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The U.S.-EU Relationship

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"The European Union is growing and America and the EU are working together to tear down more trade barriers and strengthen new democracies."

"America stands with Europe. Our destinies are joined. If Europe is at peace, America is more secure."

If Europe prospers, America does as well."

President Clinton, Berlin, May 13, 1998

1. Speeches by Senior U.S. Officials

- [Morningstar's Remarks on U.S. - EU relations at the French Institute for International Relations 04/20/00](#) NEW
- [Grossman on Future of U.S.-European Relationship 04/11/00](#) NEW
- [Madeleine Albright's trip to Europe, March 3-10, 2000 : Texts, Transcripts \(with photo gallery of Brussels Press availability with Prodi and Dedication of the new USEU Chancery on March 10\)](#)
- [Albright at Aspen Institute Conference on U.S. - EU relations 03/18/00](#)
- [Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for European Affairs E. Anthony Wayne on EU- U.S. perspectives 11/08/99](#)
- [Clinton Commemorates the 10th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall 11/08/99](#)
- [Under Secretary of State Stuart E. Eizenstat on U.S.-EU Economic Partnership 06/15/99](#)
- [Secretary of State Madeleine Albright at G-8 on Stability Pact 06/10/99](#)
- [Secretary of State Madeleine Albright Statement after U.S.-EU Ministerial in Bonn 06/09/99](#)
- [Under Secretary of State Stuart E. Eizenstat on U.S.-EU Economic relations 04/06/99](#)
- [Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for European Affairs E. Anthony Wayne Senate Testimony on European Union 03/24/99](#)
- [Under Secretaries of State Pickering and Eizenstat Byliner: "Building a Transatlantic Partnership for the 21st Century" 01/07/99](#)
- [Under Secretary of State Thomas R. Pickering on Strengthening Transatlantic Partnership - Address at New York's Columbia University 12/08/98](#)
- [U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright Calls Euro-Atlantic Partnership "Real and Vital" - Statement to EAPC in Brussels 12/08/98](#)
- ["A Strong Partnership in Difficult Times" by U.S. Ambassador to Austria Kathryn Walt Hall 11/12/98](#)
- ["The Transatlantic Partnership: a History of Defending Freedom, a Future for Extending It"](#)

- Remarks by Ambassador Thomas R. Pickering, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs at SACLANT Conference, 10/30/98
- "America's Trade Agenda in Europe" - Speech by USTR Barshefsky to the EU Committee of the AmCham, Brussels 10/19/98
- "The U.S.-EU Partnership for the 21st Century" - Remarks by Under Secretary of State Eizenstat at the Nixon Center 10/16/98
- "The Future of the U.S.-Europe Relationship" - Remarks by Assistant Secretary Grossman at Houston World Affairs Council 10/01/98
- Under Secretary Aaron Testimony on U.S.-EU Trade Relations 07/28/98
- Ambassador Barshefsky Testimony on U.S.-EU Trade Relations 07/28/98
- Secretary of State Albright Statement before the North Atlantic Council Ministerial Luxembourg City, Luxembourg, 05/28/98
- President Clinton Speech at WTO 50th Anniversary Ministerial 05/18/98
- President Clinton Remarks in Berlin 05/13/98
- President Clinton Welcomes Economic and Monetary Union 05/04/98
- Eizenstat Discusses EU Establishment of EMU 05/04/98
- President Clinton's Speech on Marshall Plan 50th Anniversary 05/28/97
- "The United States, Germany and the Idea of Europe" - An Address by Strobe Talbott, Deputy Secretary of State 03/20/98
- U.S. Ambassador to the EU Eizenstat's Farewell Speech 02/08/96
- "Charting a Transatlantic Agenda for the 21st Century" Remarks by Secretary of State Christopher's Speech in Madrid 06/02/95
- President Clinton's Speech in Brussels 01/09/94
- "Securing Peace and Prosperity in a Broader Europe" Remarks by President Clinton in Paris 06/07/94
- "The Euro-Atlantic Architecture: From West to East" Remarks by Secretary of State Baker in Berlin 06/18/91

2. Major Declarations

- ✓ • Transatlantic Economic Partnership (TEP) 98/05
- ✓ • New Transatlantic Agenda (NTA) 95/12
- ✓ • Transatlantic Declaration 90/11

[I couldn't get this one to print - only gibberish]

3. U.S.-EU Summits

4. Transatlantic Dialogues

- **The Business Dialogue (TABD)**
 - The TABD Berlin Conference 10/99
 - The 1999 Mid-year report (from TABD Web Site) 05/99
 - The 1998 Charlotte Conference Statement of Conclusions (from TABD Web Site)
 - Transatlantic Business Dialogue (TABD) 95/11
- **The Consumer Dialogue (TACD)**
 - Larson remarks at TACD on Globalization 02/10/00 NEW
 - The TACD Meeting of 23-24 April, 1999 : The full conclusions and recommendations (from TACD Web Site)

- What is the Consumer Dialogue: a Press Release from *Consumers International* 09/17/98
- Administration Welcomes Transatlantic Consumer Group: Remarks by Under Secretary of State Stuart Eizenstat 09/25/98
- Remarks by DGXXIV Director General Horst Reichenbach 09/25/98
- **The Environment Dialogue (TAED)**
 - The Transatlantic Environment Dialogue web page (in collaboration with Ties)

5. U.S.-EU Agreements

- NIST and EU Research DG sign Agreement in the field of Meteorology and Measurement Standards 10/05/99
- U.S. and EU to sign Veterinary Equivalency Agreement 07/20/99
- United States and Europe to Build Advanced Telescope 06/10/99
- Ambassador Moose on Accord in Geneva on Wheeled Vehicles 06/26/98
- New Accord Is First Step Toward Global Vehicle Safety Standards 06/25/98
- The U.S. and the EU Sign Agreement on "Positive Comity" 06/04/98
- U.S. EU Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) 12/01/98 (PDF File)
- Agreement on Drug Precursors 05/29/97
- Science and Technology Agreement 12/05/97
- Customs Cooperation and Mutual Administrative Assistance Agreement 05/28/97
- VETERINARY TALKS: Agreement on Equivalency 4/30/97
- Customs Agreement 11/7/96
- AIRBUS: Commercial Aircraft Agreement 7/20/92

6. Events and Conferences

- Transatlantic Conference: "Bridging the Atlantic : People-to-People Links", 05/06-07/97
-

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The United States Mission to the European Union

Brussels, Belgium

Date: 05/18/98

The Transatlantic Economic Partnership

1. The transatlantic economic relationship is underpinned by the most important trade and economic links in the world. In order to strengthen further these links to the benefit of our people and firms, we have decided to build on the New Transatlantic Agenda signed in Madrid in 1995. This initiative will reinforce our cooperation and joint leadership in international economic relations and fora.

2. The European Union (EU) and the United States (US) share the world's largest and most complex economic relationship. Two-way trade represents around one-fifth of each other's total for goods and one-third for services- Furthermore the US and EU each account for approximately half of the other's foreign direct investment abroad. The prosperity of our populations is intertwined to an ever-increasing extent; and as the European Union has grown and deepened its integration, this process has accelerated.

3. We have a fundamental interest in a dynamic, respected system of international trade rules. The size of our economies and the volume of transatlantic trade and investment have a significant effect on this system. Past multilateral efforts to open markets have often been led by the US and EU. As we look ahead, it will be important for the US and EU to demonstrate our support for the further opening of markets world-wide.

4. In 1995, we committed ourselves to expand and deepen cooperation on economic issues through the New Transatlantic Agenda (NTA) by taking concrete steps to strengthen the multilateral trading system and enhance the transatlantic economic relationship. We are pleased with the progress of the NTA so far. Under the NTA, we have laid the basis for multilateral trade negotiations and have finalized agreements on mutual recognition of testing and conformity assessment, customs co-operation and equivalency in veterinary standards and procedures. And in December 1997 we committed ourselves to enhance our regulatory cooperation while facilitating consumer protection.

5. We now believe the time has come to build on the NTA's highly significant achievements. Accordingly, we agree to reinforce our close relationship through an initiative involving the intensification and extension of multilateral and bilateral cooperation and common actions in the field of trade and investment. Our reinforced partnership can be instrumental in settling the agenda for a more open and accessible world trading system and at the same time can greatly improve the economic relationship between the EU and US, reduce frictions between us, and promote prosperity on both sides of the Atlantic.

6. The partnership will encompass multilateral and bilateral elements as outlined below.

Multilateral action

7. In keeping with our leading role in the world trade system, we reaffirm our determination to maintain open markets, resist protectionism and sustain the momentum of liberalization. The most effective means of maintaining open markets and promoting the expansion of trade is the continued development and strengthening of the multilateral system. The EU and US will give priority to pursuing their objectives together with other trading partners through the World

Trade Organization. Today's WTO Ministerial Conference will play an important role in carrying forward the implementation of the WTO built-in agenda and in laying the groundwork for further multilateral negotiations leading to broad-based liberalization.

8. As part of our effort to strengthen further the multilateral system and seek wider trade liberalization, our shared objectives are:

- a) The full Implementation of WTO commitments and respect for dispute settlement obligations;
- b) Ambitious objectives and offers for the liberalization of services in forthcoming WTO negotiations;
- c) The multilateral negotiations for the continuation of the reform process in agriculture in full conformity with Article 20 of the WTO Agreement on Agriculture;
- d) The intensification of forward-looking work in the WTO on trade facilitation;
- e) A broad WTO work program for the reduction on an MFN basis of industrial tariff and the exploration of the feasibility of their progressive elimination within a timescale to be agreed;
- f) The adoption of common positions on the respect for and further improvement of the intellectual property rights identified in the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS);
- g) The development of common approaches in appropriate multilateral fora on investment, competition, public procurement and trade and the environment;
- h) Cooperation on the accession of new members and the better integration of LLDCs in the multilateral trading system;
- i) The development of a comprehensive work program for electronic commerce in the WTO covering trade-related aspects and the continuation of the current practice of not imposing customs duties on electronic transmissions;
- j) Support for the observance of Internationally recognized core labor standards and the goal of reaching agreement on an ILO declaration and follow-up mechanism, noting the important role of the social partners in the process, and rejecting use of labor standards for protectionist purposes- and support for the continuation of the dialogue on measures in the relevant fora to combat corruption.

Bilateral action

9. The EU and the US will Intensify their efforts to reduce or eliminate barriers to trade and investment between them. This will be done in ways which are -In full conformity with their international and, in particular, WTO obligations and supportive of the primary goal of multilateral liberalisation making as much progress as possible before 2000- Such efforts will expand transatlantic commerce and reduce frictions, benefiting both our peoples- We will maintain high standards of safety and protection for health, consumers and the environment. Our partnership will not create new barriers to third countries.

10. We will focus on those barriers that really matter to transatlantic trade and investment and to this end we will aim in particular at the removal of those regulatory barriers that hinder market opportunities, both for goods and for services. We will concentrate specifically on the following:

- a) technical barriers to trade in goods, reinforcing our efforts for the elimination or substantial

lowering of the remaining barriers, while further pursuing our commitment to high health, safety and environmental standards;

b) services, with the aim of substantially improving opportunities for market opening to the benefit of consumers and small, medium and larger enterprises.

c) agriculture, with the objective of strengthening our regulatory cooperation in the field of human, plant and animal health issues, including biotechnology, while recognizing the importance of continuing to improve our respective regulatory processes and of improving our scientific cooperation.

d) government procurement to increase and facilitate access to public procurement markets, including by enhancing the compatibility electronic procurement information and government contracting systems;

e) intellectual property as Identified In the Agreement on TRIPS In order to improve the protection of rightholders and to reduce costs.

11. We will build on efforts already underway for goods but extending to services, to cover as wide a range of barriers and sectors as possible identifying the priorities both for the near and longer term. Instruments to achieve this will be:

a) The mutual recognition of testing and approval procedures, of equivalence of technical and other requirements and, in certain areas, where appropriate, the progressive alignment or, where possible, the adoption of the same standards, regulatory requirements and . procedures adopting internationally agreed standards where possible;

b) The intensification of the dialogue between scientific and other expert advisers, standard setting bodies, and regulatory agencies;

c) A high degree of transparency and consultation with all interested parties.

12. Within the framework of our bilateral partnership we will seek to advance our shared values in the areas of labor and environment.

13. We will explore the scope for further cooperative dialogue and greater compatibility of procedures between our competition authorities.

14. We will maintain and extend our work on electronic commerce as set out in the joint statement at the Washington Summit of December 1997.

Extending the Transatlantic Dialogue

15. The U.S. and EU recall the imaginative and practical approach of U.S. and EU business in the Transatlantic Business Dialogue which has contributed -directly to many of the NTA's successes, such as the Mutual Recognition Agreement. We urge the TABD to continue and extend its valuable contribution to the process of removing barriers to trade and investment. We reaffirm our commitment in the New Transatlantic Agenda to promote dialogue between representatives of consumer and labor interests as illustrated by the helpful second meeting of the Transatlantic Labor Dialogue held in London in April. We invite interested non-governmental organizations to participate and extend this dialogue on consumer protection, scientific, safety and environmental issues relevant to international trade as a constructive contribution to policy making.

16. In line with our commitment to encourage greater transparency in the work of international trade bodies,, we will seek to facilitate the closer association of business and other interested non-governmental constituencies with the activities of the WTO and other international trade

organizations, as well as with our bilateral activities.

17. Within the framework provided by the NTA we will establish a dynamic process yielding concrete results with the intention of applying them, where agreed, at the relevant levels of government in the U.S. and the EU; and to this end we will pursue the multilateral and bilateral actions set out in this statement as follows:

- a) Establish as soon as possible a Plan Identifying areas for common actions both bilaterally and multilaterally, with a timetable for achieving specific results;
- b) Take all necessary steps to allow the early implementation of this Plan, including any necessary authority to start negotiations.

(end text)

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The United States Mission
to the European Union

Brussels, Belgium

New Transatlantic Agenda

- Senior Level Group (SLG) report, Bonn, 06/21/99
- ✓ • U.S. Government Fact Sheet: New Transatlantic Agenda Accomplishments 12/98
- Senior Level Group Report to the U.S.-EU Summit 12/98
- ✓ • White House Statement on New Transatlantic Agenda Projects 05/18/98
- ✓ • New Transatlantic Agenda Fact Sheet 12/97
- NTA Senior Level Group Report on U.S. EU common new problems 05/28/97
- Senior Level Group Report to the May 1997 U.S.-EU Summit
- Secretary of Labor Herman Speaks at U.S.-EU Workshop 05/23/97
- Bridging the Atlantic: May 5-6, 1997 Conference
- ✓ • New Transatlantic Agenda Fact Sheet 12/96
- Senior Level Group Report to the December 1996 U.S.-EU Summit
- U.S.-EU Consortia for Cooperation in Higher Education and Training
- ✓ • New Transatlantic Agenda 12/95
- ✓ • Joint U.S.-EU Action Plan 12/95 *(only gibberish)*

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**The United States Mission
to the European Union**
Brussels, Belgium

Date: 12/16/96

FACT SHEET ON THE NEW TRANSATLANTIC AGENDA

The New Transatlantic Agenda (NTA) was launched one year ago in Madrid with the aim of giving new focus and direction to U.S.-EU political and economic cooperation in Europe and globally. The Agenda and its accompanying Action Plan identified over 150 specific items for U.S.-EU cooperation. It builds on the 1990 Transatlantic Declaration's basic principles and consultative framework for the U.S.-EU partnership. The NTA establishes a framework for political cooperation and provides an additional mechanism at the senior level for managing our differences.

The NTA set four major goals which serve as the Framework for joint actions by the United States and the European Union.

- First is promoting peace, development and democracy around the world. Our most important objectives are to extend stability and prosperity throughout the whole continent of Europe; secure peace in the Middle East; work against proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; advance human rights; and cooperate on development and humanitarian assistance.
- Second is responding to global challenges by cooperation against international crime, drug trafficking, and terrorism; to combat disease; and to protect the environment.
- Third is contributing to the expansion of world trade and closer economic ties. The focus is on strengthening the multilateral trading system and on establishing concrete, practical building blocks to build a more liberal and open trading and investment environment across the Atlantic.
- Fourth is building bridges across the Atlantic by taking steps to promote better communication between American and European business people, legislators, scientists, artists, and citizens.

The December 16 Summit caps a set of meetings between the U.S. and EU during the Irish Presidency. A Senior Level Group (SLG) co-chaired on the U.S. side by Under Secretaries of State Peter Tarnoff and Joan Spero, met in Washington in early September and in Dublin in late November. Further meetings during the autumn between U.S. and EU senior political and economic officials provided direction and continuity for progress on outstanding issues under the NTA umbrella. The SLG presented a report on the status and progress of key, high-priority issues to the Leaders in advance of the Summit.

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**The United States Mission
to the European Union**
Brussels, Belgium

Date: 12/05/97

THE NEW TRANSATLANTIC AGENDA Fact Sheet

(The following fact sheet was released at the U.S.-European Union Summit in Washington, December 5, 1997.)

(Note: In the following text, "billion" equals 1,000 million.)

**THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary
December 5, 1997**

The New Transatlantic Agenda (NTA), launched in December 1995, provides a framework for managing and enlarging U.S. cooperation with the EU, as a whole, through a regular consultative process involving the EU presidency country and the European Commission.

The NTA lays out an ambitious agenda for expanding cooperation on promoting peace and stability, democracy, and development around the world; responding to global challenges; contributing to the expansion of world trade and closer economic relations; and "building bridges" between Americans and Europeans.

A key element of the U.S.-EU worldwide partnership is intensified diplomatic cooperation. The U.S. and EU are, for example, working together to support reconstruction and reconciliation in Bosnia and to promote needed reform in Ukraine.

The U.S. also is working with the EU to reinforce political and economic cooperation with Turkey and have encouraged dialogue among the parties in the Middle East Peace Process.

The EU has joined the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization to help the U.S., Japan, and South Korea prevent North Korea from acquiring nuclear weapons technology.

The U.S. and EU have worked closely to meet humanitarian needs in Africa.

The U.S. and EU have undertaken several new initiatives to expand cooperation on law enforcement, counternarcotics, environmental degradation, and health issues. Consultations have spurred development of a successful joint counternarcotics program in the Caribbean, planned exchanges of law enforcement officials, and an initiative to combat trafficking in women in central Europe and the New Independent States. Consultations to fight organized crime have been intensified.

Joint U.S. and EU trade efforts are helping to reduce transatlantic barriers and support the multilateral trading system. The U.S. and EU are working closely to conclude the WTO financial services negotiations and have concluded negotiations on a package of mutual recognition agreements on product testing, inspections, and other procedures, covering \$50 billion in U.S.-EU trade. Work is under way to further deepen regulatory cooperation while assuring high standards of protection for consumers.

The governments are cooperating closely with the Transatlantic Business Dialogue, a U.S.-European business partnership, to address a wide range of trade barriers important to the business community. The U.S. and EU are finalizing an initiative to combat sweatshop conditions around the globe.

A key part of the agenda is a fourth chapter dealing with "building bridges" between the different constituencies in the transatlantic community. Following up on the successful May 1997 "Bridging the Atlantic" conference, the U.S. and EU are working closely with NGOs to launch the Internet-based Transatlantic Information Exchange Service, a transatlantic digital library project linking the Library of Congress with key European and U.S. libraries, new parliamentary exchanges and electronic linkages, and new civil society initiatives in central Europe and the New Independent States.

At the December 5, 1997 U.S.-EU Summit, the governments will sign the first U.S.-EU agreement to promote cooperation between scientists and scientific institutions.

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**The United States Mission
to the European Union**

Brussels, Belgium

Date: 05/18/98

White House Statement on New Transatlantic Agenda Projects

London -- The White House issued a statement at the end of the U.S.-European Union Summit May 18 summarizing joint projects agreed to under the New Transatlantic Agenda, aimed at trying to resolve difficult trade and political issues.

*Following is the text of the statement issued May 18:
(Begin text)*

**The White House
Office of the Press Secretary
(London, England)**

U.S.-EU SUMMIT

Through the New Transatlantic Agenda (NTA), created in 1995, the United States and the European Union have focused on addressing the challenges and opportunities of global integration. From fighting transnational threats of the 21st century such as counter-narcotics, weapons proliferation and the trafficking of women, to removing barriers that obstruct the growth and development of our businesses and workers, the NTA has served to resolve difficult issues in the trade and political areas.

In addition to the [areas covered under the new] Transatlantic Economic Partnership, the United States and European Union agreed to the following:

- U.S.-EU Information Campaign to Combat Trafficking in Women: Information campaigns to combat trafficking in women began in April in Ukraine (directed by the United States) and Poland (directed by the EU). The campaigns will run through June and will be followed by a U.S.-hosted wrap-up seminar in Lviv, Ukraine, in July. This is the first phase in an ongoing program to educate women and girls in Eastern Europe concerning the threat posed by traffickers.
- Northwest Russia Nuclear Safety: On a course for future cooperation with Russia and others to advance nuclear safety in northwest Russia -- especially nuclear waste removal and storage. The initial focus will be a strategy to deal with submarine and ice-breaker spent fuel and waste. American and EU experts have already met with their Russian counterparts and agreed on an action plan for the most urgent nuclear waste problems.
- Cooperation with Ukraine: Cooperative efforts with Ukraine designed to promote economic and political reform and ensure the safety of nuclear reactors at Chernobyl and elsewhere. The U.S. and EU have agreed to work jointly on projects on civil society, energy reform, and specific trade issues to assist Ukraine in the transition and development to a democratic, free market system.
- New Regional Environmental Centers (NRECs): Expanding on our effort to coordinate and

promote better environmental practices and actions both nationally and regionally, the United States and EU will build on the first NRECs in Budapest, by working to open NRECs in Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, and Georgia. By the end of June, we expect to sign charters establishing all four NREC centers:

-- Democracy and Civil Society Awards: The U.S. and EU have granted 50 awards of \$20,000 [each] to non-governmental organizations, distinguished persons and communities throughout Central and Eastern Europe and the New Independent States for their achievements in promoting democracy, human rights, good governance, and the development of civil society. These achievements range from promoting human rights to resolving conflict peacefully, empowering women and minorities, protecting the environment, and encouraging a free and robust media.

(End text)

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The United States Mission to the European Union

Brussels, Belgium

Date: December 1998

Fact Sheet: New Transatlantic Agenda Accomplishments

The New Transatlantic Agenda (NTA), launched in December 1995, reinforces our relations with the EU member states and the European Commission and offers a framework for ensuring that we not only share views but also resolve transatlantic problems. The NTA's ambitious agenda expands U.S.-EU cooperation on promoting peace and stability, democracy and development; responding to global challenges; contributing to the expansion of world trade and closer economic relations; and "building bridges" between Americans and Europeans of the post-Cold War generation.

A key element of our partnership with the EU is intensified diplomatic cooperation. We are working together to reach and support a peaceful settlement in Kosovo where, together with EU member states, we are providing 80% of the resources and 70% of the manpower to implement the agreement. The EU supported the implementation of the Wye River memorandum and pledged \$1.5 billion in support of the Middle East Peace Process at the recent Donors' conference. Our cooperation is global, including support for reconstruction in Bosnia, stability in Albania, promoting reform in Ukraine, and working to improve nuclear safety in Northwest Russia, and to stop proliferation on the Korean peninsula.

The U.S. and EU have undertaken several new initiatives to expand cooperation on a variety of global issues. Our consultations have spurred development of successful joint counternarcotics programs in the Caribbean and in the Andes, and we are examining ways to extend this cooperation to Central Asia and Southern Africa. We are also seeking to expand our successful information campaign to combat trafficking in women in Central Europe and to stop child pornography on the Internet.

We have the biggest trading and investment relationship on earth. The NTA is helping to reduce transatlantic barriers and support the multilateral trading system. The U.S. and EU will begin negotiations on the Transatlantic Economic Partnership (TEP). The TEP will expand and deepen economic relations between the U.S. and the EU by lowering barriers to trade in ten broad areas. The U.S. and EU are working diligently to implement Mutual Recognition Agreements to facilitate regulatory approvals. This single agreement will save business \$1.2 billion per year. Our governments are cooperating closely with the Transatlantic Business Dialogue (TABD) in this process.

As we have done with the TABD, we are both working to "build bridges" between new constituencies in the transatlantic community. The U.S. and EU support dialogues between these groups on consumer, labor, and environmental issues in the transatlantic marketplace, and look forward to addressing their proposals through the NTA.

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**The United States Mission
to the European Union**

Brussels, Belgium

Date: 12/03/95

JOINT U.S.-EU ACTION PLAN

This Action Plan for expanding and deepening U.S.-EU relations reflects a framework with four shared goals:

- Promoting peace and stability, democracy and development around the world;
- Responding to global challenges;
- Contributing to the expansion of world trade and closer economic relations;
- Building bridges across the Atlantic.

I. PROMOTING PEACE AND STABILITY, DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT AROUND THE WORLD

We attach the highest importance to perfecting a new transatlantic community reflecting our joint interest in promoting stability and prosperity throughout the whole continent of Europe, based on the principles of democracy and free markets. We will cooperate both jointly and multilaterally to resolve tensions, support civil societies, and promote market reforms.

Our partnership is also global. We accept our responsibility to act jointly to resolve conflicts in troubled areas, to engage in preventive diplomacy together, to coordinate our assistance efforts, to deal with humanitarian needs and to help build in developing nations the capacity for economic growth and self-sufficiency. In this global partnership we are guided by the firm belief that the strengthening of democratic institutions and respect for human rights are essential to stability, prosperity, and development.

1. Working together for a stable and prosperous Europe

a) Peace and reconstruction in the former Yugoslavia

We pledge to work together boldly and rapidly, together and with other partners, to implement the peace, to assist recovery of the war-ravaged regions of the former Yugoslavia and to support economic and political reform and new democratic institutions.

We will cooperate to ensure: (1) respect for human rights, for the rights of minorities and for the rights of refugees and displaced persons, in particular the right of return; (2) respect for the work of the War Crimes Tribunal, established by the United Nations Security Council, in order to ensure international criminal accountability; (3) the establishment of a framework for free and fair elections in Bosnia-Herzegovina as soon as conditions permit; and (4) the implementation of the agreed process for arms control, disarmament and confidence-building measures.

While continuing to provide humanitarian assistance, we will contribute to the task of reconstruction, subject to the implementation of the provisions of the peace settlement plan, in the context of the widest possible burden-sharing with other donors and taking advantage of the experience of international institutions, of the European Commission, and of all relevant

bilateral donors in the coordination mechanism.

We will continue to support the Bosnian-Croat Federation.

b) Central and Eastern European Countries

We will reinforce existing dialogue and cooperation on consolidating democracy, stability and the transition to market economies in Central and Eastern Europe. To this end, we will hold annual high-level consultations.

We will cooperate in support of the structural and micro-economic reforms in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe with a view to their integration into international political and economic institutions. We will continue to consult on ongoing technical assistance efforts to develop their financial systems and capital markets. We are fostering the creation of the legal and judicial infrastructure necessary in these countries to support expanded trade and investment.

We will pursue assistance cooperation on the spot in beneficiary countries via regular and intensified contacts between U.S. missions and Commission Delegations, including assistance coordination meetings in selected capitals.

We will cooperate in helping the countries of Central and Eastern Europe to address their environmental problems by identifying joint projects consistent with the Lucerne Environmental Plan of Action, supporting the Budapest Regional Environmental Center and building on proposals from the October 1995 Sofia Ministerial.

We will work together to promote economic reform in the countries participating in the Partners in Transition program at the OECD, to facilitate their acceptance of OECD obligations and encourage their early accession. We will support the OECD's outreach efforts to the other Central and Eastern European countries seeking a closer relationship with the OECD.

c) Russia, Ukraine and the other new independent states

We will also reinforce existing dialogue and cooperation on consolidating democracy, stability, and the transition to market economies in Russia, Ukraine, and other new independent states (NIS). To this end, we will hold annual high-level consultations.

We will coordinate activities in support of the integration of Russia, Ukraine and other NIS in the global economy.

We will also reinforce the existing coordination relationship including technical assistance and enhanced on-the-spot coordination.

We will:

- consider complementary initiatives such as: legal advice for reforms, tax reform, banking sector reform, human resource development, privatization and post-privatization activities, small and medium-sized enterprise development and democracy building;

- intensify cooperation on projects aimed at protecting the environment in the fields endorsed by the Sofia Conference. In addition, we agree to take steps to establish an institution similar to the Budapest Regional Environmental Center within the NIS.

We will continue to improve coordination on food assistance, using the successful coordination in the Caucasus as a practical example on which to build in the future.

d) Turkey

We support the Turkish Government's efforts to strengthen democracy and advance economic reforms in order to promote Turkey's further integration into the transatlantic community.

e) Cyprus

We will work towards a resolution of the Cyprus question, taking into account the prospective accession of Cyprus to the European Union. We will support the UN Secretary General's Mission of Good Offices and encourage dialogue between and with the Cypriot communities.

2. Promoting the Middle East Peace Process

We will work together to make peace, stability and prosperity in the Middle East become a reality.

To this end, we will:

- continue our support for Palestinian self-government and economic development;
- support the Palestinian elections which should contribute to the Palestinian democratic development;
- play an active role at the Conference for Economic Assistance to the Palestinians;
- work ambitiously to improve the access we both give to products from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip;
- encourage Jordanians, Palestinians, Israelis and Egyptians to establish comprehensive free trade agreements among themselves;
- support the regional parties in their efforts to establish road links, electricity grids, gas pipelines and other joint infrastructure necessary to foster regional trade and investments;
- encourage and, as appropriate, support the regional parties in implementing the conclusions of the Amman Summit.

In addition we will:

- continue our efforts to promote peace between Israel, Lebanon and Syria;
- actively seek the dismantling of the Arab boycott of Israel.

3. Sharing responsibility in other regions of the world.

We will strengthen our joint efforts in preventive diplomacy, attacking the root causes of crisis and conflict, and will facilitate the movement from relief to long-term development.

We will:

- jointly assess the regional dimensions of the conflicts in Rwanda and in Burundi, jointly identify and plan for transitional priorities and support African-led regional initiatives to deal with these conflicts;
- support and participate in the UN/OAU-sponsored Conference on the Great Lakes region;
- foster peace and economic reconstruction in Angola and Mozambique;

- take strong and appropriate steps to promote the rapid restoration of civilian democratic rule in Nigeria;
- intensify consultations in the field and deepen our policy dialogue, including on support for the consolidation of democratic institutions in El Salvador and Nicaragua;
- support the peace process in Guatemala and the implementation of agreements among the parties;
- help Haiti to strengthen democracy and the rule of law by improving the effectiveness of its judicial system;
- promote democracy, economic reforms and human rights in Cuba;
- support smooth, successful transitions for Hong Kong and Macao in 1997 and 1999, respectively, under the terms of the 1984 Sino-British and 1987 Sino-Portuguese Joint Declarations;
- work together to reduce the risk of regional conflict over the Korean peninsula, Taiwan and the South China Sea;
- reinforce our joint efforts to further the process of democratic reform in Burma;
- continue jointly to support the development of human rights and democratic practices in Cambodia;
- continue to offer our strong support to the UN Secretary General in his efforts to find a lasting and just solution to the question of East Timor.

4. Development cooperation and humanitarian assistance

We have agreed to coordinate, cooperate and act jointly in development and humanitarian assistance activities.

To this end, we will establish a High-Level Consultative Group on Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Assistance to review progress of existing efforts, to assess policies and priorities and to identify projects and regions for further strengthening of cooperation. This group will complement and reinforce existing coordination arrangements. The following areas for action have already been identified:

(a) Development cooperation

We will:

- coordinate policies on democracy and civil society, on health and population, on development cooperation within the framework of international institutions and organizations and on food security;
- develop a joint food security strategy in a number of selected countries;
- coordinate our support for sustainable development and economic reform in the context of political liberalization in the Special Program for Africa; and cooperate in the Horn of Africa Initiative and on approaches vis-a-vis Southern Africa (including discussions with the Southern Africa Development Community, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa and the exploration of opportunities for collaborative long-term assessments);
- coordinate assistance policies to promote the participation of women at all levels.

(b) Humanitarian assistance

We will:

- cooperate in improving the effectiveness of international humanitarian relief agencies, such as the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, the World Food Program and the United Nations Department of Humanitarian Affairs, and in our planning and implementation of relief and reconstruction activities;
- consider joint missions whenever possible, starting in Northern Iraq, Liberia and Angola, and hold early consultations on security in refugee camps as well as on the use of military assets in humanitarian actions;
- work towards greater complementarity by extending operational coordination to include the planning phase, continuing and improving U.S.-European Community operational information-sharing on humanitarian assistance, appointing U.S.-EC humanitarian focal points on both sides of the Atlantic; and improving staff relations by exchange of staff and mutual training of officials administering humanitarian aid.

5. Human rights and democracy

We will:

- consult (bilaterally and within the framework of the relevant bodies of the UN, particularly the UN Commission on Human Rights) on countries where there is serious violation of human rights, in order to coordinate policies and, as appropriate, to develop joint initiatives;
- support jointly UN human rights activities, reinforcing the office of the UN High Commissioner on Human Rights and the Center for Human Rights and following up UN conferences on human rights;
- ensure greater integration of the OSCE human dimension into conflict prevention and the daily activities of OSCE (both regular meetings/contacts and missions on the ground);
- work to expand legal rights for women and increase women's equal participation in decision-making processes, building on commitments made at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing;
- aim at strengthening civics education in order to nurture the culture of democracy and, to that end, explore the possibility of EU participation in developing the coalition of public figures, educators, and private sector representatives established at the CIVITAS conference in Prague in June 1995.

6. Cooperation in international organizations

We will increase cooperation in developing a blueprint for UN economic and social reform including better coordination of UN activities, review and adjustment of agencies' mandates and adoption of more efficient management techniques with a more transparent and accountable Secretariat. We will cooperate to find urgently needed solutions to the financial crisis of the UN system. We are determined to keep our commitments, including our financial obligations. At the same time, the UN must direct its resources to the highest priorities and must reform in order to meet its fundamental goals.

We will cooperate to improve coherence in international economic organizations' activities, encouraging them to strengthen coordination between themselves and reduce overlap (e.g., between UN economic bodies, WTO, Bretton Woods institutions, OECD).

We will strengthen coordination in the OSCE framework, including conflict prevention/crisis management, confidence- and security-building measures, and the economic dimension.

We will cooperate on global fisheries issues, in particular on the follow-up to the results of the UN Conference on Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly-Migratory Fish Stocks.

7. Non-proliferation, international disarmament and arms transfers

We will work together to promote Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty adherence by non-parties to the Treaty. We will coordinate actions to encourage non-adherents to act in accordance with the principle of non-proliferation.

We will combine our efforts to conclude in the Geneva Conference on Disarmament, in 1996, an effective, verifiable and universally applicable Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

We will undertake joint efforts for immediate negotiations on a Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty.

We will coordinate on prudent extension of the Missile Technology Control Regime to non-participating countries in order to control the spread of missile technology.

We will cooperate with a view to revising the 1972 Convention on Biological Weapons in order to promote new measures to increase its effectiveness. We will work to counter the proliferation of chemical and biological weapons.

We will support international efforts to curtail the use and proliferation of anti-personnel landmines (APLs). We will cooperate for a successful outcome of the Review Conference of the 1980 Convention on Prohibition and Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons, especially on the provisions related to landmines. We will cooperate on the possible establishment of controls on the production, stockpiling and transfer of APLs.

We will continue efforts to establish a new multilateral arrangement for export controls -- the New Forum -- to respond to threats caused by the proliferation of arms and arms-related technologies as well as sensitive dual-use items.

We will coordinate on preventing the spread of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction, with particular emphasis on regions and countries of concern.

We will provide support to the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization (KEDO), underscoring the shared desire to resolve important proliferation challenges throughout the world.

II. RESPONDING TO GLOBAL CHALLENGES

We share a common concern to address in an effective manner new global challenges which, without respect for national boundaries, present a serious threat to the quality of life and which neither of us can overcome alone. We pledge our actions and resources to meet together the challenges of international crime, terrorism and drug trafficking, mass migration, degradation of the environment, nuclear safety, and disease. Together we can make a difference.

1. Fight against organized crime, terrorism and drug trafficking

We will cooperate on the fight against illegal drug trafficking, money laundering, terrorism, organized crime, and illicit trade in nuclear materials.

We will enhance bilateral cooperation and institutional contacts. We will also enhance the

capabilities of criminal justice and investigative systems and promote the rule of law through international training programs at regional institutions such as the International Law Enforcement Academy in Budapest, the Italian Judicial Training Center, the Middle and East European Police Academy and a similar administration of justice institution for the Western Hemisphere.

We will take steps to establish an information exchange mechanism on cooperation between the U.S. and the EU and its member States in the law enforcement and criminal justice fields, especially regarding activities in providing training, technical assistance, and equipment to other nations.

We will foster the exchange of law enforcement and criminal justice expertise between the U.S. and the EU in three areas:

- scientific and technological developments;
- exchanges of experts and observers between appropriate institutes and agencies;
- the sharing of information such as studies and analyses of emerging trends in international criminal activity.

When mutually agreed, we will jointly prepare reports to include recommended courses of action.

We will discuss the possibility of establishing interim cooperative measures between competent U.S. authorities and the European Drugs Unit and begin implementing the possibilities provided for in the convention on EUROPOL to facilitate relations between EUROPOL and the U.S. Government.

We will examine possibilities for cooperation in support of the UN Drug Control Program marine interdiction initiatives.

We will coordinate alternative development programs to counter drug production.

We will jointly support the establishment of cooperative links between appropriate EU institutions such as the European Monitoring Center for Drugs and Drug Addiction and the Comision Interamericana para el Control del Abuso de Drogas.

We will coordinate our counter-narcotics assistance programs and projects in the Caribbean.

We will take action to strengthen the Dublin Group by reinforcing and supporting its members' counter-narcotics measures.

We will work to conclude an agreement in order to exchange, among other things, sensitive information for the preclearance of shipments of essential and precursor chemicals used in the production of illegal drugs and cooperate in joint training programs in chemical diversion control.

We will cooperate on assessing and responding to terrorist threats.

2. Immigration and asylum

We will:

- strengthen information exchanges on illegal immigration and on asylum, taking into account,

inter alia, the work of the Geneva Intergovernmental Consultative Group;

- cooperate in the fight against the traffic in illegal immigrants;
- cooperate in the fight against the traffic in women;
- exchange information on asylum trends and on successful asylum system reform;
- establish common responses to refugee crisis situations, notably by early-warning mechanisms and coordination;
- develop a common stance on temporary protection in the United Nations High Commission for Refugees;
- coordinate positions on the Conference on Refugees and Migrants in the Commonwealth of Independent States;
- improve existing arrangements and exchanges of intelligence in areas of mutual concern, for example, forged identity documents and transport carriers' liability;
- convene seminars in 1996 and compare the results of our respective studies on migration flows both into the U.S. and into the EU.

3. Legal and judicial cooperation

We will:

- identify means of strengthening international judicial assistance and cooperation in the obtaining of evidence and other relevant information;
- cooperate on the judicial seizure and forfeiture of assets;
- identify means to strengthen and improve international mechanisms for extradition, deportation, mutual legal assistance and other cooperative action to ensure that international fugitives have "nowhere to hide";
- cooperate in promoting the work of the Hague Conference on Private International Law and the International Institute for Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT).

4. Preservation of the environment

We will enhance our exchange of views and coordination of negotiating positions on major global issues, with a view to improving the effectiveness of multilateral efforts to protect the global environment.

We will also strengthen the exchange of information and reporting on global environmental issues such as climate change, biodiversity, ozone layer depletion, persistent organic pollutants, desertification and erosion, water quality and quantity, land-based sources of marine pollution, hazardous wastes and contaminated soils, forest issues and trade and the environment.

We will work together at the U.N. Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) and other relevant bodies, including the Global Environmental Facility, to encourage the world at large in the challenge of caring for the global environment. We will continue working on the successful conclusion of CSD work on the sustainable management of all types of forests.

We will enhance our bilateral dialogue on regulatory cooperation, including by:

- extending cooperation on chemicals issues, such as Prior Informed Consent for the trade in hazardous chemicals, harmonization of classification and labeling, and reduction of risks from hazardous substances, building in particular on our joint call for actions in the OECD to reduce exposure to lead;

- continuing work on biotechnology issues such as the mutual acceptance of data for assessment and the release of genetically modified organisms;

- enhancing work on air pollution, including efforts to decrease emissions from mobile sources and to assess the possibility of developing comparable emissions standards.

We will undertake coordinated initiatives for the dissemination of environmental technologies, including in developing countries. In this regard, we will use the Climate Technology Initiative and proposals for an international clearinghouse on environmental technologies and practices. Private sector involvement will be a key aspect of this process.

We will engage in a broad and substantive dialogue on ways and means to limit and reduce global emissions of greenhouse gases, including CO₂.

5. Population issues

We will coordinate to implement the International Conference on Population and Development ("Cairo Conference") Program of Action. We will work to sustain support for family planning and expand access to reproductive health programs in the context of a comprehensive approach to population stabilization and sustainable development.

We will work together to strengthen the effectiveness of bilateral and multilateral population assistance programs.

6. Nuclear safety

We will promote the ratification of the International Convention on Nuclear Safety.

We will coordinate positions in the negotiations in the International Convention on Radioactive Residues.

We will improve existing bilateral assistance coordination in the field of nuclear safety, extending to on-site and off-site nuclear emergency preparedness, including in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the NIS, as well as special G-7 Chernobyl assistance. We will cooperate in the preparation of the Moscow Conference on Nuclear Safety.

7. Health

We will establish a U.S.-EU task force to develop and implement an effective global early warning system and response network for communicable diseases.

We are taking steps to provide for increased training opportunities and professional exchanges in the area of communicable diseases and encourage participation in U.S. and EU programs by scientists from developing countries.

We will coordinate our requests to other nations and international organizations calling for action against emerging and re-emerging communicable diseases. We will encourage the follow-up of recent World Health Organization (WHO) resolutions dealing with outbreak and reporting responsibilities and strengthened response centers.

We will cooperate, bilaterally and within the framework of the WHO, and other international organizations as appropriate, on respective programs on health-related matters (AIDS and other

communicable diseases, cancer, drug addiction) and identify specific areas for cooperation, especially in the research field.

III. CONTRIBUTING TO THE EXPANSION OF WORLD TRADE AND CLOSER ECONOMIC RELATIONS

We are each other's largest trading and investment partners. Our economic prosperity is inextricably linked. At the same time, our economic and trade relations affect third countries and regions. It is our responsibility to contribute effectively to international economic stability and growth and to broaden our bilateral economic dialogue.

We have a special responsibility to strengthen the multilateral trading system, to support the World Trade Organization and to lead the way in opening markets for trade and investment.

We will create a New Transatlantic Marketplace by progressively reducing or eliminating barriers that hinder the flow of goods, services and capital between us.

1. Strengthening the multilateral trading system

a) Consolidating the WTO

We will promote adherence to multilateral rules and commitments, including the effective functioning of the dispute settlement system, and secure the full implementation of the Uruguay Round Agreements by all WTO Members.

We will work to ensure a successful and substantive outcome for the Singapore Ministerial meeting.

We will cooperate on the accession of new members, notably China and Russia.

We will promote the effective management and operation of the WTO.

b) Uruguay Round unfinished business

We will work for the completion of the unfinished business of Marrakech with regard to goods and services. We are committed to the successful conclusion of the current negotiations in all services sectors by the agreed timetables. The most immediate deadlines are April 30, 1996 for telecommunications and June 30, 1996 for maritime services.

c) Financial services

We agree to concert our efforts to promote liberalization of financial services on a worldwide basis. In particular, we will seek to ensure that the interim agreement concluded in July 1995 is succeeded by a more substantial package of permanent liberalization commitments from a critical mass of WTO members.

d) Government procurement

We will promote the launching by Ministers in Singapore of negotiations within the WTO aimed at covering substantially all government procurement and WTO members.

e) Intellectual property rights (IPR)

We will cooperate to ensure the full implementation of the TRIPs Agreement and improve the level of IPR protection throughout the world. We will work to develop a comprehensive agenda for future TRIPs negotiations within the WTO.

f) New issues

We will work together in the WTO and/or other appropriate fora. We will give priority to:

(i) Environment: The report to the Singapore Ministerial Meeting should set out clear recommendations for decisions and a process for further work to ensure that trade and environmental measures are mutually supportive.

(ii) Investment: We will work closely together in formulating our respective policies. This cooperation should, in particular, bear fruit in a successful conclusion, as called for in the 1995 OECD Ministerial Declaration, of the negotiations on a Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI) espousing strong principles on International investment liberalization and protection. Meanwhile, we will work to develop discussion of the issue with our partners in the WTO.

(iii) Competition: We will pursue work on the scope for multilateral action in the fields of trade and competition policy. Our competition authorities will cooperate in working with other countries to develop effective antitrust regimes.

(iv) Labor standards: We will join our efforts in the WTO and other fora with a view to dissipating various misunderstandings and preoccupations of trading partners regarding the relationship between trade and internationally recognized labor standards.

g) Market access: creating additional trading opportunities

We will cooperate in creating additional trading opportunities, bilaterally and throughout the world, in conformity with our WTO commitments. In view of the importance of the information society, we are launching a specific exercise in order to attempt to conclude an information technology agreement.

In the perspective of the WTO Singapore Ministerial Meeting, we will explore the possibility of agreeing on a mutually satisfactory package of tariff reductions on industrial products, and we will consider which, if any, Uruguay Round obligations on tariffs can be implemented on an accelerated basis.

We will work ambitiously to improve the access we both give to products from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

h) International customs cooperation

We will work together in the World Customs Organization and cooperate with the International Chamber of Commerce to develop a comprehensive model of norms and standards for customs procedures throughout the world to promote, inter alia, increased transparency and harmonized approaches to classification, valuation and rules of origin.

i) Illicit payments

We will combat corruption and bribery by implementing the 1994 OECD Recommendation on Bribery in International Transactions.

2. The New Transatlantic Marketplace

The creation of the New Transatlantic Marketplace will include the following actions, which also take into consideration the recommendations of the Transatlantic Business Dialogue:

a) Joint study

We will carry out a joint study on ways of facilitating trade in goods and services and further

reducing or eliminating tariff and non-tariff barriers.

b) Confidence building

As part of a confidence-building process, we will reinforce our efforts to resolve bilateral trade issues and disputes.

c) Standards, certification and regulatory issues

We will aim to conclude an agreement on mutual recognition of conformity assessment (which includes certification and testing procedures) for certain sectors as soon as possible. We will continue the ongoing work in several sectors and identify others for further work.

We will cooperate closely in the international standard setting process, drawing on international bodies to achieve the greatest possible use of international standards, and will seek the maximum practical transparency, participation and non-discrimination.

We will devote special attention to cooperatively developing and implementing regulations on vehicle safety requirements and on measures to reduce air and noise emissions. We will build on existing efforts aimed at facilitating international regulatory harmonization, taking account of our respective policies on safety and environmental protection, while recognizing the need to achieve, wherever possible, global regulatory uniformity.

We will strengthen regulatory cooperation, in particular by encouraging regulatory agencies to give a high priority to cooperation with their respective transatlantic counterparts, so as to address technical and other non-tariff barriers to trade resulting from divergent regulatory processes. We will especially encourage a collaborative approach between the U.S. and the EU in testing and certification procedures by promoting greater compatibility of standards and health- and safety-related measures. To this end, we will seek to develop pilot cooperative projects.

d) Veterinary and plant health issues

We will conclude an agreement to establish a framework for determining equivalence of veterinary standards and procedures for all live animals and animal products.

We will enhance the established cooperation on plant health issues and in the area of pesticide residues regulation.

e) Government procurement

We will aim to increase substantially in 1996 and beyond the coverage of U.S.-EU bilateral commitments on public procurement under the Government Procurement Agreement and to coordinate in developing proposals on information technology under the Agreement.

f) Intellectual property rights (IPR)

With a view to reinvigorating our efforts to solve remaining IPR problems, we will hold a seminar during 1996 addressing current and future IPR issues.

g) Financial services

We will expand our ongoing dialogue on financial services to include discussion of the financial and economic aspects of our respective relations with third countries.

h) Customs cooperation

We will endeavor to conclude by the end of 1996 a customs cooperation and mutual assistance agreement between the U.S. and the EC. The agreement should cover:

- customs cooperation: simplification of customs procedures, computerization (information, data exchange, common access to databases etc.), consultation within international organizations, methods of work;
- mutual assistance: exchange of enforcement information, increased investigative cooperation in customs matters, protection of intellectual property rights, commercial fraud, illicit nuclear traffic, trade in severely restricted chemicals;
- programs for the exchange of officials.

i) Information Society, information technology and telecommunications

We will expand and develop the bilateral Information Society Dialogue, in order to further common understanding of global issues implying access to information services through public institutions, regulatory reforms, and technological cooperation, including the continuation of expert-level discussions in the following areas:

- interconnection and interoperability, including standardization issues (particularly for interfaces, network terminating equipment, mobile telephones, digital video broadcasting/high definition television);
- universal service;
- procompetitive interconnection policies and principles;
- access to information and the protection of IPR;
- satellite policy;
- commercial communications;
- privacy and data protection;
- the impact on society, including public services and employment.

The Dialogue will also address those new legislative and regulatory developments which are proposed or are being prepared to achieve progress in these areas, including questions of regulatory transparency.

In the context of enhanced cooperation in science and technology, we will work towards the reduction of obstacles to cooperation in research and development in the field of information and communications. We will jointly support the implementation of the G-7 global projects on the Information Society, aiming to spur innovation and ensure interconnection and interoperability. Furthermore, we will exchange information on on-going and future research programs in the field of information communication technology to foster concrete bilateral cooperation actions in research and development.

We will also discuss regulatory issues relating to online interactive and international service provision, in order to maximize their development, which is essential for the success of the transition towards an Information Society on both sides of the Atlantic.

We will cooperate on the integration of developing countries in the global Information Society, initially through our support for the Information Society Conference in South Africa in 1996 and through our participation in the International Telecommunications Union.

j) Competition

We will pursue, and build on, bilateral cooperation in the immediate term based on the U.S.-EC Agreement of 1991. We will examine the options for deepening cooperation on competition matters, including the possibility of a further agreement.

k) Data protection

We will discuss data protection issues with a view to facilitating information flows, while addressing the risks to privacy.

l) Transport

We will:

- establish a working group for consultations on design and implementation of Global Navigation Satellite Systems;

- improve U.S.-EU cooperation on air traffic management;

- hold consultations on maritime transport safety and crew qualifications.

m) Energy

We will intensify contacts and cooperation on energy-related issues -- including through contacts in multilateral fora where appropriate -- such as the environmental implications of energy policy on regulatory frameworks for the energy sector, on technical assistance activities to third countries and on energy technology.

n) Biotechnology

We will encourage regulatory cooperation, including with respect to genetically modified organisms, and expand bilateral cooperation in the preparation of multilateral meetings and negotiations in connection with the UN, FAO, OECD, CODEX Alimentarius and the Biodiversity Convention.

We will continue the activities of the U.S.-EU Biotechnology Task Force, and in this context, will promote joint research efforts in the fields of neuro-informatics and marine biotechnology.

o) Safety and health

We will explore the scope for an agreement for the exchange of information on issues affecting health and safety at work, such as occupational safety and health standards, the development of regulations, high risk activity, carcinogenic substances at the workplace, toxicology, testing programs, education and information programs, and the collection of statistics and data.

We will explore the establishment of improved mechanisms for the timely exchange of information related to the general safety of products, including the withdrawal of products from the market.

3. Jobs and growth

Given the overarching importance of job creation, we pledge to cooperate in the follow-up to

the Detroit Jobs Conference and the G-7 Summit initiative. We look forward to further cooperation in the run-up to the G-7 Jobs Conference in France, at the next G-7 Summit in the Summer of 1996 and in other fora such as the OECD and the International Labor Organization.

We will establish a joint working group on employment and labor-related issues. We will intensify the dialogue, in particular on new forms of labor-management cooperation; increased investment in human resources, including education and skills training; smoothing the transition from school-to-work and job-to-job; active labor market policies and the relationship between work and welfare; employment and new technologies; and encouraging entrepreneurialism.

We will continue to exchange views on macroeconomic issues in the light of the importance of a sound macroeconomic framework both for the development of an harmonious relationship and for the fostering of non-inflationary growth, the reduction of imbalances and international financial stability.

IV. BUILDING BRIDGES ACROSS THE ATLANTIC

We recognize that the transatlantic relationship can be truly secure in the coming century only if future generations understand its importance as well as their parents and grandparents did. We are committed to fostering an active and vibrant transatlantic community by deepening and broadening the commercial, social, cultural, scientific and educational ties that bind us.

1. Transatlantic Business Dialogue

We will support and encourage the development of the Transatlantic Business Dialogue, as an integral part of our wider efforts to strengthen our bilateral relationship. The successful conference of U.S. and EU business leaders which took place in Seville on November 10-11, 1995 was an important step in this direction. We welcome the fact that the participants were able to agree on a series of joint recommendations to build an even stronger framework within which trade, investment, capital and technology can flow across the Atlantic. We commend them for encouraging both business communities to continue to devote attention to possible improvements in the transatlantic commercial relationship.

We have studied carefully the recommendations adopted at Seville, and have already incorporated a number of them into our present Action Plan. Our officials will work closely together with our business leaders on both sides in considering follow-up to the many other suggestions arising from the Seville meeting, and will report at the next U.S.-EU Summit.

2. Broadening science and technology cooperation

We will negotiate a new, comprehensive U.S.-EC science and technology cooperation agreement by 1997 based on the principle of mutual interest, with a view to achieving a balance of benefits to us both.

We will work to conclude the Agreement on Intelligent Manufacturing Systems (advanced technologies and robotics).

Recognizing that scientific and technological advances underlie our ability to meet global challenges and foster economic growth, we will promote cooperative science and technology projects in support of topics identified in this document.

In addition, we will work to identify collaborative projects and exchange information to address cross-border issues such as transportation, health and global climate change. Examples of specific projects include: intermodal transport and fast transshipment techniques; intelligent transportation systems; the study and forecasting of travel behavior; development of a malaria

vaccine; and the study of environmental health and the effects of radiation.

3. People to people links

We will:

- encourage our citizens to increase their contacts in diverse fora -- youth, professionals, think tanks etc.-- with a view to deepening grassroots support for the transatlantic relationship and enriching the flow of ideas for the solution of common problems;
- work for the early creation of the joint consortia and for the implementation of the Fulbright Awards, and other activities provided for in our Agreement on Cooperation in Higher Education and Vocational Training;
- cooperate on the reform of higher education in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, Russia, Ukraine, other NIS and Mongolia by identifying and assessing those projects of the EU's TEMPUS program which already include U.S. partner universities and exploring possibilities of wider participation of U.S. universities in TEMPUS projects;
- encourage the study of each other's systems of government as well as the histories, cultures and languages of our communities;
- encourage voluntary cooperation and dissemination of information for the mutual recognition of university studies and degrees within the U.S. and EU member States;
- examine ways to increase private support for educational exchanges, including scholarships and intern programs;
- exchange information and cooperate on innovations related to vocational training and intend to convene a conference on vocational training in Spring 1996;
- examine ways new technologies might be employed to link education and training establishments, including schools in the U.S. with those in the EU;
- encourage "sister cities" to promote exchanges.

4. Information and Culture

We will study ways and means of:

- encouraging artistic and cultural cooperation projects, such as exchanges in the field of the visual arts, theater, ballet, orchestras and musical groups, the co-production of films and TV programs;
- spreading knowledge of and encouraging literary creativity, including exploring with the private sector the sponsorship of an U.S.-EU prize for literature;
- spreading knowledge of cultural and artistic heritage programs.

We will establish sites on the INTERNET to provide quick and easy access to the New Transatlantic Agenda, the joint U.S.-EU Action Plan, information on U.S. and EU studies, descriptions of pertinent library holdings as well as other material relevant to the U.S.-EU relationship.

We will consult and cooperate on the preparation of a medium-term communications strategy which will aim to increase public awareness on both sides of the Atlantic of the U.S.-EU dimension.



United States Mission to the European Union

Brussels, Belgium

Date: December 1990

DECLARATION ON US-EC RELATIONS

The United States of America on one side and, on the other, the European Community and its member States, Mindful of their common heritage and of their close historical, political, economic and cultural ties, Guided by their faith in the values of human dignity, intellectual freedom and civil liberties, and in the democratic institutions which have evolved on both sides of the Atlantic over the centuries,

Recognizing that the transatlantic solidarity has been essential for the preservation of peace and freedom and for the development of free and prosperous economies as well as for the recent developments which have restored unity in Europe,

Determined to help consolidate the new Europe, undivided and democratic,

Resolved to strengthen security, economic cooperation and human rights in Europe in the framework of the CSCE, and in other fora,

Noting the firm commitment of the United States and the EC member states concerned to the North Atlantic Alliance and to its principles and purposes,

Acting on the basis of a pattern of cooperation proven over many decades, and convinced that by strengthening and expanding this partnership on an equal footing they will greatly contribute to continued stability, as well as to political and economic progress in Europe and in the world,

Aware of their shared responsibility, not only to further common interests but also to face transnational challenges affecting the well-being of all mankind,

Bearing in mind the accelerating process by which the European Community is acquiring its own identity in economic and monetary matters, in foreign policy and in the domain of security,

Determined to further strengthen transatlantic solidarity through the variety of their international relations, Have decided to endow their relationship with long-term perspectives.

Common Goals

The United States of America and the European Community and its member States solemnly reaffirm their determination further to strengthen their partnership in order to:

-- support democracy, the rule of law and respect for human rights and individual liberty, and promote prosperity and social progress world-wide;

-- safeguard peace and promote international security, by cooperating with other nations against aggression and coercion, by contributing to the settlement of conflicts in the world and by reinforcing the role of the United Nations and other international organisations;

- pursue policies aimed at achieving a sound world economy marked by sustained economic growth with low inflation, a high level of employment, equitable social conditions, in a framework of international stability;
- promote market principles, reject protectionism and expand, strengthen and further open the multilateral trading system;
- carry out their resolve to help developing countries by all appropriate means in their efforts towards political and economic reforms;
- provide adequate support, in cooperation with other states and organisations, to the nations of Eastern and Central Europe undertaking economic and political reforms and encourage their participation in the multilateral institutions of international trade and finance.

Principles of US-EC Partnership

To achieve their common goals, the European Community and its member States and the United States of America will inform and consult each other on important matters of common interest, both political and economic, with a view to bringing their positions as close as possible, without prejudice to their respective independence. In appropriate international bodies, in particular, they will seek close cooperation.

The US-EC partnership will, moreover, greatly benefit from the mutual knowledge and understanding acquired through regular consultations as described in this declaration.

Economic Cooperation

Both sides recognized the importance of strengthening the multilateral trading system. They will support further steps towards liberalization, transparency, and the implementation of GATT and OECD principles concerning both trade in goods and services and investment.

They will further develop their dialogue, which is already underway, on other matters such as technical and non-tariff barriers to industrial and agricultural trade, services, competition policy, transportation policy, standards, telecommunications, high technology and other relevant areas.

Education, Scientific and Cultural Cooperation

The partnership between the European Community and its member States on the one hand, and the United States on the other, will be based on continuous efforts to strengthen mutual cooperation in various other fields which directly affect the present and future well-being of their citizens, such as exchanges and joint projects in science and technology, including, inter alia, research in medicine, environment protection, pollution prevention, energy, space, high-energy physics, and the safety of nuclear and other installations, as well as in education and culture, including academic and youth exchanges.

Trans-national Challenges

The United States of America and the European Community and its member States will fulfill their responsibility to address trans-national challenges, in the interest of their own peoples and of the rest of the world. In particular, they will join their efforts in the following fields:

- combatting and preventing terrorism;
- putting an end to the illegal production, trafficking and consumption of narcotics and related criminal activities, such as the laundering of money;

- cooperating in the fight against international crime;
- protecting the environment, both internationally and domestically, by integrating environmental and economic goals;
- preventing the proliferation of nuclear armaments, chemical and biological weapons, and missile technology.

Institutional Framework for Consultation

Both sides agree that a framework is required for regular and intensive consultation. They will make full use of and further strengthen existing procedures, including those established by the President of the European Council and the President of the United States on 27th February 1990, namely:

- bi-annual consultations to be arranged in the United States and in Europe between, on the one side, the President of the European Council and the President of the Commission, and on the other side, the President of the United States;
- bi-annual consultations between the European Community Foreign Ministers, with the Commission, and the US Secretary of State, alternately on either side of the Atlantic;
- ad hoc consultations between the Presidency Foreign Minister or the Troika and the US Secretary of State;
- bi-annual consultations between the Commission and the US Government at Cabinet level;
- briefings, as currently exist, by the Presidency to US Representatives on European Political Cooperation (EPC) meetings at the Ministerial level.

Both sides are resolved to develop and deepen these procedures for consultation so as to reflect the evolution of the European Community and of its relationship with the United States.

They welcome the actions taken by the European Parliament and the Congress of the United States in order to improve their dialogue and thereby bring closer together the peoples on both sides of the Atlantic.

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**The United States Mission
to the European Union**
Brussels, Belgium

*Bonn
Declaration*

U.S.-EU SUMMIT DECLARATION

Date : June 21, 1999

We, the European Union and the United States of America, affirm for a new century our commitment to a full and equal partnership. Together we can advance our shared values, our common security, and our mutual prosperity more effectively than either of us can alone. Together we are a powerful force for meeting the challenges we face: fragility in regions important to both of us, new transnational threats to our common security, and the complexity of ensuring that democracy and free markets improve tangibly the lives of people in a rapidly globalizing world.

Working together, we have taken important steps for a resolution of a major crisis in South Eastern Europe which has caused tremendous human suffering and imposed high risks and burdens upon the transatlantic community. The United States and the European Union are strongly committed to assume their responsibilities in the wake of the Kosovo conflict. We are also determined to work closely together and with other partners through the EU-initiated Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe to enable the people of the whole region to live in peace, confident that democracy, respect for human rights, and economic prosperity will be fostered and that they can be fully integrated into Euro-Atlantic structures.

Towards a More Effective Partnership

Our New Transatlantic Agenda, signed in Madrid in December 1995, has strengthened our ability to tackle on a more structured basis our mutual tasks in Europe, across the Atlantic, and beyond. It continues to provide the framework for our partnership and to produce concrete and pragmatic results. For example, it has helped us to tackle sensitive bilateral problems, as witnessed by the results of our May 18, 1998 Summit and our commitment to implement them.

Together, we are dismantling economic barriers, as foreseen in the Transatlantic Economic Partnership. We are advancing peace in South Eastern Europe, the Korean Peninsula, and the Middle East. We are promoting nuclear safety in Ukraine and Russia, responding to hurricane disaster in Central America, and defending human rights in many parts of the globe. Together, we are developing a global early warning network against communicable disease, meeting humanitarian needs world-wide, preventing nuclear proliferation, and fighting crime, terrorism, and drug trafficking.

Since 1995, the European Union has taken important steps toward further integration, with the introduction of the euro and institutional changes in the areas of foreign and security policy and justice and home affairs introduced by the Amsterdam Treaty. The ongoing integration process has enabled the EU to extend its reach in world affairs, while the present round of accession negotiations is bringing closer the vision of a peaceful, undivided Europe. These

developments provide an important impulse for a more effective partnership between us.

On this basis, we are committed to pursuing the following program of action:

- We will strengthen further our joint capacity to prevent or deal with regional crises;
- We will work to extend the benefits of peace, stability, and democracy;
- We will expand the range of our joint initiatives to combat transnational threats that are of direct concern to our citizens;
- We will promote prosperity, development, and free-market economies in a rapidly changing world;
- We will improve our ability to develop early warning of potential disputes between us and more effective ways to handle these differences; and
- We will bolster the essential human dimension of our partnership, and strengthen the bonds between our people and societies.

Preventing and Managing Regional Crisis

Committed to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, we reaffirm for a new century the indivisibility of transatlantic security and our common vision for ensuring peace. This endeavor embraces several institutions and a range of important ties.

We are committed to the UN's role in crisis prevention and management, both globally and regionally. We recognize fully the primary responsibility of the United Nations Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security.

The OSCE plays a key role in achieving our goal of a common security space. Its fundamental elements include the comprehensiveness and indivisibility of security and the allegiance to shared values, commitments and norms of behavior, in order to empower governments and individuals to build a better and more secure future.

NATO remains, for its members, the centerpiece of transatlantic security, providing the indispensable link between North America and Europe. The Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council and the Partnership for Peace provide an important framework for cooperative security throughout the Euro-Atlantic area.

We welcome the enhancement of European capacity to respond to crises and the significant progress made in strengthening NATO's European pillar, as expressed in the communique of the Washington NATO Summit. We also welcome the new impetus to the strengthening of a common European policy in security and defense given by the Amsterdam Treaty and the 1999 Cologne European Council. A stronger European role in this field will contribute to the vitality and effectiveness of the Atlantic Alliance.

We will use our deepening partnership to promote and further shape the work of these and other organizations so that our respective strengths reinforce one another and advance more effectively our common goals of preventing and managing regional crises.

Advancing Peace, Stability, and Democracy

Peace and prosperity cannot be assured unless their benefits are available to all. We have now the opportunity to extend those benefits to all of the European continent. We will work together to consolidate and promote democracy, human rights, free-market economies, and development throughout Europe and the world, building on our existing cooperation, also in

the Middle East, Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

The EU's new Common Strategy on Russia, and proposed common strategies on Ukraine, the Mediterranean, and the Western Balkans, as well as the close partnerships which each of us maintains in these regions, serve to achieve this strategic goal. We will continue to complement our individual policies through coordinated efforts. In particular, we will strengthen our cooperation to work with Russia and Ukraine to bring them more fully into the larger transatlantic community.

We will use the New Transatlantic Agenda process to further the objectives of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe and other regional initiatives with a view to undertaking joint efforts involving other European democracies.

Responding to Global Challenges

At the dawn of the 21st century, we face new challenges that do not respect borders. Illegal flows of money and weapons, technology, toxins and drugs, as well as disease, crime, and terror increasingly affect the well-being of our citizens and, in some cases, endanger the very roots of our societies. We are also concerned at the destabilizing accumulation and transfer of small arms in various parts of the world. We will intensify our joint efforts to fight these threats. We will make mechanisms and cooperation more effective in order to aid those who are victimized by strife and humanitarian disaster. We will seek a joint strategy aiming at preserving our planet and its environment, and craft appropriate policies to promote sustainable development and world-wide growth.

Promoting Prosperity and Development in a Rapidly Changing World

We bear a special responsibility to ensure global economic stability, growth and development, and to adapt our partnership to the burdens as well as the benefits of globalization. Our citizens and firms are integrating our economies at a burgeoning pace. Our societies are interacting with one another more closely than ever before. The transatlantic marketplace has become broader and more open than ever before. We will use actively our Transatlantic Economic Partnership further to eliminate economic barriers between us and promote cooperation among our regulators. We will build on that partnership to strengthen the rules-based international trading system, to set the agenda for a more open, accessible, and transparent world trading system, and to achieve success in the new round of broad-based multilateral trade negotiations, bringing substantial benefits to all WTO members. We will work energetically to maintain and raise high standards of protection for health, worker, consumer, product, and environmental safety, which are necessary to maintain public confidence in the benefits of open economies. We reaffirm our commitment to the multilateral system and to the full respect for its rules and procedures.

Improving Early Warning

The relationship between the United States and the European Union is among the strongest in the world. We share a variety of common interests across a wide spectrum of economic, political, diplomatic, and global issues. In a relationship of this size and importance, it is inevitable that we have disagreements from time to time. If unresolved, these problems can quickly become high-profile and contentious. In an effort to minimize such disagreements, we are committed to an effective early warning system. We have agreed on general principles and mechanisms through which we will improve our ability to identify and facilitate resolution of differences at an early stage, before they create frictions. We will take further steps to improve the process as warranted.

Strengthening the People-to-People Dimension

Ultimately, the strength of our partnership rests on the bonds between our people. The stronger

and broader public support is for our partnership, the more it will prosper. Direct people-to-people links across the Atlantic and greater participation by our people in our partnership are the best means of harnessing such support. We encourage our parliamentarians to further develop their transatlantic contacts and exchanges, and welcome the emerging Transatlantic Legislators' Dialogue. Inspired by the success of the Transatlantic Business Dialogue, our trade union leaders and consumer and environmental organizations are strengthening their own interactions across the Atlantic. We will support these dialogues and their participation in our partnership, and we will expand exchanges on an individual basis.

A Stronger Partnership for a New Century

During the past decade, our world has been transformed. Our destinies and our societies are more intertwined than ever. As a new century dawns, we commit ourselves to rendering our partnership more resilient and effective in the service of freedom, peace, and prosperity.

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**The United States Mission
to the European Union**

Brussels, Belgium

**Senior Level Group Report to the U.S.-EU Summit
Washington, DC, December 18, 1998**

The U.S. and EU had a successful period of cooperation within the framework of the New Transatlantic Agenda (NTA) under the Austrian Presidency. We have worked on the implementation of the various understandings and agreements reached at the U.S.-EU Summit in London May 18, 1998, and launched a number of new initiatives. Our cooperation in the face of the global economic crisis, in the Western Balkans, and with regard to the Middle East Peace Process underscores the importance and value of the U.S.-EU partnership.

We have worked together to promote peace, stability, democracy and development.

Our envoys in Kosovo, Ambassadors Chris Hill and Wolfgang Petritsch, are working as a team to conclude successfully negotiations on an interim political settlement for Kosovo. In Kosovo, the U.S. and EU are collaborating to ensure implementation of the October 16 OSCE-FRY (Federal Republic of Yugoslavia) Agreement, notably in the OSCE's Kosovo Verification Mission (KVM). We have tightened sanctions on the FRY, imposing further measures on Serbia in support of democratization, Dayton implementation, and a peaceful solution to the crisis in Kosovo. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, we continued our cooperation with the effort to ensure successful elections and worked to advance Dayton implementation by promoting refugee return and economic reform. In Croatia we have strengthened Dayton and Erdut implementation and the promotion of democratic reform, refugee return and economic liberalization. We established the "Friends of Albania" group to assist in the political and economic stabilization of that troubled country. On the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, we coordinated closely including to make the KVM a success.

After jointly training observers, we successfully collaborated on monitoring the Slovak elections. We consulted closely, including at the ministerial level, to assess economic and humanitarian needs in Russia as a basis for addressing the economic crisis there. We continued our common approach, together with others in the international community to urge Russia to develop an action plan on nuclear waste management in the Northwest. On Ukraine, we endorsed continued cooperation in our priority areas: political and economic reform, nuclear safety, trade and investment, energy sector reform and civil society. We consulted closely on steps in response to Belarusian violations of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations. We worked together to avoid heightened tensions in Cyprus. We took steps to improve cooperation between the Southeast Europe Cooperation Initiative (SECI) and Royaumont complementary processes for the development of Southeast Europe.

On the Middle East, the EU supported the implementation of the Wye River Memorandum brokered by the U.S. We have worked together to make the November 30 Donors' Conference in Washington a pledging success. We cooperated in the adoption of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1192, and urged Libya to comply and surrender the two Pan Am 103 bombing suspects. The U.S. and EU continued their intensified dialogue on Iran.

We continued our dialogue about human rights throughout the world, with special emphasis on steps to promote human rights in Burma, China, Nigeria, and Cuba, and conducted a joint program in Benin on good governance. We have both taken tough measures against the Burmese regime. We strengthened cooperation on nonproliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) through consultations on specific proliferation problems in South Asia, the Gulf, and the Korean peninsula. The U.S. and EU, together with Russia, have an active dialogue to guard against the transfer of sensitive technologies by Russian entities. We have also discussed our respective experiences with the control of intangible technologies. Our signing of the additional International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguard protocols strengthened the IAEA's ability to inspect nuclear facilities. Our experts have discussed ways to coordinate more closely our export control assistance programs. Our experts cooperated closely on demining efforts at the September 29 Ispra symposium and are pursuing the joint development of demining technologies. We confirmed our commitment to see that all States sign and ratify the eleven international counter-terrorism conventions. We cooperated on combating terrorist fund-raising and began to work together on an international convention for the suppression of terrorist financing. We cooperated in negotiating the nuclear terrorism convention. We have had consultations on the reform of the UN and the problem of UN finances. Both sides responded promptly and generously to the devastation caused by Hurricane Mitch in Central America.

We worked together to respond to Global Challenges: to fight organized crime and protect the environment.

We launched cooperation on combating child pornography on the Internet with a view to holding a joint experts' conference in Vienna next year. We continued the Caribbean Drugs Initiative, and implementation of the May 1996 Caribbean Action Plan. At the Peru Conference, in Brussels on November 10-11, the U.S. and EU together pledged over \$81 million in new funds towards alternative development, prevention, and institution strengthening projects in Peru. We have taken part in meetings and seminars which provided opportunities for our law enforcement experts to share their knowledge and experience in fighting crime. We continue to implement the U.S.-EU precursor chemicals agreement. Despite differences in approach, we arrived at a successful outcome of the Buenos Aires conference, where we adopted a plan for operationalizing aspects of the Kyoto Protocol. We continued our work to get the four new Regional Environmental Centers in Moldova, Georgia, Russia, and Ukraine up and running.

We are expanding world trade and building closer economic relations.

We agreed on the Transatlantic Economic Partnership (TEP) action plan and launched implementation. The TEP will expand and deepen economic relations between the U.S. and the EU by lowering barriers for both goods and services. Under the action plan, we have started a regular dialogue on a broad range of multilateral trade issues. We brought the Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) into force on December 1, and have explored additional sectors to add to it. We convened the first major partnering event of the Transatlantic Small Business Initiative in Chicago in October that led to intensified business contacts between about 250 European and U.S. companies in a broad range of sectors. We have started implementation of the recently signed Positive Comity Agreement which improves U.S.-EU cooperation on anti-competitive practices in cases of mutual concern. We held discussions aimed at achieving high standards of data privacy protection and avoiding interruptions in transatlantic exchanges of personal data. We held the Luxembourg Safety and Health Conference and the Washington Labor Codes of Conduct Symposium. We held the Madrid Disabilities Conference to promote cooperation in the expansion of employment opportunities for people with disabilities. We have identified possible opportunities for cooperation in achieving a Global Navigation Satellite System.

We have expanded contacts across the Atlantic.

We implemented many of the recommendations from the 1997 Rome Transatlantic Business Dialogue (TABD) Conference. We participated in the fourth annual TABD conference with over 100 CEOs from both sides of the Atlantic in Charlotte, North Carolina, November 5-7. We welcomed and supported the launch of the Transatlantic Consumer Dialogue (TACD) September 25-26 in Washington. We discussed modalities and provided seed funding for the Transatlantic Environmental Dialogue (TAED). We have continued to support the efforts of the Transatlantic Labor Dialogue. We agreed to intensify efforts to generate sustainable sources of funding for transatlantic ties. We initiated contacts between the U.S. Supreme Court and its European counterparts, the first ever judicial branch activity under the NTA. Members of the U.S. Congress and the European Parliament continued their regular exchange by meeting in Houston, Texas. The U.S.-EU Science and Technology Agreement entered into force. We held the first official Joint Consultative Group (JCG) meeting to discuss cooperation, and concluded implementing arrangements on cooperation in information technology and standards/metrology.

Priorities for the Future

We will continue our cooperation on all of the issues discussed above including the implementation of the various understandings and agreements reached at the U.S.-EU Summit in May 1998. In addition, we will explore options for strengthening and building upon the U.S.-EU relationship and the NTA with a view towards meeting the challenges of the twenty-first century.

Diplomatic Cooperation:

Over the next six months, our top priorities will include:

Working for Western Balkans Stabilization: We remain committed to enhancing quickly confidence-building and to supporting civil society in Kosovo. The EU intends to organize an expert-level meeting in January 1999, following the conclusion of the ongoing damage assessment mission. Once a political agreement is in place, further concrete steps on reconstruction, democratization and civic development will be taken, including convening a donors' conference. We look to the international community to contribute substantially towards the speedy implementation of these endeavors. Responding to the most urgent needs, we will continue humanitarian aid under the coordination of the UNHCR. We will promote economic reform and development and political stabilization in Albania through, *inter alia*, the "Friends of Albania." We will continue to cooperate on Dayton implementation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, notably on refugee repatriation and return, reconstruction and democratization, and we will promote the return of refugees, democracy, liberalization, and support for Dayton in Croatia.

Cooperating on Russia and Ukraine: We will closely consult on and coordinate as far as possible our policies *vis-à-vis* Russia and Ukraine with regard to the current economic and financial crisis.

On Russia, we will focus on making the March 1999 Barents Euro-Arctic Council Ministerial productive and help to ensure high-level Russian support for nuclear waste management efforts in Northwest Russia. We will work closely with Russia to bolster international nonproliferation regimes including through Russia's support for the prompt finalization of a protocol to strengthen the Biological and Toxic Weapons Convention, early conclusion of safeguards strengthening protocols with the IAEA and cooperation to implement strict Russian export controls. In consultation with Russian authorities, we will explore what joint efforts are needed to combat tuberculosis in Russia through the task force on communicable diseases. We will consider how we might enhance multilateral work to engage former Soviet-Weapons scientists in productive, non-military research.

On Ukraine, we will continue to support democracy and stability, to implement already agreed

programs and to take new steps to support economic development and reform. In addition to meeting our own commitments we will continue our cooperation to identify new funds from the international community, both public and private, to stabilize the deteriorating sarcophagus surrounding the destroyed Chernobyl reactor. We will also work to convince Ukraine to implement power sector reforms to enable investments to ameliorate the consequences of the closure of the last operating Chernobyl reactor in accordance with the 1995 Memorandum of Understanding on closing Chernobyl by 2000. We will work together for the planned implementation of the Civil Society Program for Ukraine which comprises four components: civil education support, NGO support, integrity support, and institutional support.

We will continue to work together to seek a political settlement in Cyprus based on the relevant UN Security Council resolutions for a bizonal and bicomunal federation.

We will cooperate to further the Middle East Peace Process, in particular by continuing to work together to support the Wye River Memorandum.

We will each work to promote a peaceful transition to democracy in Cuba.

We will use our forthcoming High-Level Consultations to refocus and render more effective our assistance cooperation. We will continue to seek resolution of the UN financing issue. We will work together to combat terrorism including its financing.

We will work together to help Malta and Cyprus establish an effective export control regime and improve cooperation and information sharing through expert contacts, in order to prevent the spread of weapons of mass destruction technology. We will work together in anticipation of the third Nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty Prepcom next year and continue to urge support for the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). We urge India and Pakistan to sign the CTBT, as it stands, and move to ratify it. U.S. and EU special envoys will continue to work together seeking to alleviate the humanitarian crisis and search for a political solution in the Great Lakes region of Africa. As regards Caspian energy, we will continue to follow up on our London Summit Statement and consult closely on how best to facilitate the construction of multiple pipelines and export possibilities to European and world markets.

Global Challenges:

In the coming six months, our top global priorities will include:

Working together to fight organized crime: We agreed to extend our successful information campaigns in Central Europe to fight trafficking in women, continue to combat child pornography on the Internet and look for additional opportunities to work together to fight crime. We will continue and develop our existing counter-narcotics coordination on Latin America and cooperation in the Caribbean and extend that cooperation to Central Asia, Southern Africa, and Nigeria. In addition, we will continue to share information on the problem of recovery of stolen vehicles.

On climate change, we will seek to make progress on the Kyoto Protocol and to continue the work started in Buenos Aires in preparation for the next Conference of the Parties (COP-5).

We will jointly seek to bring the Biosafety Protocol negotiations to a conclusion. We will support the establishment of a fifth Regional Environmental Center in Central Asia. The Task Force on Communicable Diseases will focus its priorities and more actively pursue its work. We will hold a Transatlantic Chemicals Conference May 6-7 in Stresa, Italy. We will seek to encourage global participation in International Maritime Organization conventions dealing with maritime safety and the prevention of marine pollution, including the optional annexes to the International Conventions for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL).

Trade and Economic Relations:

Our top economic priorities for the next six months will include:

Implementing the TEP: We will ensure full implementation of TEP action plan according to target dates and initiate negotiations on identified areas. This will help ensure that our wider cooperation on economic matters is not undermined by trade disputes between us.

We will cooperate for a successful WTO ministerial in 1999 with a view to preparing the WTO's future agenda. We reaffirm our commitment to strive for the ratification of the WTO financial services agreement by all WTO members by the agreed deadline of January 29, 1999, thus allowing the commitments in that agreement to enter into force by March 1, 1999. We will work together with other WTO members to promote action to enhance the transparency of WTO operations, and we will foster opportunities for dialogue on multilateral trade issues with stakeholders. We will promote the conclusion of the second Information Technology Agreement. We will encourage ratification of the OECD anti-bribery convention.

On data privacy protection, we will continue current efforts to avoid disruptions, while we work urgently to bring to a successful conclusion discussions on avoiding interruptions in transatlantic exchanges of personal data. We will work to implement, to the maximum extent possible, TABD recommendations. We will sign a Veterinary Equivalency Agreement that will reduce barriers to exports worth \$3 billion in two-way trade while retaining the highest level of safety for consumers. We will build on Global Navigation Satellite System discussions with a view to possibly establishing an agreement on cooperation. We expect to begin negotiations on issues regarding bilateral wine trade. We will continue to support various projects of the Transatlantic Small Business Initiative. We plan to hold further seminars on important labor and social issues which will include interested parties, including non-governmental parties.

Building Bridges:

In the coming six months, we will seek to consolidate the state of the civil society dialogues. We will consult on ways and means to further enhance exchanges on all levels between our societies.

We will continue to support the development of "People-to-People" dialogues. We will continue to encourage the development of the Transatlantic Consumer Dialogue (TACD). We support the launch of the Transatlantic Environmental Dialogue (TAED) and plans for the Transatlantic Development Dialogue (TADevD), and we will intensify efforts to generate sustainable private sector and foundation support for NTA dialogues.

We will hold the second meeting of the U.S.-EU joint committee on Higher Education and Vocational Training and begin to prepare for the successor to the 1995 U. S. -EU agreement. We will support on-going exchange programs between the U.S. and EU. We will also support the next U.S.-EU science and technology conference in Stuttgart. We look forward to the forthcoming 50th European Parliament/U.S. Congress Interparliamentary Meeting in Strasbourg in January. We look forward to the further development of the Transatlantic Information Exchange Service (TIES) as a tool to promote people-to-people links, following TIES' Second Annual Conference in Atlanta in January.

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**United States Mission
to the European Union**
Brussels, Belgium

Date: 05/18/98

**New Transatlantic Agenda
Senior Level Group Report to the U.S.-EU Summit**

During the UK Presidency, we have made substantial progress in reaching goals set at the last Summit and overcoming differences which, if left unresolved, could limit our ability to work together.

We have cooperated on key foreign policy issues to enhance the effectiveness of EU and U.S. diplomacy.

We have worked together to address the current crisis in Kosovo. We have provided support for the new reformist Government in the Republika Srpska. We drove forward together implementation of the Dayton agreement, in particular, refugee return including through the recent Refugee Return Conferences of Sarajevo and Banja Luka, and supported economic reforms in Bosnia, as required by the International Financial Institutions.

Following up on the Joint Statement on Ukraine agreed in December 1997, a joint demarche was made to the Ukrainian authorities after the elections, stressing the critical importance of continuing political and economic reforms. We have identified further areas for possible cooperation including, common approaches on trade and investment issues, energy sector reform, civil society and nuclear safety. We have drawn up a five-point agenda for a common approach with the Russian Federation and all interested parties to the problem of nuclear waste management in Northwest Russia. We are arranging a joint training program for election monitors in Slovakia to prepare for the 1998 general elections. We have cooperated closely on Turkey and on Cyprus. We are working together to address cross-border smuggling in Romania under the SECI initiative.

Elsewhere we have intensified our consultations on policy towards Iran, focusing on issues of common concern. We have developed closer cooperation on issues such as counter-terrorism and weapons of mass destruction. We have both condemned India's recent decision to conduct nuclear tests. We have established a new, high-level U.S.-EU coordination mechanism on the Middle East Peace Process. We have worked closely on human rights issues in Geneva. The U.S. and EU are both taking steps to press Burma to respect human rights and democratic principles.

We enhanced the impact of our economic assistance efforts through close coordination of European Commission and USAID programs. Among our many cooperative endeavors, we have supported good governance in Central America, delivered humanitarian aid to North Korea and emergency assistance to victims of El Nino in central and South America, launched efforts to combat violence against women, and implemented joint projects to help destitute women in Bangladesh. We co-chaired the 5 May Donor Support Group meeting for Afghanistan in London.

We have worked together to address global challenges, to promote international law enforcement and address environmental concerns.

We are jointly supporting information campaigns in Poland and Ukraine to discourage trafficking in women. U.S. law enforcement experts visited the Europol Drugs Unit in January. A return visit by EU experts will take place in June. We have held expert level meetings on corruption and money-laundering under the auspices of the Multidisciplinary Group on Organized Crime. We have explored opportunities for cooperation on stolen vehicles. We have supported the Caribbean Drugs Initiative to tackle drugs trafficking in the Caribbean. We have begun a dialogue on follow-up to the Kyoto Protocol on climate change. We are preparing cooperation on environmental protection in Central Asia. Specific projects are already addressing environmental issues in Brazil and Ukraine.

We have developed our bilateral trade and economic relationship and our cooperation on multilateral trade issues.

We have intensified our discussions on how to take forward our trade goals as set out in the New Transatlantic Agenda. We have worked together in the World Trade Organization in preparation for the May Ministerial so as to lay the groundwork for further multilateral negotiations leading to broad based liberalization and for the Summit celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the GATT. We have managed to diffuse a number of potentially serious trade disputes. We have worked in various fora to advance our common goals on electronic commerce as agreed at the December 1997 Summit, including establishing a dialogue to address the free flow and protection of personal data. We are ready to sign a Positive Comity Agreement to enhance cooperation between our competition agencies. We have completed negotiation of a Veterinary Equivalency Agreement, which will facilitate transatlantic trade in animals and animal products. We have negotiated a parallel agreement on auto standards within the UN/ECE framework. We have cooperated to improve worldwide protection and enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights. We are signing the Mutual Recognition Agreement and have advanced negotiations on two new sectors -- veterinary biologics and fasteners.

We have strengthened links between our peoples.

We are presenting awards to 50 individuals and organizations who have promoted democracy values and civil society in their countries. We have agreed to provide around \$2.5 million each for joint civic education and civil society initiatives in Ukraine. We have urged the Transatlantic Business Dialogue to continue its important work strengthening transatlantic trade relations. We have encouraged the launch of other similar dialogues. Following its April meeting, the Transatlantic Labor Dialogue (TALD) is being taken forward with action on several fronts, and we have agreed to organize a Consumer Dialogue. Our grant-giving foundations and NGOs have agreed to work together to better allocate scarce resources; a handbook of relevant EU and U.S. NGOs and initiatives has been published. We held the first meeting of the Joint Committee on Higher Education and Vocational Training, which welcomed the solid achievements made in this field under the NTA.

We have involved our parliamentarians more closely in the EU/U.S. process: an increased number of parliamentary visits took place and an internship program has been set up in the European parliament and in the U.S. Congress. As part of our implementation of the Science and Technology Cooperation Agreement signed in December 1997, we are holding in June a U.S.-EU roundtable conference. We jointly organized a forum in Akron, Ohio, in February to look at ways to increase employability and tackle social exclusion. We have given support for the successful implementation of the Transatlantic Information Exchange Service (TIES), a mega-site on the Internet which will enable our NGOs to develop contacts and cooperate together.

New Priorities

For the next six months we will focus on the following:

I. Promoting Peace, Stability, Democracy and Development

Work together in the former Yugoslavia, particularly Kosovo, Bosnia and throughout the Western Balkans. Implement our program of cooperation in Ukraine. Continue to work closely together on Cyprus and Turkey. Pursue with all parties concerned, in the first place the Russian Federation, our joint agenda for nuclear waste management in Northwest Russia, and report progress by the Spring 1999 U.S.-EU Summit. Increase coordination on other nuclear safety issues. Put into practice the consultative mechanism set up to ensure better coordination of our efforts on the Middle East Peace Process. Continue to cooperate on Iran, particularly on issues of shared concern. Examine the possibility of cooperation on technical assistance to develop the rule of law in China. Continue to work together and with African partners to promote human rights, good governance and conflict prevention. Continue active consultations on UN reform and finances. Use our High Level Assistance Consultations in October to reinforce our cooperation on economic, development and humanitarian issues.

Assess ways of further enhancing our demining cooperation in specific areas such as mine action institutions and capacity building in afflicted countries, the development of appropriate technology and information exchange on mine exporting countries. Work for the successful completion of the Biological Weapons Convention Protocol by the end of 1998. Further enhance our cooperation on non-proliferation and export controls. Consider scope for a joint EU/U.S. code of conduct on arms exports. Consolidate cooperation in KEDO, together with Japan and the Republic of Korea, to ensure continued viability of the organization and success in meeting its objectives, thus promoting stability in Northeast Asia and strengthening global non-proliferation efforts. Continue cooperation to advance our goals on human rights and democracy in countries which are of mutual concern.

II. Responding to Global Challenges

Continue to work closely on counter-terrorism, exchanging information (e.g., on terrorism fundraising), raising awareness of new threats, and encouraging universal adherence to all 11 international conventions. Explore extending cooperation on drug issues in other regions such as Central Asia and Latin America, including the Andes. Maintain close cooperation between U.S. law enforcement agencies and the EU Multidisciplinary Group on Organized Crime. In the light of our evaluation, consider whether to expand to other countries our initiative to discourage trafficking in women. Review the possibilities for cooperation on stolen vehicles.

Following signing of the charters inaugurating the Regional Environment Centers (RECs) in Moldova, Georgia, Russia and Ukraine, ensure they become quickly operational and consider supporting the establishment of a Central Asia. Continue our dialogue on environmental issues, including on the Biosafety Protocol and the follow up to the Kyoto Protocol. Work to resolve outstanding issues before the November climate change meeting in Buenos Aires. Plan for a Transatlantic Chemicals Conference. Focus on the work of the Task Force on Communicable Diseases on surveillance of certain priority diseases, in particular foodborne diseases and the problem of antimicrobial resistance, as well as on training exchanges, field investigations, and exchange of information on outbreaks of diseases.

III. Expanding World Trade and Closer Economic Relations

Follow up on our recent discussions on how to take forward our shared trade goals. Continue to implement our joint statement on electronic commerce, giving priority to the urgent issues of data privacy and domain name allocation. Continue to enhance our dialogue on regulatory issues, including those relating to biotechnology. Implement the MRA and seek early signature of the new annexes on veterinary biologics and fasteners. Identify ways of further deepening our cooperation on Intellectual Property Rights with respect to both bilateral and multilateral issues. Building on our ongoing bilateral consultations, explore ways to cooperate in a mutually acceptable framework to develop a global navigation satellite system. Support the various projects of the Transatlantic Small Business Initiative, in particular, the U.S.-EU

Partnership Meeting in Chicago which will bring together 400 small and medium sized enterprises. Continue our exchange on macro-economic issues as the EU approaches the third phase of the Economic and Monetary Union.(EMU).

Within multilateral fora, reaffirm the importance we attach to our efforts in the OECD to achieve a comprehensive multilateral framework for investment with high standards of liberalization and investment protection that has effective dispute-settlement procedures and is open to non-member countries. Pursue the current work program on investment in the WTO. Once that program has been completed, seek the support of all our partners for next steps towards the creation of investment rules in the WTO. Continue work on accession of new members. Pursue our common efforts in the WTO to conclude the negotiations, already well advanced, on expansion in the coverage of Information Technology Agreement (ITA II). Work to implement the outcome of the MAY WTO Ministerial.

IV. Building Bridges

Under our Science and Technology Cooperation Agreement encourage the launch of collaborative projects. Cooperate to ensure a successful, broad-based Vienna Conference on People-to-People Links in October. Implement our projects in Ukraine on civic education, municipal and public administration, transparency, and parliamentary exchange. Seek progress on the establishment of the Transatlantic NGO Dialogue on development, economic, and humanitarian assistance. Support the July visit by Supreme Court Justices to the European institutions.

Contribute to a successful TABD Conference in November and take its recommendations into account in our future work. Actively support the Consumer Dialogue following its launch this summer. Support the work of the Transatlantic Labor Dialogue. Hold a seminar on work organization in Brussels in June, a Conference on Disability in the Workplace in Madrid in October. Fully support the partnerships established at the Akron forum. Support the follow-up to the successful symposium on Codes of Conduct and International Labor Standards.

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The United States Mission
to the European Union

Brussels, Belgium

New Transatlantic Agenda Senior Level Group Report

**Report released in conjunction with the U.S.-EU Summit
Washington, DC, December 5, 1997**

Since its adoption two years ago, the New Transatlantic Agenda (NTA) has provided a versatile framework for greater U.S.-EU cooperation on issues of common interest and for more effective management of disputes. A pragmatic approach, based on concrete action, has enabled us to achieve tangible results and bridge differences. In this regard, the early implementation of the various elements of the Understanding reached on April 11 concerning the Libertad Act and the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act and the EU's WTO case against the former remains a high priority for both sides. During the Luxembourg Presidency, substantial progress was achieved in the following key areas of the agenda. In addition, we are issuing joint statements on Ukraine, climate change, electronic commerce, and regulatory cooperation.

We have intensified our cooperation on key foreign policy issues and enhanced the effectiveness of U.S. and EU diplomacy.

In Bosnia, we worked together to support successful municipal elections and Assembly elections in Republika Srpska and have agreed on a joint strategy to promote human rights and democratization. We have successfully coordinated to bring about Croatia's transfer of war crimes indictees to the International Tribunal in The Hague. We were united in condemning violence against peaceful protesters in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) and in seeking respect for human and political rights in Kosovo through the opening of a comprehensive dialogue between FRY authorities and the Kosovar Albanian leadership. In Albania, we worked successfully to restore democracy and ensure the success of the donors' conference on stabilization and reform. A new high-level, coordinated effort has been undertaken to reach a settlement on Cyprus. We worked closely to advance common interests with regard to Turkey.

In the Middle East, our intensified dialogue and coordination -- through U.S. brokering of peace talks, EU diplomatic efforts, and cooperation between our special envoys -- have helped to avoid further backsliding in the peace process and sustain the hope of a more prosperous economic future. On Iran, enhanced consultations have underscored common concerns about weapons of mass destruction, terrorism, and human rights. Underscoring our strong commitment to respect for human rights and democratic practices, we have continued to seek out new opportunities to support these principles in the Great Lakes region of Africa, Nigeria, Burma, Cuba, and elsewhere. The Agreement between Euratom and the Korean Peninsula Development Organization (KEDO) entered into force on September 19, 1997, underlining our shared global commitment to strengthen non-proliferation efforts.

The October 1997 U.S.-EU High Level Consultations on Assistance addressed both global and specific areas of cooperation. Practical results included: parallel financing by the U.S. and the EU to train local civil servants in Bolivia and support destitute women in Bangladesh; assessment of good governance in Benin; discussions on codes of conduct for food aid and the application of food security instruments; and successful checking of a meningitis outbreak in West Africa and effective collaboration on epidemic preparedness and pursuit of immunization programs there.

We have strengthened efforts to address global challenges and launched promising new initiatives to fight international crime and address environmental concerns.

We are scheduling a first study visit of experts from U.S. law enforcement agencies to the EU's European Drug Unit (forerunner of EUROPOL). We have held expert-level meetings and seminars on mutual legal assistance, organized crime in Eastern Europe, cybercrime, financing of terrorism, and asylum requests. We have combined forces to combat trafficking in women by launching a joint information campaign in two key transit and source countries -- Poland and Ukraine. We completed the first phase of a joint Caribbean Drug Initiative to staunch drug trafficking and have laid the groundwork for concrete action to be agreed at the December 8th Santo Domingo Summit meeting. In our fight against terrorism, we worked together toward the successful conclusion of the UN International Convention on the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings.

Recognizing the importance of a successful Kyoto Conference, we have intensified high-level efforts to bridge differences over climate change and reach a common position. We have pledged funding and begun work to establish four new Regional Environmental Centers in Russia, Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia to be opened in late spring 1998. Our task force on communicable diseases is completing technical arrangements on a surveillance network covering salmonella and E. Coli and, subsequently, other pathogens.

We have built on our successful collaboration on our multilateral trade agenda and made progress on building the New Transatlantic Marketplace.

We have worked together in the WTO to conclude by the December deadline the Financial Services Agreement and to ensure that the WTO accessions of China and Russia are accompanied by significant market-opening measures. Our cooperation has helped to ensure the conclusion of a comprehensive OECD anti-bribery convention. Building the New Transatlantic Marketplace, we have made additional progress on the Joint Study. We are initialing this month a positive comity agreement that will greatly enhance cooperation between our competition authorities. We have made good progress in establishing the framework for implementing the Mutual Recognition Agreement initialed in June and continued our negotiations on the inclusion of fasteners and veterinary biologics. We have reached an agreement on humane trapping standards for fur-bearing animals.

Joint initiatives are expanding the range of contacts between U.S. and EU citizens and organizations, opening new possibilities for cooperative endeavors.

The Science and Technology Cooperation Agreement being signed on December 5 will promote closer cooperation between our scientists and scientific institutions on cutting-edge issues. The new Transatlantic Information Exchange Service (TIES) will provide Internet links between a wide range of U.S. and EU groups interested in people-to-people exchanges. The U.S. Library of Congress and partner libraries in Europe and America are working on a Transatlantic Digital Library. We have created a Transatlantic Civil Society Dialogue. We actively supported a successful conference in Rome of the Transatlantic Business Dialogue (TABD), which has further consolidated positive business involvement in the NTA process, including partnering of small and medium-sized enterprises under the Transatlantic Small Business Initiative (TASBI). Under the successful U.S.-EC Agreement on Cooperation in Higher Education and Vocational Training, we are supporting academic cooperation between some 150 U.S. and EU post-secondary schools.

New Priorities

We highlight the following new priorities as part of our ongoing cooperation for the next six months:

I. Promoting Peace, Stability, Democracy and Development, we will:

Deepen our cooperation to strengthen peace in Bosnia by reinforcing the authority of the High Representative to advance peace implementation measures, through establishment of democratic institutions, including open media and functioning municipal and parliamentary bodies, and through the return of refugees. Undertake new, coordinated efforts in Kosovo to maintain peace and promote respect for human rights there and elsewhere in former Yugoslavia. Work together to promote respect for human rights in eastern Slavonia and other parts of Croatia, following the completion of the UNTAES mandate.

Implement our joint statement on Ukraine. As part of our broad pattern of cooperation with Russia, pay particular attention to examining ways of working together on nuclear safety in Northwest Russia. Cooperate to support the reform process in the Baltic States, strengthen their integration into the global system, in particular their accession to the WTO, and support cooperation in the Baltic region, including the early signature by Russia of border agreements with Estonia and Latvia. Work together to entrench and, where necessary, develop free and independent media in Central and Eastern Europe. In view of the unique opportunities for progress in 1998, intensify efforts to find a solution to the Cyprus question. Continue work to strengthen Turkey's ties to the West and to promote economic and political progress there.

Continue to give a high priority to supporting the Middle East Peace Process, including through cooperation of our special envoys. Build on productive discussions in the Trilateral Working Group on Iran to enhance cooperation on weapons of mass destruction, terrorism, and human rights to achieve a broader convergence of U.S.-EU approaches on Iran. Strengthen our dialogue on relations with China. Cooperate in supporting the O.A.U.'s conflict prevention mechanism and in combating illicit trafficking in arms. Consult on a common approach toward Central Africa, and in particular the Democratic Republic of Congo, to respond to humanitarian needs, address urgent human rights issues, notably the need to strengthen the rule of law and the justice sector generally, encourage an evolutionary and transparent political process leading to free and fair elections, and strengthen civil society.

Improve our coordination in de-mining and related activities, including victim assistance; enhance data sharing, including information exchange on anti-personnel mine exporting countries; and work together in all appropriate fora, inter alia, the Conference on Disarmament. Continue efforts to reform the UN and solve its financial crisis in line with our commitments, including financial obligations. Work together to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Human Rights Declaration and to advance our shared goals around the world.

In the areas of development and humanitarian assistance, provide incentives for our assistance partners to adopt environmentally sound policies, in particular the G-7 Pilot Program on Brazilian Rain-Forests; undertake early warning on ways of mitigating effects of El Niño; consult on the security of relief workers and on disaster preparedness; improve our assistance to war-torn societies; support increased micro-enterprise lending; encourage NGO dialogue; and implement exchanges of humanitarian assistance staff.

II. Responding to Global Challenges, we will:

Implement the action components of the Caribbean Drug Initiative and explore the possibility of additional collaborative approaches in other regions plagued by drug trafficking. Continue consultations on a multilateral chemical reporting initiative.

Pursue U.S.-EU experts' consultations on organized crime; enhance cooperation to combat international money laundering; conduct the visit of a U.S. study team to the European Drug Unit and organize a visit of EDU officials to the U.S.; discuss cooperation on extradition so international fugitives have "nowhere to hide"; cooperate on the implementation of the UN Bombing Convention and International Counter-Terrorist Conventions as appropriate.

Fully implement the joint information campaign in Poland and Ukraine to combat trafficking in

women and explore broadening the initiative on the basis of a joint evaluation.

Intensify cooperation on climate change, implementing the agreed results of the Kyoto conference. Undertake concrete action to encourage the phasing out of CFC production in Russia. Continue cooperation on the four new Regional Environmental Centers and the Budapest REC. Prepare the Transatlantic Chemicals Conference in Italy (1998) and work together on the UN negotiations on a prior informed consent procedure for the transport of chemicals and on persistent organic pollutants. Implement the multi-annual working program agreed to at the Earth Summit plus Five.

III. Expanding World Trade and Closer Economic Relations, we will:

Continue effective collaborative efforts in multilateral fora by: monitoring the implementation by countries of all aspects of their commitments in basic telecommunications services and of the WTO Information Technology Agreement including its expansion through the second phase of the Agreement; upon the successful conclusion of the WTO Financial Services Agreement, encouraging its prompt implementation; developing forward-looking common positions in advance of the WTO Ministerial Meeting in May 1998; continuing work on the WTO's built-in agenda and on accession of new WTO members; confirming our attachment to seeking amicable and cooperative solutions to our disputes and to the smooth functioning of the WTO dispute settlement mechanism; working together to follow up on the conclusions of the "High Level Meeting on Integrated Initiatives for Least Developed Countries' Trade Development"; taking concrete action to resolve all remaining issues on the Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI) before the 1998 OECD Ministerial; and working together to implement the OECD anti-bribery convention.

On the bilateral side, we will develop further the concept of the New Transatlantic Marketplace, developing recommendations on the reduction of trade barriers, including non-tariff barriers, drawing especially on the results of the Joint Study and the recommendations of the TABD Rome conference; continue to seek solutions to our remaining transatlantic trade differences expeditiously; reinvigorate and enhance our cooperation on regulatory issues, including those relating to biotechnology, and aim to finalize a parallel agreement on auto standards within the UN/ECE framework; on electronic commerce, implement the guidelines [and work program] agreed in our Joint Statement; implement fully the Mutual Recognition Agreement, conclude ongoing negotiations, and consider negotiation of additional sectors; pursue the various projects of the Transatlantic Small Business Initiative; exchange experiences and review the potential of the Apparel Industry Partnership at the spring 1998 conference; take up the issue of intellectual property rights in third countries; continue consultations on guidelines and key elements for a Global Navigation Satellite System; continue to exchange views on macro-economic issues, including EMU-related issues; and cooperate to ensure that the business communities will be fully prepared to seize the opportunities of the introduction of the Euro.

IV. Deepening Our Cooperation on People-To-People Activities, we will:

Announce the first recipients of the Democracy and Civil Society Awards at the next U.S. - EU Summit; work together to develop civic education in Ukraine.

Hold a conference on workforce training and development in Akron, Ohio, with special focus on regional collaboration in adapting to the challenges of globalization; encourage an increasingly active role for the Transatlantic Labor Dialogue under the NTA; and organize a June 1998 seminar on work organization and intensify cooperation on labor market policy including health and safety at work.

Identify and develop significant projects under the Science and Technology Cooperation Agreement and disseminate information on cooperative opportunities in U.S. and EU science and technology programs; and promote the use of TIES and development of the Transatlantic

Digital Library.

Support the efforts of the U.S. Congress and European Parliament to establish internship and exchange programs, including a new Fellows program for diplomats from the U.S. and the EU; continue to lend our high-level support to the TABD and work with it on a new program of transatlantic corporate exchange; explore ways of promoting U.S.-EU consumer dialogue; support the visit next summer by members of the Supreme Court of the United States to the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg to encourage a dialogue on common legal problems; and explore the possibility of internships and exchange programs between U.S. and European courts.

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