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United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

Fax -- April 20, 2000**From: EUR/ERA - Ray Walser - 647-1605****To: NSC - Kenneth W. Bernard - 456-9390****ONAP - Sandy Thurman - 456-2437 8****NSC - Hoyt Yee - 456-9150****NSC - Laura Efros - 456-6028****NSC - Nora Dempsey - 456-9260****AID - Alex Ross - 219-0507****AID - Mary Knox - 216-3394****Subject: Follow-up Meeting on U.S.-EU HIV/AIDS/Infectious Diseases in Africa Initiative**

Attached is a draft Summit Statement for
discussion at tomorrow's meeting. at 3PM.

Ray Walser

U.S.-EU Statement on the Health Crisis in Africa and the Expanding Threat of HIV/AIDS and Infectious Diseases

Few challenges are more profoundly disturbing or more far-reaching than the threat posed by the HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, polio, and other infectious diseases. The scope of the infectious disease threat is fundamentally global, yet, Africa today bears the disproportionate brunt. In Africa, HIV/AIDS alone annually claims more than 2.6 million victims, while more than a million lives are lost to malaria. The number of African families devastated by parental loss caused by HIV/AIDS runs into the millions. An unsustainable health crisis in Africa deepens the vicious cycle of disease and poverty, erodes security, creates states of national emergency, and robs an entire generation of the hope for future development.

At the start of the new millennium, the U.S. and the EU seek to mobilize international opinion, resources, and action that target HIV/AIDS and infectious diseases. During the January 2000 U.S. Presidency, the United Nations Security Council held its first-ever session devoted to HIV/AIDS in Africa. The U.S. committed in 2000 to provide additional resources, with much of its new money going to HIV/AIDS programs in Africa. In Cairo in April, leaders of the EU met with their African counterparts and committed to work cooperatively for solutions to the health crisis. The renewal of the Lome Convention in May likewise underscores the EU's enduring commitment to the future development of its African, Caribbean, and Pacific partners, including sounder economic underpinnings for the health sector.

We, the leaders of the United States and the EU, call upon the leaders in Africa and other threatened nations to redouble their commitment to fighting infectious diseases. We express our mutual commitment to work with these leaders and their national institutions to find ways to develop and sustain successful national prevention and health care strategies.

We agree that cooperation between the U.S. and the EU in the fight against HIV/AIDS shall become an integral and ongoing part of the global cooperation chapter of our New Transatlantic Agenda. At the Summit, we agreed on the importance of enhanced coordination and cooperation, and specifically to work together in four priority areas:

- To increase health and prevention awareness and to draw lessons from the progress of some developing countries in order to empower civil society and individual citizens to take measures of prevention and self-protection;
- To direct our representatives at the individual country level to work cooperatively and to share relevant information needed to strengthen local capacity for the delivery of necessary health services and cost-effective treatments;
- To cooperate to improve access to essential vaccines and drugs and to explore and implement measures and policies that speed research, field testing, and distribution. We will engage in a dialogue with pharmaceutical companies in order to encourage

investment and tax incentives and other measures designed to make HIV/AIDS drugs more accessible and affordable to countries in need. We will work together to support the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI);

- To promote in the United Nations, World Bank, and other multilateral organization the effective use of resources, concessionary loans, and debt relief for the fight against infectious diseases. We will support shifting multilateral bank lending to support the building of health care systems in Africa that improve basic health services, build health care infrastructure, and deliver medicines and prevention services. We will use our high-level assistance consultation to advance this donor coordination effort.

The G-8 Summit in Okinawa in July 2000 constitutes a unique opportunity to increase international cooperation and support for the global fight against infectious diseases. Our cooperation complements that of the G-8.

U:\PUBLIC FILES\EU\WalserR\4-24 Statement on HIV-AIDS (2).doc

You are invited to attend an informal interagency meeting at 3PM on Tuesday, April 25 in Room 6519, Department of State. We will use this meeting to discuss next steps in the development of the Summit Deliverable for the Lisbon U.S.-EU Summit, which could take place as early as May 31.

Agenda:

- Review of 4/13 U.S.-EU Senior Level Group and 4/17 Deputies Meeting on Summit Deliverables
- Discussion of Draft U.S.-EU Statement (* I plan to circulate a first draft by Monday)
- Preparation for possible May 5 videoconference with EU.
- Elaboration/review of possible U.S.-EU cooperation and action steps.

Please let me know if you will not be able to attend. Also let me know if you need help with clearances. Thanks.

I-05-20
yes initiative

Fax message - this cover plus 5 pages

To: NSC - Ken Bernard - 456-9390
NSC - Hoyt Yee - 456-9150
ONAP - Sandra Thurman -- 456-²439
USAID - Alex Ross - 219-0507
USAID - Mary Knox - 216-3394

From: State, EUR/ERA Ray Walser

Date: April 6, 2000

Subject: HIV/AIDS/Infectious Diseases Cooperation in Africa

You are invited to participate in a meeting to discuss the proposed U.S.-EU initiative on HIV/AIDS/Infectious Diseases in Africa in Room 6519 (EUR/ERA's conference room) at 4PM on April 10. The purpose of the meeting is to script out what we want EUR PDAS Wayne and U/S Pickering to say to the EU at the U.S.-EU Task Force meeting on April 12 and the Senior Level Group Meeting on April 13. I have attached a draft of an incoming cable from Brussels on the topic as well as the letter the Commission proposes to send to U/S Pickering. Please let me know if you can attend. If you need help with clearance let me know. Thanks.

WEP
647-1605
647-2932 (sec)

UNCLASSIFIED
PROG 04/06/00
ECON:ADERSE
ECON:CHELMER
POL:SSWANSON
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WHITE HOUSE FOR NSC KEN BERNARD AND ONAP SANDRA THURMAN

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: TBIO, PREL, PREF, EUN
SUBJECT: HIV/AIDS: COMMISSION IS ON BOARD

REF: A) BRUSSELS 0327; B) STATE 61180; C) LISBON 1223

1. SUMMARY: THE EU COMMISSION IS ON BOARD WITH THE IDEA OF LAUNCHING AN HIV/AIDS INITIATIVE AT THE SUMMIT. COMMISSION SERVICES ARE STILL STUDYING THE U.S. PAPER (REF B) AND FORMULATING THEIR RESPONSE, BUT AGREE WITH ITS GENERAL THRUST. A LETTER THAT THE COMMISSION HAS DRAFTED ON SUMMIT IDEAS TAKES A SIMILAR LINE TO OUR PROPOSED APPROACH. EVEN WITH ENTHUSIASM ON BOTH SIDES, WE WILL HAVE TO WORK QUICKLY TO PRODUCE A SUBSTANTIVE PACKAGE IN TIME FOR THE SUMMIT. THE U.S. SHOULD BE PREPARED TO LAY OUT OUR PROPOSAL IN EVEN GREATER DETAIL AT NEXT WEEK'S SLG MEETING, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO THE PUBLIC DIPLOMACY AND IPR ASPECTS WHERE THE COMMISSION APPEARS TO HAVE THE MOST QUESTIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. MISSIONOFFS MET APRIL 6 WITH DG RELEX OFFICER NORA STEHOUEW TO DISCUSS THE U.S. PROPOSAL FOR A U.S.-EU INITIATIVE ON HIV/AIDS IN AFRICA (REF B). STEHOUEW EMPHASIZED THAT SHE COULD ONLY PROVIDE A PRELIMINARY REACTION AS SHE WAS STILL WAITING FOR FEEDBACK ON THE U.S. PAPER FROM OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE COMMISSION, BUT IN PRINCIPLE SHE WAS VERY POSITIVE ABOUT THE PROPOSAL. SHE COMPLIMENTED THE DRAFTING OF THE PAPER AND THE STRATEGY IT LAID OUT FOR ATTACKING THE PROBLEM ON SEVERAL FRONTS.

3. STEHOUEW SAID THAT HER PRELIMINARY SOUNDINGS WITH OTHER COMMISSION SERVICES FOUND GENERAL SUPPORT FOR THE IDEA OF LAUNCHING A HIV/AIDS INITIATIVE AT THE SUMMIT. SPECIFICALLY: DG RESEARCH IS VERY ENTHUSIASTIC; DG

DEVELOPMENT IS SUPPORTIVE TO THE DEGREE THAT IT WOULD COMPLEMENT INITIATIVES BEING TAKEN IN THE G-8 CONTEXT; AND DG TRADE IS NOT OPPOSED, BUT NEEDS TO KNOW MORE ABOUT WHAT THE U.S. WANTS TO DO ON THE TRIPS/IPR FRONT. STEHOUSER PROVIDED MISSIONOFFS WITH A DRAFT LETTER (COPY FAXED TO EUR/ERA) ON SUMMIT IDEAS THAT THE COMMISSION HAD PREPARED PRIOR TO THE RECEIPT OF THE U.S. PAPER. THE SECTION ON HIV/AIDS TAKES A SIMILAR LINE TO OUR PROPOSED APPROACH.

4. FROM HER OWN PERSPECTIVE AT DG RELEX, STEHOUSER SAID SHE PARTICULARLY APPRECIATED THE STEPS PROPOSED IN THE U.S. PAPER WITH REGARD TO "REINFORCING POLITICAL WILL". WHILE SHE SEEMED TO HAVE IN MIND AN EFFORT THAT FOCUSED ON AFRICAN LEADERS, IN RESPONSE TO FURTHER EXPLANATIONS FROM MISSIONOFFS SHE RECOGNIZED THE VALUE OF WORKING WITH ALL SECTORS OF SOCIETY. SHE ASKED IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO SEE ANY GUIDANCE THAT THE U.S. HAS SENT TO ITS MISSIONS IN AFRICA ON LAUNCHING A PUBLIC DIPLOMACY CAMPAIGN ON HIV/AIDS.

5. LOOKING AT POSSIBLE STUMBLING BLOCKS, STEHOUSER POINTED OUT THE IMPORTANCE OF CRAFTING THE CAMPAIGN SO THAT IT WOULD NOT BE PATRONIZING TO AFRICAN COUNTRIES. SHE ALSO OBSERVED THAT THE IPR ASPECTS OF PROVIDING HIV/AIDS TREATMENTS TO AFRICAN COUNTRIES AT A REASONABLE PRICE WILL BE DIFFICULT TO RESOLVE. IN DEALING WITH THE COMMISSION, SHE URGED THE U.S. TO AVOID LANGUAGE WHICH COULD IMPLY AN OVERLY-RIGID FRAMEWORK FOR COLLABORATION. SHE REMARKED THAT THE ONE WRONG NOTE STRUCK IN THE U.S. PAPER WAS THE USE OF THE TERM "JOINT PROJECT", WHICH SOME COMMISSION OFFICIALS FELT IMPLIED A TIGHTER RELATIONSHIP THAN THEY WOULD BE COMFORTABLE WITH.

6. STEHOUSER OBSERVED THAT, WITH TALK OF MOVING THE SUMMIT DATE UP TO MAY 31, THERE WAS LITTLE TIME LEFT TO PREPARE THIS INITIATIVE. AT THE LATEST, IT WOULD NEED TO BE READY BY MID-MAY TO BE BLESSED BY THE LAST SLG MEETING PRIOR TO THE SUMMIT. SHE AND MISSIONOFFS TENTATIVELY AGREED TO MEET, HOPEFULLY WITH OTHER COMMISSION SERVICES PRESENT, IN MID-APRIL AFTER NEXT WEEK'S SLG MEETING AND AGAIN IN EARLY MAY TO HAMMER OUT THE DETAILS. MISSIONOFFS EMPHASIZED THAT THE U.S. WANTS TO DO MORE THAN READ A STATEMENT AT THE SUMMIT. WE WANT TO LAY OUT A PLAN OF ACTION FOR HOW THE U.S. AND THE EU WILL WORK TOGETHER TO FIGHT HIV/AIDS IN THE MOST AFFECTED REGION OF THE WORLD.

7. COMMENT: STEHOUSER'S POINT ABOUT THE SHORTNESS OF TIME REMAINING IS WELL TAKEN. EVEN WITH THE ENTHUSIASM THAT NOW EXISTS ON BOTH SIDES, WE WILL HAVE TO WORK

QUICKLY IF WE ARE TO PULL TOGETHER A SUBSTANTIVE INITIATIVE IN TIME FOR THE SUMMIT. POST RECOMMENDS THAT U.S. REPRESENTATIVES IN NEXT WEEK'S SLG MEETING BE PREPARED TO LAY OUT OUR PROPOSAL IN EVEN GREATER DETAIL, PLACING PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON THE PUBLIC DIPLOMACY AND IPR ASPECTS, WHERE THE COMMISSION APPEARS TO HAVE THE MOST QUESTIONS. END COMMENT. (DRAFTED:ECON:CHELMER)

MORNINGSTAR

DRAFT

Brussels, 3 April 2000

Dear Mr Pickering,

We are writing to you to follow up one of the themes Secretary Albright raised in her recent discussions in Lisbon and Brussels with Prime Minister Guterres, President Prodi and Foreign Minister Gama.

In those discussions, Ms Albright flagged the idea of EU-US co-operation on AIDS/communicable diseases in Africa as a potential issue for the EU-US Summit in June. Given the huge human suffering and the effect of this problem on the socio-economic stability of the continent, we consider this a valuable idea and have asked our officials to investigate possibilities for a joint message. The importance of this issue is also recognised by the Africa-Europe Summit, which will take place in Cairo on 3-4 April.

As already indicated by President Prodi in the discussions, the EU proposes to extend the discussion to also include other major poverty diseases, such as tuberculosis and malaria.

Our proposal would be to draft a Summit statement, which should make clear that the impact these diseases have on life and society in Africa puts heavy responsibilities on the (inter) national community. African leaders, as well as the international community of donors, the pharmaceutical industry and civil society will need to redouble efforts to control diseases such as tuberculosis and malaria and join forces to combat HIV/AIDS. The problem of HIV/AIDS is clearly not only a health, education or development issue, but as was shown in the January debates of the UN Security Council is affecting peace and security in Africa.

At the moment we are contemplating the following elements for the draft: strengthening of support of national HIV/AIDS interventions, the notion of recipient country ownership and leadership, priority for effective prevention strategies and awareness campaigns, improvement of health services and the development /strengthening of local capacity, improved access to essential drugs, the promotion of research and development cooperation for HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis (some promising EU-US high level contacts in this field are taking place). Of course we are open to suggestions from your side.

We suggest that in the context of this draft, we could also highlight the EC-USAID

co-operation on infectious diseases, which is taking place in Africa (and elsewhere).

In short, we want to give visibility to the fact that Africa plays - or should play - an important role in our EU-US relations. There are of course many other important aspects to our respective Africa policies, such as conflict prevention and resolution or trade and development issues, which we should refer to and which we may wish to revert to in the future. But we do think that this time we should focus on communicable diseases. We hope that our joint message will raise the visibility of our co-operation and will contribute to the resolution of these global problems.

We would welcome an early discussion of these initial thoughts in the context of the 12 April Task-Force and the Senior Level Group on 13 April.

Yours sincerely,

Signed by

João SALVEIRO
Director General
Political Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Guy LEGRAS
Director General for
External Affairs
European Commission

To: NSC - Ken Bernard - 456-9390
NSC - Hoyt Yee - 456-9150
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DOC - Alicia Robinson - 482-5198
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From: EUR/ERA - Ray Walser (647-1605)

Subject: Action Steps for U.S.-EU Initiative on HIV/AIDS/Infectious Diseases

Attached is a compilation of proposed action steps for discussion with the EU. I have tried to incorporate those items either discussed in our meetings or in the papers that have been circulated in the last two weeks. Can you please review and provide comments and clearance by OOB Tuesday, May 2? I hope to share both this document and our draft statement with the EU by tomorrow.

I've been told that EU will do the videoconference on May 5th or the 11th. I hope for a definitive answer tomorrow. They were closed today for European Labor Day.

If you have questions please call me at 647-1605.

Thanks.

Ray Walser

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Possible Action Steps for U.S.-EU Cooperation on HIV/AIDS and Other Infectious Diseases

Public Awareness/Public Diplomacy

The U.S. and EU will work to develop a public diplomacy strategy designed to increase national government attention, commitment and funding for HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria in affected areas. They will seek the added value of U.S.-EU consensus and cooperation in order to indicate more effectively the high level of international concern for this dangerous threat and to overcome national perception barriers for prompt and effective action.

Examine the possibility of developing a **plan or strategy of public diplomacy** in cooperation and collaboration with the countries of Africa in order to intensify HIV/AIDS awareness among at-risk populations. This strategy will focus on reducing new HIV infections through education, behavioral change, use of condoms, empowerment of women to take charge of health and reproductive decisions, and other steps.

Work to implement an effective **HIV/AIDS prevention and education program** designed to reduce the stigma associated with the disease. Assess lessons learned from Uganda, Senegal and Thailand, where governments have demonstrated a commitment at the highest levels. Work for broadly representative efforts that garners support from governments, private enterprise, NGOs, civil society, churches, and schools in affected countries.

Develop a joint public diplomacy strategy that builds linkages and activities among U.S., EU, and African **publicly funded media** (such as the Voice of America) in order to provide programming and to improve capabilities, and educate African and other journalists. Share current information on training, exchanges, workshops, speakers and other similar activities organized in response to the threat from HIV/AIDS and others.

Work to develop a coordinate message for **World AIDS Day**.

03/01/00 MON 14:55 FAX 202 647 8858 EUR EKA STATE

Within Africa, and other at-risk areas, encourage **U.S. and EU missions** to share information, consider parallel or joint demarches to host governments, coordinate local media and public outreach strategies, and seek other appropriate means to benefit from each partner's expertise. Consider forming in country U.S.-EU Joint Working Groups on HIV/AIDS and other Infectious Diseases.

Via **traditional diplomatic contacts**, notably leader-to-leader discussions encourage high-level commitments by leaders to fight HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases.

Mobilizing Resources

UNAIDS estimates that at least USD 1 billion is required annually for HIV/AIDS prevention in Africa, and that at least another USD one billion is required annually for AIDS care and support. The U.S. has begun allocating additional resources and hopes to add more than \$250 million in a two-year period. These figures do not include research funding. While our funding and resource generating mechanisms differ, we are prepared to discuss informally and exchange information on the levels of our support with the goal of continuing to augment these resources.

Develop a **fact sheet/score card** on transatlantic resource funding to track U.S. and EU contributions to the international fight against HIV/AIDS, malaria, TB and other infectious diseases.

Encourage increases in **non-governmental resources** (businesses, churches, foundations, etc.)

Work together to encourage governments of most affected countries to **mobilize internal resources** to combat HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

Vaccines, Drugs and Others Measures

We will work together in a long-term effort to make drugs and vaccines more available for health systems and nations in need. Currently only two percent

of all global biomedical research is devoted to the major killers in the developing world. We agree that this sum needs to be increased if we are to make progress in curbing the spread of infectious diseases.

In our initiative we will examine ways to scale up prevention and care activities, especially increasing **access to essential drugs**.

We agree to undertake a careful review and discussion of possible mechanisms and incentives to increase private research, development and distribution of **affordable medicines and vaccines**. We will carefully review issues relating to intellectual property rights and other commercial and trade concerns associated with this process.

The **solidarity initiative** proposed by the Government of France offers an opportunity to draw together donors, recipients and pharmaceutical companies. We will review our positions on this proposal with a view to supporting a major conference in 2001.

Achieve agreement on mutual support for **LIFE** initiative? Such as childhood transmissions and vaccines. (Need specifics)

Work to step up efforts to control tuberculosis (TB) worldwide, particularly multi-drug resistant TB. Increase support for **WHO's Stop TB initiative**, and work to ensure access to effective TB treatment in the states of the former Soviet Union and other countries with high rates of multi-drug resistant TB.

Support the **Multilateral Initiative on Malaria (MIM)** to advance critical lines of malaria research while building research capacity in developing countries, including a U.S.-EU pledge to step up their efforts in support of the MIM as a critical mechanism to redress the toll taken on the world by malaria. The EU and the United States will support the MIM in three major ways. First, both groups will support the Secretariat for the Multilateral Initiative on Malaria, now housed at the U.S. National Institutes of Health. Second, both groups will support the next major international conference to be held under the auspices of the MIM. That conference, to be held in Tanzania in 2002, will provide a forum for developing country scientists and health professionals to meet with counterparts in the North to refine the

priority areas for activity in malaria research and to consider the best way to support them. Training needs for African scientist will be assessed. The U.S. and EU will work together to ensure that developing country scientist will receive travel support to that meeting. Third, U.S. and EU will work together to jointly fund priority projects under the MIM. A group of experts will meet in the summer of 2000 to identify specific areas of joint support. Priority areas for consideration will include training in the peer review process to assess the merit of research proposals and also training in research management. Both of these areas were identified as priority needs by African malaria researchers.

The U.S. and EU will support the **Global Forum on Bioethics in Research**. The second meeting of the Forum will be held in Thailand in October 2000, with sponsorship by the World Health Organization and others, and the third Forum will be held in the Gambia, under the sponsorship of the British MRC and others. The U.S. and EU will work to ensure that the Forums are supported and that developing country scientists and professionals are able to travel to those meetings. In addition, the U.S. and EU will explore means by which training of developing country health professionals can be supported in the area of ethics and medical research.

Donor Coordination

The **International Partnership Against AIDS in Africa (IPAA)** has successfully laid the groundwork for a common framework to improve donor coordination at the country level. We will work to increase our country, regional and headquarter collaboration to ensure that respective agency resources are most efficiently mobilized and deployed.

We will work to support the shifting of existing **multilateral resources** toward building health care systems in poor countries to provide basic health services, build health care system infrastructure, as well as to deliver medicines and prevention services. We will call jointly on multilateral development banks to increase low interest rate resources to build effective delivery systems.

We will support the use of **HIPC debt relief** to make additional resources available for poverty reduction programs, including HIV/AIDS and basic health care.

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**U.S. Department of State
Bureau of Oceans and
International Environmental
and Scientific Affairs
Washington, DC 20520**

Fax

To: Distribution	From: Nancy Carter-Foster
Fax: 202-736-7336	Pages: 4 including cover
Phone: 202-647-2435	Date: 05/02/00
Re: US delegation meeting of US-EU Task Force on Communicable Diseases	CC: Jack Chow

☐ **Urgent** ☐ **For Review** ☐ **Please Comment** ☐ **Please Reply** ☐ **Please Recycle**

I have organized a meeting of the U.S. delegation of the U.S.-E.U. Task Force on Communicable Diseases for Monday, May 16, 10AM-11:30AM, in room 7835 (OES conference room) of the State Department. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the organization and development of Expert Groups that were agreed to during the May Task Force meeting and during a January discussion between the two Chairs of the Task Force. The minutes of those meetings were faxed in February. A copy of the most recent correspondence between the Chairs concerning the Expert Groups, will be circulated and discussed at the May 16 meeting.

The Chairs of the Task Force have agreed to postpone a full Task Force meeting to the latter part of this year. This will allow 1) the Expert Groups to form and hold their first meetings and 2) the development of an overall strategy paper and group action plans that incorporates input from the Expert Groups. The full Task Force meeting, scheduled in cooperation

May 2, 2000

with WHO, will be hosted in Copenhagen later this fall/winter in keeping with our agreed schedule of annual meetings in alternate locations. We can discuss possible dates during the May 16 meeting.

Please call or fax Elizabeth Scharl [202-647-4689 (phone), 202-736-7336 (fax)] by May 10 to let her know if you will be attending the May 16 meeting. If you will be attending in person, please forward your social security number and date of birth to expedite the clearance process. Conference call capabilities will be set up for those of you who will be out of town. If you will be participating by conference call, please let Liz know so she can ensure that there are enough ports available and can forward the necessary call-in information.

Thanks much. I look forward to seeing everyone again.



Nancy Carter-Foster, Director
Office of Emerging Infectious
Diseases and HIV/AIDS

May 2, 2000

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Agenda for US delegation Meeting of US-EU Task Force on
Communicable Diseases
May 16, 2000

- I. Summary of May 1999 meeting
- II. Update of subsequent Task Force Co-Chair discussions
- III. EU agreement/actions on Expert Groups
- IV. US Expert Group participation/Chairs
- V. Related activities for US-EU Summit
- VI. Next steps for Task Force Expert Group activities

To: NSC - Ken Bernard - 456-9390
NSC - Hoyt Yee - 456-9150
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AID - Mary Knox - 216-3394
AID - Alex Ross - 219-0507
AID - Joyce Holfeld - 216-6077

From: EUR/ERA - Ray Walser (647-1605)

Subject: Draft Statement on HIV/AIDS/Infectious Diseases for U.S.-EU Summit

Attached is a revised version of the proposed U.S.-EU statement. I have shared it with my State colleagues and they have made a number of suggestions. If you have comments, suggestions, please provide them by 1 PM on Friday, April 28. I will then share this with the EU. This is of course just a draft. I have reserved the EUR video facility for a possible conference on May 5 from 10AM until 12PM. Please keep this time open. We do not however have a confirmation from the EU on the day or time.

I still need to do the paper on concrete steps and urgently welcome input on specific measures we will propose.

Thanks.

Ray Walser

4/27/00 5:21 PM

**U.S.-EU Statement on the Expanding Threat of HIV/AIDS
And Other Infectious Diseases, Especially in Africa**

Few challenges are more profoundly disturbing or more far-reaching than the threat posed by HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, and other infectious diseases. The scope of the infectious disease threat is fundamentally global; yet, Africa today bears the disproportionate brunt. In Africa, AIDS alone annually claims more than 2.6 million victims, while more than a million lives are lost to malaria and tuberculosis. The number of African families devastated by parental loss caused by AIDS runs into the tens of millions. This health crisis in much of Africa deepens the vicious cycle of disease and poverty, erodes security, creates states of national emergency, and robs an entire generation of the hope for future development. The toll of human devastation caused by infectious diseases is also rising in Asia.

At the start of the new millennium, the U.S. and the EU seek to mobilize international opinion, resources, and action to target HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases. The United Nations Security Council held its first-ever session devoted to HIV/AIDS in Africa during the January 2000 U.S. Presidency. The U.S. committed to provide additional resources in 2000, with much of its new money going to HIV/AIDS programs in Africa. In Cairo in April, leaders of the EU met with their African counterparts and committed to work cooperatively for solutions to the health crisis. The renewal of the Lome Convention in May likewise underscores the EU's enduring commitment to the future development of its African, Caribbean, and Pacific partners, including sounder economic underpinnings for the health sector.

We, the leaders of the United States and the EU, call upon the leaders of threatened nations around the world to redouble their political and financial commitment to fight the spread of infectious diseases. We reiterate our commitment to work with these leaders, their national institutions, and citizens, in Africa and elsewhere, to find ways to develop and sustain successful national prevention and health care strategies.

We agree that cooperation between the U.S. and the EU in the fight against HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases will become an integral and ongoing part of our global cooperative agenda. At the U.S.-EU Summit, we agreed on the importance of working in tandem to address the challenges of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases, particularly in Africa, and to cooperate as partners to advance the following priority objectives:

- To increase public awareness of effective health and prevention measures among at-risk populations and to draw upon the lessons of progress made by a number of developing countries in order to empower civil society and individual citizens with the knowledge needed for improved disease prevention and self-protection, and
To direct our representatives at the individual country level to work cooperatively and to share relevant information needed to strengthen local capacity for the delivery of necessary health services and cost-effective treatments.
- To explore and implement measures and policies that speed research, development, and field testing of needed drugs and vaccines;
To support the introduction of new financial and investment incentives designed to make drugs and vaccines more accessible and affordable to countries in need, and,
To support the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI).
- To seek increased governmental and private resources dedicated to supporting the international fight against infectious diseases.
- To maximize our donor coordination efforts in the United Nations, World Bank, and other multilateral organization to encourage the effective use of resources, concessionary loans, and debt relief as weapons in the fight against infectious diseases; and
To augment multilateral bank lending for health care systems in Africa and elsewhere to promote improved basic health services, build health care infrastructure, and deliver enhanced medicines and prevention services.

The G-8 Summit in Okinawa in July 2000 constitutes a unique opportunity to increase international cooperation and support for the global fight against infectious diseases. U.S.-EU cooperation against HIV/AIDS and infectious diseases is

designed to complement the work of the G-8 and to contribute to a successful outcome at the Okinawa G-8 Summit.

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