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To	Robin Leeds	From	Kiersten Stewart
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 13, 1997

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES RESPONDS TO SUFFERING OF WORLD'S WOMEN IN VOTE TO RELEASE INTERNATIONAL FAMILY PLANNING FUNDS

Washington, D.C. — In a move that recognizes Americans' strong support for family planning, the House of Representatives today voted to release already delayed international family planning funds.

"This is a wonderful victory for women and children worldwide," said Gloria Feldt, president of Planned Parenthood Federation of America. "Congress did the right thing. We will now be able to get much needed help to the women and families already hurt by the drastic funding cuts of the last two years. Fortunately, members understood how successful these programs have been at reducing unintended pregnancies and abortions and the spread of AIDS."

For instance, since 1989 as contraception in Russia has become more available, the number of abortions in that country has dropped from 4.4 million to 2.7 million.

In addition to having important immediate health benefits, this victory also is symbolic of a Congress very aware of issues that affect women.

"I hope this vote marks the first step toward a House of Representatives more responsive to the needs and wants of women," Feldt said. "Access to family planning isn't just a political issue, it's an everyday concern for American women, so helping provide some of that same access to women overseas is a real no-brainer. The voices of women were heard and, most importantly, understood."

The Senate resolution to release the funds will likely be voted on the last week of February and is expected to pass.

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Planned Parenthood® Federation of America, the world's oldest and largest voluntary reproductive health care organization, is dedicated to the principle that every individual has a fundamental right to choose when or whether to have a child. Planned Parenthood's not-for-profit affiliates operate 900 health centers in 48 states and the District of Columbia. Planned Parenthood centers provide medical and educational services for more than five million Americans each year, regardless of race, age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or economic circumstances. Through its international program, Family Planning International Assistance®, Planned Parenthood helps meet the family planning needs of women and men in the developing world.



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Fr: Betsy Myers
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Dt: January 30, 1997

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OF PAGES (including cover)

3

COMMENTS

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 24, 1997

MEMORANDUM TO: MELANNE VERVEER
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MARTHA FOLEY
BETSY MYERS
LISA ROSS
JULIA MOFFETT
LYNN HOGAN
JILL BUCKLEY
ANN KITTLAUS
TONY GAMBINO

FROM: ANN LEWIS

Attached you will find the action plan we discussed at yesterday's meeting for the release of the Presidential Finding to the Congress on International Family Planning Funding. Evan Ryan will be following up with everyone. If there are any adjustments to be made to the action plan, Evan may be reached at 456-6751. Thank you.

Presidential Finding to the Congress on International Family Planning Funding
Communications Strategy Options

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1. Mailing of transcripts of VPOTUS and FLOTUS 1/22 speeches
with cover letter from HRC - contact: Melanne Verveer | Betsy Myers
Lisa Ross |
| 2. Talking Points for use by working groups | Martha Foley
Jill Buckley |
| 3. Monitor Rockefeller Foundation Report | Nicole Rabner |
| 4. Work with bipartisan Members of Congress, including receiving
report from POTUS | Martha Foley
Jill Buckley |
| 5. Transmit report with letter and/or press release
Preferred timing: 1/31 afternoon | Martha Foley
Jill Buckley |
| 6. Options for HRC involvement:- pre or post-report conference call
(w/ Beijing network)
- speaking role
- meeting | Melanne Verveer |
| 7. Closed press, pre-report meeting with legislative representatives
Preferred timing: 1/31 morning | Lynn Hogan
Betsy Myers |
| 8. Editorial boards: Mailing - 1/22 speeches
HRC Bolivia column
Possible POTUS statement re: report | Ann Kittlaus |
| 9. Other options: Conference call or meeting with Brian Atwood
Possible contact with Secretary Albright | Ann Kittlaus |

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Vice President

For Immediate Release

January 22, 1997

Transcript of the Vice President's Remarks Before NARAL January 22, 1997

Thank you. Thank you ladies and gentlemen. Tipper and I are delighted to be here. She whispered to me just now to remind you that the reason we were five minutes late for the Inaugural ceremony is that we stayed longer than we were supposed to in church that morning. (Laughter and applause). Thank you very much.

It is great to be here. And Kate thank you as others have thanked you for your extraordinary leadership and your untiring advocacy of the rights of women. I also want to thank Nancy Rubin, a longtime effective leader and advocate of the rights of women and for her leadership in setting up this event. To Barbara Silve (phonetic) and the other members of the NARAL Board. And especially today to Robin Chandler Duke. Tipper spoke today for me and for all of us with her words straight from the heart about how strongly we feel about your lifetime achievement Robin. Thank you for your personal friendship to Tipper and me for so many years and may I add my words to those that have already been well spoken here.

Let me also acknowledge, even though I understand that they have been mentioned, I want to also acknowledge the members of the House and Senate who are here because it takes great courage in many cases for these individuals to take the stands that they have taken. And I want to single out Senator Bob Kerrey, Senator Chuck Robb, Senator Ron Wyden, Senator Barbara Boxer and other Senators who are not here. And in the House of Representatives, Rep. Ken Bentsen, Rep. Lloyd Doggett -- both from Texas, Rep. Bob Filner, Rep. Elizabeth Furse, Rep. Jane Harmon, Rep. Tom Lantos, Rep. Nita Lowey, Rep. Nancy Pelosi, Rep. Adam Smith and again other members of the House who are not here.

And of course I want to acknowledge a great friend to Tipper and

me who was here earlier in your luncheon and acknowledge the First Lady's leadership on this issue all around the world. I think especially the way she represented the United States of America and those who believe in the values for which our nation stands when she traveled to Beijing and spoke truth to power in that conference. I thought it was an extraordinary achievement, one which she has replicated in many places around the world and in this country.

She spoke about the events of earlier today. I will not comment on them. I do want to say that on Thursday we witnessed the horror of two bombs being detonated at a family planning clinic in Atlanta -- the second bomb maliciously planted for the specific purpose of harming the brave Americans who were attending to the victims of the first explosion. Counter-terrorists experts point out that this is a pattern that first emerged in some other places in the world known for endemic terror and hatred. It could not have been an accident in their view. On Sunday a clinic in Tulsa, Oklahoma was struck by two bombs. The same clinic had been firebombed not three weeks earlier.

To those who committed the horrible deeds of Tulsa and Atlanta I say this on behalf of President Clinton and the American people: The American people will not tolerate your cowardly crusade. We Americans resolve our differences with civilized discussion and spirited debate and elections and constitutional processes not with pipe bombs, hand grenades and instruments of hate. You will not prevail. (Applause)

These emotions we feel are fresh and strong in the immediate aftermath of the majestic and peaceful transition from one four year presidential term to the next. A peaceful transfer of power that has taken place over and over again without violence ever for more than 200 years.

The reason we are able to feel this way as Americans on Inauguration Day -- regardless of which party wins, regardless of who we voted for, regardless of our feelings about the individual who is up there taking the oath of office -- the reason we feel an enormous swell of pride is because we know that we have the capacity of a free self-governing people to deal with differences peacefully. By talking with one another, arguing with one another, but arguing peacefully.

Let there be no doubt we will find the terrorists who committed these horrible acts of the past week and we will punish you to the full extent of the law. We will not let you terrorize America's women or their doctors. (Applause) We will not let you deface our Constitution. (Applause) We will not let you destroy the spirit of brotherhood and

sisterhood that is America. (Applause) WeÆll find you. (Applause)

America's women have the right to choose. And no one will ever steal that right away. The right to choose is fundamental lodged in our Constitution affirmed by our Supreme Court. And on behalf of President Clinton, I vow to you here and to all listening that we will never ever let anyone take that right away. (Applause)

The anti-choice cause did not win in the nation's courts. They did not win in the court of public opinion. They did not win in the nation's elections. And its advocates will not prevail by trampling our traditions or trafficking in terror. These appalling attacks are assaults not merely against a single building or a single gender but against America's deepest principles.

In nations with different traditions, they believe that power comes out of the barrel of a gun. But in this nation we know that true power comes out of disparate voices of a free people.

I want to say one other word to those who have committed these deeds. If you claim religious convictions compelled your attempts to scare, your attempts to kill, you have committed an appalling act of hypocrisy. No interpretation of God in any religious tradition condones -- let alone calls for -- terror. (Applause) Speaking from the perspective of my own religious tradition, I say that that the Bible offers no ballast. I quote from 1 John, Chapter two, verse 9: ôAnyone who claims to be in the light but hates his brother is still in the darkness.ö

We can disagree on some things, but women and men of goodwill must agree that violence has no place in our dialogue of democracy. Christian, Jew or Muslim or follower of some other tradition, all Americans must work to ensure that light triumphs over darkness. Billy Graham said it well earlier this week on the steps of the U.S. Capitol when he asked God, and I quote, ôhelp us to learn our courtesy to our fellow countrymen, that comes from the one who taught us that æwhatever you want me to do to you, do also to them.

And Martin Luther King, Jr., whom we honored on the same day as Inauguration Day, offered similar counsel. Listen to his words: Violence...is immoral because it seeks to humiliate the opponent rather than win his understanding; it seeks to annihilate rather than convert. Violence is immoral because it thrives on hatred rather than love. It destroys community and makes brotherhood (and sisterhood) impossible.

The pro-choice movement, I'm proud to say, has never resorted to violence. You have relied on reason. You have worked withing the system. And for that, I thank you and the American people thank you. NARAL has built a tradition of tolerance, and every one of you has made our country stronger. I thank you for standing up for America's women and for their right to choose.

Those who support women's rights and the right to choose should also take care to avoid the language of violence. In condemning those who have now resorted to violence on the other side of this argument, let us acknowledge respectfully and gratefully all of those who while disagreeing on this issue also abhor the resort to violence. Yes, there are those who silently welcome it though not participating in it themselves. But let us not pretend that that is the majority. It is not. The majority within this group that holds a minority opinion also deplore the violence.

Coming out of the events of this week, I mentioned that these emotions are fresh and strong because of what we have experienced as a nation this week. And the desire for renewed attempts to reach out for common ground is also strong and fresh. Cardinal Bernardin was a leader among those who passionately disagree on this issue but nevertheless attempted to construct a dialogue aimed at mutual understanding.

I remember Cairo so well, primarily because it was an occasion in which the entire world came together in search of mutual understanding. I remember, I remember my cast and the crutches and going over there the week after my operation. Some of you may recall it was my Achilles tendon and you probably heard me explain that it was injured doing a helicopter dunk on the basketball court. (Laughter) I caught my elbow on the rim (laughter) coming down. (Laughter). I still have to wear the full body cast (laughter and applause). But as I started to remember those meetings it all came back to me. But I remember meeting with individuals of from different religious traditions, from different political cultures, from different ways of life, and talking in-depth about what is involved for all of us as human beings as we confront this issue.

For me, the basic truth is this. When a woman faces a situation that is so impossibly complicated -- for her, her family, her relationship to God, her deepest beliefs, and feels that she understands what's going on her life in a way that no one else does -- how can we as Americans, schooled in the deepest respect for a proper relationship between the individual and the awesome power of the state, how can we say that the government of the United States of America with all of its power, with all of its resources, with all of its distance and insensitivity to

these fragile and complex circumstances pressing in upon that individual women, how can we say that the government must come in and order her to do what it has decided is the right thing and not her? It is wrong. It is wrong. (Applause)

I respect deeply those on the other side of this debate. And the truth is, of course, that the vast majority who agree with NARAL and the vast majority who agree with Cardinal Bernardin and others who hold the opposite -- who have held and hold the opposite view -- appreciates some, some aspects of each others positions.

Four years ago, exactly four years ago, when these emotions in the immediate aftermath of the Inauguration that I've referred to twice were fresh then, I personally reached out to individuals. I will not call their names because the conversations were and shall remain private. But I reached out to individuals who are leaders on the other side of this issue and asked, is there a way to make common cause in the effort to reduce the number of times women find themselves in a situation where they go through this process of choosing?

The private response was, you're right. There are a lot of things we can do together. Upon reflection, the response some weeks later was, ôwe just can't do it. Why?

Here's my interpretation. I know I'm on thin ice here. There's no way to discuss these issues without venturing out on to thin ice. The truth is that a minority within the minority also believes that family planning, in the form of birth control and even the giving of information about birth control, is morally wrong. Of course I don't agree with that. I disagree strongly as everyone here -- I assume everyone here -- does. But the way coalitions are built and maintained is that sometimes deference is inappropriately given to a mistaken view, clearly understood as mistaken, for the purposes of cohesion. And so the vast majority of those who are opposed to choice, and yet believe in their hearts that of course giving birth control options is sensible, refrain from ever saying that. And quietly support a unified opposition to birth control as well.

If they were willing to abandon that aspect of their common front then there would be much that we could all do together to make abortions rare. We believe they should safe, legal and rare Those who disagree on the first two believe that they should be rare. There is a way, and we saw some of the outlines in Cairo, to fashion such a common approach here in the United States.

I would like to renew the comments I made privately almost exactly four years ago to my friends who are in the opposite camp. To in the spirit of Cardinal Bernardin, to reach out with understanding as Americans, to heal our land, to say to all of our people, in the aftermath of these bombings, regardless of our views on the issue, we will not let this issue tear us apart as a country, We must not. We will not.

In any event, we will not allow a women's right to choose to be taken away. I say that firmly, plainly, so it is clearly understood that it is not going to happen. But we do believe that there is much we can do together.

In closing let me say, especially today, thank you, NARAL, for pushing through the important legislation that must be the bulwark against this violence -- legislation like the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act -- and thank you for being such staunch defenders of a women's right to choose, for standing so tall even at a time when an anti-choice Congress has threatened some important freedoms.

And on this anniversary of Roe v. Wade when some will try and tug us backward to a time before that historic moment, we must commit ourselves to moving forward beyond a debate about just abortion. We are not and we never have been pro-abortion obviously. We are pro-choice, pro-reproductive health, pro-education, pro-strong families, pro-women, pro-Constitutional rights, pro the spirit of the United States of America which will forever stand.

Thank you and may God bless you all.

HIGH STAKES: THE UNITED STATES, GLOBAL POPULATION AND OUR COMMON FUTURE

Why the Rockefeller Foundation Is Committed to United States Leadership in International Population Assistance

The mission of the Rockefeller Foundation, since it was chartered in 1913, has been to promote the well being of people throughout the world. Improving the status of families is a key component of the Foundation's efforts to sustain and encourage development across the globe.

Support for international family planning and reproductive health programs is essential to this effort and is a cornerstone of the Foundation's work. Since 1958, the Rockefeller Foundation has assisted nonprofit organizations and governments in developing countries in making voluntary family planning services available to their citizens. Foundation officers are recognized experts in research, policy development, and implementation of family planning and reproductive health programs around the world.

Based on its experience, the Rockefeller Foundation is convinced that families must have better access to family planning and reproductive health services. These programs should empower couples to make their own decisions about the number and timing of their children. They also should emphasize the need for broader social measures – such as health services, economic development, and education for girls and women – that expand individual choice and opportunity.

Since family planning programs were launched in the 1960s, the percentage of women in the developing countries using contraception has risen from less than 10 percent to over 50 percent, and the average number of children born to couples worldwide has dropped by a third. Family planning programs have saved the lives and improved the health of countless women and children. Effective family planning, availability of reproductive health services and the ability of women and their families to improve the quality of life fosters societal and economic progress, as well as greater social and political stability in the developing world.

PIVOTAL MOMENT

The world is at a critical point in time. While much progress has been made in bringing family planning and reproductive health services to developing countries, much more needs to be done. As the 21st century nears, the largest generation in history stands on the brink of adulthood. By the year 2000, one billion people – one sixth of the world's population – will be teenagers. These young people will, quite literally, shape the future. The choices they make, and the choices available to them, will have a profound impact on

the world in which we live. The decision to have a child is among the most important choices they will make – for themselves and the world. Decisions about the number and timing of births can mean the difference between abject poverty and economic well being. And the cumulative effect of millions of individual choices will have seismic effects on the global community.

UNITED STATES LEADERSHIP IS ESSENTIAL

International population assistance had broad bipartisan support in the Congress from 1965 until just two years ago. Despite a long-standing prohibition against using Federal funds to perform abortions, international population assistance has become embroiled in the domestic politics of abortion. As a result, family planning has suffered deep cuts in appropriations. Even though the United States contributes only one-quarter of the international contributions to family planning and reproductive health services in developing countries, the loss of these funds will mean:

- 7 million couples in developing countries losing access to modern contraceptives, resulting in 4 million unplanned pregnancies;
- 1.6 million of those pregnancies will end in abortion;
- 8,000 more women will die in pregnancy and childbirth; and
- 134,000 more infants will die as a result of an increase in high-risk births.

This loss of human life is tragic, avoidable, and unconscionable. The continuing retreat by the United States from its historic leadership role in family planning and reproductive health services could have even broader consequences, stalling progress toward social and economic development in countries that rely upon and need our country's assistance. Many of those countries are also important new markets for United States industry.

At the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo, Egypt, many formerly reluctant nations followed the United States' lead in forging a new agenda for, and renewed commitment to population programs. Hopefully, they will not follow in retreat. As the largest generation in history reaches the brink of adulthood, the United States must reclaim its leadership mantle to ensure that the world our children and grandchildren inherit is marked by individual dignity, prosperity, stability, and environmental quality.

FAMILY PLANNING AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH PROGRAMS HELP FAMILIES

Family planning programs have improved the health and well-being of families throughout the world. During the past 30 years in which family planning programs have been implemented with support from the United States, population growth has declined from 2.4 percent per year to approximately 2.0 percent, and average family size in many parts of the world has decreased dramatically.

United Nations Estimates of Total Fertility Rates by Country

Country	1960 Fertility Rate	1995 Fertility Rate
Mexico	6.8	3.0
Colombia	6.8	2.6
Kenya	8.0	6.0
Tunisia	7.1	3.0
Indonesia	5.5	2.8
India	5.9	3.6
Zimbabwe	7.5	4.8
Bangladesh	7.0	3.4
Thailand	6.4	2.6
Morocco	7.2	3.4
Egypt	7.0	3.7

Evidence is clear that effective family planning has critical implications for the health of women and children, and family well-being in the developing world. Research shows that the highest mortality of women and children results when births are spaced too closely (less than two years apart), when they occur too early in a mother's life (before the age of 18), when a woman has too many children (more than four), and when births occur too late in a woman's life (after the age of 35). Effective programs provide the educational tools and services to encourage greater spacing between children, delay childbearing and, by improving the health of the mother and baby, reduce family size. Children are healthier and live longer as a result of family planning services. The health of women and children is also improved where family planning is provided in a broader reproductive health context, which includes prenatal care and safe delivery, sexually transmitted disease treatment and preventive services, and child health services.

Despite these gains and proven benefits, family planning and reproductive health services are not universally available, accessible or used by all couples that want or need such services. Approximately 120 million women still do not have access to family planning or reproductive health services.

1994 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

An important step in ensuring that effective family planning and reproductive health services reach all those who need them is the implementation of the Cairo Program of Action developed and endorsed at the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD). The United States played a critical role in shaping the agenda and in fostering cooperation among the participating nations, and joined with 183 countries to sign and endorse the Program of Action.

The ICPD Program of Action comprehensively addresses rapid population growth by meeting human needs. It places family planning within a broader framework of reproductive health and emphasizes additional social measures – such as education and opportunities for women – that are important in themselves and encourage smaller families.

The ICPD Program of Action asks nations to:

- Ensure that all men and women have access to reproductive health information and services – including family planning – so that they may voluntarily choose the number and spacing of their children;
- Improve the quality of reproductive health services, which include a range of services to improve the health of women and the health of their children;
- End coercion of all kinds in family planning and reproductive health programs by ensuring informed choice and informed consent;
- Educate girls, ensure economic opportunity for women, and encourage greater male responsibility for sexual and parenting behaviors;
- Ensure that women are at the center of all population and development efforts;
- Ensure that population is integrated into all sustainable development policies; and
- Reduce both unsustainable consumption and production patterns as well as negative impacts of demographic factors on the environment.

Endorsers of the Program estimated that additional financial resources would be needed to meet the growing demand for family planning and reproductive health services. They agreed on a target of \$17 billion by the year 2000 and \$21.7 billion by 2015. Each nation agreed to allocate funds on an escalating basis. Developing countries committed to meeting two-thirds of the cost of funding, while industrialized nations would contribute the remaining one-third of the costs.

Even with the Program of Action commitments, the US support for family planning would not exceed two percent of this country's 1996 foreign aid budget of \$12.1 billion which represents less than one percent of the entire federal budget. Since the 1994 ICPD, other industrialized nations have taken their cues regarding support for the Program from the United States, one of the largest donors. While most countries are honoring their financial commitments, the U.S. retreat from its 1994 pledge raises the concern that many nations may follow suit.

This could mean a devastating loss for international family planning services worldwide. It is vital that the United States renew its commitment to funding international population assistance.

WHAT IS THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION DOING

Accurate information about the effectiveness of international family planning has become overwhelmed by political rhetoric. Family planning is not about abortion; nor is it about billions of dollars of foreign assistance to underdeveloped countries. In order to understand the critical importance of international population assistance and the leadership role of the United States, we must peel away the rhetoric and look behind the myths.

Through the publication of *High Stakes: The United States, Global Population and Our Common Future* the Rockefeller Foundation seeks to provide the American public with a better understanding of how our country's historic, bipartisan leadership of international family planning programs has helped improve the quality of life for millions of families in developing countries.

High Stakes will provide an informed look at how and why population assistance has worked for the past 30 years, and why American leadership is essential to its continued success. The report examines the profound implications of such assistance on the health and well being of women and children, the world's environmental security, political stability, economic development, and migration patterns. It also focuses on the impact of entering an era where more adolescents of childbearing age are alive than at any time in the world's history.

After reading this report, Americans will better understand that continued support and leadership by the United States for international population assistance has dramatic benefits today, as well as for the future world our children will inherit.

To order a copy of
High Stakes: The United States, Global Population and Our Common Future
Media Only: Please Call Dare Hurley (202) 835-8874
General Public: Fax Requests to (201)

**U.S. DELEGATION
to the
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT
PRIVATE SECTOR ADVISORS**

November 6, 1996

The Vice President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20501

Dear Mr. Vice President:

When you met with the U.S. Delegation to the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) last year, you indicated that you wanted to continue to work with us to ensure that the United States fulfills its commitment to ICPD implementation. On behalf of the private sector advisers to the delegation, we are writing to request a meeting with you in November or early December to discuss several issues critical to ICPD implementation.

There are a number of reasons we think it is important that you once again become personally involved. Your active leadership early in the Administration was key to securing the necessary resources to reestablish the United States as a committed partner on international population and development issues. Your leadership during the ICPD was critical to the ability of the United States and its partners in both the developed and developing countries to establish a new ethical framework for population policy. These two achievements were major benchmarks in our efforts to leave a more prosperous, just and peaceful world for our children.

But now, actions by the 104th Congress have jeopardized much of the hard-won progress in reestablishing the United States as a reliable supporter of programs to improve the health of women and children and to address problems of population growth worldwide. Core elements of the ICPD Program of Action, which was adopted by more than 180 nations at the ICPD, are under attack. Through a combination of budget cuts and administrative restrictions, support for family planning and reproductive health programs has been cut far beyond the reductions in other development assistance activities.

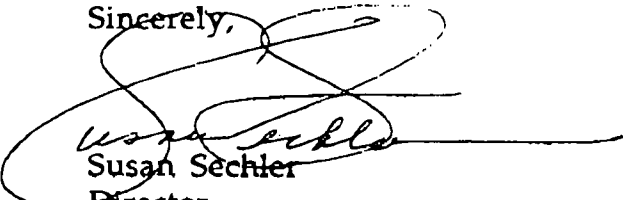
The Vice President
November 6, 1996
Page two

These actions have tarnished the U.S.'s reputation as a reliable partner, and have begun to sabotage the commitments of support for program expansion and reform that were given by developing countries and donor nations. The struggle in government and among program supporters to maintain both adequate funding levels and the program's administrative integrity has also siphoned energy away from the critical process of implementing the Program of Action.

While there are a number of related issues that need attention during the next four years, we want to discuss with you actions that we believe must take place in the next several months to reverse these disturbing trends. Immediate attention must be given to the presidential finding which is to be presented to Congress no later than February 1, 1997. As you are aware, delayed FY96 funding is a significant impediment to meeting U.S. commitments made at the ICPD and restoring U.S. leadership on this critical issue.

We thank you for your past efforts, and look forward to meeting with you soon. Ellen Marshall and Susan Sechler at the Global Stewardship Initiative have agreed to help coordinate scheduling between your office and the other members of the delegation. They can be reached at 202/736-5803 or 202/736-5850, respectively.

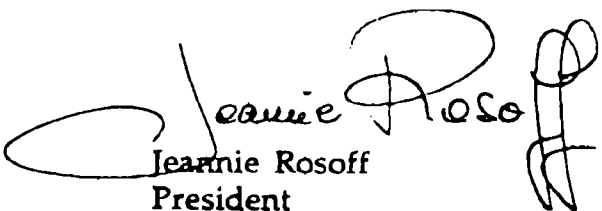
Sincerely,



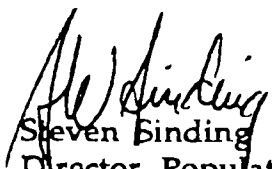
Susan Sechler
Director
Global Stewardship Initiative



Peggy Curlin
President
Centre for Development and
Population Activities



Jeannie Rosoff
President
Alan Guttmacher Institute



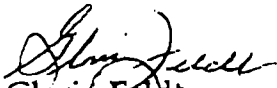
Steven Finding
Director, Population Sciences
The Rockefeller Foundation



Patricia Waak
Director, Population Program
National Audubon Society



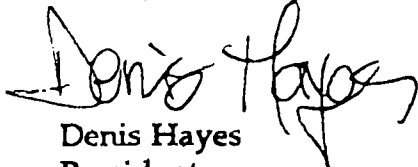
Bella Abzug
President
Women's Environment
and Development Organization



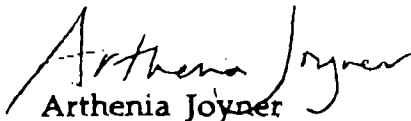
Gloria Feldt
President
Planned Parenthood Federation
of America



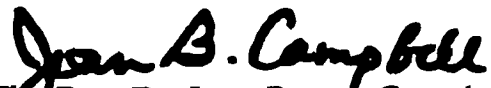
Adrienne Germain
Vice President
International Women's
Health Coalition



Denis Hayes
President
Bullitt Foundation



Arthenia Joyner
Attorney



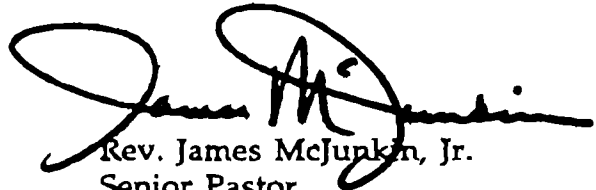
The Rev. Dr. Joan Brown Campbell
General Secretary
National Council of Churches



Victoria Markell
Vice President
Population Action International



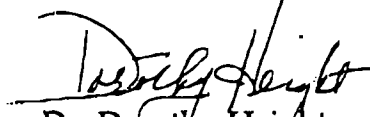
Dorothy Lamm
Free-lance writer
CEDPA board member



Rev. James McJunkin, Jr.
Senior Pastor
Affinity Missionary Baptist Church



Helen Rodriguez Trias
Past President, American Public
Health Association
Co-Director, Pacific Institute
for Women's Health



Dr. Dorothy Height
President
National Council
of Negro Women

Background Memo

You will speaking to 16 private sector advisors to the U.S. Delegation to the International Conference On Population and Development (ICPD). These advisors represent diverse groups including the Alan Guttmacher Institute, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Centre for Development and Population Activities, National Audubon Society, International Women's Health Coalition, the National College of Negro Women, and the National Council of Churches.

Last year, you met with the ICPD and you indicated you would like to continue to work with them to ensure that the United States fulfills its commitment to ICPD implementation. This meeting was requested as follow-up to your last meeting.

The ICPD advisors would like to speak to you about reestablishing the United States as a reliable supporter of programs to improve the health of women and children and to address the problems of population growth worldwide. In particular, these advisors are interested in discussing the presidential finding on international population program funding delays which is to be presented to Congress no later than Feb. 1, 1997.

Following is background information on the finding and other key issues for your meeting.

Background

During the 104th Congress, Clinton/Gore Administration accomplishments on family planning and choice suffered repeated Republican attack. Through a combination of budget cuts and administrative restrictions, support for family planning and reproductive health programs has been substantially reduced. Most recently in the 1997 Foreign Ops Appropriations Act, conservative Republicans cut international population program funding and inserted "metering" or delays in disbursement of international family planning funds. The metering was inserted into the appropriations language to thwart Republican efforts to reinstate the Mexico City Policy language President Clinton overturned at the beginning of the Administration.

By February 1 of this year, the President must submit a finding to Congress on the effects of the cuts and delays on international family planning programs. The finding, which is in final draft form and will soon be transmitted from USAID and the State Department to the President, will detail the negative consequences of cuts and metering on international family planning programs. The White House will release the finding late in the month, possibly Jan. 30 or Jan. 31. A communications and report release strategy **has not yet** been determined.

Following the transmittal of the President's report, Congress will vote no later than Feb. 28, 1997 on the finding by joint resolution. A positive Congressional vote would release FY '97 funds in March rather than in July. (This is not new money. The funds are already appropriated, but have been held back through statutory language placed in the '97 Foreign

Ops Appropriations bill by Republicans.)

Rep. Chris Smith (R-NJ) may introduce a concurrent bill to release the federal family planning funds **only on the condition** that no money goes to organizations that use their own funds to provide abortions or lobby for changes in abortion law. Rep. Smith's action would resurrect the Mexico City policy debate and would shift the debate away from family planning to abortion, thereby endangering the moderate vote needed to release the family planning funds per the President's finding.

Other Relevant Issues

- This is the first reproductive health vote in the new Congress and will be one of the only votes on family planning services. The vote on whether or not to accept the President's findings will be controversial and the vote's outcome is unclear to date.
- On Wednesday, January 29, the Rockefeller Foundation will release a report titled, "High Stakes: The United States, Global Population and Our Common Future." The report will present why population assistance has worked for the past 30 years and why American leadership is essential to its continued success. The report examines the implications of assistance on the health and well-being of women and children, the world's environmental security, political stability, economic development, and migration patterns.
- Discussions are near completion between OMB, USAID and State to set the level of international population program funding for FY '98. AID Administrator Brian Atwood would like to request \$400 m. for population under Development Assistance. With funding they have available under Economic Support Funding (Egypt) and New Independent States (Russia, etc.) for population activities, the total program activity would be roughly \$430 m. This compares with \$385 m. appropriated for FY 1997, but is \$35 m. below the amount the administration requested for FY 1997. Women's groups want what the Administration to request what it requested for FY '97.
- Jan. 22 was the anniversary of both Roe v. Wade and President Clinton's overturn of the Mexico City Policy.