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**UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

799 UNITED NATIONS PLAZA  
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017-3505

May 1, 2005

Dear Ms. Hannan:

This letter is in response to the note from the Secretary General dated March 31, 2005, requesting input to facilitate preparation of the report pursuant to UN General Assembly resolution 58/185 entitled "In-depth study on all forms of violence against women."

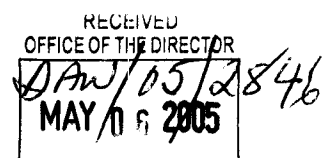
We understand based on the Secretary General's note that the information provided by the U.S. Government for the 10-year review and appraisal of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action will serve as input for this study. The U.S. response provided for the review and appraisal (now available on the UN website) includes descriptions of the main actions the U.S. Government has taken to address violence against women, particularly in the fight against trafficking.

There are no new U.S. domestic initiatives to combat violence against women since we provided our response to the request for information for the 10-year review and appraisal of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. However, the U.S. Government did take action at the international level.

At CSW 2005, the United States introduced a resolution on "Eliminating Demand for Trafficked Women and Girls for All Forms of Exploitation," which was adopted by consensus with over 50 co-sponsors. This is the first UN resolution to focus on the demand side of human trafficking. It acknowledges the important link between commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking in women and girls.

The UN Office of Drugs and Crime estimates that 75% of transnational human trafficking is for sexual exploitation. The United States is convinced that while tackling the root causes of trafficking is critical, this in itself will not eradicate human trafficking. The market forces that drive TIP victims into prostitution must also be addressed.

Ms. Carolyn Hannan,  
Director of the Division for the Advancement of Women  
Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
Two United Nations Plaza, Room DC2-1250  
New York, New York 10017.



"VISION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN"  
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The United States has programs to strengthen women's economic empowerment as a means to prevent vulnerable women from falling prey to trafficking and violence. In FY 2004, the Women's Issues Fund of the Department of State's Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs (EAP) gave a grant for a project to reduce Cambodian women's vulnerability to potential trafficking by working to improve their economic empowerment, literacy, and advocacy. The grant helps provide women with literacy education, develop savings-led village banking, promote income generation through micro-enterprise, and mobilize social outreach to 2,000 at-risk women.

In Laos, the EAP Women's Fund is supporting a French-Swiss NGO that improves the social and economic status of at-risk women in Luang Namtha province by raising women's income, improving technical skills, and providing an alternative crop to opium cultivation.

In his report, the Secretary-General may want to address the issues of female infanticide and sex-selective abortion. Even though these practices do not take place in the United States, they do occur in other countries, and we would be interested in knowing what corrective measures are being taken. 11

Sincerely,



William Brencick  
Minister Counselor,  
Deputy U.S. Representative  
to the UN Economic and Social Council