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United States Department of State

Tell her about this
Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration

Washington, D.C. 20520-5824

TO: Melanne Verveer
Chief of Staff
Office of the First Lady

FROM: Julia V. Taft, Assistant Secretary *Julia Taft*

SUBJECT: The First Lady's Involvement in ICPD+5

The United Nations is leading a five-year review of the implementation of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Program of Action. We would be honored to have the First Lady actively involved in the review on behalf of the United States.

The ICPD held in Cairo in 1994 was the first time the international community recognized that achieving population and development goals required collaboration among the development, education, health, population and women's status fields. Among the goals of the 20-year Program of Action were: achieving universal access to a full range of reproductive health care and family planning services; reducing infant, child and maternal mortality; and gaining universal access to education, particularly for girls.

The focal event of the UN five-year review will be an International Forum hosted by The Netherlands, to be held at The Hague February 8-12, 1999. We are currently working with interagency and NGO groups to prepare for the Forum. With her experience, knowledge and interest in so many of the areas relevant to the ICPD, we feel that the First Lady would be the ideal choice to lead the U.S. delegation to the Forum.

Cynthia Schneider, our ambassador to The Netherlands, told me recently that Mrs. Clinton has expressed an interest in the event. I understand that the UN Population Fund is planning to send an invitation to the First Lady shortly.

Please call me at (202) 647-7360 if I can provide you with any additional information on this matter. I hope you and the First Lady are as excited about this opportunity as I am. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

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U.S. Delegation to The Hague International Forum

February 8-12, 1999

Head of Delegation

Frank E. Loy, Under Secretary for Global Affairs, U.S. Department of State

Members

Julia V. Taft, Assistant Secretary for Population, Refugees and Migration, U.S. Department of State

Margaret Pollack, Director, Office of Population, Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, U.S. Department of State

Duff Gillespie, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Center for Population, Health and Nutrition, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

Elizabeth Maguire, Director, Office of Population, Center for Population, Health and Nutrition, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

Sarah Kovner, Special Assistant to the Secretary, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Amy Coen, President, Population Action International (PAI)

Peggy Curlin, President, Centre for Development and Population Activities (CEDPA)

Gloria Feldt, President, Planned Parenthood Federation of America (PPFA)

Alene Gelbard, Director, International Programs, Population Reference Bureau (PRB)

The Honorable Carolyn Maloney, Member of Congress

Advisers to the U.S. Delegation (but not official members of the U.S. Delegation)

Cynthia Schneider, U.S. Ambassador to the Netherlands

Ambassador Betty King, U.S. Representative to the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

Suzanne Petroni, Program Officer, Office of Population, Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, U.S. Department of State

Barbara Yoder, Bureau of International Organization Affairs, U.S. Department of State

Barbara Crane, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of Population, Center for Population, Health and Nutrition, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

Dianne Sherman, Director of Communications and Outreach, Office of Population, Center for Population, Health and Nutrition, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

Denise Shervington, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Population, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Susan Newcomer, Statistician, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Peter Way, Chief, International Programs Center, U.S. Bureau of the Census

Jim Kelman, Senior Advisor, Office of the Director, U.S. Information Agency (USIA)



The Executive Director

file
UNFPA
United Nations
Population Fund

19 August 1998

Dear Ms. Clinton,

It is an honour and great pleasure for me to invite you, on behalf of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), to address The Hague Forum, which is to be held from 8-12 February 1999 in The Netherlands. The purpose of the Forum is to assess progress and constraints faced by countries in implementing the Programme of Action of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD). The Hague Forum will be a unique opportunity for the world community to refocus attention on the very important issues of reproductive health and rights, gender equality and the empowerment of women, and the inter-relationships between population and sustainable development. It will help to reinforce the forward-looking and innovative agreements reached at the ICPD, which was held in Cairo, Egypt, and help to ensure continued progress towards the full achievement of the goals set at the Conference. Your personal support and dedication to the vision adopted at Cairo has been invaluable and critical to its success. I am convinced that an address by you to the Forum would both inspire us all to rededicate ourselves to the Cairo agenda, in addition to adding urgency to our work in improving the lives of women and men the world over.

The Hague Forum is being organized by UNFPA, in collaboration with the Government of The Netherlands, as an input to the overall process of the five-year review of the ICPD, which will culminate at a Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly from 30 June to 2 July 1999. As such, the Forum will examine the experiences of governments and representatives of civil society in the country-level and operational implementation of the recommendations contained in the 20-year Programme of Action. Preparations for The Hague Forum include broad consultation and participation by representatives of governments; the United Nations system; and civil society, including non-governmental organizations. The outcome of the Forum is expected to provide a strong political impetus and practical input to the overall ICPD review by the General Assembly. At that meeting, leaders at the highest political level will recommit themselves to the goals and objectives of the Cairo Conference and endorse key future actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action.

I do hope that you will be able to participate in The Hague Forum. Your eloquence with regard to the aspirations of women -- their human rights and their empowerment -- has given hope to all women and men working towards these goals. I look forward to receiving a positive response to this invitation, and to hearing from you when you will be able to address the meeting.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Nafis Sadik
Nafis Sadik, M.D.
Under-Secretary-General

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5111

Ms. Hillary Rodham Clinton
First Lady
United States of America
O.e.o.b. 100, Washington, D.C. 20502

THE WASHINGTON POST

12/11/98

JUDY MANN

An Ill-Conceived Way to Fight Abortion

The United Nations Population Fund, with programs in 150 countries, is the largest internationally funded source of population assistance to developing countries.

This fiscal year, thanks to a little-noticed development in federal budget negotiations, the United States, which helped found it, will not be contributing anything to the fund.

The impact of Congress's decision, according to fund demographers, will be to deprive 870,000 women of effective contraception, and to leave more than 520,000 women without any contraceptive method at all. Sarah Craven, the fund's Washington representative, says this will result in 12,000 maternal deaths and 24,500 infant deaths, as well as 500,000 unwanted pregnancies that in turn will lead to 254,000 unwanted births and 200,000 abortions. This, courtesy of the antiabortion cabal in the House.

The U.S. contribution in recent years has been nothing to crow about. The fund has been a political football in U.S. discussions with China about human rights abuses, specifically allegations that the fund supported coerced abortions in China.

In 1986, our contribution was \$46 million, but that was cut to \$20 million in fiscal 1988. The House specifically forbade funding for the program for fiscal 1989; the Senate failed to protect it, and the administration was unable to rescue it during final budget negotiations. The U.S. has just turned its back on the fund. Craven said: "We do not provide abortions or abortion-related activities anywhere in the world, nor equipment, nor involuntary sterilizations."

What the fund did do, which provided ammunition for its opponents, was go back into China, reinitiating programs in 32 counties there.

The program in those counties "focuses on free choice, and no quotas," said Nafis Sadik, an obstetrician and gynecologist from Pakistan who is executive director of the fund. The whole process is helping China to move to a more open system of freedom of choice. If there were any reports of coercion, we would suspend the program.

An international conference to be held in the Hague early next year will take stock of how well 180 countries are doing in meeting population and development goals they agreed on at the 1994 U.N. conference in Cairo. "We can show there's been a very big change in the governments' political will to implement programs dealing with rape, family violence, female genital mutilation, an openness to provide family planning and contraceptive services to all populations," Sadik said. "We need to build on this. I am very distressed by this congressional decision."

"All the work of the donor community is starting to make a difference. . . . If you are concerned about human rights, you should support the [fund's] China program. It will help China change its total policy."

Sadik underscored the point that when the U.S.

representative on the fund's executive board asked whether outsiders could visit the program, "the Chinese responded yes. You can't ask for anything more than that."

A lot of Chinese medical personnel have been trained in the United States and Europe, she noted. "All of them carry back the way of working in clinics here. There are lots of points where change is going to take place and you need to be there to promote this dialogue."

The Population Fund's total budget in 1997 was \$290 million, according to Craven, with the U.S. contribution amounting to 7 percent of the total, or less than \$25 million.

The British government has pledged to increase its funding to help make up for the loss of U.S. funds this year, she noted.

Although the previous U.S. contributions may not have been a large share of the Population Fund's support, "it has tremendous symbolic importance," said Sally Ethelston, spokeswoman for Population Action International, a research and advocacy organization. "The U.S., as a leader, tends to have impact on funding decisions by other countries."

The administration could try to get funding restored in a supplemental foreign aid bill for fiscal 1999 that includes money for the Middle East peace process. The more likely scenario, she thinks, is a full court press around the foreign aid appropriations bill for the year 2000.

At a recent conference on women and development, Frank E. Loy, undersecretary of state for global affairs, said the United States risks being the "biggest Cairo deadbeat of all." Direct U.S. funding to other countries for family planning programs reached \$540 million in 1995, then was slashed 35 percent by Congress to the present level of \$385 million. "We would need to triple our contributions over the next year in order to reach our [Cairo] goal for the year 2000." He described the loss of funding for the U.N. Population Fund as "a particularly painful topic" and vowed that the resumption of funding would be one of his top priorities.

He's likely to have at least one steadfast ally in Rep. John Edward Porter (R-Ill.), a strong supporter of family planning who is the chairman of the House Appropriations subcommittee on labor, health and human services and education and vice chairman of the subcommittee on foreign operations. At the same conference, he attacked antiabortion forces in the House for going after family planning programs. "This I cannot understand and do not respect," he said.

Porter, an opponent of abortion, said he believes family planning is a lifesaving alternative. Stopping money to the U.N. program because of China is "nonsensical," he said.

Which, of course, it is. But it proves once again that the antiabortion zealots in the House are full of flatulent generalities, as Winston Churchill once put it, and short on facts. And the world's poorest women and children are the big losers.

DRAFT

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World Population Foundation

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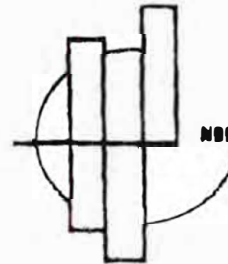
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Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington D.C.
U.S.A.



NGO Forum & Youth Forum on ICPO+5

Ref:B99.016

Hilversum, 7 January 1999

Dear Mrs. Clinton,

As you are aware, the United Nations Population Fund is organising The Hague Forum, from 8-12 February 1999, where governments and international organisations will assess progress on the implementation of the Cairo Programme of Action. By many, the International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo (1994) is seen as a watershed event that brought remarkable and far reaching consensus on issues and policies. Cairo brought considerable unity, in particular on the concepts of reproductive health and rights, empowerment of women and on policies addressing the urgent need for services and information in the developing countries.

Prior to The Hague Forum, an NGO Forum and a Youth Forum will be held, on Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 February. About 800 participants from all regions of the world are expected, and government delegations, parliamentarians and the media will also be invited to attend.

The Netherlands based World Population Foundation is organising this event, and provides its Secretariat. We do so in close collaboration with an International Advisory Group composed of leading NGO representatives from all regions. The enclosed brochure may provide you with more information about the main objectives and arrangements for the Fora.

On behalf of the World Population Foundation and the NGO Advisory Group, it gives us great pleasure to invite you to attend the Fora, and to address the Joint Closing Session, possibly following Dr. Mahmoud Fathallah's address on the NGO Forum outcomes and a presentation from the Youth Forum. The Closing Session will take place on Sunday 7 February at 4:00 p.m., in the Prins Willem Alexander Auditorium of the Netherlands Congress Centre in The Hague.

We very much hope that you will be able to accept our invitation, and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Sincerely,

Marianne Haslegrave
Fora Organiser

Wouter A. Meijer
Convener

Enclosures: - NGO Forum and Youth Forum Brochure
- Preliminary Programme

Fora Organiser: Marianne Haslegrave
Convener: Wouter A. Meijer



Programme for NGO Forum ICPD +5 Preliminary draft

Friday 5 February

1500 - 1700 hours

Registration

Saturday 6 February

0900

Opening session

Introduction to session

Wouter Meljer, World Population
Foundation, The Netherlands, Convenor
NGO Forum

Presentation

Eveline Herfkens, Minister for
Development Cooperation, The
Netherlands

Presentation

Nafis Sadik, Executive Director,
UNFPA

Keynote address

Billie Miller, Deputy Prime Minister,
Barbados

1030

**Panel session - *Links between reproductive health, environment,
population and development***

Reproductive health in the context of the health and population sectors and
social development - *Olta Sen, India*

Population and sustainable development - production and consumption
patterns - *Ewa Charkiewicz, Poland*

International and internal migration - *Gigi Francisco, Philippines*

Creating an enabling environment - *Thandika Mkandawire, Malawi*

Global governance, debt and South-North relations - *Eduardo Viola, Brazil*

Co-chairpersons: *Sonia Correa, DAWN & young person from Pacific (to be
identified)*

1230

Lunch

1400

Panel session – Rights . . . rhetoric to reality

Sexual and reproductive rights: using human rights to chart the way forward
– *Rebecca Cook, Canada*

Sexual and reproductive rights of young people and abortion – *Pragna Shah, Nepal*

Ethical issues in the ICPD Programme of Action – *Juan-Guillermo Figueroa-Pera, Mexico*

Chairperson: *Ingar Brueggemann, International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF)*

Drafting group – Links between reproductive health, environment, population and development

1600

Panel session – ICPD ethos in practice . . . implementing policies and services

Quality of care issues in implementing the Cairo Strategy – *Margaret Catley-Carlson, Canada*

Maternal health, mortality and morbidity concerns including unsafe abortion – *Pascoal Mocumbi, Prime Minister Mozambique*

Women's health and violence – *Raquel Tiglao, Philippines*

Young peoples' needs in sexual and reproductive health – *Deborah Morris, New Zealand*

Chairperson: *Frederic T Sai, Ghana*

Drafting group – Rights . . . rhetoric to reality**Sunday 7 February**

0900

Panel session – Partnerships

Fundamental conditions for partnership – *María Isabel Matemala, Chile*

Effectiveness in building broad-based alliances across civil society – *Magdy Helmy, Egypt*

Partnerships between a UN agency and women's health advocates – *Paul Van Look, World Health Organization*

Working with government to improve public services – *Khosi Xuba, South Africa*

Co-chairpersons: *Sandra Kabir, Population Concern and Young person to be identified*

Drafting session – ICPD ethos in practice . . . implementing policies and services

1100

Panel session - Resources and advocacy

Moving from policy to implementation: the role of advocacy - Khuma Rago, Kenya

Making Cairo a financial reality: the need to mobilize resources in developed and developing countries - Honda Kanoun, MP, Tunisia

Alliances and networks as tools for moving policy and mobilizing resources - Elena Tapia, Mexico

Meeting young peoples' sexual and reproductive health needs: the importance of advocacy in the age of HIV/AIDS - Oswald Innocent Warwick, Trinidad & Tobago

Chairperson: Amy Coen, Population Action International

Drafting session - Partnerships

1300

Lunch

1430

Drafting Groups - Resources and Advocacy

1430

Joint session of Parliamentarians, NGOs and Youth: Reality and Prospects of Partnerships

1600

Closing session**Video presentation****Youth Forum****NGO Forum outcomes****Mahmoud Fathalla, Egypt****Report on Youth Forum****Speaker chosen by YAG****Remarks**

**Nicolaas Biegun, Netherlands
Ambassador to NATO**

**Anwarul Karim Chowdhury, Bangladesh
Ambassador to UN**

Chairperson:**Attiya Inayatullah, President, IPPF**

1700

Closing of Forum**Wouter Meijer**

**International Forum for the Operational Review and Appraisal
of the Implementation of the Programme of Action of the
International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD)
Netherlands Congress Center**

**Agenda for the Inaugural Ceremony
Monday, February 8, 1999 (10:00 am -12:00 pm)**

Short Film by UNFPA (4-minutes)

Election of the President

Welcome by the Mayor of The Hague

Statement by the Deputy Prime Minister of the Netherlands Borst

Statement by the Deputy Secretary General of the United Nations Louise Frechette

Welcome by UNFPA Director General Nafis Sadik, and Introduction of the First Lady of the United States

Keynote Speech by the First Lady of the United States Hillary Rodham Clinton

Performance by Youth Group