGION.

2. THERE IS A WIDE VARIETY OF EXISTING SOURCES, IN PRINT, ON THE INTERNET, AND ELSEWHERE, THAT CAN BE USED IN SUPPORT OF WORLD AIDS DAY ACTIVITIES. FOR EXAMPLE, THE FOLLOWING WEB SITES CAN BE IMPORTANT RESOURCES FOR POSTS AND OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS (THIS IS JUST A SAMPLE OF EXISTING SITES):

--STATE DEPARTMENT BUREAU OF OCEANS AND INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS:

<[HTTP://WWW. STATE. GOV/WWW/GLOBAL/OES/HEALTH/INDEX. HTML](http://www.state.gov/www/global/oes/health/index.html)>.

THE SITE INCLUDES, AMONG MANY OTHER RESOURCES, A WHITE HOUSE FACT SHEET ON "U. S. EFFORTS ON HIV/AIDS AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES," AND THE TEXT OF A SEPTEMBER 2000 LETTER FROM SECRETARY ALBRIGHT AND OTHER WOMEN FOREIGN MINISTERS TO UN SECRETARY GENERAL KOFI ANAN STRESSING THE IMPORTANCE OF TACKLING THE AIDS ISSUE.

--STATE DEPARTMENT INTERNATIONAL INFORMATION PROGRAMS, INCLUDING "HIV/AIDS: A GUIDE TO RESOURCES"

<[HTTP://USINFO. STATE. GOV/TOPIICAL/GLOBAL/HIV/](http://usinfo.state.gov/topical/global/hiv/)>AND THE COMPREHENSIVE JULY 2000 ELECTRONIC JOURNAL ENTITLED "AIDS: THE THREAT TO WORLD SECURITY. II THE LATTER IS AVAILABLE IN ENGLISH, RUSSIAN, FRENCH, AND SPANISH <[HTTP://USINFO. STATE. GOV/JOURNALS/JOURNALS. HTM](http://usinfo.state.gov/journals/journals.htm)>

--OFFICE OF NATIONAL AIDS POLICY (ONAP)

<[HTTP://WWW. WHITEHOUSE. GOV/ONAP/INDEX. HTML](http://www.whitehouse.gov/onap/index.html)>

--UNAIDS, THE JOINT UNITED NATIONS PROGRAM ON AIDS  
<WWW. UNAIDS. ORG>. THIS SITE CONTAINS EXTENSIVE  
INFORMATION ON THE WORLD AIDS DAY 2000 THEME, "MEN MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE."

--NATIONAL CENTER FOR HIV, STD AND TB PREVENTION,  
DIVISIONS OF HIV/AIDS PREVENTION, AT THE CENTERS FOR  
DISEASE CONTROL (CDC):  
<HTTP://WWW. CDC. GOV/HIV/PUBS/FACTS. HTMS

--OFFICE OF AIDS RESEARCH AT THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF  
HEALTH: <HTTP://WWW. NIH. GOV/OD/OAR/INDEX. HTM>

--AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, POPULATION,  
HEALTH AND NUTRITION PROGRAM  
<HTTP://WWW. USAID. GOV/POP HEALTH/AIDS/>

3. POSTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO UNDERTAKE WORLD AIDS DAY  
ACTIVITIES EITHER ON THEIR OWN OR IN COOPERATION WITH  
OTHER USG AGENCIES (E.G., USAID AND PEACE CORPS), AS WELL  
AS WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL  
ORGANIZATIONS.

SOME EXAMPLES ARE:

--AMBASSADOR WRITING AN OP-ED PIECE IN THE LOCAL PRESS;  
--POST WORKING WITH LOCAL ANTI-AIDS NGOS AND/OR  
GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO PUT ON A LOCAL SPEAKING PROGRAM;  
AND  
--POST ERECTING A DISPLAY AT THE EMBASSY OR CULTURAL  
CENTER.

4. WASHINGTON-BASED ACTIVITIES THAT COULD BE USED TO  
SUPPORT POST PROGRAMS INCLUDE THE WASHINGTON FILE  
CARRYING THE TEXT OF THE PRESIDENT'S WORLD AIDS DAY  
MESSAGE, AND THE OFFICE OF BROADCAST SERVICES  
TRANSMITTING REMARKS AND EVENTS, SUCH AS REMARKS GIVEN BY  
SENIOR USG OFFICIALS. OTHER ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS TV  
DIALOGUES, DIGITAL VIDEOCONFERENCES AND TELEPRESS  
CONFERENCES, CAN BE ORGANIZED IN RESPONSE TO REQUESTS BY  
POSTS.

--TV DIALOGUES: THE OFFICE OF BROADCAST SERVICES IS  
PREPARED TO OFFER DIALOGUES ON REGIONAL/MULTI-REGIONAL  
TOPICS. AN OFFERING CABLE WILL FOLLOW.

--IIP IS PREPARED TO PRODUCE A LIMITED NUMBER OF DIGITAL  
VIDEOCONFERENCES AND TELEPRESS CONFERENCES, ON A REGIONAL  
OR SINGLE COUNTRY BASIS, DEPENDING ON THE NEEDS EXPRESSED  
BY POSTS.

5. ACTION REQUESTED : IN ORDER TO REQUEST DVCS (DIGITAL



VIDEOCONFERENCES), TPCS (TELEPRESS CONFERENCES ), POSTS SHOULD CONTACT THEIR I/G GEOGRAPHIC LIAISON OFFICER AS THEY DO FOR OTHER IIP PRODUCTS/SERVICES. THESE PROGRAMS WILL NORMALLY BE SINGLE-COUNTRY PROGRAMS. TPCS ARE ESPECIALLY VERSATILE IN THAT THE EQUIPMENT REQUIRED ON EACH END IS RELATIVELY BASIC. ALSO, THE AMERICAN SPEAKER CAN EASILY BE OUTSIDE OF WASHINGTON AND THE PARTICPANTS NEED NOT NECESSARILY BE IN THE SAME CITY AS THE POST.

FOR DVCS OR TPCS, THE COST OF LANGUAGE INTERPRETATION IS BORNE BY THE REQUESTING POSTS(S). PLEASE KEEP IN MIND, IF EXPRESSING DESIRE FOR A SPECIFIC GUEST OR TYPE OF GUEST, THAT AVAILABILITY OF GUESTS, ESPECIALLY HIGH PROFILE GUESTS, WILL LIKELY BE EXTREMELY LIMITED ON OR NEAR DECEMBER 1.

6. NOTE: WHEN REQUESTING DIALOGUES, DVCS, AND/OR TPCS, IT IS HELPFUL IF YOU CAN DESCRIBE THE TYPE OF GUEST/EXPERTISE THAT IS PREFERRED. WHILE BROADCAST SERVICES AND IIP WILL ATTEMPT TO SECURE SPECIFIC GUESTS IF REQUESTED, PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT THE AVAILABILITY OF MANY EXPERTS, ESPECIALLY HIGH PROFILE PERSONS, WILL BE EXTREMELY LIMITED ON AND AROUND DECEMBER 1.

PICKERING

NNNN

THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

NEED  
DATE :  
REAL  
COPY

The growing prevalence of HIV/AIDS, and its actual and potential impacts, require us to revise our thinking about political and economic security. As deadly as any missile, as devastating as any financial collapse, the HIV/AIDS pandemic is the enemy of stability and productivity worldwide. Every member of the global community should recognize the devastation which has begun to impact national economies, security and social infrastructure.

The United States has made the battle against HIV/AIDS a national and international priority, and calls upon other governments to do the same. With 33.4 million persons already infected, the number of AIDS cases worldwide will continue to rise. The magnitude of the pandemic demands a vigorous and sustained response from governments in every region on every continent. In partnership with technical experts, governments must acknowledge the stakes, confront the terrible reality of HIV/AIDS, and act.

The 1999 U.S. International Response to HIV/AIDS report assesses the impact of this pandemic on U.S. interests and describes what U. S. government agencies are doing to address HIV/AIDS internationally. This report demonstrates the commitment by the United States Department of State, working with other Federal agencies, our partners in the international community, non-governmental organizations and the pharmaceutical industry to raise awareness and intensify actions to stem the spread of HIV/AIDS. We invite you to join us in combating, containing and one day defeating this cause of incalculable human suffering and threat to the well-being of all nations.