



Lessons Without Borders: Address by Vice President Al Gore

>> This Is USAID >> Lessons Without Borders

Baltimore, June 6, 1994

The Vice President: To Brian Atwood my thanks for your generous introduction and for your outstanding leadership of USAID and others here who work with you deserve credit as well but I want to thank you, Brian, for the working relationship that we have had on a whole series of issues and I want to congratulate all who have put together this conference and Mayor Kurt Schmoke, thank you for your hospitality and for your leadership in making it possible. To my great friend and colleague, Paul Sarbanes, I'm going to be spending most all day here today and we have a number of things here today. We've spent many long days together. I'm still a member of the United States Senate after a fashion, you know. You may have noticed that I have had a chance to vote a few times in the last --



(Laughter.)

-- sixteen months. And the experience, incidentally, has been good for me. It's made me a more optimistic person and the reason is I've noticed a pattern that the news media, with all due respect, has almost completely missed but if you watch it on C-Span you'll see that what I'm about to describe is true. Every time I vote we win.

(Laughter.)

It works like a charm.

(Applause.)

I want to acknowledge my friend and colleague, Congressman Kweisi Mfume, a great leader of the Congressional Black Caucus and personal friend with whom I've had an opportunity to work on many matters. We were just together at a conference here in Baltimore what, about three weeks ago? It was about the day we got back from South Africa, I believe, and that was a great trip and I enjoy working with you. To President Norell (phonetic) Richardson of Morgan State University, I appreciate the hospitality. This is a repeat visit for me to Morgan State and I'm grateful for the opportunity to come back. And to all of the distinguished guests and ladies and gentlemen.

I've just come, a short time ago, the last event I was at was at a ceremony commemorating D-Day and at Arlington National Cemetery I spoke to a gathering just prior to President Clinton's address to the large gathering at Normandy. And, of course, it was such a moving occasion. All of us have tried to fight back the emotions and tears just thinking about the incredible heroism of these veterans and of their families. We remember them fifty years ago, we remember them today, not only the allied soldiers but all of those who sacrificed at home to help them. But anniversaries of great and famous world-shattering battles, even those that turn the course of history, are not just the cause of celebration. For while they remind us of the heroes of freedom of democracy they also remind us of the

losses, the grim horrors of war, the destruction, the sadness. And in that sense they make us renew our effort to prevent future wars.

The generation that won World War II and then, fifty years later, sent a contingent to parachute back on to the beaches -- I thought that was terrific, incidentally. I applauded that. I hear it's controversial, I don't know why. But the generation that won the victory at D-Day and in World War II turned their energies immediately after the war to preventing future conflicts in Europe. We all know about the Marshall Plan to revitalize the economy and the communities of Western Europe and what a fabulous success it was. We helped Western Europe build a self-sustaining system which embodied participatory democracy, protected the free market, and unleashed their productive energies.

And the success of the Marshall Plan led to other similar efforts like President Kennedy's Foreign Aid Act of 1961 which extended aid to Africa, Asia, and Latin America. He said, soon after entering the White House, that the developing world is, and I quote, "the great battleground for the defense and expansion of freedom." Since that time we have learned many lessons in our efforts to aid developing nations, lessons about housing, nutrition, vaccinations, prenatal health care and disease. Now it's time to bring the lessons we've learned abroad back home for these truly are lessons without borders, as so many have noted here. And that's what brings us together to continue a dialogue between development experts and those here at home who are working to solve economic and social problems in the United States.

I'm particularly pleased that USAID has taken the lead on this. Under Brian Atwood, the agency has taken on the task of redefining its mission to meet the needs of the post-Cold War world. Indeed, Senator Sarbanes has been one of the most eloquent leaders in arguing for a shift in our focus to modernize our relationship to the rest of the world and focus on what U.S. priorities really are in the 1990s. At long last, under new leadership this agency is responding. Indeed, it has been a leader in the program that I chaired called the National Performance Review and it's one of the agencies that made itself an official reinvention laboratory; in fact, it is the, by all odds, the largest reinvention laboratory, the only organization of its size that had the gumption to say, "We want to go whole hog and reinvent the entire agency," and I admire that and it's going extremely well.

And, incidentally, those who may think that reinvention is just another word for shuffling around bureaucratic boxes should look at what USAID is doing here. Since the Foreign Assistance Act became law 33 years ago, thousands of Americans have become involved in the rebirth of nations. They're agricultural experts, advising on soil conservation, cattle breeding, and crop management. They're teachers helping communities establish schools where children are now learning to read, and technical facilities where adults learn the skills they need to compete in a changing world.

They're water and waste experts, helping to set up clean water supplies and develop efficient, affordable ways to recycle waste. They're public health officials setting up clinics where expectant mothers and their children can receive health care and whose effect is felt long after they have left. They're precisely the kind of people who can use the energy and experience and learning that they have gained to help us solve problems within our borders. The idea at first might sound strange to some but it is not at all, as practical experience has already taught us. Whether it's developing vaccine programs in Mali and Manhattan or treating dehydration in Bangladesh and urban areas in the United States, some lessons are universal. Let me give a few examples.

A few weeks ago we recognized Immunization Week at the White House. There we pledged to keep working on developing new immunization strategies until children cease to die needlessly from diseases which can be easily prevented. Here in our country in the last year for which we have the statistics, in 1990, only 39 percent of inner-city children in our country were immunized against measles. Well, thanks to our USAID men and

women, some other countries have listened more carefully to what the public health experts have told them is possible than we have listened. And those who have been successful in getting the message through have learned how to get the message across, how to get in under the radar of indifference and neglect, and all of the other barriers to immunization. In Mali, for example, infant mortality rates are among the highest in the world, over two-thirds of childhood deaths could be prevented by vaccination. Well, the University of Rochester is currently working in partnership with the Columbia University in Mali to improve child immunization levels among the poor urban populations. They're using some of the lessons that USAID has learned elsewhere in the world. It's time we brought some of those lessons home to places within our own nation where the statistics clearly tell us that we can apply some of those lessons.

Another example. Dehydration kills three million children every year. The numbers are very different here but in our country it kills up to 600 children every year and hospitalizes thousands. As many of you know, one of the great heartwarming success stories in recent years has come with AID's discovery that feeding children a mixture of water, sugar and salt prevents diarrhea from causing dehydration. And the treatment just costs pennies a day, now saving more than a million lives a year. Again, something that was devised originally for nations elsewhere in the world can help here if we will look carefully at exactly where those 600 children in the United States are who die of dehydration each year.

Another example. USAID is using marketing techniques all over Africa, the same way our consumer products companies sell toothpaste, to sell socially-important products like birth control devices or messages stressing the importance of breast-feeding to prevent, of course, the huge number of diseases and deaths that come unnecessarily from the mixing of infant formulas with dirty local water supplies. They pre-test, package and promote the materials and launch the products just like a business would. This kind of cause-related marketing is another example of something we can use here within our own borders.

Also, USAID has learned lessons about community-based services by identifying credible people within the community and forming a network between the groups that need to work together. Places like Kenya, Nigeria, Guatemala, and El Salvador have been the locations where this has occurred. The groups then serve as actual service providers, going door-to-door to identify children in danger of dehydration or pregnant women before they make the decision about breast-feeding or infant formula. They then pass along their knowledge so these people can help themselves. This is an excellent example of community empowerment and, again, one that we can use here at home particularly in places where the technique may be especially effective.

Pest management offers other examples. Alley farming is a technique used in Nigeria to control crops without pesticides. Rapidly-growing trees are planted in beanfields and become an artificial host for parasites, the beans are allowed to grow quickly and the farmers then plant corn and the pests feed on the beans. We can use this cheap environment-friendly technique in parts of our country; in Georgia and the Carolinas there are places where we believe it will be effective.

Micro-enterprise development offers yet another example. Credit and loans within reach of the poor. A commercial bank in LaPaz, Bolivia, where I visited two months ago now gives loans solely to low-income people, the average loan being about \$400.00. This bank makes more loans than the entire banking sector in Bolivia put together. Well, in the United States there are two hundred micro-enterprise programs just getting started, and this is a technique that a lot of folks believe can help.

The underlying solution we see from these examples is cooperation. Development comes from communities and individuals working together. That's a natural outcome of empowerment. The community activists in this room know all too well that the problems

on the table are severe and require considerable personal responsibility but they also know that they are made much worse by hopelessness. The mother who doesn't get prenatal care, who doesn't know about nutrition or doesn't know when to have her children immunized, her situation is made worse by a feeling of powerlessness. The young man who wants honest work but lacks the means to start a business, his situation is made worse by a lack of hope. We can't develop people or make them assume responsibility for their own lives if they don't want to. This is as true here as it is in any country. But we also know that we can use cooperative approaches to give people a sense of control over their futures, to give them the notion that they matter as positive contributors to society, that they're not victims.

The federal government has a role to play and that is the basis of a new program that our administration is pursuing called The Community Empowerment Program. We understand that government can't do everything. That's why I'm especially eager to see programs like micro-enterprise and community banking flourish in poor neighborhoods throughout our country. In developing countries, these programs have given tens of thousands of low-income individuals the means to begin small informal businesses that give them the strength to live lives of purpose and hope. In neighborhoods where no one is literate, in homes where most infants are expected to die. In nations torn by violence and hunger and despair. Even in such environments people have learned how to bring hope. And now they're bringing those lessons home.

As the programs of Action International and FINKA (phonetic) have demonstrated in Latin America, the real purpose, the real strength of micro-enterprise and neighborhood banking is empowerment at the grassroots level. It helps people take control of their own lives, creates bonds among strangers, and helps to make a neighborhood from a bunch of buildings. So USAID, along with other development agencies and private voluntary organizations, have learned how to achieve things in environments that have few resources, if any. In closing, I'm reminded of the old story about the businessman who went to the oracle and said his abacus counters couldn't keep up with the workload but he couldn't afford to hire any new workers so what should he do? The oracle replied, "Each abacus counter must grow another finger on each hand."

"That's very wise," said the businessman, "but how do I get them to do that?"

"Ah," said the oracle, "I only make policy. Implementing it is your job."

(Laughter.)

So we have to remember that when it comes to implementing it, we all have a role to play whether in the public or private sector or through volunteer groups. Eric Severeid once told President Kennedy, "It doesn't make much sense when two people are sitting in a boat, for one of them to point a finger accusingly at the other and say, 'Your end of the boat is sinking.'" Well, we all know that we're in the boat together and only together can we formulate solutions which will put an end to poverty and ensure economic and social freedom in our own neighborhoods and wherever we can help it to come about overseas. The time and opportunity are upon us. It has always been easy for Americans to lend a helping hand but far more difficult to accept one. So on this date when we remember how Americans lent a helping hand to Europe, let's dedicate ourselves to a continuing effort abroad but also renewing our commitment within our own borders, in our own land. Here we are truly helping ourselves, bringing the lessons we've paid for to our own doorstep. It is a hard path but a necessary one and we can traverse it best by traveling it together and bringing the lessons home. Thank you and keep up the goodwork.

(Applause.)

(End of proceedings as recorded.)



Lessons Without Borders: Remarks of First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton

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Baltimore, September 16, 1996

Thank you very much. I am delighted to be here. I am especially pleased because I see that we have both those who are participating with the *Lessons Without Borders* conference who themselves are development experts as well as a number of students and faculty from Johns Hopkins who may not be as familiar with what this conference is about. I am delighted to have both those who are involved in the conference and those who are interested in these lessons here today, and I look forward to sharing some of my impressions with all of you.



I particularly want to thank Mayor Schmoke and his wife, Dr. Schmoke. I want to thank them for their friendship and support, but also more particularly, because Baltimore was the first city that really embraced the idea that the work the United States has been doing abroad for decades might possibly have something to teach us here at home. Under the Mayor's leadership those lessons have been taken to heart and put into effect. Also, I am pleased to be anywhere with your United States Senator Paul Sarbanes and his wife, Christine Sarbanes. I am particularly pleased on this occasion, because Senator Sarbanes has been a consistent reasonable voice on behalf of American involvement around the world in the area of development. The Senator's leadership has been very important in the last few years. Congressman Cummings is here as well, as is our Ambassador to Bangladesh David Merrill.

I also want to thank Johns Hopkins once again. This is a place I always love coming.

I must say, Dr. Brody, it is always a delight for me to read about and learn about what this great university is doing. I want to thank you for hosting this, but more than that, again for the role that Johns Hopkins has played in development work and, in particular, the work of USAID for many years.

And, then finally let me thank Brian Atwood, the Administrator of USAID. Brian has brought a new sense of energy and urgency and common sense to USAID and has really made a difference under his leadership. Not only has Brian made our work abroad more effective, but he has done a good job explaining to the American taxpayer why it is a good investment to be doing what we are doing around the world in helping people to become self-sufficient; to understand what a democracy means, and what the requirements of citizenship are.

So, all in all, it is a great pleasure for me to be here. Thanks to all of you who are involved in this conference for bringing so much energy and faith and commitment to the partnership that is represented by the USAID experience abroad and our communities here at home.

Brian Atwood launched the USAID initiative *Lessons Without Borders* two years ago. I

have been following its progress with great interest. I have been extremely pleased to see that the program is already helping to improve the lives of thousands of American children and families. Now let me just explain, for those of you who are not development experts, what we are talking about. I will do it by giving you a few examples of activities abroad that the United States has helped to fund and provided technical assistance for, and what we have learned when we brought these lessons home.

For example, here in Baltimore we are seeing how grassroots strategies pioneered in Nairobi, Kenya, can be used to improve childhood immunization rates and encourage economic development in America. As you may know, Baltimore has increased its childhood immunization from 62 percent to over 95 percent by adopting a simple strategy of replacing complicated jargon and brochures that people didn't read with a door-to-door, person-to-person initiative. Under this plan, people in the neighborhoods were the largest numbers of children where not being immunized would find a knock on the door and a neighborhood worker was standing there saying, "Have you got your baby immunized?" and "If not, why not, and how can I help you get that done?"

I'd often wondered in the years during which I was involved in trying to increase the immunization rates of American children why the United States would have the third or fourth worst rate of immunizations in this hemisphere. Why were so many countries that were poorer and had a higher rate of illiteracy doing a better job than we were? What were we not doing?

It boiled down to the fact that in many other countries USAID was helping these nations create an infrastructure that would reach out to families to persuade them to bring their babies in for their shots. Often it would be a worker who would walk across the mountains of Peru or through the rain forest of Central America or across the savannah of places like Kenya finding families and helping them overcome the obstacles of knowledge, awareness, transportation, fear or whatever else might stand in their way to be sure that their children would be immunized.

So when we look at what we have done as a country abroad, I thought it was just common sense that, under Brian Atwood's leadership, USAID -- which cannot fund programs here in the United States, that is not its mission -- would be able to share its expertise and acquired experience with cities like Baltimore. For decades, USAID has supported efforts in developing countries to address the debilitating problems of poverty, poor nutrition, poor prenatal care, disease, illiteracy, and unemployment. USAID workers and their partners abroad have seen firsthand what is practical.

So how then can we profit from those experiences?

Well, that is what this conference is all about. We are bringing together the people who have done the work on behalf of you and me through our development efforts, with people who are working in our cities and rural places here at home.

Over the past four years I have seen, firsthand, many programs around the world that really work. I've come home as somewhat of a cheerleader for USAID and development efforts, because I -- like perhaps many of you -- was not very knowledgeable about what we actually do in foreign aid.

Many people in our country have an idea that we spend a huge percentage of our budget on foreign aid. In fact, often in public polls, when citizens are asked, "How much do you think the United States spends on foreign aid?", the answers range from 15 to 25 percent of the U.S. budget. Often, then the person asking the question will follow up and ask, "How much do you think we should spend trying to deal with problems in other countries -- both to help the people there, and to stop the spread of such problems to make the world safer for America's interest?" And people will scratch their heads and say, "Well, maybe

10 percent of the budget."

Well, of course, the fact is, we spend less 1 percent on foreign aid on the kind of work that is done not only to keep our embassies going abroad to take care of you when you travel and might need some help, but to do this kind of work as well. I have seen and become somewhat of a witness about how effective -- on a relatively small amount of money -- so many of our programs abroad are.

We've already heard reference to the dinner that will be held later this evening that is honoring an institution called the International Center for Health and Population Research in Bangladesh. That center has had lots of help from Johns Hopkins as well as from USAID. The doctors there have saved millions of lives through their pioneering use of something called oral rehydration therapy. This is a method of treating serious cases of diarrhea with a basic salt and sugar mixture. Now I brought this package with me to show you, those of you who are perhaps students here at Johns Hopkins, what I am talking about.

Inside this package is a mixture of salt and sugar that, when dissolved in clean water and administered to a person with diarrhea -- particularly a child, who is most likely be the one afflicted with perhaps fatal diarrhea -- that child's life can be saved. It doesn't even have to be in a hospital with an intravenous fluid going into the veins, if this is administered over a long enough period of time. I have walked among the beds in these centers in Bangladesh, and I have seen mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers, administering this combination of salt and sugar to a person seriously ill with diarrhea.

My visit there was meant to highlight the USAID presence and American support for this pioneering effort. But while I was there in Bangladesh, I met a doctor from Louisiana who had come to study at the center for about six months. I asked him why he had chosen that center. He told me that, at the time I had this conversation with him, a very large number of children in Louisiana were uninsured children. They were very poor, but not poor enough to qualify for that state's level of Medicaid. Their families did not have jobs that provided health insurance, and he was seeing increasing numbers of children hospitalized or very dangerously ill because of diarrhea. So he had gone all the way across the world -- to a country we think of as a less developed country -- to learn a simple, cost-effective method for helping to save children's lives, which he then could bring back to Louisiana.

It is that kind of interchange and learning of lessons this conference is meant to promote. Some of you know of the work of Jim Grant, and others of you I am sure have heard of UNICEF, understand how Jim took simple ideas like this little package and preached to many of us how these simple interventions -- that don't cost a lot money -- could really save children's lives. And that is what we are seeing here in the United States. Oral rehydration therapy can be more accessible and less costly than hospitalization. It costs just \$7 a day and its can be administered at home. Compare this to the \$800 it costs to administer intravenous drug treatments in American hospitals.

The lessons we can learn go beyond health. They also apply to other challenges from economic self-sufficiency to effective family planning.

Last fall, I visited a poor area of Santiago, Chile, where the schools are open on week-ends to accommodate parents' work schedules. And I met a lot of parents who are trying to become more involved in their children's lives and to know what to do -- how to take care of their children more effectively. As I travel through this country I see similar kinds of parenting programs, some of them borrowing lessons from what we are seeing that were that works in other countries.

One of the most exciting programs that we have brought home at the national level here, as well locally, is what is called microenterprise. Microenterprise means lending small

amounts of money to the very poor for them to start little businesses or to buy certain products that they need to resell so that they can try to become more economically self-sufficient.

That is happening here in Baltimore. With microenterprise lending, small loans are given to start very small microbusinesses. I've seen the difference that can make in the lives of people from India to Nicaragua.

I have stood in some of the poorest places in the world and listened as women have told me how their lives have changed because somebody believed in them enough to see them as credit-worthy. And all of a sudden they had some resources which they then used to create a business. As we begin to implement welfare reform, I think one of the most important aspects of our efforts will have to include a very large scale commitment to microenterprise. Because if we intend not only to help people get off welfare, but to change the environments and communities in which people have become economically trapped, there has to be more economic activity.

If we think that is a challenge, imagine the very first person in the world that we're aware of who devised the idea of microenterprise lending. His name is Doctor Muhammad Yunis. He is also from Bangladesh. He was trained in the United States as an economist. When he returned home, he looked for ways to try take the ideas he had learned about the economy and put them into practice in his own country. He realized although the millions and millions of very poor people in Bangladesh had skills, those skills were not considered economic skills and they weren't considered market-worthy. Yet he could see how, with a little bit of investment, those skills could create entrepreneurs and businesses that would create economic activity that would help lift not only individuals, but whole communities, out of poverty.

I visited one of the villages where the bank that the Doctor started -- the Grameen Bank -- is working. I went to this village, which was a Hindu village, that was a village of untouchables. My schedule was such that I could only go to one village, and the people arranging it wanted me very much to go to a Muslim village. Bangladesh is a predominantly Muslim country.

We managed to work it out so that the Muslim women -- because all the borrowers were women -- came from their village to the Hindu village, where we had a big meeting: At the meeting the woman stood up and told me how their lives had changed. One woman stood up and said she borrowed to buy a milk cow. With that one milk cow she was able to produce enough milk, which she then sold, so she could buy another milk cow. Then, as a proud owner of two milk cows, she was able to buy another milk cow. Then as proud owner of three milk cows, she bought a rickshaw for her husband, so he could begin to try to be a taxi driver in the village where they lived. I went into a home that had been built because of the Grameen Bank's lending policy. I saw firsthand how an entire village had been transformed. As importantly, I saw how the lives of these women who were borrowers had changed from destitution to inspiration -- not only for themselves but for their children and the rest of us.

I visited a similar microenterprise effort with a community-based bank in Managua, Nicaragua, in the middle of one of the poorest areas of that country that has seen civil war, earthquakes and many different kinds of challenges. At the Finca village bank were a group of women located in that neighborhood that had borrowed money and then worked with each other by creating a unit of borrowers who supported each other's economic activity. I heard how those very small sums had started businesses that were sewing and selling clothes or baking bread and pastries, selling auto parts door-to-door or mosquito netting -- the kinds of things that were needed in the community, but would otherwise perhaps not be available.

On my visit to Santiago, Chile, I met a seamstress who told me that for years she could barely make a living. She had an old sewing machine that was always breaking down. With a small loan she got a brand new, fast-speed, sewing machine. She told me she felt like she had been released, like a bird from a cage. She got that sewing machine and began to kiss it over and over again, because she knew what a difference it would make in her life.

We have seen in our travels so many instances of how USAID, with a little bit of money, has been able to spawn a great deal of local support and community effort and has been able to, with technical assistance, train people in the local areas to carry on the work. So as we now look at the lessons that have been learned from our work overseas, I'm convinced many of those lessons can be learned and applied here.

One of the most important areas is in family planning and prenatal care for children -- particularly for at-risk children and their mothers. In Brazil I met very courageous health officers in the state of Bahia. These health officers had committed themselves to family planning efforts because they worked in a hospital where admission rates were 50 percent mothers giving birth and 50 percent women who were appearing at the hospital with serious physical problems after self-induced abortions. Those health officers knew that sensible family planning access had always been available to rich women in Brazil, but not available to poor women. And certainly many more of the problems we see around the world are exacerbated by incredible population pressures.

That is one of the things that I would hope that is evident when our Congress looks at USAID's work. They should understand how important the family planning work is internationally, that American assistance to try to help countries deal with their populations is in America's interest economically, environmentally, politically and every other way that I can think of.

So these are the kinds of issues that we have brought home with us, and this is what this conference is all about.

There are many more examples that will be discussed at this conference -- from a hospital I saw in Manila where one-day-old babies are being taught to drink from cups if they cannot be taught how to breastfeed -- so that they cut down on infection from bottles that can't be sterilized in slums to the kind of work that I saw in Eastern Europe. Really, it is all part of America's commitment to take our own ideas and give other people a chance to learn how to live democratic, free-enterprise lives.

Now in the grand scheme of things, America's investments in social development abroad are small, but the difference that they have made in our global economy in world peace and prosperity and the lives of men, women and children are immeasurable.

America's ideals and interests cannot be divorced from the political, economic and social cross-currents swirling around us. As this conference demonstrates, our engagement represents opportunities for ourselves at home -- not just obligations abroad. I would hope that every American who hears about this conference will understand that it is a two way street, that the money we have invested in social development abroad is being brought home in the sense that we are learning what works and applying it to solve our own problems here.

These lessons, I believe, are invaluable and will more than pay for themselves. They are proof that this country -- the strongest nation on earth -- cares about the smallest child, the littlest problem. We care because we understand how interconnected we are today. We understand that ultimately the kinds of futures those of you who are students at Johns Hopkins now can look forward to will depend upon what we do to take care of the last and least among us -- what we do to solve our own problems in Baltimore or Boston, and what

we do to help solve problems in Bangladesh. Because, as we look toward the twenty-first century, we understand how each of us is going to have to work and be educated to fulfill our own potential.

We must also, I hope, understand our potential will be enhanced the better educated, and the better the economy is, in places very far from here. At its heart, America's interests lie in making sure that as many people as possible on this earth look forward to waking up in the morning because they are going to have some control over their destiny. So *Lessons Without Borders* is a way of saying we have learned from what we have done. We want to continue showing the way as to how our problems can be solved so that we can build a better future for everyone.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

October 21, 1998

TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

I am returning herewith without my approval H.R. 1757, the "Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998".

I take this action for several reasons, most importantly, because the Congress has included in this legislation unacceptable restrictions on international family planning programs and threatened our leadership in the world community by tying our payment of dues to the United Nations and other international organizations to these unrelated family planning issues.

Current law, with which Administration policy is fully consistent, already prohibits the use of Federal funds to pay for abortion abroad and for lobbying on abortion issues. This bill would go beyond those limits. One provision would deny U.S. Government funding for family planning programs carried out by foreign nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) that use their own funds to perform abortions even though the overall result of these NGO family planning programs is to reduce the incidence of abortion. Although the bill allows the President to waive this restriction, use of the waiver would also cripple many programs by limiting annual spending for international family planning to \$356 million, \$44 million below the amount available for Fiscal Year 1998.

A second provision would attempt to restrict the free speech of foreign NGOs by prohibiting funding for those that use their own funds to engage in any activity intended to alter the laws of a foreign country either to promote or to deter abortion. The bill would even ban drafting and distributing material or public statements on abortion. The bill does not contain a waiver for this restriction.

These restrictions and the funding limit would severely jeopardize the ability of the United States to meet the growing demand for family planning and other critical health services in developing countries. By denying funding to organizations that offer a wide range of safe and effective family planning services, the bill would increase unwanted pregnancies and lead to more abortions than would otherwise be the case.

I am also deeply concerned that the Congress has effectively tied these unacceptable restrictions on international family planning to payment of legitimate U.S. arrears to the United Nations and other international organizations. A strong United Nations, with the United States playing a leadership role, is in our national interest. Payment of our dues to the United Nations is essential to our ability to lead. There are strongly held beliefs on both sides of the debate over international population policy. These issues ought to be considered separately on their own merits; they should not be permitted to hinder U.S. obligations to the world community.

The package authorizing arrears payments linked to UN reforms was the result of good-faith negotiations between my Administration and the Congress more than a year and a half ago. Unfortunately, due to the passage of time, some of these conditions are now outdated and are no longer achievable. In particular, the fact that the UN has concluded negotiations on assessment rates for the next 3 years has significantly decreased our ability to negotiate a limitation on the U.S. assessed share of the UN regular budget below 22 percent. Furthermore, the increase in contested arrears during this period requires that the United States have additional flexibility in obtaining a contested arrears account. While many of the UN reform benchmarks in the package

remain acceptable, significant revisions are required, and I look forward to working with the Congress next year to secure the payment of our arrears and an achievable package of UN reforms.

The Bill contains important and carefully negotiated authority to reorganize the foreign affairs agencies and other basic authorities for these agencies. Many of these provisions were supported by my Administration, and I am pleased that they have been included in the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for FY 1999.

For the foregoing reasons, I am compelled to return H.R. 1757 without my approval.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

THE WHITE HOUSE,
October 21, 1998.

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Partnership for Central American Reconstruction**REMARKS BY MRS. GORE****PRIVATE-PUBLIC PARTNERSHIP FOR CENTRAL AMERICAN RECONSTRUCTION****DECEMBER 15, 1998**

Thank you Brian, for that introduction. And thank you for the tremendous job you are doing at the U.S. Agency for International Development to respond to this crisis.

Let me start this morning by welcoming everyone here today. Distinguished Ambassadors, members of the cabinet, representatives from the donor community, and everyone who joins us today from the private sector -- it is a pleasure to be with you. I think the tremendous outpouring of support and concern from the private sector in the wake of Hurricanes Mitch and Georges is a reflection of your remarkable generosity and of your understanding that we are all neighbors in the Americas.

The scale of the disasters, we now know, is staggering. Just from Hurricane Mitch, there are more than 9,000 confirmed deaths and another 9,100 missing and feared dead. Some 3 million people were left homeless or displaced. Total damages exceed 8.5 billion dollars throughout the region in lost property, infrastructure and crops.

This is, literally, the worst storm in recorded history in this hemisphere. Over a third of Honduras' 10,000 schools were damaged or destroyed. Hospitals and health clinics suffered extensive damage. Conditions there have created a public health emergency with diseases like cholera and malaria now emerging.

Despite such terrible devastation, the courage and spirit of the people of Central America is inspiring. President Clinton, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, who also recently returned from Central America, and my husband, Vice President Gore, join me in the admiration I feel for a people who refuse to be defeated or discouraged in the face of such overwhelming devastation and destruction.

I met many such people just weeks after the storm when I led a Presidential Delegation to the region. And I can tell you that what I saw there had a profound effect on me. Let me say this: it is hard to comprehend the damage and the conditions without seeing them firsthand. The destruction is unlike anything we have ever faced here in the United States. Entire communities had been swept away. Houses in downtown Tegucigalpa had flooding up to the second floor. I spoke with families who had to wade through waist deep water and mud to escape from their homes in the middle of the night. These families had seen their homes, all of their possessions and their most cherished family treasures all destroyed in the fury of rain and mud. Now these same families are living in small schools that have been turned into makeshift shelters, and are trying to imagine a way that they can begin their lives anew.

I talked to mothers who had lost their children and fathers who had seen entire crops and livelihoods disappear. In Managua, we went to the Ciudad Sandino to see the flood damage. An entire village was washed away -- utterly destroyed. People were constructing makeshift shelters from whatever materials they could find -- sometimes these were as rudimentary as plastic sheets draped on sticks that had been stuck in the ground. Only one small stream was available in the area as a water supply, and it was far from clean. As a result, people now find themselves battling cholera and malaria.

During our visit, I was able to announce expanded U.S. aid for the region and we delivered additional food and medicine on our flights. I was also pleased that our delegation was able to work side by side with the community leaders to assist in the clean up effort. We helped clean out a kindergarten that had six inches of mud on the floor and helped bag relief supplies in Managua. It gave us a very important sense of the work that must be done for these communities to rebuild.

And the issues of rebuilding and reconstruction are exactly why we are gathered here today.

Our goal in Central America is simple. We must plan for a reconstruction effort that does more than replace what was washed away. We want to see the countries of this region move forward in the direction they were headed before these storms hit -- on the path to stronger, more prosperous democratic and economic development. We cannot allow the progress that has been made in recent years -- the steady march to more open markets and democracy in Central America -- to get washed away in the aftermath of these storms.

Getting Central America back on track will demand the help of many of the people in this room. It will also demand that the private sector and the public sector work together in real and meaningful partnership. I have been very encouraged by the efforts I have already seen and hope that this conference will spur on many more opportunities to join forces. I know that a great number of American companies and non-profits have already made significant contributions. From American Airlines donating transportation of relief supplies, to General Mills donating a half million pounds of flour, to the many garment manufacturers who have helped supply clothing, to the work of Purdue and Cornell University in lending expertise to help improve health care and education, and to the many other too numerous to mention -- you have already made a terrific difference in the lives of people who have been so very hard hit.

I am also pleased that our federal agencies -- many who are not traditionally involved in international disaster relief efforts -- have been reaching out to work in tandem with the private sector. For example, I know that HUD is working with homebuilders on how to restore shelter for thousands of people. USDA has been working with some of the larger food manufacturing groups on large scale food donations to the region. The Department of Labor has reached out to unions to help organize donations and relief supplies. As Brian mentioned, USAID is working with Toledo and nine other cities to help establish state-of-the-art centers to manage public donations in response to humanitarian crises.

I also know that USAID has worked very closely with Lucent Technologies, who has helped finance the phone bank that USAID has been operating to field calls from the American public who wish to contribute to the relief effort.

Transportation Secretary Rodney Slater, joined by Mack McClarty, is joining us now from New Orleans to announce some good news from the Department of Transportation. Secretary Slater --are you there?

[Satellite call from Secretary Slater.]

These public-private partnerships are a phenomenal example of the tremendous capabilities that we have gathered here today, and they give me great optimism that we can rebuild and move forward in Central America.

Last week, the President met with Presidents from the regions hardest hit and announced \$17 million in additional aid, bringing the total U.S. relief effort up to \$300 million. He also announced that he will visit the region personally early next year to survey the damage and to look at ways the U.S. can further support long-term reconstruction efforts.

The International Monetary Fund has estimated that the external financing needs of Honduras and Nicaragua -- the two hardest-hit nations -- will be approximately \$1.4 billion over the next several years. The President announced that the U.S. and other creditor nations will relieve Honduras and Nicaragua from debt service obligations until 2001. The U.S. will urge other creditors to provide similar relief.

Much of the financing for reconstruction in Central America will come from the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). As the largest shareholder in the IDB, the United States has worked to ensure that sufficient resources will be available for rebuilding Central America. The IDB alone has already approved \$353 million in financing for relief, recovery and reconstruction -- and it is redirecting up to \$430 million in loans to help finance recovery from Mitch.

Today, you will have a chance to hear some very detailed breakdowns of the different needs by sector in the region. It is my hope that this information will help all of you figure out the best, and most

appropriate ways, to move forward with assistance.

I also want to stress that it is Central America itself who is leading the relief and recovery effort. In prioritizing donations and public sector contributions, we must at all times heed the leadership, capabilities and needs as they are determined on the ground. We need to listen to our partners in Central America and figure out how we can best assist them in that effort.

Indeed, if there is a silver lining to this storm, it is that it happened during a time when the people of all the Americas understand their deeply shared ties and common vision for greater prosperity and freedom for all their peoples. The outpouring of support for Central America has come from Tierra Del Fuego to Alaska, and will continue to do so. Central America is the natural bridge that bonds North and South America. We share more than just borders with the 32 million people of Central America -- we share family. Our lives are forever linked.

I believe this conference is a very important step in mobilizing action from around America, public and private, in showing that blood is indeed far thicker than water. Both the President and the Vice President, and Mrs. Clinton, are fully behind this effort today, and collectively I know that there is no challenge that those of you represented here today cannot meet. Thank you.

[More Speeches by Mrs. Gore](#)

Partnership for Central American Reconstruction

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

October 17, 2000

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

Today I am pleased to sign into law H.R. 1143, the "Microenterprise for Self-Reliance and International Anti-Corruption Act of 2000." The primary purpose of this legislation is to authorize continued and expanded efforts to provide assistance to the world's poorest entrepreneurs. The Act is the result of a long process of collaboration and negotiation among Members of Congress, my Administration, and the nonprofit microenterprise community represented by the Microenterprise Coalition. I congratulate all who worked on this bipartisan, public-private effort.

I am proud that my Administration has put microenterprise development and democratizing access to capital on the national and international agenda. When I was Governor of Arkansas, the First Lady and I encouraged and supported some of the first microenterprise programs in the United States. Thanks to the work of pioneering microenterprise development organizations around the world, all of us have come to appreciate the potential of microenterprise as means to empower poor people, especially women, to help themselves and their families.

Microenterprise programs help self-employed entrepreneurs obtain loans for small business enterprises to begin the process of growing out of poverty. Without microenterprise programs administered by the Agency for International Development and many nongovernmental organizations, these poor entrepreneurs abroad would not be able to borrow the small amount of money needed to get their repair shops, sewing shops, or similar businesses, off the ground. This is not a gift to these entrepreneurs, it is a loan. And experience has shown that these small loans are repaid and, in the process, these small-scale enterprises generate income and jobs for poor families.

This Act also represents a breakthrough in recognizing the value of business development services to the very poorest entrepreneurs. To many poor entrepreneurs, basic training and technical assistance in running a business can be as important as a loan.

In addition, H.R. 1143 authorizes a range of programs to promote good governance and democratization overseas. The United States has long encouraged and funded programs that foster an independent media, establish audit offices for executive agencies, and promote judicial reform. This legislation contains authority to provide assistance in furtherance of these programs to countries that would otherwise be prohibited from receiving U.S. assistance. While no direct assistance to the governments of such countries can be provided under this authority, the legislation and its history make clear that assistance to such governments through nongovernmental organizations would be permissible.

The Act also contains the "Support for Overseas Cooperative Development Act," which expresses support for the development and expansion of U.S. economic assistance programs abroad that fully utilize cooperatives and credit unions. My Administration and the Congress value and support the direct involvement of U.S. cooperative organizations in transferring their knowledge to local cooperatives in countries overseas.

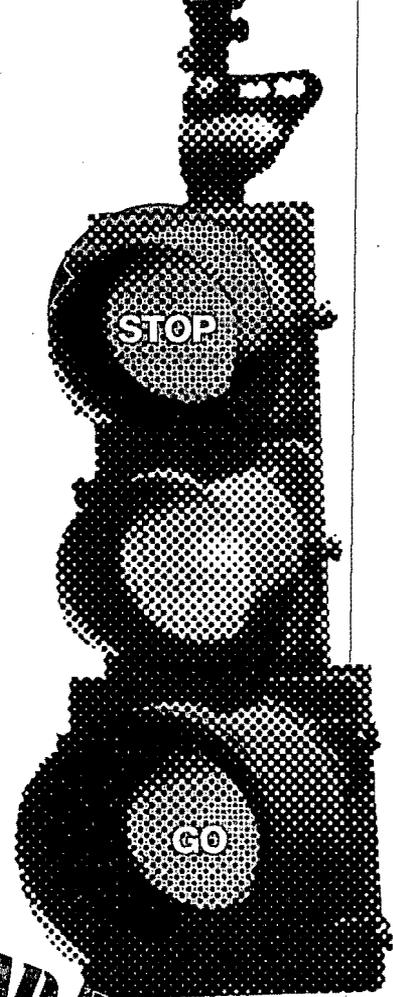
Lastly, I note that H.R. 1143 includes the "International Academic Opportunity Act of 2000," which authorizes the Department of State to establish a grant program, to be called the "Benjamin A. Gilman

International Scholarships." These scholarships will enable American undergraduate students of limited financial means to study abroad, and better prepare them to compete in an increasingly global economy.

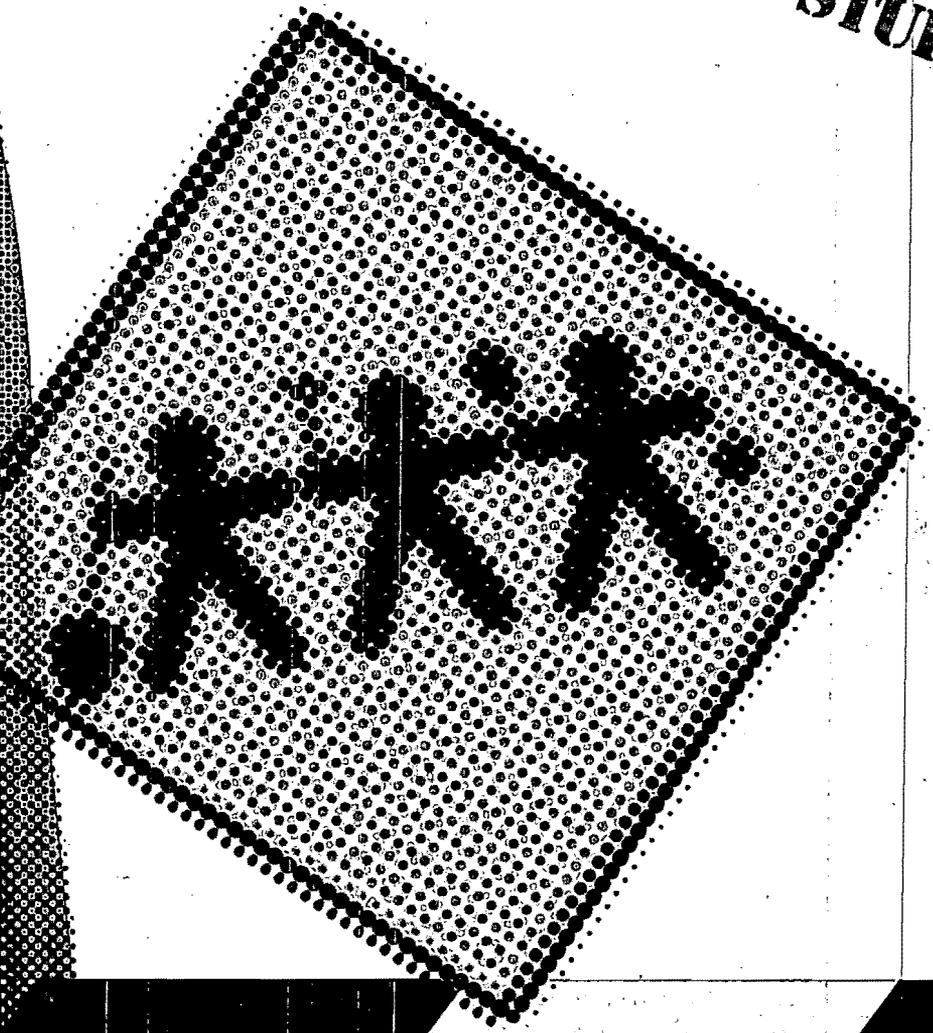
WILLIAM J. CLINTON

THE WHITE HOUSE,
October 17, 2000.

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READ THIS STUDY



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PRESERVATION**

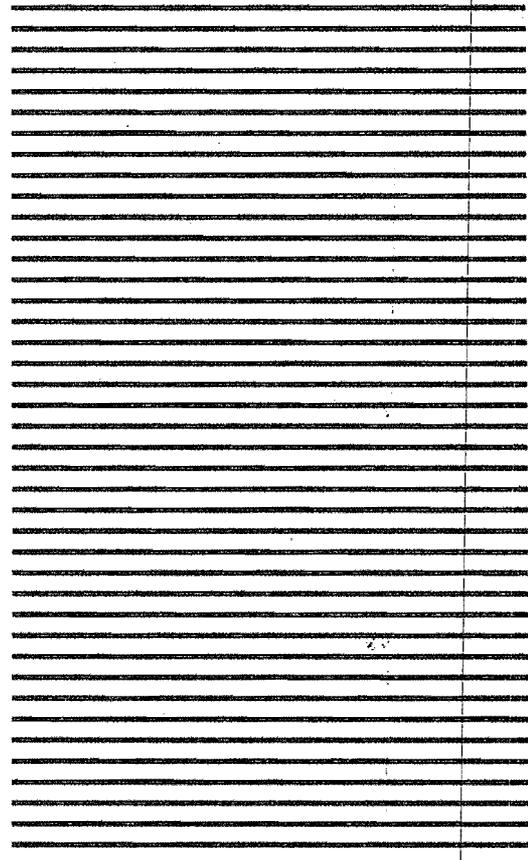
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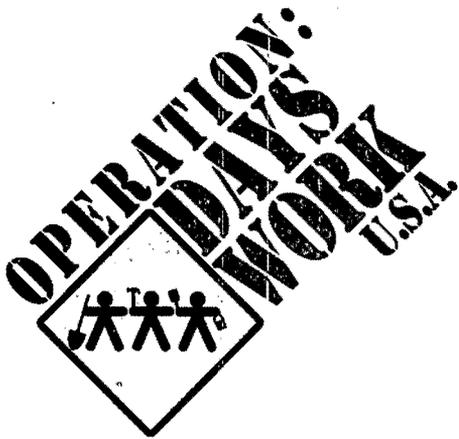
The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is pleased to be the founding sponsor of Operation Day's Work. For more information about USAID, please visit our web site: <http://www.info.usaid.gov>



The International Youth Foundation (IYF) is a founding partner with USAID of Operation Day's Work. Learn more about IYF and its programs at www.iyfnet.org



PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION



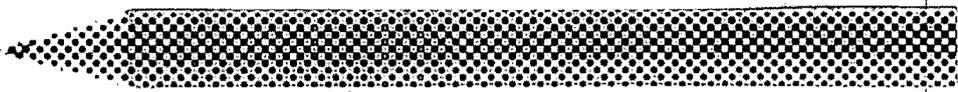
To find out how your school can get involved:



202-712-4021



<http://odw.info.usaid.gov>



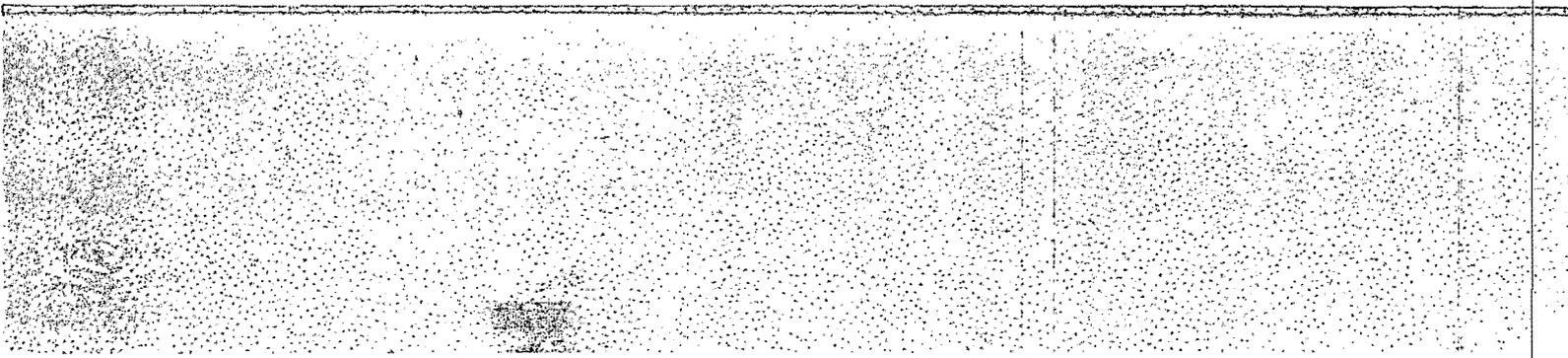
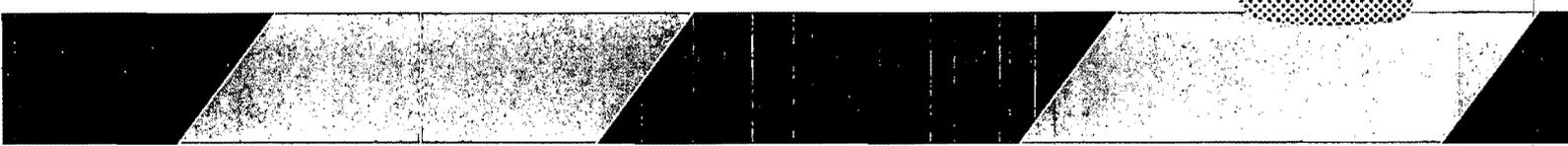
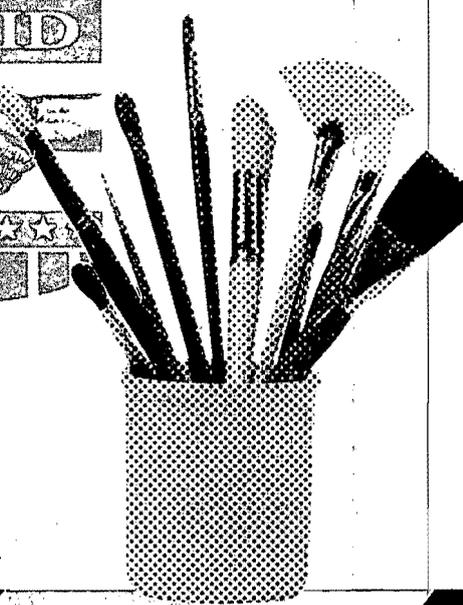
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USAID





U.S. AGENCY FOR
INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT

Dear Educators and Youth Programmers:

I am writing to introduce you to an exciting new student initiative called Operation Day's Work – USA (ODW). While ODW is a new organization, it has already had a dramatic impact on many U.S. students, providing a way for them to learn about and engage with the world through service. In addition, the work students do as part of Operation Day's Work benefits their communities as well as their peers in developing nations.

For schools, ODW is a way to build partnerships with community organizations, businesses, parents and leaders, solidifying their position as stakeholders in education. For students, ODW can be used as a fun and rewarding way to fulfill service requirements.

Perhaps the best thing about ODW is that each school can adapt the program to meet its needs. There is no minimum number of students and teachers who need to be involved, and no limit to the number of people that can engage in Operation Day's Work.

I hope you will review the attached materials, share them with young people, visit the program web site, and encourage students to apply online to become ODW members.

Please visit our web site to review an up to date ODW calendar for the remainder of the school year at: <http://odw.info.usaid.gov>. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me (via e-mail at paustin@usaid.gov or by phone at 202-712-4021).

I look forward to your participation in Operation Day's Work!

Sincerely,

Paul Austin
Operation Day's Work Director
USAID

Operation Day's Work Constitution

We, the Youth of the United States of America, strongly believe that every child deserves the opportunity to choose his or her own path to success. We believe that knowledge and understanding are maps that lead down these paths. Operation Day's Work strives for local, national, and universal unity among all youth through friendship, service, and global financial support. After educating ourselves about our chosen culture and project, we work for a day to raise funds for this cause. We are youth helping youth to help themselves.

Operation Day's Work is a student run organization that seeks to improve the lives of young people around the world through education. Each year students across America will select a project that will improve the lives of our peers in one or more developing countries. We will raise money to fund our project by working for a day in our own communities. To demonstrate our respect for those we hope to help, the Operation Day's Work committee in each member school will work to educate themselves, other students, and their community about inequality of opportunity for youth in developing nations.

We have organized ourselves to remain flexible as we grow, and created a structure based on the concept that all local schools and their representatives will make decisions that are in the best interest of our organization. To reach our goals, our entire organization must work together in unison.

Operation Day's Work Member Schools

The foundation of our organization is the Operation Day's Work member school. Member schools will plan annual work activities. Each school will also plan activities to educate their peers and their community about the mission of Operation Day's Work and the project they have chosen to fund. Each member school will participate in voting to choose an annual project.

Operation Day's Work member school committees will make all local decisions, including: determining the role of advisors, choosing criteria and a selection process for its representatives, deciding on the age range of participants in their school community, keeping records of committee decisions, and taking on program sponsors according to the constitutional guidelines. Member schools may choose to recruit other schools to Operation Day's Work, or to form regional organizations that they believe would be helpful to their program.

Operation Day's Work Annual Convention

Each year there will be a National Operation Day's Work Convention. At each Annual Convention, schools that participate in Operation Day's Work will be represented equally by elected delegates. The National Committee will determine the number of delegates from member schools.

The Annual Convention will make any necessary changes to the Constitution. The Annual Convention will decide on a theme or country to support and elect members of the National Committee for the coming year. All votes at the Annual Convention will be decided by majority rule.

Operation Day's Work National Committee

The National Committee will consist of thirteen members who reflect the diversity of the Operation Day's Work member schools. Committee members will be elected for a term of one year. A person may serve a maximum number of four years on the National Committee. These terms do not have to be consecutive.

Electing National Committee Members - Beginning in 2001, any ODW member school can nominate up to two candidates for the national committee. These candidates may be students or alumni who participated in ODW at the nominating school.

There will be two votes to elect the thirteen national committee members at the annual convention. In the first vote, convention delegates will vote for three candidates from among all nominees. The three candidates who receive the most votes will serve as at large members of the national committee. For the second vote, the sitting national committee will divide the nominees into five regions that each contain a similar number of member schools. Convention delegates from each region will then vote for two candidates from their region. The two candidates in each region who receive the most votes will serve as regional members of the national committee. If a nominee can not be seated on the national committee because two or more candidates receive the same number of votes, a run-off vote will be held to decide between those candidates.

National Committee Duties - The National Committee will be responsible for making major decisions that affect the organization as a whole. The National Committee shall solicit and receive proposals for the chosen country or theme, pick a date upon which all member schools will choose the year's project, and develop a system for voting on that project. The National Committee will determine if prospective Operation Day's Work schools meet the criteria for membership in our organization. The National Committee shall manage the Organization's finances and will be responsible for keeping records of its decisions, so as to keep them open and available.

The National Committee will be responsible for dealing with all curriculum issues. This committee will make finding roles for Operation Day's Work alumni to continue to serve our organization a priority. A majority vote of the national committee is required for all decisions.

Choosing a Country or Theme

While choosing a country, ODW students are not required to either base our decisions on U. S. political and economic interests or select countries with a USAID presence. When considering the recipients for Operation Day's Work funding, the following criteria must be met: the project cannot promote a government or religion, it must have an education base, and it must be sustainable after our funding. We must consider a country's basic needs and current overall status.

Each year, when selecting a national project to fund for the chosen country or theme, the project that receives a majority of votes at a member school will count as having received one vote in the national selection.

Workdays

All school workdays must be held in the spring of each school year after that year's project has been selected. Schools are encouraged to hold their workdays within a one-month period, to be set by the national committee. Schools may work on more than one day.

Joining Operation Day's Work

Middle, junior high, and high schools including any of grades six through twelve may become member schools of Operation Day's Work. Any number of students with an advisor may start an Operation Day's Work committee at their school. In order to become a recognized Operation Day's Work member school, committee members must complete a questionnaire and/or essay that will be reviewed by the National Committee. There will be no limit to the number of schools who can join Operation Day's Work.

Schools may join Operation Day's Work at any time. Each year the National Committee will set a deadline by which new Operation Day's Work schools must join if they are to take part in voting for that year's project. The purpose of the deadline is to ensure that all schools have proper time to educate themselves about the country and projects before voting. All schools must update their contact information with Operation Day's Work in each school year to remain members..

Role of Elementary School Participants

Operation Day's Work member schools may invite elementary school students to join in any part of their activities, including voting. The elementary schools may be allowed to participate in voting for projects to fund, decision-making, workdays and international days. Member schools who wish to include elementary school students in selecting the national project may count the votes of elementary students using their own voting system.

Sponsorships and Use of Funds

Local Sponsorships - All local sponsorship decisions, including appropriate recognition of sponsors, will be made by ODW member schools. Since a primary goal of ODW is to work for the funds used to support projects in developing countries, it is suggested that gifts or donations to ODW member schools be used to sponsor student community service work or to cover local program administrative costs. When recruiting sponsors, local schools are encouraged to consider similar criteria as those for national sponsors outlined below.

National Sponsorships - All national sponsorships and partnership decisions, including appropriate recognition of sponsors, will be made by the ODW national committee. The national committee and ODW staff will seek financial support from public and private institutions that have demonstrated leadership, institutional responsibility, and support for ideas related to the mission of ODW.

The National Committee must refuse donations from corporations or companies that manufacture alcohol or tobacco products, produce war supplies or firearms, create environmental destruction, violate child labor laws, test non-medical products on animals, or have unfair labor policies.

Use of Funds - The national committee may use up to 10% of the funds raised by member schools to offset program costs of the ODW national organization.

Approved and amended on the 13th day of October, 2000 by the Delegates to the Operation Day's Work 1st Annual Convention.

Take the challenge ... change the world.

Operation Day's Work (ODW) is a new national organization that is run by students.

ODW creates a framework that exposes students to the dynamic and diverse world around them, while they learn about the importance of volunteerism and community-building. It empowers young people to show the world that they can be real leaders, and that a good idea can make a powerful difference in helping people improve their lives. Annually, ODW students collectively select a developing country to study and fund a project related to education, for example, school construction or repair, school supplies and textbooks, scholarships, vocational training, and so on.

Students across America then review and vote on project proposals in the selected country, deciding which activities would most effectively help their peers. In the spring, students and teachers at each ODW school organize activities to educate and enlist the help of their classmates, school administration, local leaders, and community.

Finally, students organize a work day to raise funds for the project they have selected. Individual schools and students will choose what the work day will entail—from mowing lawns and working in factories or offices in the community to getting sponsors for community service projects like cleaning a park. Proceeds earned by the students are donated to the development assistance project that the students have chosen. Operation Day's Work can tie to any subject, bringing it to life through real-world problem solving. From social studies and geography to arts, literature, health, and science, ODW brings a mission to learning and gives students an opportunity to learn about the very complex and exciting world they live in.



**To learn more about Operation Day's Work
and how your school can get involved, visit
our web site at <http://odw.info.usaid.gov>**

When your school joins ODW, you will receive a password to enter the members' section of our web site. The members' section contains tools and advice to help teachers and students make Operation Day's Work a success at your school. We will be adding to the web site throughout the 1999-2000 school year. Our interactive web site allows students and teachers across America to share ideas to help each other make ODW a success. Here is some of what you will find:

Free ODW Video

Our Operation Day's Work video traces the program to its roots in Norway. The story of ODW is told in the words of the young people who started the program in the United States. The video is a great introduction to the program for young people and adults.

Tool Kits

We supply several tool kits that will give students and teachers examples of letters to businesses, press releases, permission slips, and advice on working in a group, organizing, and planning your activities.

Curriculum Materials

We'll provide examples of lesson plans and activities that students and teachers can use to plan their International Day or Week and teach their peers about ODW and developing countries.

Discussion Forums

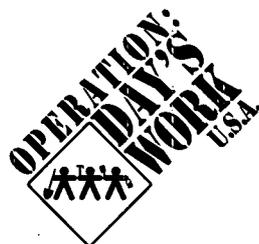
Each part of the members' site has a discussion forum to exchange ideas with other ODW students across the country about the topics in that section.

Information and Links to the Project Country

We supply all sorts of information about this year's project country and links to people in that country. You will also find enrichment ideas for your ODW program in our members' section.

Funding Ideas

We share sample grant applications and other resources to help schools make the most of ODW.



To learn more about Operation Day's Work and how your school can get involved, visit our web site at <http://odw.info.usaid.gov>

ODW in the Classroom

Operation Day's Work can tie to any subject, bringing it to life through real-world problem solving. From social studies and geography to arts, literature, health, and science, ODW brings a mission to learning and gives students an opportunity to learn about the very complex and exciting world they live in.

Youth Development

Operation Day's Work enables students to develop leadership, confidence, and analytical thinking. The students get to choose a mission and then solve the intricate problems of planning and implementation to complete their mission. They learn the value of teamwork and delegation, and they learn to take responsibility for their part of the collective plan.

Civil Society

Operation Day's Work gives students an opportunity to participate in their own functioning democracy. Students learn consensus building, position advocacy, information sharing, and campaigning.

Service Learning

Students shape their own community service and work activities and develop the learning activities that surround the work itself.

Leadership and Philanthropy

Young people come together, both in their school communities and across the country, to make decisions about what to do, how to do it, and how to best spend the money raised. By building support for their activities, students learn the structures of their school leadership, community leadership, civic organizations, and local business community.

International Education

Operation Day's Work provides a unique opportunity to learn about nations all over the globe. This knowledge becomes increasingly important for young Americans whose jobs will exist in a global economy and a world of political interrelation.

Helping Others

Students choose projects to support based on their lasting effects while being careful to avoid unintended and undesirable outcomes. By studying countries around the globe—many whose poverty is at least partially the result of civil war, political strife, and historical tyranny—students learn the importance of preventing conflict and to recognize conditions that lead to it. Students also learn about the links between health, nutrition, education, and societal development, as well as how to think about using societal resources for maximum impact.

Taking Action

Students see that their actions can have a dramatic, direct and positive impact on their own community and on individuals halfway around the world.

Visit our web site at <http://odw.info.usaid.gov>



"ODW has affected me tremendously—the person I was, the person I am, and the person I hope to become—opening my eyes to the world around me, as well as to the power of youth. I hope it has done the same for everyone else, and will continue to do so for the future youth of America."

Erin Merkl, Class of '99
Pius XI High School, Milwaukee, WI

"Joining Operation Day's Work-USA was one of the best decisions I could ever have made. This program gives youth a chance to take action and to stop sitting back and watching bad things happen to the world. The coolest thing about being in ODW-USA is that work we do in our communities and our fundraising helps thousands of children's lives. For me, to know I've done something like that gives me the greatest feeling."

Evelyn McInnes, Grade 8
Broad Meadows Middle School, Quincy, MA

"Operation Day's Work is one of the finest programs any school could become involved in."

Chris Douthit, Teacher
Schroeder Middle School, Grand Forks, ND

"Adults who work with ODW students will find it to be a reinvigorating and overwhelmingly positive experience."

Pablo Muirhead, Teacher
Shorewood Middle School, Shorewood, WI

"In 12 years of teaching and another 10 years of youth work, I have not found a program which has so much positive impact on inner-city youth. As one of the two teacher advisors for the program last year, I was continually amazed at how these students took to the program and rose to the challenges to make the project successful. In a video about the project, produced by Olson students, one child tells how, in the wake of the Columbine High tragedy, this project demonstrates that children, given the opportunity, can show their compassion and hope for a brighter future."

Ken Simon, Teacher
Olson Middle School, Minneapolis, MN

"In a world where we are getting to a point where we can no longer accommodate the growing population of youngsters, we need to see youth as participants, actors, not just receivers. We need to engage youth as part of the solution."

Rick Little, CEO
International Youth Foundation

"To me, Operation Day's Work embodies the compassion and generosity of the American people and affirms our belief in opportunity, personal freedom, and the value of every human being. When our national values are reflected in our actions, we build a better future for the world and ourselves. The young people of Operation Day's Work are demonstrating the best of American leadership."

J. Brady Anderson
USAID Administrator



For more testimonials from ODW participants, visit our web site at <http://odw.info.usaid.gov>

BREAKOUT OF USAID-MANAGED FUNDING - FYs 1992-2001 1/

Discretionary Appropriated levels - Dollars Millions

	<u>FY 1990</u>	<u>FY 1991</u>	<u>FY 1992</u>	<u>FY 1993</u>	<u>FY 1994</u>	<u>FY 1995</u>	<u>FY 1996</u>	<u>FY 1997</u>	<u>FY 1998</u>	<u>FY 1999</u>	<u>FY 2000</u>	<u>FY 2001</u> Estimate
USAID-Direct Appropriations												
Sustainable Development(DA) 2/ *	1,830	2,088	2,099	2,207	2,007	2,077	1,617	1,630	1,725	1,789	1,806	2,080
Credit Programs	48	48	76	79	73	38	13	12	11	9	8	8
USAID Operating Expenses(OE)	432	441	474	518	518	513	494	488	479	503	523	533
IG Operating Expenses	30	34	37	39	39	39	30	30	29	27	25	27
Disaster Assistance	33	108	70	149	166	170	181	190	190	388	227	350
Subtotal-Direct	2,374	2,719	2,757	2,993	2,803	2,837	2,335	2,350	2,434	2,715	2,589	2,998
State & USAID Jointly Manage												
ESF (Incl. Ireland)	3,966	3,981	3,188	2,690	2,365	2,369	2,360	2,363	2,420	2,594	2,792	2,320
SAI-Philippines	159	160	79	43								
SEED-Eastern Europe		370	364	398	382	359	522	475	485	550	533	676
FSA-Former Soviet Republics				1,013	1,154	846	641	625	771	847	836	810
CenAmRecon/Demob&Trng	13	13	64	29								
Central America/Carib. Disaster										614		
Plan Colombia USAID portion											220	
Subtotal-Jointly	4,138	4,523	3,694	4,174	3,900	3,574	3,523	3,463	3,676	4,605	4,381	3,806
Appropriated thru USDA:												
PL 480 Title I 3/	789											
PL 480 Title II	731	815	710	832	822	821	821	837	837	986	800	837
PL 480 Title III		278	334	334	255	117	50	30	30	25		
Subtotal-PL 480	1,520	1,093	1,044	1,166	1,077	939	871	867	867	1,011	800	837
TOTAL USAID-MANAGED	8,032	8,335	7,495	8,332	7,780	7,349	6,729	6,679	6,977	8,331	7,770	7,641
Total in FY 2000 \$	9,852	9,859	8,664	9,395	8,576	7,933	7,126	6,955	7,173	8,456	7,770	7,491

NOTE: ESF Supplementals for the Middle East were provided in FYs 1990 (\$755 million), 1991 (\$850 million), 1999 (\$161 million), 2000 (\$450 million). FSA supplemental was provide in FY-1993 (\$650 million) and FY 1999 (\$46 million). FY 1999 supplementals also included \$614 million for Hurricane Mitch, \$120 million for Kosovo, and \$188 million disaster assistance. FY 2000 supplementals also included Colombia (\$220 million), Kosovo (\$50 million) and Mozambique (\$25 million). FY 2001 supplementals include Mozambique (\$148 million) and Eastern Europe (\$76 million); a requested Israeli supplemental is pending.

1/ Appropriated levels are not adjusted for deobligations/reobligations, rescissions, transfers, or miscellaneous trust funds, except in DA & OE.

2/ Sustainable Development can include, depending on the year, the Development Assistance, the Development Fund for Africa, Child Survival & Diseases, ASHA, and Population accounts.

3/ After Jan. 1, 1991, the PL 480 law was changed and Title I was restructured and subsequently managed by USDA.

Source: USAID CP Summary Tables (spigots)

USAID Atrium Dedication**USAID DEDICATION
Ronald Reagan Building**

**Remarks of First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton
Washington, D.C.
March 16, 1999**

Thank you very much. I am overwhelmed and incredibly honored. I've also never seen a bigger plaque in my entire life. Thank you, Brian. Thank you, USAID, for this tremendous honor. But more than that, thank you for what you do every day to help people to help themselves to transform the conditions in which they live so that they can have a better future for themselves and their children.

I particularly want to thank Senator Leahy and Chairman Callahan for their leadership, especially on behalf of the children of the world. We will never fulfill our global responsibilities and we will never let the world see how we see ourselves, as a good and compassionate people, without the support of leaders like the Senator and Congressman. All of us owe them a debt of gratitude, and all the other members of Congress on both sides of the aisle who recognize clearly that leadership includes responsibilities, and therefore support the work of USAID.

I want to thank Ambassador Ssempala for her remarks and her friendship over the years. And I want to thank all of the ambassadors, many of whom I recognize here in the audience, for being with us today. I have been privileged to visit in many of your countries and to see firsthand the work that is being done there, and I am grateful for your attendance here.

I also want to thank the extraordinary Eastern High School Choir that you have enjoyed, and the Marine Corps Brass Quintet. And I know that there are students here gathered over in that area who are part of a new program called Operation Day's Work --and these students from the McFarland Middle School here in Washington, and St. Louis Park Senior High School, are taking part in this first day of trying to reach out and help the people of Haiti.

We have realized that we need to do more to enlist the imagination and the work of young people who live here in our country in this time of great blessing and prosperity -- so that they would understand what the lives of young people around the world were like. And I am very hopeful that this new program will grow and grow so that many, many American students will have the same experience.

As I was listening to Brian speak -- talking about the many times that he and I have been together and the many places around the world we have visited -- I couldn't help but think of how I have seen him at work and how I have watched his leadership and his tireless commitment in action. He has brought creativity and passion, effectiveness, and down-to-earth common sense leadership to USAID. And because of that we are gathered here in this beautiful atrium looking out at so many of you who do the work of USAID. And knowing that because of this man's leadership, your work is more understood and appreciated and finally acknowledged than it would have been before.

In some parts of the world -- it may have been hard for those of us here at home to understand -- USAID assistant administrators are treated almost like rock stars. We show up somewhere together and people say to them, "I'm so glad to see you because you brought so much hope." In very concrete ways they talk about the changes that have occurred since the last visit. And when I am there in a village, in a barrio, in

any setting around the world, with those of you who work with USAID and our partners in the voluntary sector and in the private sector, I wish I could have every single American with me to see for themselves the work that you do.

Like many Americans, before I moved to Washington and began living in the White House, I hadn't traveled very much around the world. I had traveled some, but certainly not to South America or Africa, most parts of Asia, Central or Eastern Europe. And so for me, when I began the great privilege of representing our country, I began to see things that I had never seen before. I hadn't seen them on our television programs, I hadn't really read about them very often in our newspapers. I knew, because I had friends who worked for both USAID and other voluntary organizations that did development work, that there was a lot of work going on, but it had never been really visible to me. And I began to wonder, as I traveled, what I could do to try to make the work -- that before had been invisible, but now is not only visible but also is making an incredible impression on me -- more available to my fellow citizens.

One of the ways I chose was to be sure to go places that were not likely to make the evening news, because too often we only see the tragedies and the crises. We only hear the stories of deprivation; we don't see the faces of people who are working for themselves and changing their lives. So when I began to travel, I wanted to go to those places. I wanted to see for myself where my tax dollars were going. I wanted to learn what was effective and how it could be more so. And I constantly wished and hoped that more Americans, perhaps through my visits, could see and learn what I was experiencing.

So when I was in South Africa, the first time I could I went out to a small plot of land which was very barren and met the women who told me with great pride that they were going to build their own village, they were going to build their houses, they were going to build the stores and the streets, and they were going to be moving out of the shanty town where they had crowded in deplorable conditions and start new lives with their families. I could see the determination, but the dream seemed so far out of reach. But through a combination of microcredit loans and assistance not only from their government, but also from religious organizations and USAID and from many independent organizations, when I returned a year later with the President, I said I have to go back out to this housing area. And it was hard to put it on the calendar, and I couldn't get it on the President's calendar, to be sure. But I said, "Well, there is open time here before the President has to make a speech; he'll be working with his speech writers and advisors about what he's going to say to the South African Parliament, so I could just sneak off and go see the women and how they're doing."

But when my husband heard that I was going to get to go off and see the housing project and he was going to be in a hotel room talking about a speech, he said to his schedulers, "No, I want to use that time to go as well." And those of you who have ever been around a Presidential visit -- it's hard to just kind of sneak off and show up. So the word went out that the President, indeed, was going to come to the housing project, and all of a sudden all kinds of things began to occur. But when we went out there, there weren't the maybe one or two dozen houses I expected to see after a year's worth of effort. There were, as Brian said, more than a hundred. And the women had purchased a plot of land right over the railroad tracks so that they could expand another four hundred houses. They proudly took me into the houses that had been completed, and they took me to the day care center that they had started, and they took me to the store. And they made Bill and me actually do some work ourselves so that we could contribute to the building of one of their houses.

It is that image, it is that reality, that I have been privileged to see in every corner of the globe. People who, yes, are poor, people without a lot of formal education, but with the same hopes and aspirations for their lives and the lives of their children as you and I share -- who need just some encouragement, some help, some technical assistance --and if given that, they'll demonstrate their good faith and will be able to

create a better future for themselves.

I wish every American could meet the women that I've met in health clinics in Bolivia or Brazil, in Istanbul, in places all over the world. Women who, for the first time, are being given the opportunity to have access to the health care that they and their children need; who are learning about how to care for their young children's nutritional, physical, and other needs.

I remember so well the health minister in Brazil with whom I've met. He was a state health minister; he had been a doctor for many years. And I visited a maternity hospital which took care of women who were in the joyous experience of having their children and learning to take care of them, and also women who were there because they had no family planning and they had unfortunately sought out back-alley abortions. And I remember the health minister saying that his mission was to make sure that poor women had access to the same family planning services that rich women had always had. And that made a great impression on me, because in country after country -- sometimes even in my own -- I listen to people talk about what poor people are entitled to and what services they should have, in a way that seems to deny their rights to the same opportunities as the rest of us because of our positions in society can take advantage of.

I know that USAID has not always been well known in our country, and sometimes it is better known in other places around the world. But when USAID commemorated the 50th anniversary of U.S. foreign assistance two months ago, it should remind us that the roots of this program are deep. Its origins go back to President Truman's inaugural address in 1949. The White House, as White Houses usually do, sent out a memo asking for ideas for a speech designed to be a "democratic manifesto addressed to the peoples of the world."

A young public affairs officer at the State Department named Benjamin Hardy came up with one such idea. He suggested that we create a program that would allow the U.S. to share its technical expertise with developing nations. The idea was dismissed outright by his immediate superiors. But he refused to let it die. And he figured out a way to take that idea directly to the White House.

And when the idea reached President Truman, he loved it. In the aftermath of World War II, President Truman understood that America needed to play a pivotal role in creating a world that was safe and secure, peaceful and prosperous. He knew that the world was then, as it is now, looking to us for global leadership.

When the speech was being drafted, everyone assumed the foreign policy agenda would include three points: support for the United Nations, support for the Marshall Plan, and support for a security system for Europe that would become NATO. But Benjamin Hardy's idea became point four. It drew applause from the world community and paved the way for the foreign assistance programs that we have enjoyed over the next years.

By adding that point four, President Truman was sending the message that investing in developing nations was not social work, but a pillar of our foreign policy. It was not only the right thing to do, it was the smart thing to do. And I think that that reasoning of President Truman's is just as true today.

Now, certainly, the world in which we live is very different. We are living in what is called, for want of a better description, the post-Cold War era. That means that we know where we've been, and we sort of know where we are, but we're not sure at all where we're going. Because the world around us has changed so rapidly that we barely have time to catch our breath. And in time of rapid change, it is understandable that some are inclined to draw inward and pull back from the obligations, to catch their

breaths, thinking that maybe there isn't much that can be accomplished and that we should just tend to our business here at home.

But of course, in today's world, that's not even really an option. Every day we see how profoundly interconnected we are in this new era of globalization. Whether it is the international economic crisis or the extraordinary boom in worldwide communications or the threat of infectious diseases or terrorism. We have to acknowledge that, in many ways, our lives and even our destinies are intertwined.

If that is true -- and I think it is -- we have to determine what we do with this new set of conditions. It certainly seems an inappropriate time to turn back on commitments to multilateral organizations that help us understand and work through this new era of interconnection. The International Monetary Fund, the United Nations -- those are institutions that we had a great hand in creating, that we have had a great deal to do in leading and shaping, and which hold promise if we are committed to them in making the kinds of contributions that we expect to be made to build a stronger, stabler future.

It is certainly not the time to withdraw support from the United Nations or to be the number one debtor to the United Nations. It is time for the United States instead to demonstrate our leadership and commitment to the United Nations. It is certainly not a time to withdraw support from foreign assistance programs, but to do as Brian and Chairman Callahan and Senator Leahy have said: to make sure that our foreign assistance programs are effective. And I'm pleased that the President's budget for Fiscal Year 2000 includes a \$270 million increase for USAID.

As I talked with my husband about his recent trip to Central America last week, he kept saying over and over again how he was overwhelmed by all he had seen -- starting with the extraordinary site of the body of the young girl that was embedded in the mudslide in Nicaragua. But he wasn't only telling me about the devastation he had seen, he was telling me also about the positive relief efforts that he had learned about -- what USAID and other American institutions and individuals had done to help bring food and shelter and medicine to Mitch's victims.

And I want publicly to thank Senator Leahy and Congressman Callahan for supporting the President's request for almost \$1 billion in supplemental funding to further help the people of Central America and the Caribbean repair and rebuild their lives. The need, as anyone who has visited can see with their own eyes, is urgent. And I do hope that the Congress acts in a bipartisan fashion to approve this package quickly.

Now we know that in opinion poll after opinion poll, Americans say when asked, that they want to help people overseas. But then they're asked how much money do you think we spend on foreign assistance, time after time, in poll after poll, Americans say they think we spend between 10 and 15 percent of our national budget. Now, of course, you know that we actually spend one half of one percent.

So, there is this paradox that exists. Americans are compassionate, Americans do care, Americans want to be helpful. But they have the wrong idea about what we are doing, and they need more information and education about what the facts are. How can we convey that to them?

Well, just as President Truman did 50 years ago, we have an opportunity, today, to make the case for how foreign assistance creates all kinds of obligations and opportunities that we can meet. How it helps us nurture and sustain democracies, strengthens economies and open markets for American goods and services. How it ensures our security in the face of new threats -- especially with the spread of infectious diseases, pollution, global climate change, population growth or the flight of refugees.

And we should talk about what our foreign assistance does, not in the abstract, not in percentages, or

even in dollars, but with the stories, the down-to-earth stories that actually occur in village after village. So every time we talk about the need to help nations make the difficult transition to democracy and free-market economies, I hope we will humanize and personalize it so Americans have a better idea of what we're talking about.

We need to hear the voices of the people throughout the world who are struggling now after the end of the Cold War to build their own countries, to strengthen their societies, to seek economic opportunities. I would like Americans to hear the voices of the family that I met in Siberia. The grandfather had been a well respected applied mathematician in the closed academic center, where he had worked his entire adult life.

I met with him and his wife, with his two daughters, his son-in-law and his two grandsons. He said, "I always yearned for democracy. I always believed in democracy, but now it makes no sense to me. I don't understand how it is supposed to work. My pension is not paid. I don't have enough money to live on. And my bicycle has been stolen. I don't know what the future holds."

One of his daughters broke in and said, "But Daddy, don't you remember we used to have to stand in line for hours just to buy butter, starting at four or five o'clock in the morning, and often it wasn't even available. Things are better now." And then her father replied, "But all I know is that my bicycle is stolen and my pension is not paid."

And listening to that dialogue, that conversation that could occur in so many different settings and so many parts of the world, brings home how difficult it is to make these transitions that we are expecting and hoping and working for around the world. One just doesn't snap one's fingers and say, "Have a democracy, open your markets, change the way you've always done things, create a new world for yourselves and your children." It took years and years during the Cold War. It took billions and billions, even trillions, of dollars for us to defend our values. And now we have an opportunity, through our foreign assistance, to help people like that grandfather and to help countless men and women around the world be able to put into practice those values that America stands for and how they can be made real in their lives.

If we listen to people, we understand more what we can do to help them really create the conditions for democracy to flourish. Brian mentioned a visit that he and I and the President made in Senegal. The year before, when I was in Senegal, I went to a village where, with USAID support, people were learning the fundamentals of democracy. Both men and women were standing up and having discussions and taking votes about what should happen in their village -- a totally new concept that had never before been part of their culture or tradition. And out of the skits and efforts that one of the groups engaged in, they began to ask themselves about things they would like to change and they decided in one village to start talking about the ancient practice of FGM [female genital mutilation]. That conversation led to a vote. That vote led to the banning of FGM in that one village.

And then two men in that village began to walk from village to village talking with other men and women about what they had just done through a democratic process in their village. And pretty soon another village and another village -- and 13 villages in all -- voted to ban FGM. Then they decided to go to the Capital and bring a petition to the president. And just last month, Senegal adopted a law banning FGM. And it became a model and it started with a very small USAID grant that over years began to change attitudes and behaviors.

I believe that we have learned a lot about what makes for effective foreign assistance. We've learned how to be very targeted with our assistance, we've learned how to leverage our assistance, and we've begun

to see the results of that changed approach.

In Bulgaria, I met entrepreneurs whom USAID is helping to start businesses to get that economy going as strong as it can. At a small clinic in Nepal, I saw how this little box -- a safe home delivery kit which contains a bar of soap, twine, wax, a plastic sheet, and a clean razor blade -- can dramatically reduce maternal and neonatal deaths. And in Bangladesh, I learned how the government is providing food and money to encourage families to keep their daughters in school.

Now these may seem, in the great scheme of things, small little steps. But every time we stand up as Americans for human dignity, for education, for health care, every time we say we want to help you become full participants in your society, to understand how markets work, to build a democracy, we are saying not only we want to help you, but we want to help ourselves be the kind of leaders that we should be for the next century. We've also brought home some of those lessons with a USAID program called "Lessons Without Borders," and I hope we continue to bring home lessons that we learn that can help right here in our cities and our rural areas.

I'm going to continue doing what I can to highlight the work of USAID. This Saturday, I will begin a trip to North Africa, with stops in Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco. I am looking forward to that because I know that with populations that total almost one-half of the Arab world, these countries represent a diversity of cultures, ethnic groups, and histories, and provide us an opportunity to learn more about what they are doing, about their history, and to become closer friends and partners in building a better future. For too long, our close ties with the Arab world have been compromised by negative stereotyping on both sides. It is my hope that this trip will help strengthen the bonds of friendship among our nations. Each country I will visit will have certain opportunities for both my learning and, I hope through coverage and the press, learning by Americans in general.

While in Egypt, I will celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Egyptian-Israeli Peace Treaty and the breathtaking culture that distinguishes that nation and its past. In Tunisia, I will hear about their remarkable record on women's rights -- which is the envy of most of the world. And in Morocco, I will see how that country's unique experiment with political pluralism, religious tolerance, and the growth of civil society could serve as a model to others.

To be sure, there are many challenges that remain in those three countries, like in any country around the world. Challenges that find people asking themselves: How do we combine political stability with respect for human rights? How do we adapt to the global economy without leaving vulnerable citizens behind? I hope to see how USAID is helping to answer those and other questions.

Later this year, I will complete my tour of this region with visits to two other important allies -- Israel and Jordan. Because of the election in Israel and the mourning of His Majesty King Hussein in Jordan, it was not appropriate to schedule trips there at this time. But I very much look forward to visiting Israel and Jordan in the months ahead.

If we are now looking forward, as we must, to the end of this century and to the beginning of the next one, we can take no better model than to look back at President Truman and the creation of foreign assistance, the creation of the Marshall Plan. I've read a lot about it, and I know it was a difficult sell for the President and others to go around our country and say, "We want to use to your tax dollars to rebuild Nazi Germany."

But because a broad coalition of people in government, and the private sector, and academia, and throughout our country came together and we made the case for engagement and leadership -- and that is what we must do again today.

Members of Congress, business leaders, journalists, and others who travel throughout the world can help all of us here at home better understand why it is in America's interest to support the work that goes on in this building.

People like Benjamin Hardy had a good idea, and many of you who are development professionals have had many other good ideas over the years. I hope that I will be able to continue to support you, but I hope more than that, that many Americans will come to understand what you do and how your work is part of a fundamental debate about what role our country will play in a changing world. It is not a debate that is limited to one sector of our society -- it is a debate that should engage all Americans. I'm convinced that if Americans have the information about what you do, they will support your work, and they will not only support it, they will understand why it is an integral part of the kind of leadership that we expect to exercise in the 21st century.

I'm fully confident that when the history of the past 50 years is written, we will not only point to the Cold War and its ending, we will not only recognize that the values of America have been given an opportunity unlike any opportunity in human history to flourish, but we will also recognize that our nation has a great deal at stake in working with people all around the world who wish to build a better, more peaceful, more stable, economically prosperous future. And when we recognize that, then the role of USAID and foreign assistance will be understood as I think it deserves to be -- as truly one of the pillars of American leadership.

Thank you very much.

March 1999

HBO Women in Sports

Art Education

Women and Sports

International Women's Day

UNIFEM Luncheon

Women's Equality Summit

Importance of Reading To Children

Millennium Evening on Women

USAID Atrium Dedication

Vitamin A Deficiency Initiative

Women and Politics