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Office of National AIDS Policy

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Welcome!

Thank you for visiting the home page for the White House Office of National AIDS Policy! We hope that this web site provides you with useful information on efforts by the Clinton/Gore administration to address the national and international AIDS pandemic.

ONAP was created by President Clinton and Vice President Gore to provide broad policy guidance and leadership on the Federal government's response to the AIDS epidemic.

We work closely with community-based and national organizations to discuss the Federal response to the AIDS epidemic, and to reflect their concerns in the development of Administration policies.



Sandra Thurman
Director

Among its responsibilities, ONAP works closely with the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS, which provides essential input into our efforts. ONAP also created and facilitates an Interdepartmental Task Force on HIV/AIDS. This Task Force serves to foster communication and coordination among those Federal agencies involved in HIV/AIDS policy and initiatives.

Thank you for your efforts to care for those living with HIV and AIDS, to stop the spread of this terrible disease, and to support AIDS-related research. Only by working together will we be able to, one day, have a day without AIDS.

Sandra Thurman
Director



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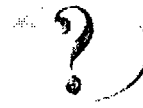
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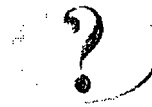
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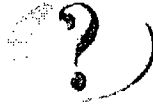
Sandra L. Thurman	Director	<i>Photograph Biography</i>
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Todd A. Summers	Deputy Director	<i>Biography</i>
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Daniel C. Montoya	Executive Director, President's Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS	<i>Biography</i>
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Mary May	Receptionist	
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July 19, 1999

Vice President Gore, joined by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and ONAP Director Sandra Thurman, announces a new Administration initiative to address the AIDS crisis in Africa.

- Get the press statement from the Office of the Vice President
- View "*Report on the Presidential Mission on Children Orphaned by AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa: Findings and Plan of Action*"
- You can also download the report (410K and requires a free viewer)

June 16, 1999

HHS announces new Crisis Response Teams, part of the Administration's Initiative on HIV/AIDS in Racial and Ethnic Minorities.

- Get the HHS Press Release and Fact Sheet by visiting the HHS web site or
- Download the PDF versions of Press Release and Fact Sheet (you must first obtain and install a free viewer)

June 15-16, 1999

President Clinton comments on imminent passage by the Senate of the Jeffords-Kennedy Work Incentives Improvement Act at an impromptu ceremony at the Capitol, and subsequently releases a statement after the 99-0 passing vote by the Senate.

June 9, 1999

President Clinton dedicates the new Dale and Betty Bumpers Vaccine Research Center at the National Institutes of Health. See the following for further information:

- Remarks by the President
- Press release from the National Institutes of Health
- Article in NIH newsletter on Dr. Nabel's plans for the new Center

April 29, 1999

ONAP web site publishes a guide to resources available through the Congressional Black Caucus - Department of Health and Human Services Initiative to address HIV/AIDS in racial and ethnic minorities

March 11, 1999

Dr. Gary Nabel appointed new director of the Vaccine Research Center at the National Institutes of Health. See the following for further information:

- Press release from the Dept. of Health and Human Services
- Statement by the President
- Article in NIH newsletter on Dr. Nabel's plans for the new Center

February 26, 1999

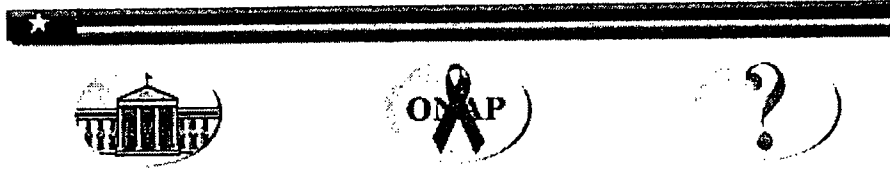
Comments by Sandra Thurman at the 1999 National Conference on African Americans and HIV/AIDS

HIV/AIDS

Feb. 2, 1999

ONAP Press statement on FY2000 Budget Proposal

Get a copy of the FY2000 Budget



The Clinton/Gore Administration



A Record of Progress on HIV and AIDS

June 1999

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THE CLINTON-GORE ADMINISTRATION: A RECORD OF PROGRESS ON HIV AND AIDS

"How can we be one America if a ravaging disease like this is being brought under control in part of our population, but not in another?"

-- President Clinton, November 2, 1998

"We are united in the fight for research, care, and prevention. And we will not stop until all who need it have access to the treatment they need. We will not rest until we have a vaccine -- and a cure."

-- Vice President Gore, September 19, 1998

Providing National Leadership. President Clinton has worked hard to invigorate the response to HIV and AIDS, providing new national leadership, substantially greater resources and a closer working relationship with affected communities. During his administration, funding for AIDS research has increased by over 57 percent at the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), while funding for HIV prevention has increased 36 percent. Funding for the Ryan White CARE Act has increased by over 260 percent.

Although much work remains to find a cure, progress has been made. In 1996, for the first time in the history of the AIDS epidemic, the number of Americans diagnosed with AIDS declined. And between 1996 and 1997, HIV/AIDS mortality declined 47 percent, falling from the leading cause of death among 25-44 year olds in 1995 to the fifth leading cause of death in that age group. There has been a decline in the number of AIDS cases overall and a sharp decline in new AIDS cases in infants and children.

Leading the Global Fight Against HIV/AIDS. On December 1, 1998 (World AIDS Day), the President announced a new \$10 million initiative at USAID to address the growing crisis of children orphaned by AIDS. The United States has invested over \$1 billion in international AIDS relief since the start of the epidemic and funds 25% of UNAIDS. NIH represents the largest single public investment in AIDS research in the world. More than \$62 million of NIH's international AIDS research in FY1999 is being conducted overseas in partnership with the global scientific community.

Historic \$156 Million Effort to Address HIV/AIDS in Communities of Color. While racial and ethnic groups account only for about 25 percent of the U.S. population, they account for more than 50 percent of all AIDS cases.

October 28, 1998, President Clinton declared HIV/AIDS to be a severe and ongoing health crisis in racial and ethnic minority communities and announced a comprehensive new initiative that invests an unprecedented \$156 million to improve the nation's effectiveness in preventing and treating HIV/AIDS in the African-American, Hispanic, and other minority communities. This funding is spread across three broad categories: technical assistance and infrastructure support; increasing access to prevention and care, and building stronger linkages to address the needs of specific populations.

Fighting to Pass a Strong, Enforceable Patients' Bill of Rights. President Clinton has called on the Congress to pass a strong, enforceable patients' bill of rights that assures Americans the quality health care they need. The bill should include important patient protections such as: assuring direct access to specialists; real emergency room protections; continuity of care provisions that protect patients from abrupt changes in treatment; a fair,

timely, and independent appeals process for patient grievances; and enforcement provisions to make these rights real.

Protecting Medicaid and Social Security Coverage. The President fought for and won the preservation of the Medicaid guarantee of coverage which serves more than 50 percent of people living with AIDS -- and 92 percent of children with AIDS -- who rely on Medicaid for health coverage. He also revised eligibility rules for Social Security Disability Insurance to increase the number persons living with HIV who qualify for benefits.

Focusing National Efforts on an AIDS Vaccine. On May 18, 1997, the President challenged the nation to develop an AIDS vaccine within the next ten years. He announced a number of initiatives to help fulfill this goal, including: dedicating an AIDS vaccine research center at the National Institutes of Health and encouraging domestic and international collaboration among governments, medical communities and service organizations. On June 9, 1999, President Clinton dedicated the new Dale and Betty Bumpers Vaccine Research Center at the National Institutes of Health and announced that the primary work of this new Center will be HIV vaccine research.

Dramatically Increasing Overall AIDS Funding. The Clinton Administration has responded aggressively to the significant threat posed by HIV/AIDS with increased attention to research, prevention and treatment. President Clinton has increased overall funding for major HIV/AIDS programs by 94 percent (within HHS), funding for the Ryan White CARE programs has increased 260 percent and support for AIDS-related research has increased by over 57 percent.

Increasing AIDS Drug Assistance and Accelerating AIDS Drug Approvals. Funding for AIDS drug assistance has increased from \$52 million per year to \$461 million per year during the Clinton Administration. This program provides new life-prolonging drugs to people with HIV and AIDS. In addition, President Clinton convened the National Task Force on AIDS Drug Development, and removed dozens of bureaucratic obstacles to the effective and decent treatment of people with AIDS. Since 1993, the Food and Drug Administration has approved dozens of new AIDS drugs for AIDS-related conditions and new diagnostic tests.

Making Research a Priority. In one of his first acts in office, President Clinton signed the National Institutes of Health Revitalization Act of 1993, placing full responsibility for planning, budgeting and evaluation of the AIDS research program at NIH in the Office of AIDS Research. The Administration has increased NIH AIDS research funds by 67% in five years.

Building Partnerships to Optimize HIV Care. In March, 1997 Vice-President Gore approved the creation of the Forum for Collaborative HIV Research, a unique coalition of federal government agencies, health care providers, pharmaceutical companies, HIV researchers, and patient advocates. The Forum builds collaboration between these stakeholders to address emerging issues in HIV clinical research and care. In its first two years, the Forum has focused issues such as adherence to HIV therapy, side effects of HIV drugs, HIV treatment education, and the development of new methods to treat HIV.

Focusing on Prevention: Supporting the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The Administration has increased funds for HIV prevention at the CDC by 34% in five years. Under the leadership of the Clinton Administration, the CDC reorganized its AIDS prevention efforts to foster greater overall coordination and enhance efforts to reduce sexually transmitted diseases and tuberculosis.

Educating Young People about the Dangers of AIDS. The Clinton Administration launched the Prevention Marketing Initiative, focusing on the risk to young adults (18-25) with frank public service announcements recommending the correct and consistent use of latex condoms for those who are sexually active.

Requiring the Federal Workforce to Understand AIDS. The Administration issued a directive on September 30, 1993 that requires every Federal employee to receive comprehensive education on HIV/AIDS.

Established a White House AIDS Office and Created a Presidential Advisory Council. President Clinton created a White House Office of National AIDS Policy to bring greater direction and visibility to the war on AIDS. Sandy Thurman, the current director of the office, has broad experience in both domestic and international AIDS services. At the same time, the Administration has sharpened the focus of its AIDS programs. The President also created the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV and AIDS to provide him and his Administration with expert outside advice on the ways in which the Federal government should respond to the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Dr. R. Scott Hitt, a California physician specializing in HIV/AIDS care, chairs the panel.

Convened the First Ever White House Conference on HIV and AIDS. On December 6, 1995, the President convened the first White House Conference on HIV and AIDS in the history of the epidemic, bringing together more than 300 experts, activists and citizens from across the country for a discussion of key issues.

SELECTED HIV/AIDS INVESTMENTS	FY99	Increase from FY98	Increase from FY93
Ryan White CARE Act <i>AIDS Drug Assistance</i>	\$1.4 billion \$461 million	23% 61%	266% 787%*
HIV Prevention (CDC)	\$657 million	5%	32%
AIDS Research (NIH) <i>Vaccine Research</i>	\$1.8 billion \$200 million	12% 33%	67% 145%
Housing (HUD)	\$225 million	10%	125%
International (USAID)	\$135 million**	10%	15%

*since FY96, when separate program established

**includes \$10 million emergency funding for AIDS orphan initiative



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

July 27, 1999
(House Floor)

STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY

(THIS STATEMENT HAS BEEN COORDINATED BY OMB WITH THE CONCERNED AGENCIES.)

H.R. 2587 -- DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS BILL, FY 2000

(Sponsors: Young (R), Florida; Istook (R), Oklahoma)

This Statement of Administration Policy provides the Administration's views on the District of Columbia Appropriations Bill, FY 2000, as reported by the House Appropriations Committee. Your consideration of the Administration's views would be appreciated.

While the Administration appreciates the support of the Committee in developing a bill that provides requested funding for the Administration's priorities, and in voting to reduce the list of objectionable restrictions, we continue to strongly oppose several provisions included in the Committee bill that would seriously undermine local control. The Administration views the following highly objectionable provisions as unwarranted intrusions into the affairs of the District and would support amendments, if offered, to strike these provisions:

- Abortion. The Administration strongly opposes a provision of the Committee bill that would prohibit the use of both Federal and District funds to pay for abortions except in those cases where the life of the mother is endangered or in situations involving rape or incest.
- Domestic Partners Act. The Administration objects to a provision of the bill prohibiting the use of Federal and local funds to implement or enforce the Health Care Benefits Expansion Act of 1992 (the Domestic Partners Act).
- Limit on Attorneys' Fees in Special Education Cases. The Administration strongly objects to a provision of the Committee bill that would cap the award of plaintiffs' attorneys' fees in cases brought against the District of Columbia Public Schools under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). In the long-run, this provision would be likely to limit the access of the District's poor families to quality legal representation, thus impairing their due process protections provided by the IDEA. We look forward to working with the Congress to address this issue.
- Voting Representation. The Administration opposes a provision of the bill that would prohibit the use of Federal or District funds to provide assistance for petition drives or civil actions that seek to require voting representation in Congress for the District of Columbia.

Resident Tuition Support

The Administration appreciates and strongly supports the Committee's inclusion of funding for a tuition assistance program for District of Columbia residents. We will continue to work closely with members of the authorizing committees on a bipartisan and bicameral basis, and with the Mayor, to determine how best to structure and administer the D.C. tuition assistance program.

Objectionable Amendments

The Administration strongly opposes the four amendments given special protections under the rule or other amendments that are intrusions into District self-government. One of the proposed amendments would prohibit the use of funds to carry out any joint adoption of a child between individuals who are not related by blood or marriage. This Administration is deeply committed to supporting adoptive families and to finding adoptive homes for children in foster care who are unable to return to their own families. The proposed amendment would stand as an unnecessary hindrance to providing children with loving adoptive families and the security, emotional and financial supports that two parents provide. We believe that decisions regarding the adoption of children should be guided by the best interests of the child and the individual circumstances of the case, consistent with State licensing and approval standards that assure the health, safety and well-being of the child.

The Administration appreciates the Committee's action to drop the ban on the use of local and private funds for needle exchange programs and strongly opposes the amendment to restore this restriction. The amendment would be an encroachment on the District's rights.

Reducing teen smoking is a high priority of the Administration; therefore, we support the objective of the amendment related to the possession of tobacco products by minors. However, for the same reasons that Congress has not legislated specific laws for individual States, it would be inappropriate to do so for the District.

The Administration objects to the amendment that would prohibit the District from legislating with respect to substances in a manner that all States are free to do, and would remain free to do, under the amendment.

If such amendments were adopted and included in the bill presented to the President, his senior advisers would recommend that the President veto the bill.

* * * * *



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

THE DIRECTOR

July 20, 1999

The Honorable C. W. Bill Young
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This purpose of this letter is to provide the Administration's views on the District of Columbia Appropriations Bill, FY 2000, as reported by the House Subcommittee. As the Committee develops its version of the bill, your consideration of the Administration's views would be appreciated.

While the Administration appreciates the support of the Subcommittee in developing a bill that provides requested funding for the Administration's priorities, we strongly oppose a number of provisions included in the Subcommittee bill that would seriously undermine local control. The Administration views the following highly objectionable provisions as unwarranted intrusions into the affairs of the District and would support amendments, if offered, to strike these provisions:

- Abortion. The Administration strongly opposes a provision of the Subcommittee bill that would prohibit the use of both Federal and District funds to pay for abortions except in those cases where the life of the mother is endangered or in situations involving rape or incest.
- Domestic Partners Act. The Administration objects to a provision of the bill prohibiting the use of Federal and local funds to implement or enforce the Health Care Benefits Expansion Act of 1992 (the Domestic Partners Act).
- Limit on Attorneys' Fees in Special Education Cases. The Administration strongly objects to a provision of the Subcommittee bill that would cap the award of plaintiffs' attorneys' fees in cases brought against the District of Columbia Public Schools under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). In the long-run, this provision would be likely to limit the access of the District's poor families to quality legal representation, thus impairing their due process protections provided by the IDEA.

Needle Exchange

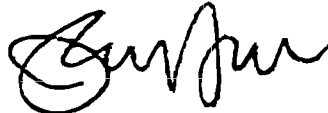
The Administration strongly opposes the provision of the Subcommittee bill that would prohibit the use of Federal and local funds for needle exchange programs. A ban on the use of local funds is an encroachment on state's rights, and may seriously disrupt current HIV prevention efforts by closing existing programs.

Resident Tuition Support

The Administration appreciates and strongly supports the Subcommittee's inclusion of funding for a tuition assistance program for District of Columbia residents. We will continue to work closely with members of the authorizing committees on a bipartisan and bicameral basis, and with the Mayor, to determine how best to structure and administer the D.C. tuition assistance program.

We look forward to working with the Committee to address our mutual concerns.

Sincerely,



Jacob J. Lew
Director

Identical Letter Sent to The Honorable C. W. Bill Young,
The Honorable David R. Obey, The Honorable Ernest J. Istook, Jr.,
and The Honorable James P. Moran

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Vice President

For Immediate Release
Monday, July 19, 1999

Contact:
(202) 456-7035

VICE PRESIDENT GORE ANNOUNCES ADMINISTRATION WILL SEEK \$100 MILLION INITIATIVE -- A RECORD INCREASE -- IN FUNDS TO FIGHT AIDS AROUND THE WORLD

Washington, DC -- Vice President Al Gore today joined Archbishop Tutu, Director of the Office of National AIDS Policy Sandra Thurman, Members of Congress, and leaders of the African-American, religious, children's, and AIDS communities to announce that the Administration will seek the largest-ever budget increase in the global battle against AIDS -- a new investment of \$100 million. The Vice President also unveiled a new report from the Office of National AIDS Policy that assesses the AIDS crisis in Africa and recommends this investment. In addition, the Vice President announced new efforts to encourage other public and private entities across the world to address AIDS across the world.

"AIDS in Africa is the worst infectious disease catastrophe in the history of modern medicine," Vice President Gore said. "More than twenty million people are now infected and nearly 500 more become infected each hour. We hope this initiative will not only provide much-needed relief but will inspire decisive action by other countries and institutions -- and bring hope to the millions of children and families trapped in this horror." Today, the Vice President:

RELEASED A NEW REPORT ON THE PRESIDENTIAL MISSION ON CHILDREN ORPHANED BY AIDS IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA. Last December, President Clinton directed the Director of the Office of National AIDS Policy to go on a fact-finding mission to assess the problem of HIV/AIDS in Africa. Today, the Vice President is releasing the report that includes new findings and a plan of action resulting from this mission. The report finds that:

AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa is one of the largest health crises in the history of the world. In the past decade, twelve million people in sub-Saharan Africa have died of AIDS -- one quarter of them children -- and each day AIDS buries another 5,500 women and children. Over the next decade, AIDS will kill more people in sub-Saharan Africa than the total number of casualties in all of the wars of the 20th century combined. By 2005, the daily death toll will reach 13,000 people per day.

Millions of children will be orphaned by this epidemic. In some areas up to one-quarter of all children already live with an HIV-positive parent. In the next decade, more than forty million children in sub-Saharan Africa will lose a parent to HIV/AIDS.

This epidemic has a devastating impact on many aspects of life in sub-Saharan Africa. AIDS is undermining much of the progress in development that has been made in Africa. AIDS is reducing life expectancy by more than 20 years in some countries. Many children are dropping out of school to care for dying parents undermining improvements in education, and AIDS will continue to have a major negative impact on the economy, hitting a range of professionals, from teachers to military to business leaders and therefore undermine its current trade with other nations throughout the world.

UNVEILED NEW \$100 MILLION INITIATIVE TO COMBAT HIV/AIDS ACROSS THE GLOBE. The Vice President also unveiled a new initiative to double the existing efforts to prevent and treat AIDS. This initiative will be targeted to Africa in addition to other parts of the world where this epidemic is growing. It will help move forward on four critically important and interconnected fronts including:

Containing the AIDS Pandemic. A new \$48 million initiative will be used to implement a variety of prevention and stigma reduction strategies including: HIV education; engagement of political, religious and other leaders; voluntary counseling and testing; blood supply screening, and, interventions to reduce mother-to-child transmission (MTCT). In addition, the Department of Defense (DoD) will begin new efforts to work with African militaries to provide educational material and training on AIDS prevention.

Providing Home and Community-Based Care. This \$23 million investment will be used to deliver counseling, support palliative and basic medical care including treatment for sexually transmitted diseases, opportunistic infections, and tuberculosis (TB) through community-based clinics and home-based care workers and enhance training and technical assistance efforts.

Caring for Children Orphaned by AIDS. This new \$10 million initiative will be used to assist families, extended families, and communities in caring for their children through nutrition, education, health and counseling support, in coordination with micro-finance programs.

Strengthening Prevention and Treatment by Augmenting Planning, Infrastructure, and Capacity Development. This \$19 million initiative will help strengthen host country ability to plan and implement effective interventions. It will also strengthen the capacity for effective partnerships between local government and community-based organizations. Strengthen local surveillance systems to track the spread of HIV infection, AIDS, and the effects of interventions to enable the best targeting of HIV/AIDS prevention programs.

This United States Government investment would be provided through AID (\$55 million), HHS (\$35 million) and DOD (\$10 million) and will be fully offset.

ENGAGING OTHER PARTNERS TO ADDRESS THIS CRISIS. Addressing the crisis of AIDS worldwide will require a broad-based commitment from public and private partners across

the globe. The Vice President also unveiled a series of new initiatives to enhance efforts to address this problem including:

Multi-lateral Partners Meeting to Enhance Coordination Around the World. On September 7, 1999, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will convene a meeting of donors, The World Bank, UNAIDS, international foundations, CEOs and others to discuss how we can best enhance and coordinate our AIDS efforts in Africa and around the world.

A United Nations Conference on Children Orphaned by AIDS. The United Nations, in conjunction with the National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS, The White House Office of National AIDS Policy, The Magic Johnson Foundation and a variety of NGOs, will organize a conference on World AIDS Day to focus attention on the growing number of children orphaned by AIDS worldwide, with a special emphasis on sub-Saharan Africa.

New Partnerships with Private Sector Leaders to Address This Crisis, Such As the Religious, Business and Labor Communities.

-- Given the impact of AIDS on businesses active in Africa as well as the overall economic-impact on African countries, the White House will facilitate a meeting of business leaders to encourage commitment and involvement in AIDS programs, such as workplace education, outreach to communities, and increased funding support for AIDS efforts.

-- The White House will host a meeting of US and African labor leaders, co-chaired by the AFL-CIO, to build on successes in working with the Council of South African Trade Unions to address AIDS.

-- The White House will also facilitate a religious summit of African, American, and other religious leaders to discuss the important role of communities of faith in the fight against AIDS. In Uganda and Senegal it is very clear that the involvement of religious communities and leaders had a dramatic impact on the ability of these two countries to reduce HIV prevalence or to maintain it at low levels over time.

Joining Forces for LIFE:
Leadership and Investment in Fighting an Epidemic
A Global AIDS Initiative

I. Increasing the US Government investment in the global battle against AIDS to begin to reflect the magnitude of this rapidly escalating pandemic.

Making a difference in Africa and in other highly impacted areas requires broader political commitment, enhanced community mobilization, and, most urgently, increased resources. In 1998, spending on AIDS in Africa totaled only \$165 million. Compared to the ever-escalating need and other health programs, this amount is woefully inadequate. For example, in 1998, over \$500 million was spent for basic childhood immunization programs in Africa. Based on our experience in those countries that are starting to demonstrate success, such as Uganda and Senegal, UNAIDS and donors now agree that a minimum of \$600 million is needed in sub-Saharan Africa per year for HIV prevention alone (\$2 per adult per year).

While we acknowledge the leadership role that the US plays globally and the urgent need to act, clearly an effort to combat AIDS must be driven by many actors including host countries, multi-lateral organizations, and bi-lateral donors, to be successful. In FY1999, the US Government spent \$74 million in USAID prevention and care in Africa and \$38 million in HHS research and surveillance/prevention. But more remains to be done in sub-Saharan Africa and in other seriously affected parts of the world.

The Administration proposes to commit an additional \$100 million in FY2000 to the global battle against AIDS. This initiative will enable us to move forward on four critically important and interconnected fronts including:

- **Containing the AIDS Pandemic (\$48 million)** Implement a variety of prevention and stigma reduction strategies, especially for women and youth, including: HIV education, engagement of political, religious, and other leaders; voluntary counseling and testing; interventions to reduce mother-to-child transmission (MTCT); and enhance training and technical assistance efforts, including Department of Defense efforts with African militaries.

- **Providing Home and Community-Based Care (\$23 million)** Deliver counseling, support, palliative and basic medical care including treatment for sexually transmitted diseases, opportunistic infections (OIs), and tuberculosis (TB) through community-based clinics and home-based care workers. Enhance training and technical assistance efforts.
- **Caring for Children Orphaned by AIDS (\$10 million)** Assist families, extended families, and communities in caring for their children through nutritional assistance, education, training, health, and counseling support, in coordination with micro-finance programs.
- **Strengthening Prevention and Treatment by Augmenting Planning, Infrastructure, and Capacity Development (\$19 million)** Strengthen host country ability to plan and implement effective interventions. Strengthen the capacity for effective partnerships and the ability of community based organizations to deliver essential services. Strengthen surveillance systems to track the epidemic and target HIV/AIDS programs.

This US Government assistance would be provided through AID (\$55 million), HHS (\$35 million), and DoD (\$10 million). The focus of this funding is HIV prevention, and AIDS care and treatment. In those areas, this initiative represents nearly a doubling of funding in Africa from current levels (\$81 million in FY99, which excludes research). The Administration recognizes the fight against AIDS must be sustained to keep pace with this burgeoning epidemic, and is committed to a multi-year effort in this critical area.

II. Building partnerships with other key stakeholders to maximize our impact on the rapidly expanding pandemic.

Increasing US investment in the global battle against AIDS is critical, but is not sufficient to achieve the outcomes needed. The commitment of in-country political leaders and of various segments of civil society are key to success. Moreover, resources provided by the US Government need to help leverage, and to be coordinated with, those of other donors, the private sector, and national governments to ensure synergy and to maximize impact. Building partnerships with key stakeholders in support of effective action at the community level is our greatest hope for progress.

This initiative will pursue a variety of strategic opportunities for challenging other partners to join in an enhanced effort, including:

- **Leadership Meeting** On September 7, 1999, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will convene a meeting of key US officials, The World Bank, UNAIDS, as well as heads of foundations, corporate CEOs, and others to discuss how best to enhance AIDS prevention and treatment efforts in Africa and around

the world. The meeting will focus not only on leveraging additional resources, but also on establishing priorities, identifying effective public/private partnerships, and identifying targets for action to combat the crisis of HIV/AIDS.

- **African Leaders Summit** We propose hosting a high-level meeting with Africa government and community leaders within the next ten months. This meeting will highlight the critical role of leadership in arresting the epidemic and will work to encourage increased leadership efforts. Topics will include the economic impact of HIV/AIDS, examination of models of success in reducing the transmission of HIV, and addressing the need for increased investment in health programs. Additional topics will include AIDS care and treatment and support for children orphaned by AIDS.
- **UN Conference on Children Orphaned by AIDS** On December 1, 1999 (World AIDS Day), the United Nations in conjunction with the National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS, The White House Office of National AIDS Policy, The Magic Johnson Foundation and a variety of NGOs, will organize a conference to focus attention on the growing number of children orphaned by AIDS worldwide. Special emphasis will be placed on assessing the needs of orphaned children in sub-Saharan Africa and the Americas. Participants will include noted experts on the priority issues identified by UNAIDS, UNICEF, and other UN agencies.
- **Business** The Department of Commerce will facilitate a meeting of business leaders active in Africa to encourage them to increase their efforts to rise to the AIDS challenge. Given the impact that AIDS is having on businesses as well as the overall economic-impact on African countries, such a meeting will seek enhanced business commitment and involvement in AIDS programs.

The Commerce Department will work with American Chambers of Commerce abroad and other business organizations to publicize the successful AIDS efforts of US firms in Africa and to support others taking similar action. In addition, the Department will direct work to promote closer coordination in Africa between Commercial Service Offices, other USG agencies, the business community, and African NGOs in a united effort to promote corporate partnership in AIDS programs.

- **Labor** The Secretary of Labor will facilitate a meeting of US and African labor leaders, and will be co-chaired by the AFL-CIO. The success of the AFL-CIO and its Solidarity Center in South Africa (supported by USAID) in working with the South African Trade Union Federations to include AIDS as a key labor outreach and policy issue provides a model for similar action elsewhere. Outcomes include assisting labor organizations in educating their members and securing commitments to develop workplace-based AIDS education and prevention programs, including outreach to youth.

- **Religious Leaders Summit** The US government will facilitate a meeting of African, American, and other religious leaders to discuss the important role of communities of faith in the fight against AIDS. In Uganda and Senegal, the involvement of religious communities and leaders had a dramatic impact on the ability of these two countries to reduce HIV incidence and to maintain it at low levels over time. The outcome of such a meeting would be to increase attention to the need for involving religious communities, to mobilize these organizations and leaders in the fight against AIDS, and to identify ways to support their efforts.
- **Diplomatic Initiatives** The Department of State, NSC, and ONAP will work with US and African ambassadors to increase attention to AIDS within the diplomatic community. The NSC, the Department of State, and USAID will work with G-8 and other donors, and challenge them to match the increased investment put forward in this initiative.

“Joining Forces for LIFE: Leadership and Investment in Fighting an Epidemic” is an excerpt from *Report on the Presidential Mission on Children Orphaned by AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa: Findings and Plan of Action*, The White House, June 19, 1999.