

Women's Health: Focus on the Adolescent

Adolescence, the transition between childhood and adult life, is one of the most dynamic stages of human development.

Adolescence is accompanied by dramatic physical, cognitive, social, and emotional changes that present both opportunities and challenges. The health of its adolescents is a measure of a society's respect for its past, and commitment to its future. Yet adolescents, in the United States and in many other countries around the world, represent a group that is all too often neglected, both in terms of their health and other developmental needs. In the United States, contrary to the conventional wisdom that adolescents are so healthy that they do not require health and related services, the adolescent population is the only one that has not experienced an improvement in health status over the last 30 years.

Across the globe, our adolescent populations are becoming more alike. Along with the benefits of industrial and economic development come urbanization and movement of young people from the countryside to the city. Old traditions are abandoned and youth, without the guidance of societal traditions and/ or caring adults are left to flounder and to form their own traditions. Many adolescent driven traditions involve behaviors that are outside of the acceptable and safe norms, what we commonly refer to as risk-taking behaviors: driving after drinking alcohol, taking illegal drugs, carrying and too often using a gun, sex without a condom. Contrast these behaviors with the Kikuyu village practice of adolescent boys and girls sleeping together in the same hut and exploring physical contact but forbidden from engaging in sexual intercourse.

We accuse our youth of beginning sexual activity too early and tend to moralize about their behavior. But for many youth in the United States and certainly in developing countries, much of their behavior comes from ignorance – ignorance about their own bodies, lack of experience with sexual feelings and decision- making, and unclear messages from adults.

Although I am saddened to learn of the worldwide extent of adolescent health problems, I am heartened by a growing interest and commitment on the part of many agencies, governments, and individuals in improving the well-being of adolescents.

We must invest in our youth

In the words of Dr. David Hamburg (Carnegie Corporation of New York, Hamburg, 1993), “Any modern nation needs to develop the talent of all its people if it is to be economically vigorous and socially cohesive in the different world of the next century”. This is true in the United States where 63 percent of the population is under the age of 25. It is even truer in the developing countries where more than 80 percent of the world's youth live. (Friedman HL, 1993)

While many adolescents become healthy, productive adults, far too many other young people suffer permanent injury, emotional and physical, and even death- they are victims of our

generation's beliefs that nothing can be done to change their experiences and improve their future status. Given opportunities-good education, health care, understanding supportive adults, skill training and employment, safe communities-the majority of young people can mature into adults fit to lead their nations and to contribute to solving the world's problems.

What health problems do adolescent girls face?

In the United States, the major causes of mortality for our young people has shifted over the past three decades from communicable to social etiologies. By far, the leading cause of death of young women in the United States (accounting for 43 percent of all deaths to women ages 15 to 24) is unintentional injury, due primarily to motor vehicle crashes. When combined with the numbers of deaths from intentional injuries (13 percent from homicide and 8 percent from suicide) injuries account for nearly two-thirds of all deaths to young women in this age group.

The major causes of death in our young women thus call for social and public health prevention techniques, rather than medical treatment: drug and alcohol education and counseling, alcohol sales and consumption laws, drunk driving law enforcement, bicycle and motorcycle helmet regulations, gang prevention programs, easy access to counseling and mental health services, sexuality education, decreased availability of and safety improvements to firearms.

We must not only focus on the conditions in which our teenage girls are dying; we must also look at those in which they are living.

Women across the world have made tremendous gains in educational enrollment and literacy over the past twenty years. We know that improved education and the chance to obtain paid work are the conduits by which women in the developed and developing countries alike can gain status, power and respect that cannot be gained from marriage and childbearing alone. Because one of the most important determinants of a child's health is the educational status of the mother, efforts to increase school attendance and improve the health and education of girls can have long-term profound benefits.

However, in a troubling fashion, we have allowed these very gains by young women to exacerbate a problem with which we are all too familiar – the problem of too early childbearing. Earlier onset of menstruation combined with a longer period of preparing for work and later marriage and insufficient family planning services have left a growing number of adolescent females without the protection they need to have meaningful life futures.

There are currently more than 1 billion adolescents in the world, 1/5th of the world's population. Poverty and lack of opportunity are constant companions for the majority of youth in developing nations and for too many American youth. And these burdens often fall heaviest on adolescent females who face more limited access to education and training than do males. In the United States 20 percent of teenage girls live in poverty. And each year, 4 to 7 percent of teenage girls drop out of school. More than 1.1 million teenage girls become pregnant every year in the United States. Although the US rate of 51.1 per 1,000 teens has dropped by 18 percent from 1991 to 1998, this rate remains higher than any other developed nation.

Over and over again research has shown that when poverty and low education levels are combined, opportunities and expectations decline, and the chances of becoming a teen parent increase. In 1991, twenty percent of the teen girls in the U.S. who were poor and had low education levels had babies – that's one in five. One of every eight babies born in the U.S. is born to a teen mother. Girls who drop out of high school in the United States are six times more likely than the ones who complete school to become pregnant during their teens, regardless of race or ethnic origin. Pregnant girls in the United States, as in many Latin American, African, and European countries, are increasingly remaining single –sometimes by choice, sometimes not. Coupled with low education levels, single motherhood is one of the strongest predictors of poverty – especially among girls whose families are already poor. The combination of poor basic skills, lack of work experience, and child care responsibilities means that a disproportionate number of teen mothers are poor and likely to stay so. Adolescent childbearing both results from and creates poverty, and we know that this becomes a problem across generations, thus perpetuating poverty and missed opportunity.

Modern contraceptive techniques make it possible to plan and space childbearing. But, for too many young girls a lack of knowledge, lack of appropriate and accessible services, and limited opportunity inhibit their use and control of contraception. This is true in many developing countries. It is true in the United States. Many European countries have made family life education and contraception available to adolescents so that while age of onset and frequency of intercourse are comparable, rates of pregnancy and childbearing are significantly lower. There are lessons to be learned.

Furthermore, not all teen girls initiate sex voluntarily. In the United States, three out of four women who have had intercourse before age 14 and three out of five of those who have had sex before age 15 report having had sex involuntarily. We must also deal with the implications of the older age of the male partners of too many young pregnant teenagers.

Far too many children come into the world unplanned and unintended. Indeed the US has higher rates of unintended pregnancies than many developing as well as industrialized countries. Eighty-four percent of the adolescent pregnancies in the United States are unintended.

The more a girl delays her first intercourse, the more education she obtains, and the greater access she has to contraceptive services and information, the more likely she is to avoid an unintended pregnancy. Young Americans are initiating sex at increasingly younger ages. Now, more than half of all high school girls report that they have had sexual intercourse. And while girls are more vulnerable than boys to the long and short-term effects of sexually transmitted diseases and pregnancy, they also report lower rates of contraceptive use, including condoms.

The National Institutes of Health estimate that 6 million women in the United States acquire some form of sexually transmitted infection each year -and one fourth of those new cases occur in teenage girls. Young women are more physiologically susceptible to STIs than their older counterparts. They are also more socially susceptible, with a greater chance of having multiple partners, engaging in less communication with partners, and having less access to appropriate and accessible contraceptive services. STIs can have a severe impact on women's health, with

lifelong consequences including infertility, pelvic inflammatory disease, and a heightened risk of cervical cancer or transmission of the HIV virus.

The HIV epidemic is silently threatening and potentially devastating young women in this country and around the world. Women are increasingly becoming infected with HIV. In the United States, they comprise the fastest growing group of persons infected with the virus. In most of the third world, there are as many or more infected women as there are infected men. What's more, they are becoming infected at significantly younger ages than men, and proportionally more girls and young women in their teens and early twenties are becoming infected than women in any other age group.

If HIV and AIDS are a silent threat, the threat of violence is ear splitting. For too many of our youth violence is a part of everyday life both as a direct threat and as an image blaring at them in music and television – all too often coupled with negative stereotypes of women and minorities. The glut of Western media in developing countries further ensures that these negative images resound around the globe.

Studies on violence in the United States have focused primarily on young men, especially young, African American men who are being decimated by this public health epidemic. But teenage girls are not immune to it either, neither as victims, nor as perpetrators. In the US teenage girls' involvement in violence exists, and is rising. From 1980 to 1989, there was a 16.5 percent increase in the number of girls under the age of 18 who were charged with violent crimes (about 4 times the rate of increase among boys during the same period). Eight percent of female high school students report carrying a weapon to school. Homicide is the second leading cause of death among teenage girls. One in three experiences abuse during her childhood or adolescence. One in five teen girls experiences abuse during pregnancy.

Adolescents need freedom within a safe environment; they need opportunities to learn, to explore, to experiment within the security of an environment that is committed to their protection and their well being. But too many teenagers in the United States (and around the world) are growing up fearful, afraid to go out of their homes, afraid to go to school. In the United States the percentage of crimes against teenagers is much higher than the proportion of adolescents in the population. In the United States teenagers aged 12-19 years old experienced 1.9 million violent crimes annually from 1985-1988. These are 30 percent of all violent crimes even though teenagers constituted only 14percent of the population age 12 or older. And the risk of violent crime has increased for teenagers.

Firearms were the weapon of choice in 58percent of the murders of younger adolescents and in 67percent of the murders of older adolescents, in 75percent of the murders of African Americans age 16-19.

In the United States, as in other countries, women have made significant gains -in education and political representation, especially. But we have also discovered the underside of equality. One example; teenage girls now smoke and drink alcohol at equal rates with boys. Now that many countries in the developed regions are waging anti-smoking campaigns, a counter campaign by the international tobacco industry is opening new markets for tobacco in some developing countries.

In the US, we frequently overlook nutritional status as a health indicator, but it contributes to significant public and personal health problems. Unlike some developing countries, where girls suffer from poor or inadequate nutrition because of son-preference, poverty, drought and famine, the United States has the climate, the infrastructure, the land, and the technology to produce high quality food in greater quantities than we can consume. Yet, because of a societal emphasis on slimness, we have 60 percent of young girls who overestimate their body weight, 70 percent who diet, and 3 to 8 percent who actually starve themselves with anorexia or bulimia, during a period of accelerated body growth and development that requires increased intakes of nutrients. American youth also commonly suffer from overweight (15 to 22 percent of adolescents are well over normal weight or obese); they also suffer from delayed or slow growth, iron deficiency anemia and dental problems. Adolescence is an opportune time to improve the nutritional status of young women. It is especially important that they achieve normal weight prior to childbearing. And since women traditionally influence household practices, a young woman with sound nutritional knowledge can influence family, community, and the next generation.

We must link education, health, and the community

Quote from a former Director General of WHO, Dr. Hiroshi Nakajima, "Education prepares the child to be self-reliant and to be a healthy and productive citizen. Educating children about health through schools should receive the highest priority, not only from the point of view of health but also from the point of view of education. To learn effectively, children need to be in good health."

Although we are making promising strides in coordinating health, social service, and education programs, the United States can learn from many developing countries' experience with linking schools and communities. We can learn from their experiences using the media to educate rather than to propagate violent images and negative stereotypes of our women, our poor, and our people of color.

In this decade, the media is perhaps the most powerful, and at the same time the most modifiable influence on young people. American children and adolescents spend 22-28 hours a week watching television. Some adolescents will spend more hours watching television than they will spend in school! And as the information superhighway traverses the world, the effects of media and electronic communication will be even more strongly felt in the developing nations.

Children and adolescents learn by imitating the behavior of others. Those of us who are parents know this well as we cringe when we see our own children repeating our mistakes. Television and movies offer youth scripts about gender roles, conflict resolution, relationships, and sexual behaviors in a detail they don't find anywhere else.

Many studies have shown that a lot of exposure to violence on television increases the likelihood of aggressive behavior in children and adolescents, particularly in males. We are world leaders in availability of handguns and in handgun death. Homicide and suicide are respectively the second and third leading cause of death among adolescents, with guns playing a significant role in both.

Television is a very lucrative business, particularly in advertisements geared to children and adolescents, and sadly, the United States is one of few developed nations that does not require commercial television to also provide educational programming for young people.

Television may contribute to obesity; messages about sex imply that extramarital sex without birth control is fine and without consequence; beer and wine advertising subtly, and not so subtly, tell adolescents that life is more fun with alcohol, that people who drink are sexier. Sweden banned alcohol ads in about 1975 and saw a 20 percent decrease in per capita consumption.

We clearly have a lot to learn in the United States about the effects of the media on our children and what can be done about it.

There are about one billion school-aged children and adolescents worldwide. In developing countries about 80 percent of children now enroll in primary or elementary school (ages 6-14) and 60 percent complete at least four years of school. Thus the world's education systems influence millions of children in their formative years. The school years present the greatest opportunity for disseminating health knowledge, developing appropriate values and attitudes, and encouraging healthy behavior patterns. Since today's child is tomorrow's parent, it is essential that, before leaving school, the child should have basic knowledge about health – how to maintain health and prevent disease.

With education, we must also promote access to health care

Adolescents are the least medically served age group in the United States. One in seven adolescents is without any form of health insurance. Few health care providers have special training in adolescent health, and few health care institutions offer the kind of specialized services we know can benefit young people. When we consider the special populations of young people – those in correctional facilities, those who are homeless and living on the streets (and this is a worldwide problem, predominantly in major urban centers), those who are living in foster care or group homes – their access to appropriate health care is of greater concern. These children especially need comprehensive, integrated services, that can address in a consistent fashion over time, the myriad of health problems found among adolescents living in high risk situations.

We have made some advances. School-based health centers, offering comprehensive on site services, are growing; we now have over 600 such centers in the United States, and the number of states implementing these centers has grown from just 9 in 1991 to over 32 in 1993. Thanks to a combined effort of private foundation funding, state and local community resources, and funding from the federal government, school-based health centers that provide health care in a convenient, comfortable location have increased access to care for our nation's youth.

We have learned from the experiences of our public health system the importance of monitoring the health status of adolescents and of separating them out from children and adults, so that we can understand the extent of the problems they face and devise appropriate interventions. We have also learned about what works to assure adolescents' access to care. The Society for Adolescent Medicine in the United States has outlined several features which are essential to successfully enroll and treat adolescents. Health services must be:

Available – age appropriate services and trained health care providers must be present in all communities.

Visible – health services for adolescents must be recognizable, convenient, and not require complex arrangements to access.

Confidential – adolescents should be encouraged to involve families in care, but confidentiality must be assured.

Affordable – public and private insurance programs must provide adolescents with a full range of both preventive and curative services.

Flexible – health care for adolescents must consider the developmental, cultural, ethnic, and social diversity among adolescents.

Coordinated – services must be comprehensive and address physical and psychosocial health needs.

So we all have a great deal of work to do to reach out and help our young people; and we cannot do it alone, just within the health sector. We are finally realizing that we must collaborate with other systems which affect youth – with education, juvenile justice, mental health, social services, housing, religious institutions, recreation, and law enforcement – to truly bring the vast resources of this hemisphere where they should be, in service to our young.

Recommendations

With respect for our many different cultures, traditions, histories, and political systems, we have many common challenges, and many areas in which we can work together and learn from each other to improve the health of adolescents, and especially of young women.

We need to:

Broaden programs for adolescents, make them accessible, integrated, and developmentally and socially appropriate.

Use a multidisciplinary approach; we all need to work together.

Involve adolescents, and families when appropriate, in all stages of program development and implementation.

Educate staff – nurses, physicians, teachers, social workers, and all working with young people – to understand and know how to work with adolescents.

Recognize the significance of peer groups to adolescents and make use of peer teaching, counseling, and leadership.

Sensitize the larger community to the needs of adolescents.

Use popular culture, especially television, to reach adolescents, to give them positive, useful messages and to change the negative messages that they so frequently receive.

Recognize that confidentiality and privacy are important concerns of adolescents.

Above all, provide adolescents with the tools they need to be healthy, to successfully master developmental tasks, and to reach adulthood with the skills and outlook to not only survive, but thrive.

Conclusion

To motivate adolescents to think about and safeguard their future, they must first believe that there will be a future. In a world where violence is a constant companion, they cannot believe that there will be a future. Without access to skills development and education, they cannot believe that there will be a future. With no hope of financial security or independence, they cannot believe that there will be a future. To paraphrase Kenneth Shoen (from "We are not born equal" in *The Forgotten Child in Health Care*), "Changing the conditions that generate crime and hopelessness among our youth means changing the environments in which the young see graffiti before they see beauty, hear gunshots before they hear symphonies, and feel despair before they feel hope."

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Possible Side Events for the X Conference of Spouses in October

1. Panel Discussion: Vital Voices Follow-up

Possible theme: The contribution of women's (and girls') participation to democracy.

- Manuela Ramos (a Peruvian NGO) would lead the event (i.e. act as moderator for the panel) given their ability to convoke participation from the full political spectrum.
- could have a small panel of speakers that would comment on women's participation and its contribution to democracy followed by questions and comments from the audience made up of Vital Voices participates, as well as other women politicians, business leaders, women in media, etc.
- could include women from the provinces
- could include young, women leaders (Note: We could invite Ms. Keiko Sofia Fujimori as an exemplary young leader.)
- Press?

2. Site Visit: CEDRO's Open House for Street Girls (45 minutes away)

- visit a center in Lima for street girls and girls at high risk (ages 7 –17) operated by the Center for Education and Information on Drug Abuse Prevention (CEDRO)
- Ms. Clinton's representative would meet and talk with a small group of the older girls living at the house, meet and talk with program staff and tour of the house.
- CEDRO receives funding from USAID/Peru for this project and other projects in rural areas in Peru, particularly where coca is grown.
- **visited by White House staff member Ann O'Leary in June**

3. Site Visit: "Democratic Education and Student Participation in Public Schools"

- visit a public school in a urban, marginal area south of Lima (45 minutes away)
- Mrs. Clinton's representative will meet with a small group of students and teachers who will share their experiences as participants in this pilot project sponsored by two local NGOs: the Centro de Investigación y Desarrollo de la Educacion (CIDE) and the Asociación Educativa TAREA (TAREA)
- the main challenge the project faces is to change the authoritarian culture in Peruvian schools and promote student democratic skills for participation, team-work, conflict resolution, and consciousness-raising on gender equity
- **visited by White House staff member Ann O'Leary in June.**

4. Site Visit: Breakfast Meeting of the National Network for Girls' Education

- this is a breakfast meeting of donors and Peruvian counterparts working in the area of girls' education, which takes place in a different location every month in Lima
- the October Breakfast Meeting will be the first meeting after a national conference on girls' education that is planned for September. Therefore, Mrs. Clinton's representative would have a chance to hear about the issues raised at the national conference and perhaps make some short remarks to the group.
- This network grew directly out of the 1998 Worldwide Girls' Education Conference at which Mrs. Clinton was the keynote speaker in May, 1998.

- USAID could host this one if we are interested in pursuing this as a site visit.
 - Message: equality of Girls' in Peru
- 5. Site Visit: REPROSALUD Activity, Manuela Ramos (Peruvian NGO)**
- Peri-urban Lima (1 hour way)
 - this project is devoted to teaching poor, marginalized women about their human rights and their bodies, and provides health education
 - Mrs. Clinton's representative could participate in a small group discussion with women beneficiaries of this unique and successful project in health and democracy
 - Message: women's rights and participation
- 6. USAID Signing of PROMUJER Activity**
- for a grant from USAID/Peru for approximately \$300,000
 - Consortium of four Peruvian NGOs lead by Manuela Ramos (a Peruvian NGO)
 - Could be the launch of training activity or closing of training activity
 - Could take place at the Ambassador's Residence in conjunction with the Vital Voices follow-up panel discussion that is planned or, could be done at the First Ladies' Conference in side room
 - First Ladies as audience (if it occurs at the conference)
 - Press
 - Message: Promotion of the contribution of women's participation to democracy
- 7. USAID Signing of Girls' Education Activity**
- for a grant from USAID/Peru for approximately \$500,000 for teacher training in gender equity
 - Presidential funds in fulfillment of the Santiago Summit Initiative on Education
 - USAID/Peru, UNICEF and the Ministry of Education as signatories
 - Could take place at the First Ladies' conference in a side room
 - First Ladies as audience to witness the signing
 - Press
 - Message: importance of equality of girls in Peru

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Schedule for Ms. Ann O'Leary

Head of Delegation for the Technical Preparatory Meeting for the X Annual Conference of Spouses
June 26 - 29, 2000 - Lima, Peru

Monday - June 26th

4:00AM	- Arrive in Lima	
5:00AM	- Arrive at Hotel El Olivar	
5:00AM - 8:15AM	- Rest	
8:15AM - 8:45AM	- Review of Schedule with Madeline Williams	
8:45AM - 9:00AM	- Registration and Accreditation for the Conference	
9:00AM	- Inauguration of the Technical Preparatory Meeting	
9:30AM - 1:00PM	- Conference	10:45 on Ambassador Hamilton
1:00PM - 2:45PM	- Lunch sponsored by the conference	
2:45PM	- Depart for Embassy	
3:30PM	- Meeting with Ambassador Hamilton	
4:30PM	- Depart Embassy for Conference	
5:15PM	- Arrive at El Olivar	
7:30PM	- Depart with other conference attendees for reception/dinner at the National Museum of Anthropology, Archeology and History	

Tuesday - June 27th

8:45AM - 12:00PM	- Conference
12:00PM - 1:30PM	- Conference Lunch at the Hotel El Olivar
1:30PM	- Depart for Site Visit
2:15PM - 2:45PM	- Site Visit to CEDRO (Central Lima)
3:15PM - 5:00PM	- Conference
Dinner	- Hosted by Conference - "Puerta Cerrada" in Barranco

Wednesday - June 28th

9:00AM - 12:45PM	- Conference
12:45PM	- Depart for Lunch
1:00PM - 2:00PM	- Option 1 - No Host Lunch with Ambassador, USG Delegation, Tom Geiger (USAID Director) and Doug Barnes (PAS) - Option 2 - Conference lunch at the Hotel El Olivar
2:45PM - 3:30PM	- Site Visit to CIDE/TAREA (Lima - southern cone)
4:15PM	- Arrive at Hotel El Olivar
4:15PM - 5:15PM	- Delegation Wrap-Up Meeting
5:15PM - 6:00PM	- Rest and Prepare for Departure
6:00PM - 8:30PM	- Tour of Lima and Barranco at night organized by conference host.
Dinner	- Option 1 - Conference dinner and show at Costa Verde (Note: Ann could attend the tour and a portion of the dinner.) - Option 2 - Hosted dinner prior to late night departure (Note: This would require that Ms. O'Leary leave the group before the end of the tour.)
9:00PM	- Depart for Airport (Checking for last possible moment.)

(Post-O'Leary Departure)

Thursday - June 29th

9:00AM - 12:15PM	- Conference will be covered by remaining USG delegation members
12:15PM - 1:30PM	- Closing Ceremony
1:30PM - 3:30PM	- Lunch at the Swissotel (site for the X Conference of Spouses)
3:30PM - 4:45PM	- October Conference Logistics
7:00PM	- Transportation to Torre Tagle
7:30PM - 9:30PM	- Closing Reception at Torre Tagle Palace

November 2, 2000

Ms. Ann M. O'Leary
Senior Advisor to the First Lady
The White House
U.S.A.

Dear Ms. O'Leary:

It is my pleasure to greet you and inform you that attached are the handbook, preliminary program and the accreditation forms for the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas to be held in Lima on December 5 to 7, 2000.

The participants of the Tenth Conference must fill out the forms individually and send a copy of same via fax to the Oficina de Coordinación (51-1) 426-2624 by November 15:

- Accreditation Form - Head of the Delegation
- Medical Form - Head of the Delegation (Confidential)
- Air Transportation Form - Head of the Delegation
- Technical Requirements Form - Head of the Delegation
- Accreditation and Hotel Accommodation Form - Official Delegation
- Accreditation, hotel accommodation and radio frequency forms - Security Staff
- Accreditation, hotel accommodation and customs clearance of equipment - Official Press
- List of the Official Delegation

In order to make the credentials the original forms with the respective photographs (1) must be sent to:

Mrs. Mona Alberti
Despacho de la Primera Dama
Palacio de Gobierno Ala Este
Jr. Pescadería s/n Lima 1, Peru

If any participant has already sent the photograph in the previous summons, please ignore this requirement.

If you need more information about the Conference accreditation process, kindly contact Mrs. Alberti at telephone number (51-1) 427-7777 or via email to acreditaciones@conectiva.com.pe

Thanking you for your prompt reply, I remain

Sincerely,

Iván Takahashi Bancovitch
General Deputy Coordinator

Enclosures

Ent -
Pls. hold on
to these forms in
case Melanne
decides that we need
to go to Peru.
- Ann



**Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and of
Government of the Americas**

Draft Program

Lima, Peru
December 5 - 7, 2000

Monday, December 4

All day Arrival of Official Delegations

Place : - "Jorge Chávez" International Airport
 - Group Eight Air Force Base

Transportation to hotels

Tuesday, December 5

All day Arrival of Official Delegations

Place : - "Jorge Chávez" International Airport
 - Group Eight Air Force Base

Transportation to hotels

**17:45 p.m. Departure of Official Delegations from hotels for the
Museo de la Nación (National Museum)**

**18:00 p.m. Departure of the First Ladies from hotels for the Museo de
la Nación (National Museum)**

18:15 p.m. Arrival of the First Ladies at the National Museum

**18:30 p.m. Opening Ceremony of the Tenth Conference of Spouses of
Heads of State and of Government of the Americas**

Place: National Museum
 Main Auditorium

19:30 p.m. Reception and Cultural Exhibition

Place: National Museum
 "Sicán" Room

Dress : Dark suit
 Ladies short evening wear

20:30 p.m. Transportation to hotels

Wednesday, December 6

9:00 a.m. First Session of the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and of Government of the Americas

Place: Swissôtel
"Paracas" Room

- Screening of the video "Hermano Perú" (Peru, My Friend and Neighbor)

- Introduction by the First Lady of Peru, Miss Keiko Sofía Fujimori Higuchi, President of the Tenth Conference

- Screening of the video "Foro de Adolescentes de las Américas: La voz de un nuevo mundo". ("Forum of Adolescents of the Americas. The voice of a new world")

- Follow-up Report on the Ninth Conference by the General Coordinator of the Tenth Conference, Ambassador Beatriz Ramacciotti.

10:10 a.m. General Presentation on the Situation of Adolescents in the Americas

Place : Swissôtel
"Paracas" Room

10:50 a.m. Coffee Break

11:00 a.m. Presentations by the Heads of Delegation

Place : Swissôtel
"Paracas" Room

12:30 noon Private Luncheon hosted by the First Lady of Peru, Miss Keiko Sofía Higuchi Fujimori, for the Heads of Official Delegations

Place : Swissôtel
"Nazca" Room

14:30 p.m. Second Session of the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and of Government of the Americas

Place : Swissôtel
"Paracas" Room

Presentations by the Heads of Delegation

15:30 p.m. Coffee Break

15:45 p.m. Presentations by the Heads of Delegation

Place : Swissôtel
 "Paracas" Room

16:45 p.m. End of the working day

18:40 p.m. Departure of the Official Delegations from hotels for the Museo de Arte Hispanoamericano Pedro de Osma (Pedro de Osma Latin American Art Museum)

19:35 p.m. Departure of the First Ladies from hotels for the Museo de Arte Hispanoamericano Pedro de Osma (Pedro de Osma Latin American Art Museum)

19:55 p.m. Arrival of the First Ladies at the Pedro de Osma Latin American Art Museum

20:00 p.m. Dinner hosted by the First Lady of Peru, Miss Keiko Sofía Fujimori Higuchi, in honor of the Heads and members of the Official Delegations participating in the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and of Government of the Americas

Place : Pedro de Osma Art Museum
 Av. Pedro de Osma 423, Barranco

Dress : Dark suit
 Ladies short evening wear

22:30 p.m. Transportation to hotels

Thursday, December 7

9:00 a.m. Third Session of the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and of Government of the Americas

Place : Swissôtel
 "Paracas" Room

10:30 a.m. Coffee Break

10:45 a.m. Presentations by the Heads of Delegation

Place : Swissôtel
 "Paracas" Room

13:00 p.m. Private Luncheon hosted by the First Lady of Peru, Miss Keiko Sofía Higuchi Fujimori, for the Heads of Official Delegations

Place : Swissôtel
 " Nazca" Room

15:00 p.m. Fourth Session of the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and of Government of the Americas

Place : Swissôtel
"Paracas" Room

Presentations by the Heads of Delegation

16:30 p.m. Coffee Break

16:45 p.m. Evaluation of the progress made in regard to the "Andean Network on Policies and Programs for Adolescents"

Place: Swissôtel
"Paracas" Room

**17:00 p.m. Approval of the Plan of Action
(Private Session)**

Place: Swissôtel
"Paracas" Room

17:30 p.m. End of the working day

19:00 p.m. Departure from hotels for the Government Palace

19:20 p.m. Arrival at the Government Palace

19:30 p.m. Closing Ceremony of the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and of Government of the Americas

Place: Government Palace
Salón Dorado (Golden Hall)

Closing Statement by the First Lady of Peru, Miss Keiko Sofia Fujimori Higuchi, President of the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas

20:30 p.m. Closing Reception

Place : Government Palace
Grand Dining Room

Dress: Dark suits
Ladies short evening wear

21:30 p.m. Transportation to hotels

All night Departure of the Official Delegations

Place : - "Jorge Chávez" International Airport
- Group Eight Air Force Base

Friday, December 8

All day

Departure of Official Delegations

Place: - "Jorge Chávez" International Airport
- Group Eight Air Force Base

Head of Delegation

Accreditation Form



PERU 2000

Country _____

Last Name _____

Name _____

Date of Birth _____ Nationality _____
(MM/DD/YY)

Place of Birth _____
(City, Province/State, Country)

Passport Number _____ Country of Issue _____

Address _____
(Street name/number, City, Postal Code, Province/State)

Telephone _____ Fax _____
(Country Code/City Code/Number) (Country Code/City Code/Number)

E-mail _____

Language of preference (Mark one) ☐ Spanish ☐ English

Preferences regarding hotel accommodation _____

☐ Smoking ☐ Non Smoking

Special requirements _____

Contact Person _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____
(Country Code/City Code/Number) (Country Code/City Code/Number)

E-mail _____

Forms must be returned via Fax before November 15, 2000

Office of the First Lady
Contact Ms. Mona Alberti
Palacio de Gobierno, Ala Este.
Jr. Pescadería s/n Lima 1, Perú
Phone: (51-1) 427-7777 Fax: (51-1) 426-2624
e-mail: acreditaciones@conectiva.com.pe
www.xconferenciaamericas.org.pe

HEAD OF DELEGATION

Medical Form (Confidential)



Country _____

Last Name _____

Name _____

Date of Birth _____ Blood Type and RH Factor _____
(MM/DD/YY)

Height cms
 ft

Weight kgs
 lbs

ILLNESS	YES	NO	TREATMENT
Allergies (Type)			
Diabetes Mellitus (Type)			
Heart disorders			
Pulmonary diseases			
Kidney diseases			
Hypertension			
Surgery			
Pregnant (Number of weeks)			
Other			
SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS	YES	NO	
Food Allergies (Specify)			
Vegetarian			
Low Fat / Low Salt (Specify)			
Other			
VACCINES (Date administered)	YES	NO	
Hepatitis			
Thyphoid			
Other (Specify)			
Accompanied by personal doctor (Name)			

Forms must be returned via Fax before November 15, 2000

Office of the First Lady
Contact: Ms. Mona Alberti
Palacio de Gobierno. Ala Este.
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e-mail: acreditaciones@conectiva.com.pe
www.xconferenciaamericas.org.pe

HEAD OF DELEGATION

Air Transportation Form



PERU 2000

Country _____ Passport Number _____

Last Name _____

Name _____

COMMERCIAL AIRLINE

Arrival _____ MM / DD Hour _____ Departure _____ MM / DD Hour _____

From _____ Destination _____

Carrier and Flight Number _____ Carrier and Flight Number _____

PRIVATE MILITARY OR CIVIL AIRCRAFT

Aircraft Type _____ Licence _____

Company _____

Arrival _____ MM / DD Hour _____ Departure _____ MM / DD Hour _____

From _____ Destination _____

Flight Number _____ Flight Number _____

Company that will provide on ground support services to the aircraft _____

CREW

Name _____ Rank _____ Duties/Position _____

Name _____ Rank _____ Duties/Position _____

Name _____ Rank _____ Duties/Position _____

DELEGATES TRAVELLING WITH HEAD OF DELEGATION

1	6
2	7
3	8
4	9
5	10

Forms must be returned via Fax before November 15, 2000

Office of the First Lady
Contact: Ms. Mona Alberti
Palacio de Gobierno, Ala Este.
Jr. Pescadería s/n Lima 1, Perú
Phone: (51-1) 427-7777 Fax: (51-1) 426-2624
e-mail: acreditaciones@conectiva.com.pe
www.xconferenciaamericas.org.pe

Quantity

- ☐ Overhead Transparencies projector _____
- ☐ Slide projector _____
- ☐ Screen _____
- ☐ Multimedia projector _____
- ☐ VCR ☐ NTSC System ☐ PAL System _____
- ☐ Others (Specify) _____

☐ Microsoft Word ☐ Microsoft Power Point ☐ Word Perfect – Corel 8

☐ Windows 95 / 98 ☐ Others (Specify) _____

E- mail _____

1 E

Photograph

(Please print name on
back of photograph)

(4 cms wide x 5 cms height)

OFFICIAL DELEGATION

Accreditation Form



PERU 2000

(Please complete one form for each member of the Delegation)

Country _____

Last Name _____ Name _____

Office _____ Position _____

Rank Order Number in Delegation _____

Date of Birth _____ Nationality _____
(MM/DD/YY)

Place of Birth _____
(City, Province/State, Country)

Passport Number _____ Country of Issue _____

Address _____
(Street name/number, City, Postal Code, Province/State)

Telephone _____ Fax _____
(Country Code/City Code/Number) (Country Code/City Code/Number)

E-mail _____

Language of preference (Mark one) ☐ Spanish ☐ English

Name as you wish it to appear on badge _____

Forms must be returned via Fax before November 15, 2000

Office of the First Lady
Contact: Ms. Mona Alberti
Palacio de Gobierno, Ala Este.
Jr. Pescaderia s/n Lima 1, Perú
Phone: (51-1) 427-7777 Fax: (51-1) 426-2624
e-mail: acreditaciones@conectiva.com.pe
www.xconferenciaamericas.org.pe



PERU 2000

OFFICIAL DELEGATION

Accommodation Form

(Please complete one form for each member of the Delegation)

Country _____ Passport Number _____

Last Name _____

Name _____

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Arrival _____ Departure _____

DD / MM

Hour

DD / MM

Hour

From _____ Destination _____

Carrier and Flight Number _____ Carrier and Flight Number _____

Private Aircraft _____ Private Aircraft _____

* ACCOMMODATION

Site Hotel

- **Swissôtel Lima**

☐ Advantage double US\$ 175

☐ Deluxe double US\$ 202

Other Hotels

- **Sonesta Lima, Hotel El Olivar**

☐ Standard single or double US\$ 115

- **Country Club Lima Hotel**

☐ Master suite US\$ 154

☐ Gran Clase US\$ 154

- **Hotel Posada del Inca**

☐ Standard double US\$ 90

HOTEL SELECTION

(Indicate 2 options in order of preference)

Hotel 1 _____

Hotel 2 _____

Number of nights _____ From _____ To _____

Will share room with _____

☐ Smoking ☐ Non Smoking

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS

Food Allergies _____

Vegetarian _____

Low Fat / Low Salt _____

Other Requests _____

CREDIT CARD

☐ Visa ☐ Master Card ☐ American Express

Holder Name _____

Number _____

Expiration Date _____

DD / MM / YY

* Note:

The Organizing Committee will take care of the accommodation of the Head of Delegation and 2 Delegates, at the Swissôtel, where there is space limit. Additional rooms will be paid by the delegations. Rooms have been booked in different hotels until November 15, after this date hotel reservations shall be confirmed according to hotel occupancy. Reservations are based on a maximum of 8 rooms per delegation. If you need additional rooms please let us know before November 15.

Forms must be returned via Fax before November 15, 2000

Office of the First Lady
Contact: Ms. Mona Alberti
Palacio de Gobierno. Ala Este.
Jr Pescaderia s/n Lima 1, Perú
Phone: (51-1) 427-7777 Fax: (51-1) 426-2624
e-mail: acreditaciones@conectiva.com.pe
www.xconferenciaamericas.org.pe

Photograph

(Please print name on
back of photograph)

(4 cms wide x 5 cms height)

HEAD OF DELEGATION SECURITY PERSONNEL

Accreditation Form



(Please complete one form for each member of security personnel)

Country _____

Last Name _____

Name _____

Date of Birth _____ Nationality _____
(MM/DD/YY)

Place of Birth _____
(City, Province/State, Country)

Passport Number _____ Country of Issue _____

Address _____
(Street name/number, City, Postal Code, Province/State)

Telephone _____ Fax _____
(Country Code/City Code/Number) (Country Code/City Code/Number)

E-mail _____

Language of preference (Mark one) ☐ Spanish ☐ English

Type of weapon _____ Brand _____

Caliber _____ Serial number _____

Cartridge quantity _____ Total of ammunition _____

Name as you wish it to appear on badge _____

Forms must be returned via Fax before November 15, 2000

Office of the First Lady
Contact: Ms. Mona Alberti
Palacio de Gobierno. Ala Este.
Jr. Pescaderia s/n Lima 1, Peru
Phone: (51-1) 427-7777 Fax: (51-1) 426-2624
e-mail: acreditaciones@conectiva.com.pe
www.xconferenciaamericas.org.pe

HEAD OF DELEGATION SECURITY PERSONNEL

Accommodation Form



(Please complete one form for each member of the Delegation)

Country _____ Passport Number _____
 Last Name _____
 Name _____

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Arrival _____ DD / MM _____ Hour _____ Departure _____ DD / MM _____ Hour _____
 From _____ Destination _____
 Carrier and Flight Number _____ Carrier and Flight Number _____
 Private Aircraft _____ Private Aircraft _____

* ACCOMMODATION

Site Hotel

- **Swissôtel Lima**
- ☐ Advantage double US\$ 175
- ☐ Deluxe double US\$ 202

Other Hotels

- **Sonesta Lima, Hotel El Olivar**
- ☐ Standard single or double US\$ 115
- **Country Club Lima Hotel**
- ☐ Master suite US\$ 154
- ☐ Gran Clase US\$ 154
- **Hotel Posada del Inca**
- ☐ Standard double US\$ 90

HOTEL SELECTION

(Indicate 2 options in order of preference)

Hotel 1 _____
 Hotel 2 _____
 Number of nights _____ From _____ To _____

Will share room with _____

☐ Smoking ☐ Non Smoking

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS

Food Allergies _____

Vegetarian _____

Low Fat / Low Salt _____

Other Requests _____

CREDIT CARD

☐ Visa ☐ Master Card ☐ American Express

Holder Name _____

Number _____

Expiration Date _____
 DD / MM / YY

* Note:

The Organizing Committee will take care of the accommodation of the Head of Delegation and 2 Delegates, at the Swissôtel, where there is space limit. Additional rooms will be paid by the delegations. Rooms have been booked in different hotels until November 15, after this date hotel reservations shall be confirmed according to hotel occupancy. Reservations are based on a maximum of 8 rooms per delegation. If you need additional rooms please let us know before November 15.

Forms must be returned via Fax before November 15, 2000

Office of the First Lady
 Contact: Ms. Mona Alberti
 Palacio de Gobierno. Ala Este.
 Jr. Pescadería s/n Lima 1, Perú
 Phone: (51-1) 427-7777 Fax: (51-1) 426-2624
 e-mail: acreditaciones@conectiva.com.pe
www.xconferenciaamericas.org.pe

HEAD OF DELEGATION SECURITY PERSONNEL

Radio Frequency Form



Country _____

PERSON IN CHARGE

Last Name _____ Name _____

Position _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____

Signature _____

Radio Communications that will be used by delegation

Type of Equipment
Operates with Booster ☐ YES ☐ NO
Power _____ Place where frequency is required _____
Operation Frequency
Number of Portable Radios
Utilization Period
Operation Area
Others

Forms must be returned via Fax before November 15, 2000

Office of the First Lady
Contact: Ms. Mona Alberti
Palacio de Gobierno. Ala Este.
Jr. Pescaderia s/n Lima 1, Perú
Phone: (51-1) 427-7777 Fax: (51-1) 426-2624
e-mail: acreditaciones@conectiva.com.pe
www.xconferenciaamericas.org.pe

Photograph

(Please print name on
back of photograph)

(4 cms wide x 5 cms height)

OFFICIAL MEDIA Accreditation Form



PERU 2000

(Please complete one form for each member of the media)

Country _____

Last Name _____

Name _____

Date of Birth _____ Nationality _____
(MM/DD/YY)

Place of Birth _____
(City, Province/State, Country)

Passport Number _____ Country of Issue _____

Address _____
(Street name/number, City, Postal Code, Province/State)

Telephone _____ Fax _____
(Country Code/City Code/Number) (Country Code/City Code/Number)

E-mail _____

Language of preference (Mark one) ☐ Spanish ☐ English

Name as you wish it to appear on badge _____

Name of media _____

PRESS TEAM ☐ Journalist ☐ Camera Operator ☐ Photographer

Other (Specify) _____

Forms must be returned via Fax before November 15, 2000

Office of the First Lady
Contact: Ms. Mona Alberti
Palacio de Gobierno, Ala Este.
Jr. Pescaderia s/n Lima 1, Perú
Phone: (51-1) 427-7777 Fax: (51-1) 426-2624
e-mail: acreditaciones@conectiva.com.pe
www.xconferenciaamericas.org.pe



PERU 2000

OFFICIAL MEDIA

Accommodation Form

(Please complete one form for each member of the media)

Country _____ Passport Number _____

Last Name _____

Name _____

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Arrival _____ DD / MM _____ Hour _____ Departure _____ DD / MM _____ Hour _____

From _____ Destination _____

Carrier and Flight Number _____ Carrier and Flight Number _____

Private Aircraft _____ Private Aircraft _____

* ACCOMMODATION

Site Hotel

- **Swissôtel Lima**
- ☐ Advantage double US\$ 175
- ☐ Deluxe double US\$ 202

Other Hotels

- **Sonesta Lima, Hotel El Olivar**
- ☐ Standard single or double US\$ 115
- **Country Club Lima Hotel**
- ☐ Master suite US\$ 154
- ☐ Gran Clase US\$ 154
- **Hotel Posada del Inca**
- ☐ Standard double US\$ 90

HOTEL SELECTION

(Indicate 2 options in order of preference)

Hotel 1 _____

Hotel 2 _____

Number of nights _____ From _____ To _____

Will share room with _____

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS

Food Allergies _____

Vegetarian _____

Low Fat / Low Salt _____

Other Requests _____

CREDIT CARD

☐ Visa ☐ Master Card ☐ American Express

Holder Name _____

Number _____

Expiration Date _____

DD / MM / YY

☐ Smoking ☐ Non Smoking

TRANSFERS

Airport - Hotel

☐ Yes ☐ No

* Note:

If you wish to have hotel arrangements please fill out this form.

Rooms have been booked in different hotels until November 15, after this date they shall be confirmed according to hotel occupancy.

Forms must be returned via Fax before November 15, 2000

Office of the First Lady
Contact: Ms. Mona Alberti
Palacio de Gobierno. Ala Este.
Jr. Pescaderia s/n Lima 1, Perú
Phone: (51-1) 427-7777 Fax: (51-1) 426-2624
e-mail: acreditaciones@conectiva.com.pe
www.xconferenciaamericas.org.pe

OFICIAL MEDIA

Customs Clearence for Film Equipment and Supplies



PERU 2000

Country _____

Last Name _____ Name _____

ITEM	MODEL	SERIAL NUMBER	VALUE US\$
TOTAL VALUE US\$			

Forms must be returned via Fax before November 15, 2000

Office of the First Lady
Contact: Ms. Mona Alberti
Palacio de Gobierno. Ala Este.
Jr. Pescaderia s/n Lima 1, Perú
Phone: (51-1) 427-7777 Fax: (51-1) 426-2624
e-mail. acreditaciones@conectiva.com.pe
www.xconferenciaamericas.org.pe

OFFICIAL DELEGATION LIST



PERU 2000

(Please fill out the information for each member)

Country _____

DELEGATE NAME	HOTEL	ACCOMMODATION PAID BY ORGANIZING COMMITTEE
1		Swissôtel Lima
2		Swissôtel Lima
3		Swissôtel Lima
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		

Forms must be returned via Fax before November 15, 2000

Office of the First Lady
Contact: Ms. Mona Alberti
Palacio de Gobierno. Ala Este.
Jr. Pescadería s/n Lima 1, Perú
Phone: (51-1) 427-7777 Fax: (51-1) 426-2624
e-mail: acreditaciones@conectiva.com.pe
www.xconferenciaamericas.org.pe

Kw:Pen
URGENT

U.S. Agency for
International Development

**UNCLASSIFIED
FAX MESSAGE COVER SHEET**

TO: Ann O'Leary
Office of the first Lady

DATE: September 01, 2000

CITY AND COUNTRY: Washington
USA

FAX No. (202) 456-2878

FROM: Madeline Williams *[Signature]*
ODI

CHARGED TO: OE

SUBJECT: Project

No. of Pages: 5 (including Cover Sheet)

Message/comments:

Attached please find the draft program for the First Ladies' Conference.

Regards.

**TENTH CONFERENCE OF SPOUSES OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT
OF THE AMERICAS**

Preliminary Program

Tuesday, October 3

During the day Arrival of Official Delegations

Place: - "Jorge Chavez" International Airport

Transportation to hotel

Wednesday, October 4

During the day Arrival of Official Delegations

Place: - "Jorge Chavez" International Airport

Transportation to hotel

17:45 Depart hotel to the National Museum

18:15 Arrive at the National Museum

18:30 Opening Ceremony of the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads
of State and Government of the Americas

Place: National Museum
 Main Conference Room

Welcome, Eng. Alberto Fujimori, President of Peru

Ms. Keiko Sofia Fujimori Higuchi, First Lady, President of the Tenth
Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas

19:30 Reception

Place: National Museum
 "Sican" Conference Room

Dress: Dark suit
 Cocktail

20:30 Transportation to hotel

Thursday, October 5

9:00 First Session of the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas

Place: Swissotel
"Paracas" Conference Room

- Presentation of "Hermano Peru" videotape
- Introduction, Ms. Keiko Sofia Fujimori Higuchi, First Lady
- Presentation of videotape "Adolescents of the Americas Forum: The Voice of the New World."
- Report on the follow-up of the Ninth Conference, Ambassador Beatriz Ramacciotti, General Coordinator of the Tenth Conference.

10:10 Presentation of the Situation of Adolescents of the Americas, Mr. Carlos Eduardo Aramburu, President of the Board of Director of "Redess Jovenes"

Place: Swissotel
"Paracas" Conference Room

10:40 Coffee Break

11:00 Presentations by the Heads of Delegation

Place: Swissotel
"Paracas" Conference Room

12:30 Private lunch offered by First Lady, Ms. Keiko Sofia Fujimori Higuchi for the Heads of Official Delegations

Place: Swissotel
"Nazca" Conference Room

14:30 Second session of the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas

Place: Swissotel
"Paracas" Conference Room

Presentations by the Heads of Delegation

15:30 Coffee Break

15:45 Presentations by the Heads of Delegation

Place: Swissotel
"Paracas" Conference Room

16:45 End of work day

18:45 Depart hotel for "Pedro de Osma" Hispano-American Art Museum

19:15 Arrival "Pedro de Osma" Museum

20:00 Dinner offered by First Lady, Keiko Sofia Fujimori Higuchi, in the honor of all delegations Heads and members of Official Delegations of the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas

Place: "Pedro de Osma" Hispano-American Art Museum
423 Pedro de Osma Avenue, Barranco

Dress: Dark suit
Cocktail

22:30 Transportation to hotel

Friday, October 6

9:00 Third session of the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas

Place: Swissotel
"Paracas" Conference Room

10:30 Coffee Break

10:45 Presentations by Heads of Delegation

Place: Swissotel
"Paracas" Conference Room

13:00 Private lunch offered by First Lady, Keiko Sofia Fujimori Higuchi, for the Heads of the Official Delegations

Place: Swissotel
"Nazca" Conference Room

- 15:00 Third session of the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas
- Place: Swissotel
"Paracas" Conference Room
- Presentations by First Ladies
- 16:30 Coffee Break
- 16:45 Evaluation of advances made in relation to the "Andean Network on Politics and Programs for Adolescents"
- Place: Swissotel
"Paracas" Conference Room
- 17:00 Approval of Action Plan
(Private Session)
- Place: Swissotel
"Paracas" Conference Room
- 17:30 End of work day
- 19:00 Depart hotel to the Government Palace
- 19:20 Arrival at Government Palace
- 19:30 Closing Ceremony of the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas
- Place: Government Palace
Golden Salon
- 20:30 Closing Reception
- Place: Government Palace
Grand Dining Room
- Dress: Dark suit
Cocktail
- 21:30 Transportation to hotel

Saturday, October 7

During the day Departure of Official Delegations

Place: "Jorge Chavez" International Airport



Ana Peña <apena@tsi.com.pe>
07/20/2000 07:34:23 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc:

Subject: Follow-Up of the Technical Meeting

Lima, July 20, 2000

Dear colleagues:

On behalf of the First Lady of Peru, Miss. Keiko Sofia Fujimori Higuchi, it is my pleasure to refer to the Preliminary Technical Meeting of the X Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas and to the Forum of Adolescents of the Americas, held on June 26-29, 2000 in Lima, Peru.

First, I would like to express our sincere gratitude for your country's valuable participation in the two events indicated above, which made the success obtained possible, as well as for your important contributions which enriched the contents of the final documents to be adopted by our First Ladies, next October, and of the Statement of the Forum of Adolescents of the Americas, which I attach hereto.

In accordance with the agreements adopted at the last meeting, July 30 was established as the peremptory term for the countries failing to submit their follow-up report on the commitments assumed in the IX Conference, as well as for those that wish to make any amendment to the report submitted during the Technical Meeting. I hereby attach an updated table on the Follow-up Reports. We would, therefore, appreciate you furnishing us with said information within the established term through e-mail.

In addition, this term of July 30 was established to receive the comments, recommendations or proposals for additional paragraphs to the Lima Declaration on Adolescents, as well as the proposals on the most convenient way in which to approach the projects contained in the Plan of Action, taking into account the alternatives suggested during the technical meeting.

First option: To endorse only the projects presented at the Technical Meeting, with funds available.

Second option: To endorse the projects presented in the Technical Meeting, which are related to specific issues and with funds available.

Third option: To endorse all the projects presented at the Technical Meeting following the procedure developed in previous Conferences.

Utika

file: Peru
apena@tsi.com.pe
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I hereby attach the projects of the Lima Declaration and Plan of Action and the lists of participants of both events.

On the other hand, we would appreciate your letting us know, as soon as possible, which one of the 4 sub-themes of the X Conference will be selected by the First Lady of your country for her presentation, in order to prepare a list of speakers at the X Conference. It should be recalled that the 4 sub-themes of the X Conference are: Health of Adolescents, Education and Training for the Employment of Adolescents, Social Behavior of Adolescents, and Rights and Civic Participation of Adolescents.

Finally, I would like to mention that a web site has been created for the X Conference, the address of which is as follows: www.xconferenciaamericas.org.pe where you may find all the information regarding the Technical Meeting and the Forum of Adolescents of the Americas.

I thank you once again for your participation during the Technical Meeting and the Forum of Adolescents.

Sincerely yours,

Ana Peña Doig

Coordinator of the X Conference

Annexes: Six (6)

Lima Declaration

Plan of Action

Updated Table of the Follow-up Report

Statement of the Forum of Adolescents

List of Participants in the Technical Meeting

List of Participants in the Forum of Adolescents



- att1.htm



- Cuadro informe seguimiento (inglés).doc



- Declaración de Lima (inglés) Revisada 20.7.00.doc



- Lista participantes Foro de Adolescentes.doc



- Lista participantes reunión técnica.doc



- Pronunciamiento Foro Adolescentes (inglés).doc



- Plan de Accion (inglés) 20.7.00.doc

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Countries that have presented their follow-up reports:

Countries	Date of receipt
Peru	May 3
Honduras	May 5 and 24
Haiti	May 8
Ecuador	May 8
Colombia	May 15
Belize	May 17 and 26
Panama	May 19 and 23
Uruguay	May 19
Costa Rica	May 19
El Salvador	May 22
Paraguay	May 22 and June 7
Cuba	May 23
Dominican Republic	May 26
Saint Lucia	June 5
Bolivia	June 7
Nicaragua	June 8
Canada	June 9
Chile	June 13
Mexico	June 14
Argentina	June 16
Venezuela	June 19
Trinidad y Tobago	June 26
Guatemala	26 de junio

12 countries who have not yet presented their follow-up report :

Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Brazil, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts y Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Granadines, Suriname and United States.

It has been requested the completed presentation of the Report.
We are lacking of enough information to elaborate the Report.

awareness of the experiences, capabilities and learning of Governments, of adolescents themselves and of the different organizations in civil society. Suggestions gathered by the Secretariat on the basis of a proposal of the Andean countries)-

6.- A Forum of Adolescents of the Americas has been held on June 26 to 29 in the City of Lima, Peru with the participation of 29 countries of the Region, in which the need for the integral treatment of the issue of the adolescent is ratified for the strengthening of their life plan and participation in society. New paragraph proposed by the Secretariat based on a proposal made by the Andean countries.

7.- We reaffirm the commitments adopted ^{by the respective countries} under international treaties, agreements and conferences, such as the Convention on the Rights of the Child (New York, 1989), the World Summit for Children (New York, 1990), the International Conference on Population and Development (Cairo, 1994), the World Summit for Social Development (Copenhagen, 1995), the Fourth Conference on Women (Beijing, 1995), El Cairo +5 (New York, 1999), Beijing +5 (New York, 2000), Copenhagen +5 (Geneva, 2000) Regional Program of Action for the Development of Youth in Latin America (PRADJAL), and the United Nations World Program of Action for Youth for 2000, adopted by the UN General Assembly and whose implementation was agreed in the Declaration of Lisbon on Youth Policies and Programs (1998), which recognize the rights, potential, and needs of adolescents.

RECOGNIZING

8.- The progress made in extending secondary education coverage, quality, and access for marginalized segments of society, we are aware, nonetheless, that it is essential that we also pay attention to the continuing problem of school dropout and grade repetition rates, and the need for adolescents to receive both an education to strengthen their integral development, and technical training.

9.- The insufficient access of adolescents to adequate health services that take account of their needs, particularly in the areas of guidance, education, information in sexual and reproductive health care, as well in adolescent pregnancies, in HIV/AIDS and in sexually transmitted infections.

10.- The negative impact of violence in all its forms and the influence of the mass media on the development and well-being of adolescents.

11.- The need to devote special attention to the rights of adolescents with disabilities.

12.- The status of adolescents as persons with rights and duties and the lack of opportunities for their progressive participation as citizens.

We decide, therefore,

Page

**STATEMENT OF THE FORUM OF
ADOLESCENTS OF THE AMERICAS**

June 29, 2000

Lima, Peru

STATEMENT OF THE FORUM OF ADOLESCENTS OF THE AMERICAS

In the face of the different problems experienced by our countries, we, the American adolescents, hereby wish to make a statement. We, therefore, participate in the Forum of Adolescents of the Americas, currently being held in the City of Lima, Peru, from June 26 to 29, 2000, with the participation of 26 countries of America represented by delegates of each nation.

The Forum was aimed at seeking solutions and answers to the problems and concerns expressed by each participant on the basis of personal experiences, through a participative methodology based on discussions and debates.

Adolescents are especially interested in contributing towards the transformation of America; they want an America with more justice, where they may have a greater participation and play a more significant role. To this effect, during the Forum, a more direct approach was promoted amongst all the adolescents for the discussion of areas of interest and subjects such as identity, adolescent life plan, leadership, social networks and the right to participate.

The following points are the result of the systematic work undertaken, in which a set of ideas and opinions of adolescents, the voice of the new world, have been compiled.

We hope that the authorities will take into account and listen to the reflections we present today. We are convinced that our continent may achieve a greater level of development, through a process of change motivated by the initiative and contributions of adolescents.

Our commitment is transparent and with all our heart we want to state that we need to build a continent that is worthy and dignified for all the adolescent population of the Americas.

"Tomorrow must be today, let us join forces now"

IDENTITY PROFILE OF THE ADOLESCENT OF THE AMERICAS

Adolescents are certain that it would be impossible to develop and know the Americas if we do not previously know ourselves, if we do not previously establish a clear identity, something that will identify us all as a whole.

We require a true identity, equal to all and, for this and other reasons, we have prepared the following proposals:

PROPOSALS OF ADOLESCENTS ON THE IDENTITY OF THE ADOLESCENT OF THE AMERICAS

1. We adolescents propose that the international day of the adolescent be declared and/or instated, in view that we do not have a day to identify us as adolescents.
2. We want to be identified for what we really are, adolescents that form part of the solution and not part of the problem, and therefore we propose that laws and decrees be issued to punish discrimination, both physical and verbal, against adolescents.
3. We propose that adolescents be taken into account for decision-making, in view that we are an important and representative group of our nations and therefore, our voice deserves to and must be heard.

ADOLESCENT LIFE PLAN

Adolescents face a number of problems due to lack of planning. Life planning enables the projection we may have of our own destiny, channeling our goals according to what is truly important to us, such as a positive vision of our realities.

In adolescence, this planning is necessary to reach our objectives, and forms part of the mission that accompanies our development. The adolescent is at a difficult stage, undergoing important changes in his/her life, and these difficulties may lead him/her to incur in a series of social problems (drug-addiction, delinquency, gangs, etc.).

Hence, our goal as leaders is to contribute towards converting a **crisis into an opportunity** and thereby propose effective alternatives for the solution of these burdening problems currently experienced by adolescents.

PROPOSALS

1. Promote communication within the family through awareness campaigns in which subjects of direct interest to adolescents are discussed and where the problems affecting us are included together with alternatives for their solutions. To achieve this, we require the constant development of different meetings such as forums, parent schools, debates, use of the media, leadership networks, etc.
2. Foster the participation of adolescents in decision-making processes concerning adolescent problems, as they are the only ones that truly know their reality.
3. Update the scientific-technological and contextual materials used for educating adolescents, thereby generating adequate interest towards study and the development of a critical attitude, which are key to our personal and social formation as adolescents.

13.- **TO RATIFY** *our commitment to develop and promote the skills and potentials of our adolescents, in equal opportunities conditions, fostering a change in vision from the problem adolescent to the (proposal) adolescent, a role player of positive changes and true actor of the development process in our countries. To this effect, we support and welcome the statement of the Forum of Adolescents of the Americas, which forms part of this Declaration and addresses the issues of identity, leadership, life plan, social network and the right to participate and request the authorities of our countries to promote adolescent leadership as an effective multiplier of positive changes for the adolescents in the Region: the voice of the New World.* (New paragraph proposed by the Secretariat).

14.- **TO DECLARE** our firm willingness to promote equal rights, duties and opportunities for adolescents as an indicator of real progress for them and for society, and for the consolidation of democracy and of a culture of peace in our countries.

15.- **TO REAFFIRM** our commitment to ^{impulsing} ~~giving impulse to~~ and strengthening public policies and initiatives on development in favor of adolescents, especially in the areas of health, education and employment training, healthy lifestyles and, with greater emphasis still, on broadening citizen participation among adolescents in every sphere of society.

16.- **TO REITERATE** our commitment to combine efforts, coordinate action and share experiences, in order to increase access for adolescents in our respective societies to training, information and appropriate technology, as well as to quality and continued education for adolescents.

17.- **TO PROMOTE** healthy social environments, in particular strengthening of the family, institutions that guide and protect adolescents, and youth organizations to act as supports for their well-being and development.

18.- **TO SUPPORT** the creation or improvement of comprehensive health services for adolescents, with special attention to guidance, education, and information for prevention and care, in the areas of sexual and reproductive health, in HIV/AIDS and in other sexually transmitted infections, as well as in regards to drug abuse and other psico-active substances.

19.- **TO ENCOURAGE** a comprehensive education on sexuality for adolescents in the family, school, and community, with a view to ensuring emotional development that promotes responsible and healthy sexuality.

20.- **TO ADDRESS** *the problem of adolescent violence, both from the perspective of adolescents as victims and as perpetrators, especially violence in the media and gun violence. Our adolescents must become creators of a culture of peace.* (New paragraph proposed by the USA).

21.- **TO GIVE IMPULSE** to awareness campaigns, especially through the mass

media, both for and with adolescents, in order to create consensus in favor of a culture of peace that acknowledges their contributions, needs and participation in the development and well-being of society.

22. TO SEEK adoption of public policies of protection for adolescents with disabilities, in order to ensure their freedom from discrimination and enjoyment of their rights, in accordance with the Uniform Standards on Equal Opportunities for the Disabled.

23. TO PROMOTE the creation or strengthening of national bodies constituted by the Governments, civil society and in particular adolescents, and international co-operation agencies for the design and execution of integral proposals that may adopt national priorities to the institutional objectives of the international co-operation agencies in order to consolidate sub-regional and regional mechanism for the improvement of policies, programs and projects aimed at adolescents. (New paragraph proposed by the Secretariat on the basis of a proposal of the Andean countries)

24.- TO SUPPORT the Pro Tempore Secretariat so that, with the cooperation of the previous and the next host countries, they may carry out timely and effective follow-up on the commitments adopted in the Declaration and Plan of Action emanating from the Conference, in order to reaffirm our proactive role in the social development of our countries.

25.- TO CONGRATULATE and express our deep gratitude to our hostess, Ms. Keiko Sofia Fujimori Higuchi, and to the Government and the People of Peru, for their warm welcome and hospitality, and to extend our profound thanks to the Organizing Committee and its technical team for their unflagging efforts in holding this meeting

26.- TO ACKNOWLEDGE with thanks the valuable cooperation of the ILO, ONUSIDA, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF, PAHO/WHO, OAS, IICA, CIM and IYO in the proceedings and organization of the Tenth Conference. We also express our appreciation to the other Cooperation Agencies that took part for their contribution and support in the improvement and implementation of effective social policies in our countries, further urging them to enhance inter-agency coordination on projects for adolescents. We also highlight the support lent by government and non-governmental organizations that put forward initiatives and resources for the development of new plans, programs and projects designed to provide assistance to the adolescent population of the Americas.

27.- TO ACCEPT the gracious offer of the First Lady of..... to host the Eleventh Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas, to be held on to ..., 2001.

Signed in Spanish and English in the City of Lima, Peru, on the 6th day of October of the year two thousand.

LIMA DECLARATION ON ADOLESCENTS (DRAFT)

Lima, Peru - October 6, 2000

Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State
and Government of the Americas

(Versión última al 3.07.00)

1.- We, the Spouses of Heads of State and Government and First Ladies of the Americas, gathered in Lima, Peru from October 4 to 6, 2000, at the Tenth Conference, "**Adolescents of the Americas: Forgers of a New Millennium**", reaffirm our commitment to contributing to the development and well-being of the adolescents and to promote their ability to participate, by recognizing their existing rights and their potential, without discrimination, to forge a better present and future.

WHEREAS,

2.- The creation, in the last decade, of these Conferences as a mechanism of coordination of wills and potential helped the Spouses of Heads of State and Government and First Ladies of the Americas to become true agents of development and promoters of change in our countries. The Conferences have also contributed significantly to eradication of measles and other preventable diseases; improvement of registries that ensure the right to a name and nationality; reduction of maternal mortality; enhancing the value of women's roles in different spheres; diminishing gender inequity; prevention and tackling of domestic violence; promotion of ~~child~~ ^{dissemination} access to a quality education system; and improvement of health services, among other advances. ✓

3.- The rapid changes caused throughout the world as a result of globalization and its negative impact compel us to adopt fresh paradigms and accept new challenges in order to channel alternatives and proposals designed to bring social development to our peoples, while recognizing adolescents as actors in this process and as persons who possess creativity, solidarity, critical minds, energy and hope for this new millennium. We must give special attention to adolescents living in poverty, who have fewer opportunities for participation in the global economy.

4.- **Adolescents**, a population group that currently numbers over 160 million in the region, are not merely in a process of transition between childhood and adulthood but, rather, are at a stage of life with unique characteristics, and, despite geographic, ^{social} cultural and economic differences, they have to deal with common situations ~~as regards~~ ^{as regards} challenges in the areas of education and employment, health risks and violence, and limited ^{opportunities} spaces for participation ^{(in) society}. ^{UNR}

5.- **Diverse** efforts are being made with respect to policies, programs and projects for and with adolescents that need to be coordinated through mechanisms that provide for comprehensive sharing, dissemination and

SOCIAL NETWORKS

Social Networks are organized groups, interrelated and interconnected which meet to fulfill common objectives. As ascertained by the adolescents participating in the Forum, there is a consensus that it is necessary to expand the existing venues of participation (networks) to meet the basic needs of adolescents without discrimination of creed, race, color, economic condition, amongst others.

We, the adolescents of the Americas, feel that it is our duty to undertake the formation of groups of adolescents in our countries to deal with crucial issues, such as: leadership, self-esteem, participation, life plan and human rights.

PROPOSALS

1. We propose that adolescents be provided with the necessary support for the creation and upkeep of a continental network, with no discrimination whatsoever, that will benefit the majority of adolescents of the continent.
2. We request that each government of the countries that constitute the continental network provide the necessary funding required for the presented and approved projects.
3. We propose that governmental secretariats be created in order to have organized information on the number of existing adolescent organizations in the country. Said secretariats must safeguard the right for freedom of organization, avoiding all types of repression for those who are organized into groups and thereby, meet their requirements.

RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE

Every adolescent has the right to express his opinion freely and to be heard. Not all adolescents have the same opportunities nowadays of having access to spaces of participation in their countries, due to different reasons. We are certain that we, adolescents, may be trusted to conduct and carry out activities, and this may be already confirmed in the region by the achievements of the different organizations we participate in. We only need to have the opportunity.

Proposals:

1. We propose that the Governments of the Americas should increase the interest and emphasis provided to education, a sector which is the starting point for the promotion of an active and effective adolescent participation in the different spaces being developed.
2. We propose that national and international regulation systems be effectively respected and upheld, in order that adolescent participation in the decision-making process be incorporated.
3. We believe that it is important to increase the budget allocations aimed at promoting an integral development of the adolescent population, especially in the rural areas of our countries.
4. We consider that greater support should be given to organizations that promote the distribution of scholarships, and contribute to strengthen and develop the skills and capacities of adolescents.
5. We believe that greater adolescent participation may be achieved in the different spheres of development through national and international awards that will give priority to those adolescents who live in conditions of vulnerability.

LEADERSHIP

Having proposed and reflected upon the following issues:

Identity, which is the feature that distinguishes adolescents from others.

Life Plan, which is what leads us to the fulfillment of our goals.

Social Networks, that is, the venues where adolescents may effectively exercise their right to participate.

We, the adolescents of the Americas, may conclude that leadership constitutes the mechanism by which we may achieve these objectives.

We may define leadership as that quality by which the adolescent has the capacity to manage and represent other groups. This is promoted on the basis of self-leadership, a continuous process of self-improvement in which the person likes and accepts him/herself (self-esteem), learns how to make decisions and execute them.

A leader is a person who motivates and influences other adolescents for the creation and organization of groups, guiding and facilitating solutions to the different problems in different areas, such as politics and social, economic and cultural issues, amongst others.

In order to achieve this objective we believe it is necessary to foster the conditions necessary to identify the adolescent leaders of the different sectors of each country, as well as to upgrade their skills and capacities so that they may replicate their achievements and successful experiences.

For this reason, the adolescents of the Americas invite the authorities and principal governors/rulers of each country to assume a commitment with the statement we are making herein. Each contribution is the reflection of our needs, of the present and future vision that we aim to achieve.

We must modify the paradigm that defines the adolescent as a problem, as someone who lacks ideals and goals, into another where the adolescent plays a key role with respect to changes, as someone who faces challenges and assumes responsibilities with courage, energy and strength.

Because, in short, the adolescents are the voice of the new world.

Action Plan of the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas

Action Plan of the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas

Report for the Technical Meeting

Action Plan of the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas

I. Introduction

During the past decade, nine Conferences of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas have taken place, with the purpose of exchanging experiences and identifying common priorities in which, the First Ladies, from their special position, have been able to play an active and synergic role for their inclusion in the Development Agendas of their countries and the region.

To that extent, during these Conferences special emphasis has been given to the promotion of equity and equal opportunities for women and the protection and integral care of infancy in the Hemisphere, covering relevant issues related to their needs and personal, social and economic progress in these sectors, such as access to and quality of education, health - including childbearing health - prevention and defense against violence, or the promotion and dissemination of human rights and a culture of peace, among others. Thus, the Spouses of Heads of State and First Ladies of the Americas have had a direct influence in the establishment of public policies, and have made possible, supported or carried out projects resulting in the fulfillment of the established objectives and goals.

It is therefore appropriate, without disregarding the monitoring of achievements, to undertake new challenges at the onset of the 21st. Century.

Teenagers and youngsters between the ages of 10 and 24 years, make up the population group with the highest growth rate in many countries of the Region, representing 30% of the population in Latin America and the Caribbean, and 20% in the United States and Canada. It is estimated that by the year 2000, 160 million persons will be in this age group, which shows the importance of adolescents as a human capital, and as strategic performers of their own well being and the sustainable human development of the Americas.

Adolescence constitutes a stage with particular characteristics between childhood and adult age. However, the situation, needs, problems and potential of adolescents is not known in its full dimension. It can be pointed out, for example, that there are no basic and uniform criteria to distinguish among the age groups which form this stage of life. It is easy then to conclude that, in most of our countries, legislation, services and specially formulated and designed programs and provisions for adolescents are inadequate or non-existent. Our adolescents would be lacking outlook and a space of their own; and, most probably, the adolescent girl and adolescents from rural areas and

low income sectors, are even more excluded or in a situation of higher risk and vulnerability.

Nevertheless, we can point out that our adolescents face common situations related to educational demands, health risks, identity problems, family break-ups, sense of belonging and socialization, in a climate of latent violence, with drug addiction risk and the lack of participation opportunities. These are the challenges.

Because of the energy and the creativity potential our adolescents represent for the immediate future of our countries, the central subject proposed for the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas is "Adolescents of the Americas", having as a motto "Adolescents of the Americas: Forgers of a New Millenium".

II. Problems

In the education aspect, during the 90's, greater efforts were focused in primary education, and most of the problems of access to basic education have been solved to a great extent. Between 1985 and 1990, the average annual growth of secondary school registration was established at 1,5%, while between 1990 and 1994 it was 3%. This expansion reveals an important quantitative progress in the Region and access to secondary school education of sectors which had been previously set aside due to various factors, among them, geographical, social and economic and cultural situation.

According to studies carried out by ECLAC (1997) not all adolescents complete secondary school education, a serious situation for the future of adolescents and youths of the Americas, if we take into account that 30% of adolescents do not complete primary school. In the present circumstances, a complete high school education is essential in order to have a minimum capital for access to welfare and the labor market. A study made by the Carnegie Council on Adolescent Behavior (1993) concluded that in the united states the adolescents that do not finish high school will cost the country \$260 billion in foregone taxes over their lifetime. the study also revealed that these high school dropouts will also earn \$230,000 less than high school graduates.

With regard to differentiation by gender, 51,7% of girls were receiving secondary education in 1985, and 59,3% in 1995. in the case of boys, during this same period, the average rose from 48,8% to 53,9%. in latin america, most of adolescent girls are enrolled in secondary school. however, the expansion seen in recent years has not prevented the increase in rates of drop outs and repetitions. On the other hand, one fourth of young people in the united states do not finish high school, a number that increases in the poorest areas of the country.

Among the reasons for adolescent school drop out, the need to work and contribute to the family income is mainly applied to boys. In the case of girls, especially in depressed areas, teenage pregnancy forces them to leave school to take care of the infant and look for some kind of income; another reason is to

take care of younger siblings and help the family.

Although present day adolescents may be referred to as belonging to a digital generation, it is also true that low income sectors are out of the circuit of technological, information and computer developments. In addition, the dissemination of educational contents in the media is still very scarce, even though their models and messages have a great influence in our youth.

Adolescent (10 to 19) and youth (15 to 24) **health** is a key element for the social, economic and political development in all the countries and territories of the Hemisphere. However, very frequently their needs and rights are not mentioned in public policies nor in the agenda of the health sector, except when their conduct is inappropriate. One of the factors contributing to this omission is that, compared to children and the elderly, adolescents have few diseases representing a life risk.

With respect to childbearing health, the percentage of pregnant girls, before the age of 20, is 38% and, in many countries, 15 to 20% of babies are born to adolescent mothers. This creates a circle of poverty, frustration and marginality, related also to child mortality

which is still one of the main causes of death among adolescent girls, mainly due to abortion. The use of contraceptive methods is extremely low: only 1 out of 10 single and sexually active adolescents use a contraceptive method, even when their information on modern and traditional methods is deemed adequate.

In the Southern Cone, the average age for AIDS occurrences has descended to the group under 27 years of age, representing a critical situation for adolescents and youngsters of the Region. Each year, 15% of the adolescents of Latin America, between 15 and 19 years of age, acquires a sexually transmitted disease. On the other hand, 60% of all sexually transmitted diseases (std's) in Canada occur in adolescents between the ages of 15 to 24 years old, a problem of great concern when taken into account that this increases the probability of hiv transmission.

Closely related to health, because of the consequences it generates, is the subject of **violence**. Homicides, suicides, accidents, and injuries are the principal causes of death of youngsters between ages 10 and 19. The problem of juvenile gangs is increasing in many countries of the Region. Juvenile violence includes sexual abuse, abandonment, emotional and oral abuse, threats, sexual assault and other forms of psychological abuse. Drug traffic also is a menace to the integral health of adolescents, profiting from their insecurities and loneliness to create an addiction, turning them into delinquents and law breaking individuals well into adulthood. Finally, there is also the concern for sexual traffic, prostitution and pornography menacing our adolescent population.

The problems related to **job education and training** for adolescents and youngsters is a worldwide priority. According to ECLAC, education becomes discriminatory for the labor market after 12 years of formal education, with

depressed social groups accounting for 40% of repetition and 50% of falling behind. There is also the need to strengthen and extend a compensatory job education, training and employment programs, promotion of self-employment and support of small businesses, which would offer job flexibility and later insertion in an ever changing labor market.

In addition, present day competitive labor demands put an emphasis on creative skills, ability to change, problem identification and solution, readiness for relearning and permanent self-education with new roles and skills, which are all characteristics of adolescents, constituting their strength and opportunities which we can help to promote.

The value of our adolescents is more than evident, as they constitute, together with children, the greatest long term capital of a country: to invest in them is to bet on the future. A sensitive society, accepting the challenge of giving due value to youth, as individuals subject of rights and duties, and offering them education and training, will be a more productive, democratic, cultured society; a society with stability and tolerance capable of fighting violence and insecurity, becoming part of those countries with better perspectives and worthy of respect in the globalized world.

III Vision and Mission

VISION

Adolescents of the year 2020 in the Americas will have the opportunity to be leaders, healthy and enterprising citizens, honest, peaceful, fighter for equality of opportunities for men and women, achieving welfare through work and capabilities, thus contributing to and participating in the advancement of their Nations.

MISSION

To promote and support policies and programs targeted to the protection, care, and promotion of adolescents in the Hemisphere, in order to enable them to exert their rights and duties; to provide the training, skills, opportunities and services which their age demand.

To sensitize governments, international financial organizations, local governments, civil society and the media on the importance of knowledge, researching and developing actions in favor of the adolescent population, specially those in situations of greater need or risk.

IV. Objectives

To put an end to the political, social and cultural silence with respect to the participation of this important group of the population and to promote its development. To visualize the situation of adolescents and include the subject in the agendas of Heads of State and Government, in government plans, in

summits, meetings, and hemispheric, regional and bilateral agreements.

Specific Objectives:

There are three specific objectives at the base of the proposals to be approved by the First Ladies in the Tenth Conference.

1. Preferential attention to the coverage and improvement of secondary education, especially for adolescents in situation of poverty and with incomplete primary education, as well as the strengthening of integral health and labor training promotion programs for adolescents.
2. Strengthening of family unity to fight against the violence affecting adolescents. Creation of venues for civic participation of adolescents, through leadership promotion and social organization, sports and cultural activities.
3. Articulation and exchange of research, experiences and projects specially designed for adolescents, through the establishment of regional networks.

Financing

Finally, it should be noted that the estimated investment for the execution of the projects submitted is calculated, in most cases, for three-year periods, which are subject to renewal according to the needs and results obtained from each experience. Thus, the total investment required amounts to US\$10 990 000 million, financed mostly with funds from various international organizations and agencies which submit the following projects.

V. Projects Submitted for Consideration of the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of States and Government of the Americas

Project	Youth Development and Prevention of Violence in Latin America and the Caribbean
Agency	Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO)
Description	Adolescents are amongst the most affected populations due to violence in all its manifestations. Violence experienced by adolescents is not limited to physical injury, but also includes sexual abuse, abandonment, and emotional and verbal abuse, among others. The concentration of homicides and other external causes of death within the adolescent and youth population, is an indicator that shows that violence is the primary cause of lost years of life in most countries of the Region. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that for each child and adolescent that dies because of physical trauma, 15 are gravely hurt. The proposal of the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) for the prevention of juvenile violence focuses on the promotion of youth development within a family context and within a context of social, political and economic development. The First Ladies can give significant support to this proposal by interceding for this age group and supporting their development as a key element for the prevention of violence.
Objectives	Improve the social and institutional responses which support the integral development and health of youngsters and adolescents, and support the successful strategies that have been evaluated, strengthening and disseminating them.
Actions	Three lines of action have been identified to develop the project: 1. Policies oriented at the development of youngsters and prevention of violence. 2. Promotion of the development of adolescents and youngsters and prevention of violence through social communication. 3. Establishment of individual and institutional networks, and dissemination of information.
Goals	- Establish or adequate the youth development policies of the countries to prevent violence within a conceptual frame of health and development. - Implement plans and inter-sector programs for youth development and prevention of violence, establishing or improving a data collection system. - Establish or improve human resources formation programs to disseminate successful strategies. - Identify promising and innovative Interventions that promote the development of adolescents and prevent violence through social communication.
Cost and Financing	In the year 2001, the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) will receive support for this project from the German government. PAHO will contribute with US \$1.5 million from its own resources while US \$ 3.75 millions have been requested for three years.
Commencement and Duration	The Project duration will be three years, starting in 2001.
Participant Countries	

Action Plan of the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas

Project	Leadership, Health and Development of Adolescent Women in Latin America and the Caribbean
Agency	Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO)
Description	The needs and rights of adolescent are not normally included in public policies, and interventions on adolescents focus mostly on solving individual problems rather than considering those basic factors that have contributed to the problem, and which influence decision making in the field of reproductive health. The Project focuses on adolescent and youth health and development through policies, defense, programs, services and research oriented at improving their well-being; promoting empowerment of adolescents through health and development, including sexual and reproductive health; and working with the governments in order that their policies and strategies, programs and investigation will contribute to improve overall conditions for adolescents in Latin America and The Caribbean.
Objectives	Contribute to reinforce health and development among adolescents, with special emphasis on sexual and reproductive health, through improvement of services and promotion of leadership.
Actions	The project will be implemented through the following lines of action: - Health services that provide access to integral high quality services and improve the sexual and reproductive health of adolescents. - Policies and legislation - Advocacy: to promote the message "girls have the power" - Leadership and empowerment: better job opportunities by combining school and work. - Social communication: complementation of policies and programs through media presentations to deliver messages which promote empowerment. - Research: determine gender and age conditions in the adolescent stage.
Goals	• Improve access of youths to integral quality services, with emphasis on health needs. • Implement policies, legislation and advocacy initiatives which address issues affecting adolescent women, such as sexual and reproductive health. • Improve leadership interventions and empowerment. • Make effective use of the communications media directed to the adolescent population. • Carry out research on the factors that influence reproductive health and development of female adolescents.
Cost and Financing	The total budget for three years is US\$ 5 million dollars. External resources required amount to US\$ 3.5 million and the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) will provide US\$ 1.5 million.
Commencement and Duration	This project will be implemented in several countries according to the agreement that will be established at due time, for an estimated duration of three years.
Participant Countries	The project is open to all countries in Latin America and the Caribbean

Action Plan of the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas

Project	Education, Youth and Labor Project: "Learning to Undertake"
Agency	United Nations Education, Science and Culture Organization (UNESCO)
Description	Approximately 20% of the Latin American and the Caribbean Population is composed of youngsters, most of whom have not finished high school, have not began studies in a university or having completed high school, are not prepared to start to work. Within this framework, the project is aimed at identifying and establishing the instruments and means to strengthen and improve the programs that are being implemented in the Region for the integral formation of those youngsters that are outside the school environment, but who desire to finish studying and prepare themselves for work.
Objectives	The objectives of the program are: - Identify a program, in each selected country, to provide integral education to youngsters. - Provide financial support to improve the quality and effectiveness of the programs. - Combine selected experiences with other similar networks of the region.
Actions	The main lines of action are the following: - Identification of 8 countries where the Project will be implemented - Establishment of guidelines on the needs and demands of education for youngsters and the offer and demand indicators of the productive world. - Analysis of formal and informal education programs for youngsters of basic educational levels. - Creation of exchange networks among the selected programs in the different countries for their mutual reinforcement.
Goals	• Determination of the needs and demands of youngsters with respect to education and work, analysis of the offer and demand in the productive environment of the countries selected. • Financial and technical assistance for the formal and informal education alternatives including personal, social and professional development that contribute to the establishment of work opportunities.
Cost and Financing	The minimum cost estimated for the Project is US\$ 80 000 and includes the financial support of the International Cooperation Agency of Spain and other additional sources that could be obtained later.
Commencement and Duration	The tentative commencement date is October 2000 with an estimate duration of one year.
Participant Countries	Participation of 8 selected countries.

Action Plan of the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas

Project	Project for the Promotion and Improvement of Citizen Participation
Agency	Ibero-American Youth Organization (IYO)
Description	Project for the promotion, development and reinforcement of the programs, activities and instruments for the facilitation of the democratic participation as citizens of adolescents in several countries of the Region.
Objectives	The objectives of the project are to: Promote initiatives and programs that will contribute gradually and progressively to the participation as citizens of the adolescents and especially of those from dominated ethnic groups, poor rural adolescents or those that belong to marginal socio-economic sectors.
Actions	The main lines of action are: - Study and analyze in each country the real status of the rights of adolescents and their participation as citizens. - Organize discussion forums - Elaborate a report on the results of previous actions, on the basis of which complementary program lines to be implemented in education centers and possible action lines for the official youth organizations will be proposed. - Promote the incorporation of civic education in the educational centers, in coordination with current activities of the First Ladies in the development of human rights and peace. - Assist and implement participant countries regarding political and normative measures required to promote and establish deliberative spaces to discuss executive proposals of adolescents. - Organize and promote public acts in favor of the participation of adolescents in cultural, educational and sport activities.
Goals	• Identify the most acute priorities and difficulties of adolescents exercise of their rights and citizen participation. • Instruct the adolescents on citizenship concepts, democratic participation and promote knowledge of their rights and citizen duties. • Establish program lines and complementary acts to be implemented in the educational sector, councils and youth organizations. • Promote the progressive participation with voice and vote for the adolescents in organizations, associations and councils in their countries. • Promote knowledge of all citizen participation options in the areas of education, ecology, association and sports areas.
Cost and Financing	The minimum estimated cost for this project is of US\$ 360 000 for the 12 countries.
Commencement and Duration	Commencement will be in the month of January 2001 and the program will be completed by March 2002.
Participant Countries	Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Honduras, Panama and Paraguay.

Action Plan of the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas

Project	Network on Policies and Programs for Adolescents of the Americas
Agency	
Description	In spite of the fact that many countries of the Region are developing policies and programs to promote the participation of adolescents in common problems related to education demands, health risks and a socialization process of violence without participation, there is no mechanism for sharing these experiences. The Project proposes the creation of a Network of the Americas for the analysis, follow up, assessment and proposal of policies and programs for adolescents.
Objectives	The main objective of this Project is to: Combine the experience and knowledge of the institutional and human resources facilities for adolescents in the Region.
Actions	I. This Network will be coordinated by a rotating three year Technical Secretary's Office formed by the countries of the Region. The main lines of action are the following: - Study and analyze the real status of adolescents regarding the participation as citizens in each country. - Promote the incorporation of civic education in the education centers, in coordination with the actual activities of the First Ladies in the development of human rights and peace. - Assist and implement participant countries regarding political and normative measures for deliberation of adolescents. - Instruct the Technical Secretary's Office that in order to evaluate results and plan future actions, it organizes every three years, a Conference of the Americas on Adolescents
Goals	• Identify institutional and human resources of the public and private related to adolescents; with the establishment of training opportunities for their benefit and reinforcement. • Carry out comparative investigations in the different countries. • Create a system of shared information among the countries. • Establish a regional follow up and monitoring system to evaluate of policies and programs of adolescents. • Draw the attention of the countries of the Region so this Network the active participation and incorporation of adolescents in the programs and strategies for their development.
Cost and Financing	The Network and national groups will use basically the resources and facilities existing in each country. The Technical Secretary's Office that will need financial support for the coordination, information, celebration of events and technical assistance fund estimated at US\$300 000 for the three years.
Commencement and Duration	The duration will be for three year periods which can be extended, as necessary.
Participant Countries	This Project is open to all countries of the Region.

Action Plan of the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas

PROJECT	CREDIT PROGRAM FOR RURAL WOMEN
Agency	IDB/IICA
Description	The lack of formal systems to offer financial and business services adapted to the needs of rural women is evidenced; as well as the absence of flexible financial products adjusted to this population; the discriminating and incoherent training and technical assistance with respect to the real needs of productive women and the limited capacity of unconventional offers that tend to privilege the granting of loans and fail to provide other business services. In response, this program incorporates components that may facilitate a diversified and integral provision of services for its beneficiary-customers and for the involved entities. Its flexible and independent nature shall facilitate the implementation, in certain circumstances in which its implementation would not be viable in joint terms. (example: lack of economic availability of a determined country or others of an operating nature).
Objectives	Contribute towards the equitable and sustainable development of rural society, strengthening and increasing women's participation in economic and productive activities, through financial services adapted to their social, economic and cultural reality, which includes credit, training, technical assistance and institutional strengthening.
Actions	1. Channel financial and business strengthen the participation of the rural woman in agricultural productive activities. 2. Strengthen institutional capacities society specialized in offering services on these subjects. 3. Promote a responsible entrepren women, equipping them to reach greater levels of access to credit programs and other financial resources available in the rural area. 4. Promote the responsible use of n their depredation and contribute towards the sustainability of the environment.
Goals	Design a financial product (credit) features, offering a product adapted to the needs of rural women, to provide them with responsible support in their productive activities. Obtain technical assistance resour transfer of technology, the incorporation of technical solutions that may improve and diversity production, optimize the marketing of products and, protect the personal health of the productive women and the environment. Acquire, by rural productive wom knowledge to develop their productive potential and business initiatives. Strengthen the institutional skills of project.
Cost and Funding	
Date of Commencement and Duration	Committee for Management Review --November 2000 Executive Board -- January 2001

Action Plan of the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas

Proposed Country (ies)	During the initial stage, these shall be Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Panama, Nicaragua and Dominican Republic.
PROJECT	PROPOSAL FOR SCHOOL BUSINESS LABORATORIES
Agency	YABT/OAS
Description	The Youth of the Americas Business Trust (YABT), is a new project for cooperation between the OAS and the private sector. It supports the promotion of programs for the development of young businessmen in the Americas and the Caribbean. In view that 57% of the population is below 30 years of age, the provision of support to young adults for the development of business techniques is considered vital for the economic development and social stability of the Hemisphere. The School Business Laboratory concept combines the simultaneous teaching of secondary education, technical training, academic courses and the simulation of real business experiences. In addition, the laboratories require computers and access to internet services to provide a stronger technological view, to improve training materials with greater emphasis on business administration practices handled by students.
Objectives	Combat poverty through business and self-employment educational programs aimed at the youth of the 34 countries, members of the OAS.
Actions	Develop business programs for youth, with an integrated and complete view, because it is more effective than the implementing of isolated projects, emphasizing personal development, technical and business training and access to financial and technological resources, considering them essential elements to the school curricula and to training programs for youth not attending school.
Goals	Document the program and its preparation of high quality materials and technical assistance, with the purpose of implementing the model in other countries. Organize regional training seminar national follow-up seminars in the interested countries, to support these countries in the preparation of their own version of the program. Create a technical cooperation network Laboratories on the internet web site (YABT) to unite schools, programs, promoters and young entrepreneurs. Promote additional business technological resources to update the laboratory programs and convert them into a regional training center. Implement, at least four pilot center (one in each sub-region) by the year 2001. Support YABT in the drawing-up of School Business Laboratories and community resource centers in the interested countries of the Americas and the Caribbean.
Cost and Funding	

Action Plan of the Tenth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas

Date of Commencement and Duration	After having completed the planning and training stage in the year 2000, in 2001 the additional resources provided by different sources shall support the commencement of the program in the pilot locations in the interested countries.
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Bern

Klei spouses & America

May 9, 2000



Ms. Nicole Rabner
Office of the First Lady
The White House
Room 100, Old Executive Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20502
U.S.A.

Dear Ms. Rabner: *Nicole*

On behalf of Mrs. Aline Chrétien, I am pleased to enclose the "Memoire" of the Ninth Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas and the Report of the Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) Fair.

These documents are a compilation of ideas, experiences and initiatives shared during the Ninth Conference. The "Memoire" brings together the thematic speeches delivered by the Spouses, arranged by topic and in order of presentation. It also includes a summary of the other presentations made during the Conference and a list of all participants.

The Report of the NGO Fair summarizes the workshops where the six projects endorsed at the Ninth Conference were examined and discussed. It includes as well a detailed catalogue of participating NGOs with their coordinates. You will recall that the Fair was attended by civil society organizations from the Hemisphere, representatives of International Agencies, Canadian Government officials as well as Conference participants. This report reflects the exchange of information at the Fair and highlights the essential role of each participant in implementing initiatives on behalf of the women and children of the Hemisphere.

These and other related documents are also available in English, French and Spanish on our Web site: <http://www.americascanada.org>.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Louise Léger
Louise Léger
Executive Director

Hemisphere Summit Office (LXR)
Department of Foreign Affairs and
International Trade

Encl.

**NINTH CONFERENCE
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CANADA 1999

NINTH CONFERENCE OF SPOUSES OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE AMERICAS

Women of the Americas: Agents of Change

MEMOIRE

Ottawa, Canada

September 29 - October 1, 1999

