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US Agency for International Development (USAID) Responds to HIV/AIDS [1]

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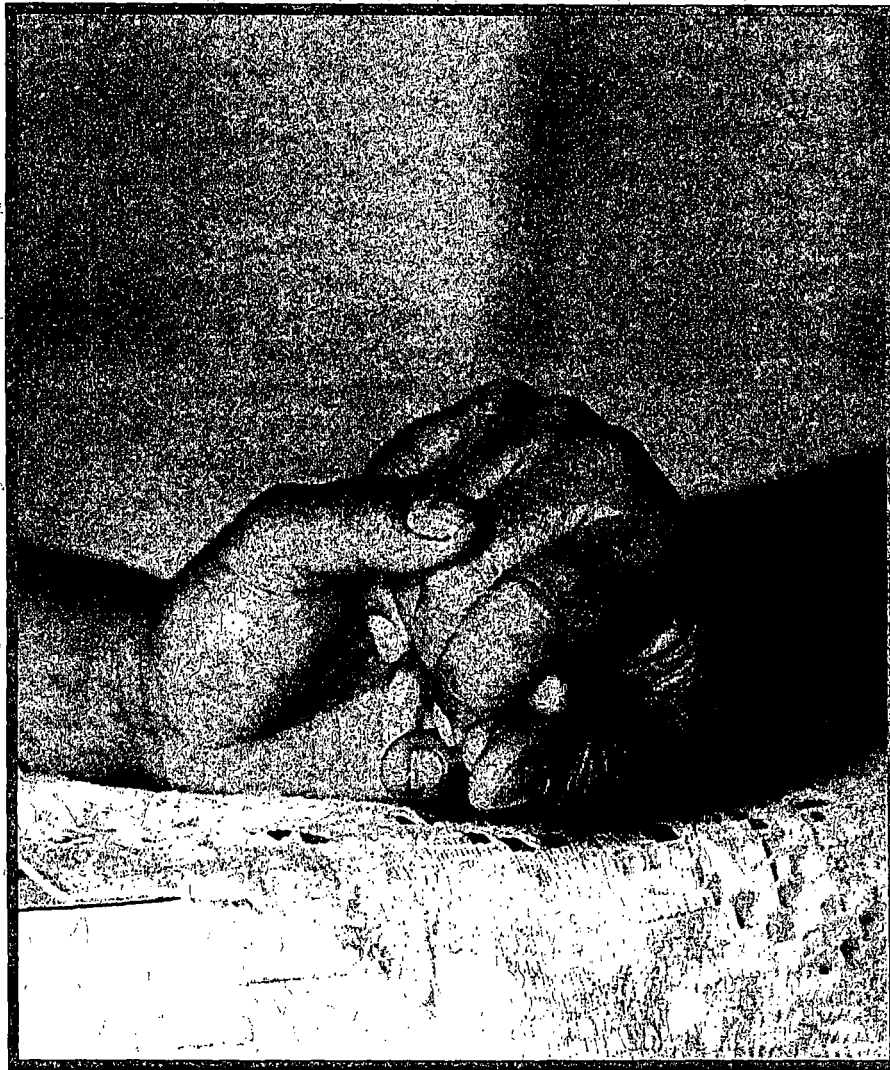
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USAID RESPONDS TO HIV/AIDS

A REPORT ON THE FISCAL YEAR 1994 HIV/AIDS PREVENTION PROGRAMS OF
THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Names of
people

CAN INCLUDE
COMMENTS about

~~PROCLAMATION~~

~~LIVES~~ GLOBAL

AIDS INITIATIVE

Call Mike back
on Friday to update
on POTUS
mtg

MEMORANDUM FOR PATSY

FROM: LaHoma
RE: World AIDS Day Statement with Atwood
DATE: November 14, 1996



Attached please find the statement that USAID would like to have jointly signed by you and Atwood.

I think that it is too wordy, and I am also concerned about its release on the same day as the President's proclamation.

I suggest that we keep it short and sweet and just talk about the Lessons Without Borders initiative.

Your comments? Should I run this by Richard?

*I cannot sign a
~~the~~ procl. bcs. POTUS is doing one.*

1) JUNE 2

WORLD AIDS DAY STATEMENT FROM ATWOOD AND FLEMMING

One world - one hope. That is the theme for this year's World AIDS Day.

All of us have seen the face of AIDS in our local communities, in our places of work, and yes - in our very own families. We now know all too well that this horrid disease does not discriminate by race, gender, or income. It is a threat to us all; black and white, male and female, gay and straight, rich and poor. In the face of AIDS we are of one world. And we all share one hope that the world will be AIDS free in the not too distant future.

All too often, however, we forget or overlook the impact of AIDS beyond our borders. And it is in Zimbabwe, Uganda, India, Thailand, Haiti and in fact most of the developing world where AIDS is now taking its greatest toll. It is estimate that of the 22 million now HIV or AIDS infected, 90% live in Africa, Asia and the Near East. (this needs to be checked).

World AIDS Day calls for our solidarity and support for those in our communities, and in communities across the globe that, are fighting this pandemic. It calls upon us to help ensure care and support to all those whose lives have been affected.

This year World AIDS Day serves to call attention to the real progress in the fight against AIDS. There are very promising medical breakthroughs now becoming available. Combination drug therapy has worked! We also take note of the prevention breakthroughs made. Vigorous efforts have encouraged people to protect themselves and use condoms when necessary. Very real progress has been made and we are fully confident will continue to be made. Here at home, and across the globe we are learning what works best in this global fight.

We are committed to sharing this experience and knowledge with all who are interested. At the same time, we are aware that communities in Uganda, Thailand, and ??? have produced remarkable successes in stemming the deadly tide of AIDS. We very much want to benefit from those and other lessons learned beyond our borders.

Therefore, we, the leaders of the United States Government's domestic and international efforts to fight HIV/AIDS come together to nurture a program to bring the success of our domestic programs to the international community, and the successes of international community to those on the front lines fighting AIDS here at home. This program will culminate on World AIDS Day, 1997, in the form of an International Lessons Without Border program that will, on a national level provide great clarity and focus to the global aspect of the pandemic and foster a sharing of lessons learned.



U.S. AGENCY FOR
INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT

11/12/96

FAY for Lahoua - FAY
632-1096

As promised. I realize
it needs lots of work - but it is a
start.

M. L. J. J. J.

1) UNFPA**WORLD AIDS DAY STATEMENT FROM ATWOOD AND FLEMMING**

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U.S. AGENCY FOR
INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT

The Administrator

LHR -
who will be there &
what she needs to do to
be prepared.

responded to
Cathy

FAX TRANSMITTAL

To	Patsy Flemming	From	Dottie Rayburn
Dept./Agency		Phone #	647-8190
Fax #	632-1096	Fax #	647-8321
NSN 7540-01-317-7388		5099-101	GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

OCT 7 1996

Please
Schedule
Accepted 10/7/96
Tone
C

Patsy Flemming
Office of National AIDS Policy,
Executive Office of the President
Fax: 202-632-1096

Dear Ms. Flemming:

I am very much aware of the concerns expressed by you and many of your colleagues, as evidenced in the recent recommendations of the President's Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS, regarding the management and staffing of the U.S. Agency for International Development's (USAID) program to combat the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

I want to assure you that our HIV/AIDS program is an extremely important priority for me and for this Administration. I am very proud of USAID's global leadership role -- in establishing the UNAIDS program, as well as in designing and managing nearly 400 HIV/AIDS programs in some 42 developing countries. I am going to continue doing everything within my power to assure that USAID maintains a strong and effective leadership role in this area. In particular, we are acting expeditiously to fill the recent vacancies in the AIDS Office and to give this program the high policy level attention and visibility which it warrants.

To discuss our plans in more detail, I would like to invite you to meet with me and other USAID representatives on Tuesday, October 15, at 1:30 p.m. in room 5951 of the State Department Building. (Enter at 21st Street). Please R.S.V.P. by phone to Dottie Rayburn at (202) 647-8190, or by fax at (202) 647-8321, providing your Social Security number and date of birth.

I hope to see you on October 15.

Sincerely,

J. Brian Atwood

Jeff.
OK to
send?

HJK

o ~~Individual letters to PAC
members about status of
mtg w/ Atwood from Pitzoy~~

o Update Panel members about
the changes

PRESIDENTIAL
ADVISORY
COUNCIL ON
HIV/AIDS

Dear Participants of the International Issues Update Panel:

Thank you for participating in the recent Presidential Advisory Council meeting and sharing your views and concerns on international HIV/AIDS issues.

The reaction from the Council members has been quite favorable. My overall impression was also positive and I am glad to have had the opportunity to meet all of you. My one regret was that the numerous presentations did not allow sufficient time for questions and answers.

Nevertheless, the panel succeeded in raising the visibility and importance of global HIV issues for the Council members. This was our first attempt to examine these issues as a Council, and I am confident that we will be able to use the information that you provided us to guide future discussions on the role of the US in global HIV/AIDS activities.

In response to your concerns raised during our meeting, the Council passed the following recommendation to the President:

Because of the extraordinary number of vacancies in the US Agency for International Development (USAID) HIV/AIDS program and the potential impact of these vacancies on its effectiveness, the President should direct USAID to immediately fill the existing vacancies in the Division of HIV/AIDS with personnel who are expert in global AIDS issues. USAID should incorporate in its future AIDS programs greater emphasis on skills exchange between domestic AIDS groups and their counterparts in other nations and expand its AIDS efforts to include issues relative to care, treatment, and the protection of the human rights of those infected.

If you have any additional thoughts or issues to bring to our attention, please submit them directly to the Office of National AIDS Policy at (202)632-1090 or by fax (202)632-1096.

I look forward to continuing our collaboration.

Sincerely,

Robert Fogel
Chair, International Sub-Committee

10/11/96

TO: Lathoma Romoeki 202632-
DRAFT 1096
Bob Fogel

PRESIDENTIAL

September 1996

ADVISORY

COUNCIL ON

HIV/AIDS

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Sincerely,

DRAFT

Robert Fogel
Chair, International Sub-Committee

750 17th Street, N.W., Suite 600
Washington, DC 20503

file name for PAC letterhead:
letterhead.pac.

PRESIDENTIAL

October 15, 1996

ADVISORY

COUNCIL ON

HIV/AIDS

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Sincerely,

Robert Fogel
Chair, International Sub-Committee

10/10/96



U.S. AGENCY FOR
INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT

The Deputy
Administrator

FAY for Lahoma -
(212) - 632-1096

Lahoma -

Did I get it right?
What did I miss.
And thanks much for all
the stuff you sent over

Mike Feldman

VIAP

attachment

The major elements of the Federal governments efforts to provide HIV/AIDS treatment, education and research consist of the five programs briefly described below.

medical Ryan White Care Act provides ~~emergency~~ grants to cities ^{and states} for ^{emergency} health and support services for low and under-or uninsured persons living with HIV or AIDS and their families. It also funds programs to improve the quality and accessibility of health care and support services for people with HIV/AIDS. The act is administered by ~~HHS~~. Funding is also ^{included} ~~available~~ for comprehensive primary care for people living with AIDS and at-risk populations such as substance abusers. With the recent medical break through an increasing important part of Ryan White is the AIDS Drug Assistance Program, which assists people who are under insured or lack insurance, ^{get buy new drug therapies} (ADAP)

With the NIH Office of AIDS Research is the central ~~funding~~ ^{NIH} coordinating point within the federal government for all AIDS research. OAR in turn distributes these funds to the ^{works} Institutes, Centers and Divisions of NIH. ^{to leader to better} ~~treatments, prevention and a cure for AIDS~~

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - manages a national AIDS public information system, consisting of mass media education efforts, the CDC National AIDS Hotline, and the National AIDS Clearinghouse.

Housing Opportunities for People Living with AIDS - assists low income people with HIV/AIDS and their families with housing and services.

*Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), an agency of the Dept of Health and Human Services.

CDC is the lead ~~age~~ federal agency for HIV education/prevention, surveillance and population based research.

Street Address:

1601 N Kent Street, Room 1200

Arlington, VA 22209

Phone: 703-875-4714/4726

FAX: 703-875-4686

**Mailing Address:**

Room 1200, SA-1

Washington, DC 20523-181

Agency for International Development
Office of Health and Nutrition
Bureau for Global Programs, Field Support and Research

To: Luthecia BahmackiFrom: Karen MorrisPhone: 202-632-1090703-875-4645FAX: 202-632-1096 - #?703-875-4686Number of pages (including cover sheet): 2

4686

MESSAGE:

As promised



Office of Health and Nutrition
Bureau for Global Programs, Field
Support and Research
Agency for International Development
Washington, D. C. 20523-1817

To: Patsy Fleming From: Victor Barnes
Phone: 202-632-1090 Phone: 703-875-4636
Fax: 202-632-1096 Fax: 703-875-4716

Number of Pages (including cover sheet):

MESSAGE: Patsy -
as you requested - my CV is
attached. Thanks UB.

LHR -
wd you call
Victor and
ask ^{to} whom ~~to~~
I was going
to send
his resume?
Thanks
— PF

VICTOR A. BARNES

3060 16th Street, NW #709
Washington, DC 20009
(703) 875-4636 (tel)
(703) 875-4716 (fax)
internet:vbarnes@usaid.gov

SUMMARY Fifteen years experience in developing country program planning, design, implementation, management and evaluation. Specific expertise in HIV/AIDS prevention, basic education and human resource development. Demonstrated ability to work effectively with regional, national and local governments and non-governmental organizations as well as international donor organizations.

EDUCATION

ABD Stanford University, June 1981
International Development Education
(Interdisciplinary degree: economics,
political science and education)

MA University of California at Los Angeles, June 1979
African Area Studies (focus: International Education
and Development Policy)

BA Washington and Lee University, June 1974
French Language and Literature

Universite de Paris, Le Sorbonne, August 1973
Certificate in French Language and Literature

EXPERIENCE

9/90- **USAID, Center For Population, Health and Nutrition**
Division of HIV/AIDS
Deputy Division Chief, responsibilities include:

Program Management

Provide program and budgetary oversight for the HIV/AIDS portfolio which includes the Agency's principal prevention project, AIDSCAP, a Women and AIDS Research program with the International Center for Research on Women, an integrated Family Planning and STD project in four Latin American countries, several bio-medical interventions including microbicide research and development, and STD diagnostics development, NGO/PVO Network support, Peace Corps initiatives in HIV/AIDS education and prevention and grants to the WHO/GPA and NIAID.

Program Coordination

Responsibilities include the coordination of Bureau HIV/AIDS activities with regional and central Bureaus, USAID field missions, private voluntary organizations, and other government and multilateral agencies.

Policy Design

Contributor and reviewer of the US Comprehensive Strategy on HIV/AIDS and the USAID HIV/AIDS Policy Document. Member of the US Inter-Agency HIV/AIDS Taskforce, coordinating USG policy on HIV/AIDS prevention and research.

Representation/UNAIDS Liaison

Represent USAID in numerous national and international fora on HIV/AIDS prevention; represent USAID as the Global Bureau liaison for UNAIDS; participate in national-level working groups on various policy issues in HIV/AIDS including application of international lessons-learned to domestic programs, intra-governmental working group on HIV/AIDS policy.

AIDSCAP Program Manager, responsibilities included:

Program management

Manage the AIDSCAP Contract with Family Health International and nine subcontractors: the Agency's largest prevention program (\$200 million) and the most comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention program in the bilateral donor community. Responsibilities included review and authorization of program strategies and individual country program design; program implementation oversight and extensive collaboration with USAID missions, Regional Bureaus and recipient countries as well as liason with international/multilateral organizations such as UNAIDS.

On-Site Technical Support

Participated in the strategic planning and program design of USAID/AIDSCAP HIV/AIDS prevention programs in Ethiopia, Lesotho, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Brazil, Haiti and Jamaica; participated in country program evaluations in Thailand, Jamaica, Haiti, The Dominican Republic and Kenya.

6/88-6/90

USAID, Bureau for Program and Policy Coordination

Senior Policy Advisor for Education, served as the Agency's principal policy advisor for education and human resource development; drafted related strategic and policy documents; supervised policy-based research and applied research findings to Agency policy and programming; provided field support and technical assistance to the design of education programs in the field.

6/81-5/88

USAID, Bureau for Africa, Office of Technical Resources

Technical Officer, served as a technical officer responsible for the development and design of basic education programs in Africa; managed education activities from Washington and in field missions; provided technical leadership and assistance on the design and implementation of education assessments in Africa.

6/75-8/77

US Peace Corps

Peace Corps Volunteer, served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Shaba, Zaire; taught English as a Second Language at the secondary level; developed adult after-hours English instruction program for the community.

Languages

English: native speaker
French: FSI 3+
Swahili (Kingwana dialect): conversational

References

Dr. Helene Gayle
Director, CDC Center for HIV/STD/TB
1600 Clifton Rd. N.E.
Mail Stop E07
Atlanta, Georgia 30333
tel: 404-639-8000

Dr. Peter Lamprey
Vice President
Family Health International
2101 Wilson Blvd. Suite 700
Arlington, Virginia 22201
tel: 703-516-9779

Dr. Jeff Harris
Managed Care Coordinator
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Rd. N.E.
Mail Stop D33
Atlanta, Georgia 30333
tel: 404-639-4502

Dr. Faustin Yao
Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
20 Avenue Appia, CH 1221
Geneva 27, Switzerland
tel: 41-22-791-2111

~~SECRET~~ ~~SECRET~~ ~~SECRET~~ ~~SECRET~~ ~~SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR RICHARD

FROM: LaHoma

SUBJECT: USAID Accomplishments

Here are the items you requested:

- * USAID has been the global leader in addressing the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Currently less than 250 million is expended annually in the developing world on HIV prevention. USAID contributes nearly 50% of this total.
- * USAID has established 240 HIV/AIDS projects in 42 countries; reached more than 3.2 million people with comprehensive HIV prevention education; trained more than 58,000 people and provided technical and financial support to more than 210 private voluntary and nongovernmental organizations to implement HIV prevention programs; and arranged for the sale or distribution of more than 118 million condoms in developing countries.
- * USAID 's budget increased by 6 million dollars from FY'94 to FY'95 and will not decrease under the current plan.
- * The US has actively participated in a new joint and co-sponsored program on AIDS to coordinate worldwide efforts to confront the pandemic and is the largest donor country. Government officials have also actively participated in the Tenth International AIDS meeting in Japan and the World AIDS Summit in Paris.
- * The President has threatened to veto legislation eliminating the Agency for International Development, the leading source of international AIDS assistance.
- * Representatives of the US participated in the

I N T E R O F F I C E M E M O R A N D U M

Created: 10-Oct-1995 03:17pm EST
Date: 10-Oct-1995 03:17pm EST
From: usaid_press_release
usaid_press_release@INFO.USAID

.GOV@INET@FHI

Dept:
Tel No:

TO: Multiple recipients of list (usaid_press_release@INFO.USAID.GOV@I
NET@FHI)

Subject: Reinventing USAID

SUBJECT: Reinventing USAID

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
FACT SHEET
October 1995

REINVENTING USAID

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) is one of only two agencies to be declared a "reinvention lab" by Vice President Al Gore as a part of the National Performance Review. Since 1993, USAID has redesigned its work to enhance its ability to promote U.S. national interests and sustainable development. USAID continues to aggressively pursue reforms that focus on achieving results -- "graduating" developing countries from U.S. assistance.

Managing for Results

installed new state-of-the-art systems for procurement, core accounting, budget, and program operations in Washington and overseas by October 1995, improving management and oversight capabilities by making such information easily accessible

established 10 reinvention labs worldwide in missions and offices to test new development approaches; by fall 1996, the system will be fully implemented throughout USAID

instituted performance criteria for contractors for financing ongoing programs and awarding future contracts; cut competitive contract award time by over 50% from one year to 150 days

"Works Better, Costs Less"

announced closing of 27 missions

reduced senior management by 32% and total staff by 16% from 10,800 to 9,050; eliminated 25% of organizational units in Washington

cut project design time by 75%; cut regulations by 55%

achieved \$7 million in cost savings over 5 years by combining administrative functions with other government agencies

Customer Service

established customer service standards for USAID programs

and services

provided contractors and grantees quick, accurate access to status of their payments

launched "Lessons Without Borders" initiative in three U.S. cities to bring lessons learned by international development professionals to U.S. communities facing similar problems

Putting Information Technology to Work

created internet gopher, making available information about USAID procurement proposals and country and sector profiles; last month, almost 9,000 people accessed the USAID gopher

expanded international E-mail network to cover 94 overseas sites

You can subscribe to the USAID press release listserve by sending an e-mail to "listproc@info.usaid.gov" -- in the body of the e-mail include the message: sub USAID_PRESS_RELEASE your name
To leave the list, send an e-mail to the above address and include the message: unsubscribe USAID_PRESS_RELEASE



U.S. AGENCY FOR
INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT

October 2, 1995

Dr. Tomris Turmen
Executive Director
Family and Reproductive Health
World Health Organization
1211 Geneva 27
Switzerland

Dear Tomris:

It was, indeed, a pleasure meeting with you here in Washington on September 21. In addition to our meeting, my colleagues in the Office of Health and Nutrition and in the Office of Population were pleased to have had the opportunity to hear your ideas for the new Family and Reproductive Health Programme. We have also had the opportunity to discuss this with Dr. Nils Daulaire from the Bureau for Policy and Program Coordination, with whom you met separately in New York. As promised, our comments on the information that you shared with us are summarized below.

1. Leadership and Authority

We endorse your commitment to ensuring that highly competent and experienced directors are placed in charge of the programmes under the new Family and Reproductive Health Programme. In this regard, we strongly urge that Dr. Tulloch, Dr. Holck and Dr. Benagiano be confirmed as the Directors of the Child Health and Development (CHD) Programme, the Reproductive Health (RH) Programme (Action Programme) and the Reproductive Health Research Programme, respectively. For these positions we think that technical and managerial skills should be the critical criteria for choosing personnel. We believe that your ambitious Programme will only succeed with strong and competent leadership.

2. Structure

The RH Programme should be divided into two distinct and well-coordinated entities: The RH Research Programme and the RH Action Programme. The RH Research Programme should be a Special and Co-Sponsored Programme following the HRP model. We believe that the HRP Standing Committee and the PCC/Donors would approve the expansion of HRP, through the new Programme, to work in all priority areas of RH research.

- 2 -

The CHD Programme should retain the focused results-oriented activities of CDR. The Programme should integrate both "sick" and "well" child elements and continue to develop guidelines at both the facility and community level. CHD should remain also the focus for activities related to shigella and cholera, and be called upon to provide technical assistance for outbreaks and epidemics.

We agree that separate programmes in Women's Health and Adolescent Health and Development, as shown in your organogram, are most appropriately located under the umbrella of Family and Reproductive Health. They have very important reproductive health components. Since these programmes will be dealing with non-reproductive health-related issues, we also agree that these programmes will be minor relative to other parts of your Programme, especially due to resource constraints.

We agree, strongly, that the Family and Reproductive Health Programme should be the focal point within WHO for activities related to STDs, breastfeeding and nutrition.

We suggest that the new Family and Reproductive Health Programme not diffuse its focus (both human and financial) in areas where other agencies are major players, e.g. HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and "special children" (UNICEF). The limited work that WHO does in such areas should be well-coordinated with the lead agencies.

3. Funding

We believe strongly that funding should be allotted directly to Programmes under the "umbrella" of Family and Reproductive Health. We do not see funding going directly to the "umbrella" Programme and then being divided at the functional level. Rather, for example, CHD should, like CDR, receive both regular and extrabudgetary funding directly, and the RH Research Programme should continue to function as a Special and Co-Sponsored Programme. Concerning the new RH Research Programme, the HRP Co-Sponsors and Donors (PCC) will have to decide whether designated funding will be acceptable for all components of the new Program or if some other mechanism is needed to help ensure that all components get adequate resources. The current regulations governing "earmarking" in HRP will need to be revisited.

Given the high priority placed on Reproductive and Child Health, we think that a greater portion of WHO's regular budget should be allocated to these areas. We intend to have this issue raised at the EB and WHA in 1996.

- 3 -

4. Oversight, Advisory and Governance

For the RH Research Programme and CHD Programme, the current oversight, governing bodies/donor groups, and mechanisms for technical oversight (TAGS) should be maintained. This ensures that WHO gets in-depth expert advice at the functional level. An Advisory Committee for the Family and RH Programme, at the "umbrella" level, could best be accomplished by meetings of chairpersons of the TAGS and the Directors of each of the component Programmes, rather than creating a new formal group. This is the best way to ensure oversight/coordination of the component Programmes.

5. Role of the Executive Director

Per the organogram that you shared with us, we agree that your role should include advocacy, resource mobilization, especially for a greater portion of the regular budget, donor coordination, information, and public relations. We see management, administration and finance at the functional level as the domain of the Directors of the component programmes. Policy at the macro level is certainly part of the Executive Director's job, but again, at the functional level, should be the domain of the Directors.

6. Consultative Processes

We support fully your consultations with donors and interested parties. It is important that you obtain feedback from, at least, the major donors to the programmes under the new "umbrella" programme. We also believe that meetings of Donors'/Interested Parties at the component programme level are essential before the reorganization is completed. Furthermore, we believe that external meetings involving donors, country participants, NGOs and consultants should be more than ceremonial. Such meetings are excellent opportunities for brainstorming, soliciting useful and actionable recommendations, and enhancing participation and consensus amongst stakeholders.

7. Relationship with UNAIDS

We were pleased to hear that you and Dr. Piot have been having discussion concerning how your two programmes will relate to each other. Nevertheless, it is not clear to us what the division of labor will be, especially for STD research.

- 4 -

We trust that you will find these comments constructive and useful. Again, we are pleased that you have consulted with us and would be happy to provide additional input and/or clarification as needed. We wish you great success in establishing this new and important Programme.

Subject to the availability of funds, USAID is committed to supporting activities within the new Programme provided that they are of high quality, well-managed and maintain their focus in areas of high priority to the US Government and, rest assured, we will continue to work closely at the technical level with WHO staff.

Sincerely,



Duff Gillespie
Deputy Assistant Administrator for
Population, Health and Nutrition

cc:
US Mission/Geneva, KBernard

I. Interagency Cooperation

Background: Given that USAID has the primary mandate for international HIV/AIDS prevention how does the Office of the National AIDS Policy Coordinator cooperate with and enhance USG international prevention efforts.

Express concern that there currently is no one agency that is taking the lead not only in coordination of USG efforts internationally, but in being a spokesperson for USG international efforts in HIV/AIDS policy and prevention (ie. the relationship between the State Department and USAID). What effort is USAID making to fill the HIV/AIDS Policy Coordinator Position? -note: it is unclear whether Duff is slowing this process down or the Management office (Larry Byrne).

II. Agency Level of Support for HIV/AIDS Prevention efforts in FY95 and FY96.

There is concern that without a soft earmark or report language that the funding level for HIV/AIDS will drop substantially. Given the critical role that USAID plays in HIV/AIDS prevention internationally as the lead donor in the world this would have significant negative impact on preventing the spread of HIV. What strategies will USAID use to protect the HIV/AIDS funding levels?

III. HIV/AIDS Prevention Efforts in Thailand

Background: Carol has made a decision to terminate the HIV/AIDS prevention efforts in Thailand as of Sept. FY95, unless the Thai government cannot absorb this activities. The program is funded through AIDSCAP and addresses an underserved population in Bangkok. The Regional USAID Mission in Bangkok and the AIDSCAP office are currently writing up a transition plan which Carol may have to approve next month. The plan will have continued activities past Sept. FY95. We are concerned that the decision to close this activity is due to a bias against AIDSCAP and not due to the needs of the country.

Please express USG concern that continued USAID efforts in Thailand in HIV prevention are necessary not only because Thailand is the epicenter of HIV/AIDS in Asia, but because USG prevention efforts in Thailand are viewed as necessary in cooperation with other USG agency efforts in possible drug testing and vaccine development in the region.

IV. Follow Up to the Paris Summit

Background: Many of the initiatives of the Paris Summit Declaration are global in scope, however, USAID's new budgeting system is placing a large percentage of the funds in the Missions. Given the decreasing levels of funding centrally at USAID how will USAID meet these global mandates?

HELMS'S HELPERS

Although last year's revolutionary Republican congressional campaign was waged and won almost entirely on domestic issues, it apparently cleared cobwebs from the minds of some of the GOP's leading geopolitical lights.

Top foreign policy managers from recent Republican Administrations have rushed forward in recent weeks to praise Jesse A. Helms, R-N.C., the new chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, for his plan to consolidate independent agencies dealing with foreign aid, arms control and public diplomacy into a super State Department.

"Bold and constructive," chirped George P. Shultz, Secretary of State under President Reagan. "Breathtaking in its boldness and visionary in its sweep," gushed Bush Administration Secretary of State James A. Baker III. "Very much on the right track," added Baker's successor, Lawrence S. Eagleburger, and Bush national security adviser Brent Scowcroft, in a joint statement.

Their endorsements of the Helms reorganization plan, which was cobbled together in just a few months and has yet to surface in completed legislative form, seem somewhat remarkable when one considers that some of these same officials in 1992 orchestrated a yearlong study that reached the opposite conclusion.

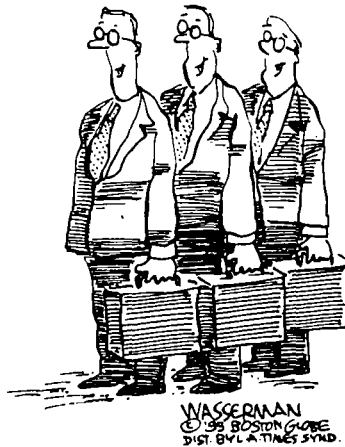
"Some argue that we should throw out the whole current structure and start over, creating a mega-foreign ministry," the Bush Administration noted in January 1993 in a report entitled "State 2000, A New Model for Managing Foreign Affairs." But except for the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, the study's authors concluded, "we do not believe the full integration of other foreign affairs agencies is warranted."

In contrast with the Helms plan, which was sketched out in a packet of brief press releases distributed on March 15, the "State 2000" study consisted of a 99-page executive summary, backed up by a 357-page annex. It was produced by an 18-member State Department task force that was appointed by Baker and finished its work under Eagleburger.

"State is primarily a policy agency," the task force argued. "We do coordinate programs and overseas activities, but we leave the implementation, when possible, to other qualified agencies and nongovernmental organizations."

The Clinton Administration's National Performance Review study, headed by Vice President Albert Gore Jr., reached much the same conclusion in February after considering a State Department consolidation proposal forwarded by Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher. Declaring that "moving boxes is no substitute for real change," Gore argued that merging ancillary foreign policy agencies into State would "undermine" cost-saving reforms already in progress.

The sudden enthusiasm on the part of the GOP's foreign policy elders for rearranging the international affairs organization chart causes many Democrats to smell a political rat. "I'm stunned by these former Secretaries," Sen. Paul S. Sarbanes, D-Md., sarcastically remarked during a recent hearing on the Helms plan. "When they were on the job, they didn't do any of



this. But now they are coming out of the woodwork."

The rat that the Democrats detect is Helms's long-held aversion to foreign aid, a view that appears to have gained adherents since Republicans took over the House and Senate. Under the Helms plan, the functions of the Agency for International Development (AID) would be scattered within the restructured State Department and the agency's field presence overseas would be ended.

AID administrator J. Brian Atwood sees Helms's merger plan as something of a diversionary tactic to obscure the slashing of funds for foreign assistance. "The money side is

the more significant threat to us than the reorganization," Atwood told reporters on April 7.

Atwood is bracing for an early-May fight over a Republican-backed budget resolution that is expected to trim upwards of \$3 billion from the Clinton Administration's over-all spending request for international activities of \$21 billion. Because large segments of the already pared-thin international budget, such as assistance for the Middle East, are traditionally exempt from cuts, the brunt of the cuts would fall on programs that promote sustainable development, Atwood said.

Arguing that the budget resolution's spending caps would force appropriators to make "bad choices," Atwood denounced the GOP strategy as "a very irresponsible approach to international engagement." He also maintains that it is economically shortsighted because foreign aid—which takes up only half of 1 per cent of the federal budget—more than pays for itself in increased trade and averted humanitarian crises.

Atwood suggests that Republicans may be less interested in America's standing as an international leader than in capturing the White House next year. "If it's Congress's intent to throw our foreign policy into disarray to make President Clinton look bad over the next two years, they may well do that," he said.

To buttress his argument, the AID director disseminated copies of a March 30 report by the donor coordination committee of the Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), a trade-oriented body representing 25 industrialized nations, including the United States. The OECD report notes the already "declining U.S. aid volume" and warns that "this seeming withdrawal from traditional leadership is so grave that it poses a risk of undermining political support for development cooperation in other [donor] countries."

In 1993, the United States ranked second in overseas development assistance spending, behind Japan and just ahead of France and Germany. But, as the only nation operating overseas aid missions, it is the world leader in coordinating projects with other donors, according to the OECD.

In congressional testimony and in public appearances around the country to drum up support for the U.S. aid program, Atwood is arguing that the field missions are crucial. If the U.S. outposts for directing the application of assistance were to be closed, "then I would agree with Sen. Helms that we should not have a foreign aid program," he declares. ■