

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 3, 1999

CONTACT: MARSHA BERRY
TOBY GRAFF
JULIE MASON
202/456-2960

**PRESS SCHEDULE OF THE FIRST LADY
FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1999**

Washington, D.C. -- On Tuesday, September 7, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton will convene a meeting of representatives from the U.S. government, multinational institutions, foundations and corporations to explore strategies to better address the international AIDS crisis. Although many countries throughout the world are now acknowledging AIDS control and prevention as a public health priority, a serious crisis remains and more needs to be done. AIDS related diseases have killed more than 14 million men, women and children -- mostly in Africa where more than 5,000 deaths are reported each day. By 2010, 40 million children will have been orphaned by HIV/AIDS. It is hoped that this meeting will lead to new initiatives and partnerships to combat the plague of HIV/AIDS around the world.

EVENT: Meeting on International AIDS Strategy
TIME: 10:30 a.m.
DATE: Tuesday, September 3, 1999
LOCATION: The Roosevelt Room
The White House

Press Notes:

There will be a pool spray at the top of the meeting for the First Lady's opening remarks (nets can cover unilaterally, independent tv pool is CSPAN, Wire photogs. only). Mult is provided. No riser or lighting provided. There will be an escort from the White House Briefing Room to pre-set equipment at 9:15 a.m. and a final escort at 10:20 a.m.

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AIDS Convening
September 7, 1999
Participants List

Clinton Administration

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton

Secretary Donna Shalala
Department of Health and Human Services

The Honorable David Satcher
Surgeon General

Secretary Lawrence Summers
Department of the Treasury

Administrator Brady Anderson
US Agency for International Development

The Honorable Leon Fuerth
Assistant to the Vice President for National Security Affairs
The White House

The Honorable Sandy Thurman
Director
National AIDS Policy Office
The White House

Ms. Gayle Smith
Senior Director for African Affairs
National Security Council
The White House

Under Secretary Frank Loy
Under Secretary for Global Affairs
Department of State

Melanne Verveer
Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff to the First Lady
The White House

Dr. Ken Bernard
International Health Affairs
National Security Council
The White House

Multinational Organizations

Mr. James Wolfensohn
President
World Bank

Ms. Jan Piercy
The Executive Director of the United States
The World Bank

Dr. Peter Piot
Executive Director
Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS

Foundations

Dr. Timothy Evans
Team Director for Health Services
The Rockefeller Foundation

Mr. Aryeh Neier
President Soros Foundations Network
Open Society Institute

Mr. Stewart Burden
Senior Program Officer
The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

Dr. Gordon Perkin
President of PATH
William H. Gates Foundation

Dr. Drew Altman
President and CEO
Kaiser Family Foundation

Corporations/Others

Mr. Charles Heimbold
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
Bristol Myers Squibb

Mr. Robert Johnson
Chairman and CEO
Black Entertainment Television



U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT **FACT SHEET**

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99-109

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Contact: Jennifer Brown or Gabrielle Bushman
September 7, 1999

USAID COMBATTING AIDS: A RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENT

The U.S. government is the world leader in responding to the global pandemic of AIDS. Since 1986 the U.S. Government through USAID has dedicated over \$1.2 billion dollars for the prevention and mitigation of this epidemic in the developing world. USAID's HIV/AIDS budget of \$135 million for this year exceeds all other bilateral donors.

USAID is working in 47 of the hardest hit countries in all regions of the world. Nearly 70 percent of our HIV/AIDS program assistance goes to small non-governmental organizations that have direct connections to the poorest of the poor and those most vulnerable to infection.

Leadership and Investment in Fighting an Epidemic (LIFE). In July, Vice President Al Gore announced a \$100 million initiative to fight AIDS around the world. USAID will program \$55 million of this effort, which will support efforts to contain the AIDS pandemic, provide home and community-based care, care for children orphaned by AIDS and strengthen community capacity to respond. LIFE focuses on 15 target countries (14 in sub-Saharan Africa, plus India), which represent those with the most severe epidemic, the highest number of new infections and where the potential impact is the greatest.

Educating people to prevent AIDS. In the past five years, USAID, through work with host country governments and community groups, has provided intensive AIDS education and to over 25 million vulnerable men and women, helping them to reduce their risk of HIV infection. To accomplish this task, USAID has trained over 180,000 new, dedicated counselors and educators.

Reducing HIV prevalence in young adults in Uganda. USAID's support was instrumental in reducing the prevalence of HIV in 15-24 year olds in urban areas by 50 percent and nationally by a third.

Maintaining low HIV prevalence. In Senegal, Philippines and Indonesia, early, comprehensive HIV intervention programs supported by USAID and other donors have helped prevent a major epidemic, keeping the prevalence rate to less than 2 percent. Even more dramatic, in another set of countries – Uganda, Dominican Republic, and Thailand – intensive HIV/AIDS programs launched after major epidemics had erupted have resulted in reductions in the numbers of new infections.

Reducing sexually transmitted infections (STIs) in Africa. USAID is improving STI control programs in Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria, Rwanda and Zambia. In South Africa, USAID support was instrumental in reducing the prevalence of STIs by 40 percent among vulnerable mineworkers over a nine-month period.

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Increasing the distribution of condoms. USAID has provided over one billion condoms and developed new technologies to that people can protect themselves and their partners. In Thailand, through a 100% "condom only" brothel policy and intensive general and targeted interventions focused on behavior change, HIV prevalence has been kept at 2 percent over the past four years, and STI rates in men have dropped by 300 percent. USAID support for social marketing of condoms has increased sales by over 100 percent between 1996 and 1998 in four African countries (Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, and Zimbabwe). In 1999, USAID will launch new social marketing programs in Eritrea, South Africa, and Haiti.

Supporting voluntary testing and counseling. In 1990, USAID provided funding for the AIDS Information Center in Uganda, the first program in Africa offering voluntary and anonymous HIV counseling and testing. In eight years, over 400,000 clients were served. USAID now supports voluntary counseling and testing in more than 10 countries.

Involving communities in the fight against AIDS. USAID support has been critical to supporting local communities and community-based organizations in fighting AIDS in Malawi, Zambia, Tanzania, Uganda, Senegal and 40 other developing countries.

Supporting civil society groups in the fight against AIDS. In South Africa, USAID assisted the Council of South African Trade Unions to include HIV/AIDS as a key policy issue for their members. USAID has also supported religious communities and inter-faith networks critical to HIV/AIDS prevention successes.

Developing technologies to fight the transmission. USAID has been instrumental in the ongoing development of critical technologies to fight the transmission of AIDS in the developing world, including the female condom, a topical microbicide, rapid diagnostic tests for STIs and affordable, and realistic methods to reduce mother to child transmission of AIDS.

Assisting children affected by AIDS: Globally, 25 million children have lost one or both parents to AIDS. In 10 countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, USAID is helping children stay in their communities by supporting extended and foster families. USAID programs assist with housing, education, health care as well as helping children cope with the psychological stress of losing a parent.

Collaborating with other major donors: USAID is closely collaborating with other major donors such as the World Bank and European Union to coordinate country programs and increase their effectiveness. In Ukraine, the European Union and USAID are designing a joint \$4 million HIV/AIDS prevention campaign and in Brazil USAID is offering technical assistance to improve the national HIV/AIDS program which is supported by World Bank funds.

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Educating people to prevent AIDS. In the past five years, USAID, through work with host country governments and community groups, has provided intensive AIDS education and to over 25 million vulnerable men and women, helping them to reduce their risk of HIV infection. To accomplish this task, USAID has trained over 180,000 new, dedicated counselors and educators.

Reducing HIV prevalence in young adults in Uganda. USAID's support was instrumental in reducing the prevalence of HIV in 15-24 year olds in urban areas by 50 percent and nationally by a third.

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Collaborating with other major donors: USAID is closely collaborating with other major donors such as the World Bank and European Union to coordinate country programs and increase their effectiveness. In Ukraine, the European Union and USAID are designing a joint \$4 million HIV/AIDS prevention campaign and in Brazil USAID is offering technical assistance to improve the national HIV/AIDS program which is supported by World Bank funds.



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