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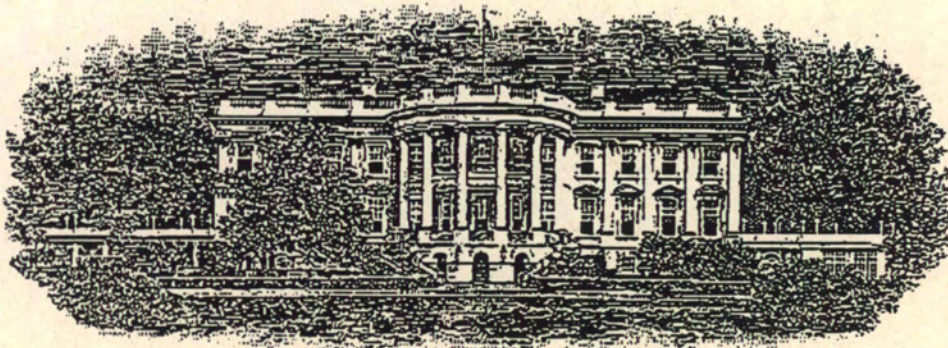
Lorraine Voles
Heidi Kukis
Julia Payne
Joe Cerrell

DATE:

Number of pages to follow:

COMMENTS:

VP's Remarks in
Capitol before March 12, 1995





World Summit for Social Development
Copenhagen, Denmark March 6-12, 1995
United States Delegation

REMARKS OF VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE
AT THE UN WORLD SUMMIT
FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
MARCH 12, 1995
COPENHAGEN, DENMARK

[Text as delivered]

Mr. President, Your Excellencies, Mr. Secretary General, Ladies and Gentlemen. It is an honor to represent President Clinton and the American people at this important summit meeting. I wish to begin by thanking our Danish hosts for their skill and their great hospitality. At a time of great opportunity and yet considerable uncertainty within the international community, we welcome this occasion to address issues that are common to all nations and to all peoples.

A century notable for its turmoil and suffering is drawing to an end. Looking at its many tragedies, it would be understandable to view the future with some cynicism. My country, however, as always retains its optimistic vision.

We believe in a world organized by law rather than by violence; we believe in a world based on justice; we believe in the defeat of intolerance by the steady ascendancy of our common humanity. We believe above all in freedom -- political and spiritual freedom -- as a birthright of human kind, and freedom from want as a goal by which we measure the quality of our civilization.

Are these hopes impractical? On the contrary. Over time they have emerged with ever greater clarity as the common aspiration of humankind. It seems to me, in fact, that this series of great UN global conferences represents an effort by the entire world to think through the principles and the practical requirements for the creation of that kind of world.

These meetings -- most recently in Rio, Vienna, Cairo, Copenhagen, and in the fall, Beijing -- have focused on a set of interlocking questions. What is the proper relationship between human civilization and the earth's environment? What can be done to create just societies that nurture the human spirit and protect human rights? What can be done by democratic means to protect our world from the consequences of rapid and destabilizing population growth and create instead an equitable pattern of sustainable development? What can be done to lift the poorest of our citizens into productive lives? What can be done to remove the barriers not blocking the full empowerment of women throughout the world?

These gatherings are town meetings of the globe where individual citizens, non-governmental organizations, and governments are working together to hammer out a new consensus on the nature of the challenges we face and how we can rise to meet them successfully.

We have gathered here to deal with the issues of poverty, disability, unemployment, and social disintegration. These problems exist in varying degrees in all countries represented here, including certainly my own country. The numbers that characterize these problems are staggering: one billion people live in absolute poverty without access to clean water, proper sanitation, or decent nutrition; 30 percent of the global labor force is now unemployed or underemployed; in what has been called the worst employment crisis since the Great Depression of the 1930s: one billion people have daily incomes totaling less than one dollar.

But as the novelist Arthur Kuesler once said, statistics do not bleed. Numbers do not capture the anguish of homeless children roaming the streets of otherwise prosperous and bustling cities. They don't capture the grief of a parent whose child has starved to death or died of disease during the horrific events in Rwanda. Nor do they capture the bleak despair of a homeless woman, curling up to sleep over a steam grate in Washington, DC, blocks from the White House.

These are personal tragedies, but each results in part from our failure as a human family to feel and understand our connections to one another, and our failure to appreciate the opportunity every person should have to contribute to and enrich our common future.

Economic growth cannot be sustained over time unless a proper portion of its present fruits are continually invested in the nourishing and development of human potential. Even Adam Smith always referred to economics as "human economics." Maybe we should have never abbreviated the concept. People who are sick, or uneducated, or undernourished, or unemployed should not be merely the objects of society's guilty conscience. They should also be seen as the embodiment of unrealized economic and social potential.

How should we deal with these issues? In my country that question is presently the subject of an intense political struggle. What is being tested is whether the United States will turn away from our own most disadvantaged citizens at home, and whether we will step back from the front ranks of nations that recognize a bond of shared responsibility toward men and women elsewhere in the world who are struggling to climb by their own efforts out of degradation and despair.

I believe that at the end of the day, the United States will not step back. The Clinton Administration believes that in its commitment to remain engaged, we have the support of the vast majority of the American people in both of our major political parties.

The American people know that our future well-being is tied inextricably to the global economy. And they know that helping to develop the economies of the developing world, where four out of five people will live by the year 2000, will be beneficial to our own economy as well. But, I also believe that if the United States is to move forward, and remain engaged in the world's effort to meet the objectives of this Summit, we must find new approaches for new circumstances.

For example, we in the United States have come to recognize that it is time to abandon our old model for combating poverty at home based on heavy government intervention through massive bureaucracies.

There was a time when these structures seemed essential to make our idealism productive. But their size, inflexibility and expense are now seen as obstacles to the purpose we still pursue.

We are working now to create a more vital relationship between the government and the people. We cannot succeed if we treat the poor solely as passive recipients of assistance -- whether for welfare, food stamps or medical care. We are instead designing an approach that empowers people to be active partners in the management of their own fates. We have to find new links to our own people -- with a government that worked better and costs less, and focuses on results.

We have to find ways to transcend old and limiting concepts, and recognize the value of new ways to promote sustainable development and social progress for those trapped in poverty-- such as government/private sector partnerships, technical assistance for institutional development and policy reform; and support for South-South partnerships. International institutions also need to adjust themselves by moving toward greater flexibility and responsiveness to the needs of the poor. This conference has paid very useful attention to the UN system in particular, and I applaud its efforts to focus on the need for change.

We in the United States have also approached this Summit as an opportunity for constructive change. Abroad as at home, we know that we have to redefine the way we fight poverty and transform the relationship between donors and recipients to a relationship between partners.

It is in that spirit that I am pleased to announce today the United States "New Partnership Initiative". Under this Initiative, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) will be channeling 40% of its development assistance through non-governmental organizations (NGOs), both US-based and indigenous.

The "New Partnerships Initiative" has three main objectives: to empower small business and entrepreneurs to drive economic growth; to straighten the role of nongovernmental organizations in development program; and to help nations bolster democracy at the local level. All three are linked by a single idea -- that families and individuals, when given the power and opportunity to change their lives, will do exactly that.

In discussing ways to improve the struggle against poverty being waged by governments, I wish to make it clear that my country also believes in two other central propositions.

First, we believe that permanent gains can occur only if we encourage free markets and individual initiative. In our view, the market system unlocks a higher fraction of the human potential than any other form of economic organization, and has the demonstrated potential to create broadly distributed new wealth.

Second, we believe that economic development can be and must be designed to be environmentally sustainable. Sustainable economic development assures that we do not meet today's needs by means that very quickly exhaust themselves and deliver us back to even more intractable problems.

Finally, let me emphasize the importance of one cultural trend that can speed the day that we see an end to poverty: an increase in the rights and powers of women, who, as the First Lady of the United States pointed out here a few days ago, "continue to be marginalized in many countries." With women making up more than two-thirds of the illiterate people of the world, investing in the health and education of women and girls will diminish poverty -- and let me add my voice to those applauding this Summit for endorsing the principle of equal rights.

The documents you have developed here are part of an emerging grand design for the common good. Despite the difficulties and severe challenges ahead, I believe that we are moving together toward a shared sense of participation in a global civilization, whose bonds, though voluntary, will be strong enough to hold us together in the face of those forces which would divide us. Our work is a very significant contribution to that end, and on behalf of my government, and the people of the United States, I wish to applaud the work of this Summit and our deep and constant commitment to these goals.

FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
VIDEOTAPE REMARKS FOR
THE ANNUAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION CONFERENCE - UN
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK
SEPTEMBER 19, 1995

It is an honor to have been invited to speak today. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to join you, albeit electronically.

I don't have to tell you that NGOs have transformed the world through exceptional civic activism. As nations today face more challenges and choices, your experience and wisdom as members of the NGO community are more vital than ever before.

We have seen in recent years that NGOs consistently play an essential role at the major conferences of the United Nations. You insist upon being counted on and accounted for. And your energy and commitment ^{have} ~~has~~ helped shape the discussion of significant economic ^{and} ~~as well as~~ social issues.

In addressing the world's social problems, we cannot expect governments to act alone, particularly in an era of scattered and scarce resources. Governments need you to monitor their actions, and to mobilize them to find innovative solutions to problems. In addition, NGOs can inspire us to work more effectively with each other -- within the NGO community and within the community of nations.

Today, you play an increasingly important role throughout the world. A few months back, I saw first hand the work of NGOs throughout South Asia in promoting education among women and girls, ensuring better prenatal care for expectant mothers, and supporting greater financial independence for poor families. I know that other NGOs around the world are also helping thousands of men, women, children, and families gain access to the tools of opportunity -- particularly health care, education, and economic security, *political freedom and legal protections.*

Your work is done not for the sake of governments or ideologies, but for the sake of people. Through realistic, practical approaches to complex human problems, NGOs consistently "put people first."

From low-cost strategies to encourage breastfeeding and childhood immunizations, to successful multinational efforts to eradicate polio in the Western Hemisphere, to advancing policies that lift up the poorest in society, you are leading grassroots efforts around the world to reduce poverty, improve health and education, and promote human rights.

Earlier this year, at the United Nations World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen, Vice President Gore announced a U.S. initiative designed to recognize the expertise, leadership, and cost-effectiveness of NGOs. This initiative will channel

forty percent of U.S. development assistance through both U.S. based and indigenous NGOs.

The technical expertise of NGOs, combined with your ability to disseminate information, have made you invaluable partners in development. Gradually, governments have realized that inclusion of NGOs in negotiations is an efficient and effective way of keeping in touch with the practical, ground-level implications of official deliberations.

As Ambassador Madeleine Albright recently observed, "Look at almost any UN activity and you will see NGOs providing technical expertise, conceptual guidance, logistics, personnel, access and money. This is true of humanitarian operations, environmental initiatives, the provision of health care and child survival programs...."

Today, around the globe, NGOs have generated strong bonds of cooperation, understanding and activism among governments, businesses, civic groups, and the private sector.

The Vienna Conference on Human Rights and the Rio De Janeiro Conference on Environment and Development reaffirmed the fact that we are all dependent and interdependent. Whether we discuss the transfer of technology from industrialized countries to the developing world, or the protection of intellectual property

rights within and among nations, business and governments have an interest and a responsibility to work together to promote the common good.

The new global economy requires increasing responsibility among all nations and people. This applies to the private sector as much as to governments. From the recently independent states of the former Soviet Union to the newly democratic South Africa, international businesses have accepted the challenge of working with civic groups to bring about positive change throughout the world.

In this decade, we need to commit ourselves as a global family to advancing human rights for all children, women and men. But to succeed we must involve all citizens and strengthen the partnerships that have already done so much to brighten future opportunities for families throughout the world.

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draft
August 7, 1995

FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
VIDEOTAPE REMARKS FOR
THE ANNUAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION CONFERENCE - UN
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK
SEPTEMBER 19, 1995

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and accounted for. And ^{their} that energy and commitment has helped
shape the discussion of ~~essential~~ ^{important} significant economic and social issues *as well*
as ~~the~~ ^{many} decisions that have followed.

~~This only makes sense.~~ In addressing the world's social
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Earlier this year, at the United Nations World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen, Vice President Gore announced a U.S. initiative designed to recognize the expertise, leadership, and cost-effectiveness of NGOs. This initiative will channel forty percent of U.S. development assistance through both U.S. based and indigenous NGOs.

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Today, around the globe, NGOs have ~~created~~ ^{generated} strong bonds of cooperation, understanding and activism. ~~The split-second electronic hook-up provided by an international network NGO can literally place the "world at one's fingertips."~~ ^{among or between someone?}

~~Private sector-led advances in communication are largely responsible. The pioneering spirit and advances of the private sector, complemented by resources from the service and trade fields as well as by information from the academic community, are bringing us all closer together as we confront shared conflicts and challenges.~~

~~The business community has emerged as another important civil society partner. With a new global economy, we have seen that the private sector's creativity can encourage dynamism and growth.~~ The Vienna Conference on Human Rights and the Rio De Janero Conference on Environment and Development reaffirmed the fact that we are all dependent and interdependent. Whether we discuss the transfer of technology from industrialized countries to the developing world, or the protection of intellectual property rights within and among nations, business and governments have an interest and a responsibility to work together to ~~maximize profit and public benefit.~~ ^{promote the common good.}

^{The new}
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^{so all that we can do}
We must promote partnerships between academia, NGOs, and the private sector so that today's philosophers can influence contemporary thinking about the political choices our governments make and so that tomorrow's scholars take up today's great issues.

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~~intergovernmental forum, though~~ In this decade, we have need to
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 and men. These goals require full partnerships, and we have been global
 successful in creating them. As we continue this journey, we family
 have a unique opportunity and a moral obligation to involve all
 citizens, to enrich the dialogue and to strengthen and perpetuate
 partnerships for the future. Net have helped prepare
 our world for the 21st century.

###

But to succeed we
 need to strengthen
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 already to

MEMORANDUM

To: Melanne
Fr: Sabrina *sc*
Re: NGO video script
Da: August 7, 1995

Attached is a draft of the video script for the Annual NGO Conference on September 19. The video is scheduled for tomorrow morning.

The draft sent to us by the UN wasn't very good. At Lissa's suggestion, I have tried to improve it by incorporating some of the Copenhagen remarks and the Outlook piece in the *Washington Post*. I sent Lissa this latest version, but I am not sure she has had a chance to look at it yet.

If you have any suggestions/edits, please call Lissa at (510) 848-6522, or myself at 6-5708. Thanks!

*If this is to
NGO - shouldn't
it be more
personal -
your role
instead of their role?*

FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
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I don't have to tell you that NGOs have transformed the world through ^{exceptional} civic activism. As nations today face more challenges and choices, the experience and wisdom of NGOs are ^{even} ~~more~~ vital.

Now more than ever, NGOs consistently play an essential role at the UN's major conferences. ^{NGOs} ~~They~~ insist upon being counted on and accounted for. And that energy and commitment has helped shape the discussion of countless economic and social issues.

This only makes sense. In addressing the world's social problems, we cannot expect governments to act alone, particularly in an era of scattered and scarce resources. Governments need NGOs to monitor their actions, and to mobilize them to find innovative solutions to problems. In addition, NGOs can inspire us to work more effectively with each other -- within the NGO community and within the community of nations.

NGOs play an increasingly important role throughout the world. I have seen their work in South Asia, where ^{you?} ~~as many~~ NGOs such as Save the Children in Nepal, ^{+ elsewhere} the Rural Advancement Committee in Bangladesh, and the Self-Employed Women's Association in India have helped thousands of men, women, children and families improve their lives. My ~~experience in South Asia~~ ^{we know as well} taught me that investing in people is essential to global prosperity.

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We must ^{continue to} promote partnerships between academia, NGOs, and the private sector so that today's philosophers can influence contemporary thinking about the political choices our governments make and so that tomorrow's scholars take up today's great issues.

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FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
REMARKS TO THE INTERNATIONAL NGO COMMUNITY AT A FORUM
OF THE U.N. WORLD SUMMIT ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
COPENHAGEN, DENMARK
MARCH 7, 1995

I am honored to participate in this historic gathering, where civic, religious, and social organizations as well as government leaders from around the world are uniting in the fight to eradicate absolute poverty, create jobs, and empower women and men to become full participants in their societies.

It is a special privilege to be in Copenhagen to speak to a gathering that includes so many non-governmental organizations. Whether they operate in our great cities or in remote villages, NGOs always have played a vital role in strengthening our global community. But particularly today, as all nations face new challenges and choices, the experience and wisdom of NGOs will be critical in guiding us toward a safer, more just, and unified world.

The end of the Cold War has created extraordinary new opportunities for growth and progress. But at the same time, ethnic strife and civil conflict have erupted across the planet, depleting our resources, draining our energies, promoting hatred and intolerance, and imperiling our ideal of a free and open global society.

Today, too many nations waste precious resources on building weapons of mass destruction, staging wars, and doing violence to basic human rights, instead of investing those resources in people. Too many economic interests lay waste to natural resources and exploit human ones. Today, too much time is spent in naked pursuit of power and profits, instead of working for peace and prosperity.

It has become fashionable in recent years to assign blame for the world's problems to one group of nations or another. I hope this Summit does not succumb to that temptation. In fact, every nation needs to rethink its approach to social development and most nations need to do more for their own people and humanity.

To meet the goals of this Summit, governments will have to go about their business in new ways. They will have to rethink how to protect their most vulnerable populations in a time of shrinking resources and accelerated global competition. They will have to respect basic human rights, and that includes the rights of women and workers to be protected from exploitation and abuse. And they will have to create conditions that encourage individual

initiative and a vibrant civic life.

Finally, as my husband said in a speech last week, governments will have to choose engagement over isolationism. With our economies and our societies becoming increasingly interdependent, we must work to create a global community in which economic growth and social progress result in shared prosperity and opportunity.

On a large scale, there is no better place to start than with an indefinite and unconditional extension of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. The threat posed by these devastating weapons endangers all the work we do to end poverty, create jobs, and empower people to fuller participation in society. Moreover, I hope that in balancing priorities and resources, all nations will realize that investing in people, not the acquisition of nuclear arms, is the way to make their societies stronger. Clean water, safe sanitation, basic education and health care are better investments to strengthen societies in both the short and long term than the acquisition of or increase in nuclear arms.

Two days ago marked the 25th anniversary of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, now joined by 172 nations that realize that opposing the spread of nuclear weapons is in their self-interest. And to further the goals of the Treaty, the United States and Russia have agreed -- through START I and START II -- to reduce our own nuclear arsenals. We must all continue the effort to deal responsibly with this critical issue.

In addressing the world's social problems, we cannot expect governments to act alone, particularly in an era of scarce and scattered resources. Governments need NGOs to monitor their actions and mobilize them to find innovative solutions to problems. NGOs also can inspire us to work more effectively with each other -- within the NGO community and within the community of nations. That is why the participation of NGOs at this and other United Nations Conferences is so invaluable.

The great social movements of the 19th and 20th centuries in America -- the abolition of slavery, the right of women to vote, as well as the civil rights movement would not have been achieved without the leadership of civic, religious, and social organizations.

The same is true elsewhere. As Ambassador Somavia knows well, civic organizations committed to human rights and the rule of law were instrumental in assuring Chile's transition to democracy. Through the work of nuns and lay people in the Philippines, civic groups in Bulgaria, grassroots organizations working across Africa and South America, and many others, NGOs have helped improve the lives of tens of millions of men, women, children and families struggling to escape tyranny, poverty, and

social dislocation.

Ultimately, this forum and the Social Summit is about supporting and building on that work, not for the sake of governments or ideologies, but for people. It is about putting people first. And putting people first requires realistic, workable solutions to complex human problems.

Too often, the assumption is that any solution will inevitably be costly and complicated. In fact, we have proof to the contrary. Around the world we see grassroots efforts that reduce poverty, improve health and education, and promote individual freedom by building local capacity and community-based programs.

UNICEF's decade-long focus on child survival has pioneered wider use of low-cost strategies from breastfeeding to oral rehydration therapy to immunizations.

Last year polio was eradicated in the Western Hemisphere by a multinational effort in which the United States was the lead donor. And around the world, the percentage of children immunized against major preventable diseases rose from 20 percent to 80 percent between 1980 and 1990.

In the United States, we have followed the lead of other nations in our effort to immunize more children. The Clinton Administration has set a goal of immunizing 90 percent of two-year-olds by 1996. Already we are making progress: From 1992 to 1993, the rate increased by 12 percent, from 55 to 67 percent.

In South America, the involvement of NGOs teaching pregnant women self-diagnosis of maternal health problems has resulted in a dramatic reduction in the infant mortality rate in rural areas.

At the Fabella Hospital in Manila, new mothers stay in the hospital long enough to learn to nurse their babies, which promotes a stronger bond between mother and child and increases the chances of family stability.

And in countries where governments and NGOs have made voluntary, safe and effective family planning and related health services available we have seen an improvement not only in the lives of individuals but in the economic well-being of the countries.

No person can be freed from the bondage of poverty or fully integrated into society without the means to earn a living. The task of nations, and NGOs, is to promote policies that lift up the poorest in society, and to insist on core labor standards that help stop the exploitation of workers, many of whom are children.

Governments must be responsible for promoting disciplined economic policies. In the United States the President is working to renew the American economy through fiscal policies that have created new jobs and offered tax breaks for the working poor. His Administration is also committed to raising the minimum wage.

Investing in education also is essential to individual and global prosperity. As capital and technology become more mobile, differences in the quality of labor forces will become that much more apparent. So here again, we must learn from the successes of nations where improved educational opportunities have reduced illiteracy and increased prospects for employment and economic security.

My husband often says that opportunity should be the reward for taking responsibility in life. That philosophy is a good guide when we consider strategies -- governmental and non-governmental -- to promote greater self-reliance and economic independence among all our citizens, including the poor and disenfranchised.

There is no better example of how that philosophy can be put into action than the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh. Dr. Mohammed Yunus, the founder of the bank, believes that if you give people access to credit -- and ask them to take responsibility in return -- they will achieve greater economic and social independence.

Through its small loans to the poorest women in rural areas of Bangladesh, the Grameen bank not only has improved the immediate circumstances of thousands of families, it also has fostered a greater sense of purpose and spirit of community among rural Bangladeshis.

I only wish every nation shared Dr. Yunus's appreciation of the vital role that girls and women play in the economic, social, and political life of our societies.

Although women comprise 52 percent of the world population, are the primary caretakers for children and the aged in most societies, and are a significant presence in the workforce, they continue to be marginalized in many countries.

Worldwide, more than two-thirds of the children who never attended school or have dropped out are girls. Of the one billion people who remain illiterate, two-thirds are women. And a disproportionate number of the world's poor are women.

Investing in the health and education of women and girls is essential to improving global prosperity, and I am glad that this Summit has endorsed the principle of equal rights and opportunities for women. In parts of Asia and South America we have seen the education of girls help lift whole populations out

of poverty. We have seen the education of women enhance their roles as mothers and increase their participation in civic life. So we must do more to ensure equal rights for women, along with equal pay and equal access to health care and education.

Tomorrow, as part of International Women's Day, it will be my pleasure to announce a major new United States commitment to expand educational opportunities for poor girls on three continents.

I'd like to end by saying that we must all take responsibility and do our part. Too often we engage in a false dichotomy that says only governments, or only individuals, are responsible for solving the world's problems. In fact, we need a partnership, a balance between the two. Simply put, no government, no NGO, no person can remain idle given the magnitude of the challenges we face and the uncertainties of the world in which we live.

For those who are skeptical about our capacity for progress, I suggest you reflect on the life of one extraordinary man, James Grant, who passed away last month. Jim may have been more responsible for saving lives over the past 15 years than any other person in the world. Millions of children are alive today because Jim Grant challenged us, set goals for us, and devised simple, efficient, and affordable methods of intervening on behalf of children.

His legacy is not only found in the wonderful work that goes on every day at UNICEF, or in the success of his infant formula campaign, or in the packages labeled "Oral Rehydration Therapy" that he would carry around in his pocket and pull out as an example of one of the easiest and cheapest ways to save children's lives.

His legacy is in the jobs that private, voluntary organizations and other NGOs do day in and day out, throughout the world. It is our duty to continue to live up to his challenge and do our part to save lives. In closing, I ask that as we go about our business in the months and years ahead, whether we are in government or the private sector or just acting on our own, we draw strength and courage from Jim Grant's example and do justice to his memory.

Thank you very much.

###

*Call me
abt this*

*Number
one page please!!*

FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
VIDEOTAPE REMARKS FOR
THE ANNUAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION CONFERENCE - UN
NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK
SEPTEMBER 19, 1995

It is a ~~pleasure and a great honor~~ to have been invited to speak today. I regret that I am unable to be with you in person, but I am grateful to have ~~this opportunity to speak to you in this way. And I can.~~ Thank you for giving me this opportunity to join you, ^{albeit}

*Can't shut
up this if
she's just
been to
China*

Midway through this decade, it is fitting that we consider how civil society activists have contributed to UN deliberations in the economic and social fields. The outcomes of several major conferences have been shaped and enriched by the contributions of non-governmental organizations of civil society. The importance and vitality of the NGO community was especially brought home to me when I participated in the NGO forum at the Copenhagen World Summit for Social Development. The commitment and excitement I witnessed at this gathering illustrated how necessary the energy of the NGO community is to revitalizing the United Nations.

electronically

I don't have to tell you that ~~While NGOs have transformed the world around them through civic activism, the NGO itself has dramatically changed over the years, to the point where it's getting harder and harder to know exactly what an NGO is.~~ Some believe it is a grassroots association of technical experts who volunteer their combined wisdom for philanthropic or self-interested purposes. Others define it as a collective of like-minded individuals who have access to information. Some contend that NGOs operate in partnership with governments or at odds with them, or both. Still others suggest that "non-governmental" means "unaccountable."

Enough civic activism -

~~In my own country, I have found that NGOs are all of these things except unaccountable.~~ NGOs not only serve as watchdogs of government, they increasingly act as watchdogs for each other. The broad participation in everyday society in the NGO movement guarantees NGO accountability not only in the commitments they make to governments but in those they make to their membership.

Now more than ever, NGOs have insisted upon inclusion in the ~~being included at programs of action of the UN's major conferences.~~ They insist upon being counted on and accounted for. And ~~Not every and commitment has helped shape the outcome of discussion & many economic & social issues.~~

This only makes sense. In addressing the world's social problems, we cannot expect governments to act alone, particularly in an era of scattered and scarce resources. Governments need NGOs to monitor their actions, and to mobilize them to find innovative solutions to problems. In addition, NGOs can inspire us to work more effectively with each other -- within the NGO community and within the community of nations.

Jargon:

economic & social issues

Earlier this year, at the United Nations World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen, the United States moved one step further toward putting those concepts into action. Vice President Gore announced U.S. intentions to recognize the expertise, leadership, and cost-effectiveness of NGOs through a new initiative which will channel forty percent of U.S. development assistance through NGOs, both U.S.-based and indigenous. Vice President Gore stated at the summit that U.S. objectives in launching the "new partnerships initiative" were to "empower small business and entrepreneurs to drive economic growth; to strengthen the role of NGOs in development programs; and to help nations bolster democracy at the local level."

Active engagement of the NGO community is -- for us -- the most credible way to meet those goals.

The accreditation of over 3500 NGOs to the Fourth World Conference on Women is testimony to the fact that NGOs are major players in the formulation and implementation of international policies. The NGO forum, which will parallel the conference, expects to attract more than 30,000 participants. This ~~resoundingly~~ affirms how eager NGOs ~~worldwide~~ are to communicate with each other, to learn from each other and to work with each other. It is also ~~a testament to the power of democracy in action.~~ tells us a lot about

NGOs' technical expertise, combined with their ability to disseminate information, have made them invaluable partners in development. They have become familiar actors in all deliberations at conferences and "prepcoms" leading up to conferences. Gradually, governments have realized that inclusion of NGOs in the various phases of negotiations is a safe, reliable way of keeping in touch with the practical, ground-level ~~implications of official deliberations.~~ who? NGOs keep ~~us~~ is in touch with what really matters, ~~focused on what is really workable and aware of our constituencies.~~ To use a popular American expression, they "keep us honest."

NGOs have also become critical players in the realm of implementation. As Ambassador Madeleine Albright recently observed, "Look at almost any UN activity and you will see NGOs providing technical expertise, conceptual guidance, logistics, personnel, access and money. This is true of humanitarian operations, environmental initiatives, the provision of health care and child survival programs, and even the war crimes tribunals."

Today, around the globe,

~~I've observed another exciting trend among the NGO community. We are seeing today, a civil revolution of sorts. Through that communication system, nowadays dubbed "networks", NGOs have created strong bonds of cooperation, understanding and activism. The split-second electronic hook-up provided by an international network NGO has the capability of literally placing the "world at one's fingertips."~~ NGOs have left the "global

~~village" for a technological "space station" which is exploring the next frontier.~~

Private sector-led advances in communication are in largely responsible ~~for this new phase of interaction~~. The pioneering spirit and advances of the private sector, complemented by resources from the service and trade fields as well as by information from the academic community, are ~~converting the global village into a teeming, cosmopolitan community~~, *bringing us all closer together. as we confront shared conflicts and challenges.*

a new global economy
The business community has emerged as another important civil society partner. ~~Heretofore, the private sector had enjoyed a quiet lead in forging international bonds. With the globalization of economies, we have seen that the private sector's creativity can encourage dynamism and growth. The Vienna Conference on Human Rights and the Rio De Janeiro Conference on Environment and Development reaffirmed the interrelatedness of all human endeavors. Whether we discuss the transfer of technology from industrialized countries to the developing world, or the protection of intellectual property rights within and among nations, business and governments have an interest and a responsibility to work together to maximize profit and public benefit.~~ *promote the common good.* *fact that we are all dependent and interdependent.*

An increasingly global economy requires increasing global responsibility. This is an economic as well as a political reality; it applies to the private sector as much as to governments. Most recently, *who?* ~~we~~ have invited the private sector to share ~~its~~ *technology* information with us about ~~cost-efficient management and environmentally sound and state of the art technologies.~~ *we* ~~likewise~~ have asked business to consider ~~its~~ *sector* contribution to *opportunities* ~~invest through training, long-term commitment to communities, and sometimes through service as civic models to further the democratic process, especially in developing countries. From the newly independent states of the former Soviet Union to the newly democratic South Africa, international businesses have accepted the challenge of working with civic groups, and expanding their activities to include this kind of partnership.~~

ask the same
The contribution from academia is just as essential as that of the NGO community or the private sector. However, in many respects, the academic community is lagging behind. Where businesses and NGOs have heard the bell and come running, far too many centers of higher learning in all parts of the world still appear to wonder for whom the bell tolls.

ask the same
In all fairness, universities and think tanks abound with exciting, provocative proposals related to socio-economic issues. The problem here -- and it appears to be one of culture -- is that there is no visible, consistent linkage between that intellectual activity and the ground-breaking work the international community is attempting at the UN. Institutions of higher learning could advance the UN goals significantly if they, like other partners of civil society, engaged in the debate. The

intellectual has the unique opportunity to pose moral questions, and that opportunity must not be lost.

Perhaps member states and institutions of the international community are equally at fault for not actively encouraging academic participation. We must promote linkage and synergy between academia, NGOs, and the private sector so that today's philosophers can influence contemporary thinking about the political choices our governments make and so that tomorrow's scholars take up today's great issues.

I want this involvement to go beyond the UN intergovernmental forum, though. We need the intellectual and moral debate to re-emerge in public debate. In this decade, we have committed ourselves to forging integrated approaches to development and advancing human rights for all children, women and men. These goals require full partnerships, and we have been nearly successful in creating them. As we continue this journey, we have a unique opportunity and a moral obligation to involve all relevant parties, to enrich the dialogue and to create the most dynamic partnerships for the future.

Greg / Sabine

*Frankly, I'm not sure
we can use this text!*

UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIESPOSTAL ADDRESS: BOITE POSTALE UNITED NATIONS, P. O. 2585
CABLE ADDRESS: BUREAU TELEGRAPHIQUE NATIONS UNIES

26 June 1995

Madam,

I have the honour to inform you that the forty-eighth Annual Non-Governmental Organizations Conference organized by the UN Department of Public Information is scheduled for 18 - 20 September, 1995, at the United Nations Headquarters. The theme for this year's conference will be "The United Nations at the Turn of the Century: Global Issues; Global Actors; Global Responsibility".

9/18 - 9/20

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali will deliver the opening address on 18 September 1995. An attendance of more than 1,000 representatives of non-governmental organizations from all regions of the world is expected.

In recent years we have been successful in inviting a number of important international personalities to address the Conference. Last year, for instance, the President of Ireland, Mrs. Mary Robinson, was a keynote speaker.

This year we would be greatly honoured if the First Lady of the United States, Mrs. Hillary Clinton could address the Conference as the Keynote Speaker. Incidentally, during the Social Summit in Copenhagen last April, I had briefly mentioned such a possibility to Mrs. Clinton as I escorted her to the Women's Day Commemoration.

H.E. Dr. Madeleine Albright
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of the United States
to the United Nations
New York, N.Y.

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Under the aforementioned broad theme of the Conference, the discussions will also focus on the changing role and increasing participation of civil society -- NGOs, the media, the business community, academics, service and trade associations, local authorities -- in deliberations in the wide range of UN Fora including the current cycle of major World Conferences on economic, social and environmental issues. I believe Mrs. Clinton's contribution to the forthcoming Conference would be received with great enthusiasm and interest.

I should therefore be very grateful if you could kindly ascertain whether it would be possible for Mrs. Clinton to address the Conference. If there are any scheduling difficulties, we would be happy to make necessary adjustments to the programme of work of the Conference, to enable Mrs. Clinton to speak at any time that suits her during the three-day session. I shall add that our preference would be the opening day or final day.

As soon as we have an indication from you that the First Lady would be able to accept, an official invitation from the Secretary-General would be issued.

Accept, Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'ssa'.

Samir Sanbar
Assistant Secretary-General
for Public Information

1ST STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format..

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The Washington Post

May 14, 1995, Sunday, Final Edition

SECTION: OUTLOOK; Pg. C01

LENGTH: 1983 words

HEADLINE: Investing In Sisterhood; An Agenda for the World's Women 9500003397:

BYLINE: Hillary Rodham Clinton

BODY:

THE WOMEN'S BANK is a one-room building in Ahmedabad, a textile center in western India. The teller's counter is an old kitchen table covered with cloth. Bank clerks record all transactions by hand, on yellowed sheets bound in volumes that resemble worn-out telephone books. When I visited, I saw poor women who had walked 12 to 15 hours from their villages to take out loans -- some as small as \$ 1 -- to invest in dairy cows, plows or goods that could be sold at market.

The bank is the brainchild of Gandhi disciple Ela Bhatt and was founded by the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA). Many of the women in this trade organization rank among the poorest, least educated and most ostracized in India. Today, the bank has more than 40,000 members and assets of more than \$ 2 million. Women run the bank, and only women are allowed to make deposits and borrow money. The result is impressive: Against enormous political, social and economic odds, Indian women are transforming their lives.

This is one of many images that stayed with me after my trip last month through South Asia -- a trip made all the more meaningful because I shared it with my 15-year-old daughter. Although we traveled in special circumstances, as official visitors, we were both struck by the interest an American mother and daughter can generate in places where women are not always accorded the same respect as men. For me, the trip also prompted a rethinking of many issues that concern women -- and men -- in every nation.

In each country we visited -- Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka -- we saw women struggling to overcome poverty, illiteracy, inadequate health care and deeply rooted cultural barriers by joining together to increase their earning power and improve their circumstances. SEWA is but one example of how women have organized around their capacity as borrowers, lenders and savers to achieve greater economic independence for themselves and greater prosperity for their families and communities.

For the rest of the world, the South Asian experience offers a simple lesson: that investing in people -- especially women and girls -- is as essential to the prosperity of the entire global family as investing in the development of open markets and trade. South Asia reminds us that social development and economic development go hand-in-hand. It reminds us too that women represent the soundest investment any nation can make in the effort to jump-start development.

Women comprise more than half of the world's population. They care for most of the world's children. And they do more than their share of the world's work. Investing in their education and health, and assuring their full political,

economic and social participation in society ought to be the bottom line in any development equation.

I realize that issues such as education and health care are still regarded in many quarters as "soft" or marginal to economic growth. Often they are reflexively dismissed as "traditional women's issues" that do not rank high among the problems we will face in the 21st century. A growing body of research from the World Bank and elsewhere suggests otherwise; questions surrounding social development, especially of women, are at the center of our political and economic challenges.

In country after country, women have demonstrated that, when given the tools of opportunity -- education, health care, access to credit, political participation and legal rights -- they are better able to make the right choices in their lives. They can lift themselves out of poverty and, even more important, they can lift their families, communities and nations as well.

The Grameen Bank in Bangladesh is a case study: In one Grameen village, women pooled savings reaped from their investments to build a communal well. A woman in another Grameen village told me that she had taken out two loans to buy dairy cows; the third loan was used to buy a rickshaw to provide her husband a livelihood.

Education also plants seeds of prosperity for women around the world. During my trip, I saw examples of the way schools in South Asia are reshaping the social and economic landscape.

The Prayas School in India is a volunteer effort, founded by wives of professors at the Indian Institute of Technology. The school serves the poorest women and girls in the neighboring slums of New Delhi, offering classes for young girls and training women to make ceramics, jewelry and other artifacts that they can sell for profit.

In Bangladesh, where the literacy rate for women is 29 percent (compared with 45 percent for men), a nongovernmental organization called the Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee acts on the theory that education is a precondition for economic development. The committee has established 27,000 schools, most of whose students are girls, even though extremists opposed to its educational efforts have burned some of the schools.

A government-run school I visited in Bangladesh offers material incentives to parents to send their children -- especially girls -- to attend. This is particularly significant among the very poor, who often view school as a diversion from their children's income-producing work. As part of the Food for Education program, families receive a weekly food allotment if their children go to class. Another government program pays parents to keep girls in secondary school.

Along with access to credit and education, health care is an equally important ingredient in the recipe for development. Here too South Asia offers instructive examples of low-tech, low-cost strategies, many of which can be applied elsewhere, including the West.

In Bangladesh, I visited the International Center for Diarrheal Disease Control, and was surprised to see a doctor from Louisiana making rounds. The

center is a pioneer in the use of oral rehydration therapy, a method of treating potentially fatal cases of diarrhea through ingestion of a solution of salt, sugar and water. Thousands of lives have been saved through this inexpensive treatment. The doctor from Louisiana was there to learn how the technique might be used in the United States, where 20 million children under age 5 suffer from diarrhea each year and an estimated 300,000 are hospitalized because of resulting dehydration. Intravenous rehydration treatments, which must be given in the hospital, cost on average about \$ 800 per day; commercial solutions cost about \$ 7 per day and can be administered at home, a potentially cheap and effective alternative to hospitalization.

I was also struck by the common-sense approach to health care at a clinic started by American women in Nepal. Often romanticized by Westerners because of its glorious setting in the Himalayas, Nepal is in fact a cruel health environment for indigenous women. A disproportionate number of Nepalese women die during their child-bearing years, the result of early and frequent pregnancies, inadequate health care and poor nutrition. Women are usually the last to eat in their families and as many as 80 percent are reported to be anemic. A recent report by a group of Nepalese women estimates 515 maternal deaths for every 100,000 live births.

At the health clinic I visited, midwives and others preparing to deliver a baby will soon be given a "Safe Home Delivery Kit" -- a package containing a plastic sheet, bar of soap, piece of twine, wax and a razor blade. This is a cost-effective, low-tech approach that will help improve conditions for childbirth and lower the mortality rate among Nepalese women.

As an American, I was proud to learn that many of these grass-roots enterprises were succeeding because of direct assistance from the United States to governments, nongovernmental organizations, or U.S.-supported international organizations such as the World Bank. Nongovernmental organizations have been particularly effective because they are close to the people, accountable to the people, and often are good advocates for the poor. Not only do the partnerships between governments and NGOs help funnel aid directly to programs, they leverage support from local governments and other sources.

Throughout South Asia, one can see the results of American investment in governments and NGOs. The "Safe Home Delivery Kit," for example, was funded jointly by USAID, Save the Children, the Nepalese government and a small, local women-owned business. The United States has supported family planning services in Bangladesh, where population growth rates have fallen from 3 percent to 2.2 percent since the early 1970s.

In Sri Lanka, I visited a remarkable facility built with financial assistance from USAID. A program run by a former theology professor, Sister Bernice, offers shelter, schooling and financial counseling to women and girls who are homeless or victims of violence.

Like Bangladesh, Pakistan is also developing rural schools. At the Lahore University of Management Sciences, a center of higher learning in Pakistan built with USAID support, I saw dozens of young women who are training along with their male counterparts to become leaders of their nation's growing business and investment sectors.

The Washington Post, May 14, 1995

These projects are proof that American aid -- both financial and technical -- provided the tools of opportunity to people and nations who have shown a courageous commitment to democracy and a market economy. Today, that American aid remains critical. Having watched in the last 10 years as democracy has flourished and markets have opened around the globe, we cannot turn our backs on nations struggling to uphold our ideals.

As debates over foreign aid take place in the coming months, I hope that members of Congress and the American public will remember that such assistance accounts for less than 1 percent of our annual budget.

Still, at a time of economic anxiety in our own country, I'm sure many Americans wonder why we should be concerned with the conditions facing women and girls living in dusty villages and urban slums around the world. The reasons go beyond humanitarian concerns. As Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin said after a recent trip to India, "Development works. It improves lives in developing countries, and as those lives improve, it will have a direct impact on our economy, on the jobs and living standards of Americans."

On every continent, we have seen how the development of skills and earning power of women leads to more prosperous regional and national economies. It also leads to better educated and more prosperous consumers of American goods and services. And it is fundamentally important to building a more peaceful world. As long as economies remain underdeveloped and spirits undernourished, conflicts that endanger our own security are less likely to be resolved.

Finally, investing in opportunities for women is critical to expanding social justice. Denying women education, health care, economic security, political freedom and legal protections is a violation of basic human rights.

Given recent objections voiced in this country about a day devoted to bringing girls to work, it probably bears mentioning that an emphasis on girls and women is not meant to exclude or diminish the rights or interests of men. Men everywhere face challenges and obstacles as they seek to fulfill themselves and their responsibilities to their families.

But around the world, including in our own country, women represent a disproportionate number of the poor and vulnerable. Investing in women strengthens families and communities, which helps everyone in society. And investing in women brings us closer to a world in which distinctions between men and women are viewed, ultimately, as complementary parts to a greater whole.

First Lady Hillary Clinton traveled through South Asia from March 24 to April 6.

GRAPHIC: Illustration, whitney sherman for The Washington Post

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: May 14, 1995

DRAFT

CHANGING ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY -- NGOS, MEDIA, BUSINESS,
ACADEMIA, SERVICE & TRADE, LOCAL AUTHORITIES

IT IS A PLEASURE AND A GREAT HONOR TO HAVE BEEN INVITED TO SPEAK TODAY. I REGRET THAT I WAS UNABLE TO BE WITH YOU IN PERSON, BUT I AM GRATEFUL FOR YOUR INDULGENCE IN HAVING ME APPEAR THROUGH VIDEO.

MIDWAY THROUGH THIS DECADE, IT IS FITTING THAT WE CONSIDER HOW CIVIL SOCIETY ACTIVISTS HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO UN DELIBERATIONS IN THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL FIELDS. THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL MAJOR CONFERENCES WHOSE OUTCOMES WERE SHAPED AND ENRICHED BY THE CONTRIBUTION OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS OF CIVIL SOCIETY. IN FACT, AS I WAS CONSIDERING WHAT ISSUES TO RAISE WITH YOU TODAY, IT OCCURRED TO ME HOW DRAMATICALLY NGOS HAVE CHANGED OVER THE YEARS.

THE IMPORTANCE AND VITALITY OF THE NGO COMMUNITY WAS ESPECIALLY BROUGHT HOME TO ME WHEN I PARTICIPATED IN THE NGO FORUM AT THE COPENHAGEN WORLD SUMMIT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT. THE COMMITMENT AND EXCITEMENT WHICH I WITNESSED AT THAT GATHERING MADE A DEEP AND POSITIVE IMPRESSION ON ME. IT ALSO ILLUSTRATED HOW IMPORTANT THE ENERGY OF THE NGO COMMUNITY IS TO REVITALIZING THE UNITED NATIONS.

ONE OF THE MORE INTRIGUING ASPECTS OF CIVIC ACTIVISM THESE DAYS, IN PARTICULAR AS IT RELATES TO NGOS, IS THAT IT IS GETTING HARDER AND HARDER TO KNOW WHAT EXACTLY AN NGO IS. IS AN NGO AN ORGANIZATION THAT ADVOCATES PARTICULAR AREAS OF PUBLIC POLICY? ONE THAT OPERATES VITAL PROGRAMS PROVIDING ESSENTIAL SERVICES IN THE FIELD? A GRASSROOTS ASSOCIATION OF TECHNICAL EXPERTS WHO VOLUNTEER THEIR COMBINED WISDOM FOR PHILANTHROPIC OR SELF-INTERESTED PURPOSES? ARE NGOS COLLECTIVES OF LIKE-MINDED INDIVIDUALS WHO ~~ALREADY~~ HAVE ACCESS TO INFORMATION ~~OR~~? OR, CONVERSELY, A GROUP OF OUTSIDERS WHO WANT IN? ~~DOES NGOS A PARTIAL SOCIETY IN TRAIN WITH~~ *OPERATE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH* GOVERNMENTS OR AT ODDS WITH THEM? DOES "NON-GOVERNMENTAL" MEAN "UNACCOUNTABLE"?

IN MY OWN COUNTRY, I HAVE FOUND THAT NGO MEANS ALL EXCEPT THE LAST OF THE ABOVE. NGOS ARE NOT ONLY GREAT WATCHDOGS OF GOVERNMENT, THEY ARE INCREASINGLY WATCHDOGS FOR EACH OTHER. THE BROAD-BASED PARTICIPATION OF EVERYDAY SOCIETY IN THE NGO MOVEMENT GUARANTEES NGO ACCOUNTABILITY NOT ONLY TO THE COMMITMENTS THEY MAKE TO GOVERNMENTS BUT TO THOSE THEY MAKE TO THEIR MEMBERSHIP. NOW MORE THAN EVER, NGOS HAVE INSISTED UPON INCLUSION IN THE PROGRAMS OF

OR BOTH

- 2 -

ACTION OF THE UN'S MAJOR CONFERENCES. THEY INSIST UPON BEING COUNTED ON AND ACCOUNTED FOR.

EARLIER THIS YEAR, AT THE UNITED NATIONS WORLD SUMMIT FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN COPENHAGEN, DENMARK, I EMPHASIZED THAT

IN ADDRESSING THE WORLD'S SOCIAL PROBLEMS, WE CANNOT EXPECT GOVERNMENTS TO ACT ALONE, PARTICULARLY IN ^{AN?} A ERA OF SCATTERED AND SCARCE RESOURCES; . . . GOVERNMENTS NEED NGOS TO MONITOR THEIR ACTIONS, AND TO MOBILIZE THEM TO FIND INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS.

I ALSO SAID THAT "NGOS CAN INSPIRE US TO WORK MORE EFFECTIVELY WITH EACH OTHER -- WITHIN THE NGO COMMUNITY AND WITHIN THE COMMUNITY OF NATIONS."

THOSE TRUTHS STILL HOLD.

AT THE SOCIAL SUMMIT, THE UNITED STATES WENT ONE STEP FURTHER TOWARD PUTTING THOSE CONCEPTS INTO ACTION. VICE PRESIDENT GORE ANNOUNCED U.S. INTENTIONS TO RECOGNIZE THE EXPERTISE, LEADERSHIP AND COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF NGOS THROUGH A NEW INITIATIVE WHICH WILL CHANNEL FORTY PER CENT OF U.S. DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE THROUGH NGOS, BOTH US-BASED AND INDIGENOUS. VICE PRESIDENT GORE STATED AT THE SUMMIT THAT U.S. OBJECTIVES IN LAUNCHING THE "NEW PARTNERSHIPS INITIATIVE" WERE TO EMPOWER SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURS TO DRIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH; TO STRENGTHEN THE ROLE OF NGOS IN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM(S); AND TO HELP NATIONS BOLSTER DEMOCRACY AT THE LOCAL LEVEL."

ACTIVE ENGAGEMENT OF THE NGO COMMUNITY IS -- FOR US -- THE MOST CREDIBLE WAY TO MEET THOSE GOALS.

³⁵⁰⁰
~~CERTAINLY, THE MOST RECENT EXPERIENCE OF THE ACCREDITATION OF OVER 2,000 NGOS TO THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IS A TESTIMONY TO THE FACT THAT NGOS ARE MAJOR PLAYERS IN THE FORMULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERNATIONAL POLICIES. THAT TO THE CONFERENCE ITSELF SOME 3500 NGOS WERE ACCREDITED, WHILE THE NGO FORUM, WHICH WILL PARALLEL THE CONFERENCE ATTRACTED OVER 30,000, SHOULD NOT BE SEEN AS AN INDICATION OF THE LOGISTICAL LIMITATIONS OF CONFERENCE FACILITIES, ON THE CONTRARY, IT IS A RESOUNDING CONFIRMATION OF HOW EAGER NGOS WORLDWIDE ARE TO COMMUNICATE WITH EACH OTHER, TO LEARN FROM EACH OTHER AND TO WORK WITH EACH OTHER. WITH OR WITHOUT THE APPROBATION OF GOVERNMENTS AND TO HELP PROMOTE THE ISSUES AND PRIORITIES OF THE GLOBAL AGENDA. IT IS LIKEWISE A REAFFIRMATION OF DEMOCRACY IN ACTION.~~

IS EXPECTED TO ATTRACT MORE THAN 30,000 participants. This

ALSO

- 3 -

NGOS' TECHNICAL EXPERTISE, COMBINED WITH THEIR AGILITY IN DISSEMINATING INFORMATION, ~~IN PUBLICISING INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS THROUGH NETWORKS~~, HAVE MADE THEM INVALUABLE PARTNERS IN DEVELOPMENT. THEY HAVE BECOME FAMILIAR ACTORS IN ALL DELIBERATIONS AT CONFERENCES AND "PREPCOMS" LEADING UP TO CONFERENCES. GRADUALLY, GOVERNMENTS HAVE REALIZED THAT INCLUSION OF NGOS IN THE VARIOUS PHASES OF NEGOTIATIONS IS A SAFE, TRANSPARENT WAY TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE PRACTICAL, GROUND-LEVEL IMPLICATIONS OF OFFICIAL DELIBERATIONS. TO USE A POPULAR AMERICAN EXPRESSION, NGOS HAVE A WAY OF "KEEPING US HONEST," IN TOUCH WITH WHAT REALLY MATTERS, FOCUSED ON WHAT IS REALLY DOABLE, AND CONSCIOUS OF OUR CONSTITUENCIES.

NGOS HAVE ALSO BECOME CRITICAL PLAYERS IN THE REALM OF IMPLEMENTATION. AS AMBASSADOR MADELEINE K. ALBRIGHT RECENTLY COMMENTED, "LOOK AT ALMOST ANY UN ACTIVITY AND YOU WILL SEE NGOS PROVIDING TECHNICAL EXPERTISE, CONCEPTUAL GUIDANCE, LOGISTICS, PERSONNEL, ACCESS AND MONEY. THIS IS TRUE OF HUMANITARIAN OPERATIONS, ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES, THE PROVISION OF HEALTH CARE AND CHILD SURVIVAL PROGRAMS, AND EVEN TO THE TWO WAR CRIMES TRIBUNALS."

THIS WAS NOT THE CASE A GENERATION AGO, BUT IT IS AN UNDENIABLE REALITY NOW ~~FROM WHICH THERE CAN BE NO RETREAT.~~

I'VE OBSERVED ANOTHER EXCITING TREND AMONG THE NGO COMMUNITY. WE ARE SEEING TODAY, A CIVIL REVOLUTION OF SORTS. THE NOTION OF THE "GLOBAL VILLAGE" SEEMS STRANGELY ANACHRONISTIC WHEN WE CONSIDER THE HIGH-TECH ABILITY OF NGOS TO COMMUNICATE WITH EACH OTHER. THROUGH THAT COMMUNICATION, NOWADAYS DUBBED "NETWORKS", NGOS HAVE CREATED STRONG BONDS OF COOPERATION, UNDERSTANDING AND, FURTHER ACTIVISM. THE SPLIT-SECOND ELECTRONIC HOOK-UP PROVIDED BY AN INTERNATIONAL NETWORK NGO HAS THE CAPABILITY OF LITERALLY PLACING THE "WORLD AT ONE'S FINGERTIPS." NGOS HAVE LEFT THE GLOBAL VILLAGE FOR A TECHNOLOGICAL "SPACE STATION" WHICH SERVES AS A TEMPORARY DEPOT FOR REGROUPING BEFORE MOVING ON TO EXPLORE THE NEXT FRONTIER.

PRIVATE SECTOR-LED ADVANCES IN COMMUNICATION ARE IN LARGE PART RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS NEW PHASE OF INTERACTION. THE PIONEERING SPIRIT AND ADVANCES OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR, COMPLEMENTED BY RESOURCES FROM THE SERVICE AND TRADE FIELDS AND BY INFORMATION FROM ACADEMIA, ARE CONVERTING THE GLOBAL VILLAGE INTO A TEAMING, COSMOPOLITAN COMMUNITY.

(MEDIA)

TEEMING?

I CONSIDER THE MEDIA TO BE ANOTHER PRINCIPAL ACTOR AMONG CIVIL SOCIETY ACTIVISTS.

- 4 -

THE PIONEERING VIGOR OF ~~THE~~ ENTERPRISES LIKE CNN HAS DEMONSTRATED THE ABILITY OF THE MEDIA TO FOCUS INTERNATIONAL ATTENTION, MOTIVATE GOVERNMENTS TO TAKE ACTION AND MOBILIZE THE PUBLIC TO CONTRIBUTE RESOURCES TOWARD LIFE-AND-DEATH SITUATIONS. THIS CAPACITY HAS CHANGED THE NATURE AND SPEED OF THE DIALOGUE AMONG NATIONS AND IS UNDERESTIMATED AT ONE'S OWN PERIL. IN THE OLD DAYS, IT WAS SAID THAT A "PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS". NOW WE SAY, "ONE WELL-PLACED NEWS STORY CAN SAVE A THOUSAND LIVES." THE MEDIA'S INVESTMENT IN BRINGING THE WORLD TO OUR HOME HAS THE ADDED ADVANTAGE OF ENCOURAGING CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT. EVEN WHEN GOVERNMENTS ARE CRITICIZED FOR PERCEIVED INACTION ON AN INTERNATIONAL ISSUE, THE MEDIA'S ABILITY TO FOCUS AND TO RAISE THE LEVEL OF THE DIALOGUE HELPS THE PUBLIC IN THE LONG RUN TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ITS GOVERNMENT. GOD KNOWS THAT PRESIDENT CLINTON HAS SEEN HIS SHARE OF "BAD PRESS"; HOWEVER, TO THE EXTENT THAT "BAD PRESS" KEEPS THE DEBATE OF AN ISSUE ALIVE AND THE PUBLIC ENGAGED, WE SAFEGUARD OUR DEMOCRACY, CONVERTING A POTENTIALLY PROVINCIAL AND INWARDLY-TURNED POPULACE INTO A THOUGHTFUL, OUTWARD-LOOKING ACTIVIST CONSTITUENT.

I'd suggest dropping
this graph.
The piece is too
long anyway, 2nd
it is questionable
whether HRC should
be praising the
"CNN" effect →
Also the last line
is not true.

THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY HAS EMERGED AS ANOTHER IMPORTANT CIVIL SOCIETY PARTNER. HERETOFORE, THE PRIVATE SECTOR HAD ENJOYED A QUIET LEAD IN FORGING INTERNATIONAL BONDS. WITH THE GLOBALIZATION OF ECONOMIES, WE HAVE SEEN THAT THE PRIVATE SECTOR'S CREATIVITY, ~~WHICH IS SHARED~~, CAN ENCOURAGE DYNAMISM AND GROWTH ~~IN NATIONS~~. ~~WE'VE ALSO SEEN THAT BUSINESS IS LEAST EFFECTIVE WHEN OPERATING FOR BUSINESS' SAKE ALONE.~~ THE VIENNA CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE RIO DE JANEIRO CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT REAFFIRMED THE INTERRELATEDNESS OF ALL OUR HUMAN ENDEAVORS. WHETHER WE DISCUSS THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY FROM INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES TO THE DEVELOPING WORLD, OR THE PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS WITHIN AND AMONG NATIONS, BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENTS HAVE AN INTEREST AND A RESPONSIBILITY TO WORK TOGETHER TO MAXIMIZE PROFIT AND PUBLIC BENEFIT.

AT THE SAME TIME, IT IS ABUNDANTLY CLEAR THAT THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MORE GENERALLY MUST BE VIGILANT ABOUT WHERE AND HOW BUSINESS OPERATES TO ENSURE THAT THE GOAL OF ECONOMIC GROWTH IS NOT USED AS AN EXCUSE FOR THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS OR THE DESTRUCTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT.

AN INCREASINGLY GLOBAL ECONOMY REQUIRES INCREASING GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY. THIS IS AN ECONOMIC AS WELL AS A POLITICAL REALITY; IT APPLIES TO PRIVATE SECTOR AS MUCH AS TO GOVERNMENTS. MOST RECENTLY, WE HAVE INVITED THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO SHARE ITS INFORMATION WITH US ABOUT

Delete

- 5 -

COST-EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT, AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND AND STATE OF THE ART TECHNOLOGIES. WE LIKEWISE HAVE ASKED BUSINESS TO CONSIDER ITS CONTRIBUTION ~~BEYOND THE BANK DEPOSIT UNIT~~ -- TO INVEST THROUGH TRAINING, LONG-TERM COMMITMENT IN COMMUNITIES, AND SOMETIMES THROUGH ACTING AS CIVIC MODELS TO FURTHER THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS, ESPECIALLY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. FROM THE NEWLY INDEPENDENT STATES OF THE FORMER SOVIET UNION TO THE NEW DEMOCRATIC SOUTH AFRICA, INTERNATIONAL BUSINESSES HAVE ACCEPTED THE CHALLENGE OF WORKING WITH CIVIC GROUPS, AND EXPANDING THEIR ACTIVITIES TO INCLUDE THIS KIND OF PARTNERSHIP. [I BELIEVE THAT THEIR WILLINGNESS TO TAKE THOSE EXTRA STEPS CAN BE ATTRIBUTED TO THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN THE DEBATES IN THE UN AND AT THE VARIOUS CONFERENCES.]

PROCESS

Is this true? The conferences made them better people?

LIKE THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE NGO COMMUNITY OR THE PRIVATE SECTOR, ACADEMIA'S CONTRIBUTION IS ALSO ESSENTIAL. HOWEVER, IN MANY RESPECTS, ACADEMIA IS LAGGING BEHIND. WHERE BUSINESSES AND NGOS HAVE HEARD THE BELL AND COME RUNNING, FAR TOO MANY DWELLERS IN IVORY TOWERS IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD STILL APPEAR TO WONDER FOR WHOM ~~THEY~~ THAT BELL TOLLS

THAT BELL

IN FAIRNESS, UNIVERSITIES AND THINK TANKS DO AROUND WITH EXCITING, PROVOCATIVE PROPOSALS RELATED TO SOCIO-ECONOMIC ISSUES. THE PROBLEM HERE -- AND IT APPEARS TO BE ONE OF CULTURES -- IS THAT THERE IS NO VISIBLE, CONSISTENT LINKAGE BETWEEN THAT INTELLECTUAL ACTIVITY AND THE GROUND-BREAKING WORK THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IS ATTEMPTING AT THE UN. INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING COULD ADVANCE UN GOALS SIGNIFICANTLY IF THEY, LIKE OTHER PARTNERS OF CIVIL SOCIETY, ENGAGED IN THE DEBATE. THE ADDED ADVANTAGE OF THE INTELLECTUAL IS THAT SHE OR HE POSES THE MORAL QUESTION. THEY HIGHLIGHT THE RELEVANCE OF THE ISSUE. WE ARE AT RISK OF LOSING THAT MORAL INVESTMENT OF OUR ACADEMIC COMMUNITY. PERHAPS MEMBER STATES AND INSTITUTIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY ARE EQUALLY AT FAULT FOR NOT ACTIVELY ENOUGH ENCOURAGING ACADEMIC PARTICIPATION. WE MUST PROMOTE LINKAGE AND SYNERGY BETWEEN ACADEMIA, NGOS, AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR SO THAT THE ISSUES OF TODAY ARE WEIGHED UPON BY TOMORROW'S SCHOLARS. SO THAT TODAY'S PHILOSOPHERS AND ADVANCED MATHEMATICIANS INFLUENCE CONTEMPORARY THINKING ABOUT THE POLITICAL CHOICES OUR GOVERNMENTS ~~ARE MAKING~~.
MAKE

I'm all for
2 Hacking
academics?
Is there
any reason to
think HRC
wants to?
If so -- God
bless her -

I WANT THIS INVOLVEMENT TO GO BEYOND THE UN INTERGOVERNMENTAL FORUM, THOUGH. WE NEED THE INTELLECTUAL AND MORAL DEBATE TO RE-EMERGE IN PUBLIC DEBATE. IN THIS DECADE, WE HAVE COMMITTED OURSELVES TO FORGING INTEGRATED APPROACHES TO DEVELOPMENT AND ADVANCING HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL CHILDREN, WOMEN AND MEN. THESE GOALS REQUIRE FULL PARTNERSHIPS AND WE HAVE BEEN NEARLY SUCCESSFUL IN FORGING THEM. AS WE CONTINUE THIS JOURNEY, WE HAVE A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY AND MORAL OBLIGATION TO INVOLVE ALL RELEVANT PARTIES, TO ENRICH THE DIALOGUE AND CREATE THE MOST DYNAMIC PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE FUTURE.