

problems and acknowledge that we have got to do better. The other thing is, I think it is very difficult to be able to tell other countries when they are speaking the language of family planning that they can not get funding for HIV/AIDS, part of family planning is to save lives of women who may be infected with HIV/AIDS.

Truly we have a crisis, and I believe having gone to Africa in the first presidential trip in the term of the administration of President Clinton when we went and traveled to countries like Zambia, South Africa and Botswana, we saw what Africa could do. Now we know that they can do a lot with generic drugs. Distribution questions can be answered. I would simply say, Mr. Speaker, that it is imperative that we fight this battle together, link arms together to ensure that we do not orphan any more children around the world.

Let me close by saying, Mr. Speaker, by saying this is a problem right in our own back yard. And I ask HHS to make sure that the minority fund for minorities that are fighting HIV/AIDS in our respective communities get to those minority agencies here in America. Because I hear over and over again, wherever I go, that those funds designated by the Congressional Black Caucus are not getting to those inner-city agencies and nonprofits to fight HIV/AIDS rights in our backyard. This is an issue for the President. The Global AIDS Fund is an issue for the President and the administration, and I hope that we can collectively work together because we should be committed to saving lives.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentlewoman for her statement and for her leadership and for her patience on this special order.

Let me yield to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON), and I want to thank her also for her participation and her leadership this evening.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, quickly, I want to thank the gentlewoman for her sustained leadership on this issue.

I want to focus on one issue and that is the failure to use multilateralism when it comes to AIDS policy. The unilateral approach we see here that we do not have a global approach to AIDS any more than we have the kind of global approach we need to war and to terrorism. In both, lives are at stake. The Global AIDS Fund is applauded all over the world because it is a low cost administered fund with great accountability, philanthropists serve on it. And what have we done?

It is not clear whether we are setting up a new fund, a new entity. What is clear is we are giving only a billion dollars rather than the more than \$2 billion that should go to that fund, so where is the rest of our money going to? Why are not we using this multilateral approach which would get the most bang for our dollar?

I think the reason is we do not want to play by the same rules that the rest

of the world is playing by. We want the global gag rule and the way to make sure we get a global gag rule is to pull our money out and deal with our money ourselves. That is a tragedy to take the gag rule and apply it to AIDS treatment.

Imagine in Africa what AIDS means. It means a terrible stigma that you cannot get treatment in the same place that you get family planning is going to mean that many people will not get treatment at all. We want unilateralism here to do what we tried to do with the Asian countries when we were recently discussing HIV prevention. We tried to delete the mention even of condoms there. We are trying to unilaterally impose our approach, an approach that we have imposed in our country, but democratically you can do that here, we are trying to impose that on the world. That is why we were seeing unilateralism here even as we have even unilateralism in much foreign policy since this President came into office. Lives are at risk. I ask that we go global when it comes to AIDS. I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia for her participation and for her leadership.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the subject of my special order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

EMERGENCY PLAN FOR AIDS RELIEF IN AFRICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCCOTTER). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. Water) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, AIDS activists and interesting, caring legislators and others have been working on this AIDS issue for the past 20 years. President Bush did not get active on this issue over the past 2 years, but he has come to the table now to talk about emergency plan for AIDS relief in Africa. And according to the administration, this proposal will provide \$15 billion for global HIV/AIDS programs over the next 5 years, including \$10 billion in brand new money.

Now, we have to take a very close look at this here proposal. A closer look at the President's budget for fiscal year 2004 indicates that it may not be a pure \$15 billion that will be spent over the next 5 years.

One would think that \$15 billion over 5 years would amount to \$3 billion per year. However, the administration's budget for global AIDS programs for

fiscal year 2004 is only \$2 billion. An increase of just half a billion over the fiscal year 2003 level. Administration officials have indicated that they plan to phase in the proposed funding over the next 5 years. Phasing in funds is particularly troublesome in the case of the AIDS epidemic. Every year, another 3 million people die of AIDS, another 5 million become infected with HIV. How many people will we have to have die before we have an emergency plan, a real emergency plan that is triggered immediately?

The President promised that his proposed emergency plan for AIDS relief would provide \$10 billion in new money for global AIDS programs. When we look at this and upon close attention, it becomes very clear that the administration is transferring money from other development assistance accounts in order to fund this new proposal. The President's budget for fiscal year 2004 severely underfunds one of the Federal government's most important development assistance accounts, the Child Survival and Health Account.

Funding for this account was cut by \$470 million, relative to the fiscal year 2003 level. Indeed, when you combine the President's proposed increase of half a billion dollars for global AIDS programs with his proposed cuts of almost half a billion dollars in the Child Survival and Health Account, the total funding for the two programs is virtually identical to fiscal year 2000 funding. Cutting funds for Child Survival and Health in order to fund AIDS relief is no way to improve global health.

Another problem with the proposal in this plan for AIDS relief is that it virtually eliminates funding for the global fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. The global fund encourages developing countries to combine the efforts of government agencies, non-governmental organizations and civil society into a comprehensive strategy to fight epidemics in a manner appropriate for local needs and conditions. The global fund also allows donors to pool their resources so that developing countries do not have to deal with as many funding agencies.

Now, the President's proposal of \$15 billion over 5 years for global AIDS program includes only \$1 billion for the Global Fund. The President's budget provides only \$200 million for the global fund in fiscal year 2004 and presumably \$200 million per year over the next 5 years.

This will drastically reduce the Global Fund's activities which received \$400 million from the United States this year alone. The President is apparently determined to ensure that his \$15 billion emergency plan for AIDS relief will be implemented almost exclusively by the United States government agencies, Jeffrey Sacks, the Chairman of the World Health Organization's Commission on Macroeconomics and Health evaluated the President's proposal and concluded, "The U.S., as it is wont these days, has decided to go it alone."

AIDS is a global epidemic. It deserves a global response, not a unilateral one.

The gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) just mentioned the global gag rule and the President is complicating AIDS treatments and prevention even further by attempting to apply the Mexico City policy to global AIDS programs. The Mexico City policy known as the Global Gag Rule prohibits U.S. funding of international organizations that perform abortions or provide abortion referrals or counseling with their own money.

In the past the Mexico City policy has been used to restrict the use of family planning funds. It has never ever been applied to HIV funds and it is unwise for the President to politicize this. Under the administration's new proposed policy, only organizations that do not offer abortion-related services or those that offer abortion-related services, separate from HIV/AIDS services, would be eligible for AIDS funds.

This would be an inefficient and unrealistic expectation for most clinics, organizations operating in developing countries.

I will quickly say it is time for our President to really understand all of the work that all of us have put into this issue and get with the strategy and the plan that is developed by activists and people worldwide and do some real work in helping to deal with this pandemic.

HIV/AIDS IN AFRICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, let me thank the gentleman from California (Mr. CUNNINGHAM) who has a record of his own that we all know and we are very proud of what he has done to preserve democracy in this country and his serving. The gentleman's humility in yielding is just a testament to his concern. I thank the gentleman very much.

Mr. Speaker, let me say that we stand here at a crossroads right now. Millions of people all over the world are in the wake of a humanitarian disaster to pale all others. It makes the black plague of the Middle Ages look like small things. HIV and AIDS is a global killer. As ranking member of the House Subcommittee on Africa and as a human being who has seen with my own eyes the havoc HIV and AIDS is wreaking on an entire continent of Africa, I simply am compelled to speak out not only in Africa, but now in India, a nation that will have the largest population in the world in the next few years, even exceeding that of the People's Republic of China. It will have perhaps 1.5 billion people, surpassing China's 1.3 to 4 billion people.

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It is spreading there and India. It is spreading in China, and so it is something that is all around us; but I think that if we can deal with it in Africa, I think that what we learned there can actually be used in India where it has not yet taken hold as it has in Africa. And it has taken hold in Africa because the world has been silent on it, as we have seen, as devastation through the years, year in and year out, since 1988 when HIV and AIDS was first encountered in this country.

In January's State of the Union address, President Bush announced a new initiative to combat HIV and AIDS in the Caribbean. This initiative would give \$15 billion for fighting HIV and AIDS in Africa and the Caribbean, including \$10 billion, what President Bush called "new money."

This initiative, and the fact that 10 percent of Bush's speech at the State of the Union address was spent on discussing Africa, certainly marks a new day and a new pledge of a new commitment by the administration to pay more attention to the needs of the African continent. We do have concerns about this new money and where it will come from.

While child-survival funding for Africa increased in the President's 2004 budget request by about \$80 million to the \$542 million, this largely reflects the increase in the HIV and AIDS funding. Meanwhile, almost all other African aid was significantly decreased. For example, democracy conflict and humanitarian assistance will be cut by \$25 million in the 2004 budget if the President's request is agreed upon by Congress.

This is at a time when the U.S. is urging for sound policies and for governments to demonstrate they are fighting corruption and ruling justly in order to receive part of the \$1.3 billion from the Millennium Challenge Account next year. How can we hold governments accountable for making progress in these areas and simultaneously cutting the funding that has aided these activities toward reaching these goals? It does not add up.

We must fight HIV and AIDS, yes; but we must not rob from Peter to pay Paul. Child survival is important. Democracy and good governance are important, and in a day when the administration wages its war against terrorism, the administration is seeking to cut military and security aid by 23 percent in Africa, a \$130 million cut, as well as peacekeeping aid in Africa by nearly 50 percent. Is the \$75 million increase in HIV and AIDS a result of the cuts in other line items?

If we are serious about combating the most lethal killer we have known, we must integrate our efforts in other areas. We cannot stem the tide of HIV if we are cutting aid to agriculture, trade and investment or democracy programs. HIV affects all other sectors of society, not only health. Therefore, we have to combat the effects HIV has

had on all of the areas, and we should not move towards cutting aid in those areas to fight HIV and AIDS, because it is all together.

I once again commend the administration for its effort, and we look forward to working with the administration in this new dedicated war against HIV and AIDS.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the opportunity to be here tonight, and I want to especially thank my good friend, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS) and applaud my CBC colleagues for their hard work in bringing us together here tonight to talk about the HIV pandemic.

The global fight against HIV/AIDS is important to U.S. security interests because the disease has proven to be a significant destabilizing force in much of the developing world. It has removed many of the most productive members from society and devastated the social, political and economic infrastructures of those countries hardest hit.

Mr. Speaker, today, the chance of a 15-year-old African girl making it to the age of 60 is 52 percent. By 2010, it will be about a 30 percent chance. This will have a sizeable impact on the future of African society. With this kind of outlook for African youth, investment in education and economic advancement practically become non-issues.

In January, President Bush proposed spending \$15 billion over five years to fight global HIV/AIDS. The plan would commit \$3 billion a year for five years to global AIDS reduction, including \$200 million a year for the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis.

I understand that the Senate Foreign Relations Committee will take up the legislation very soon. The House International Relations Committee will consider a comparable bill.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that this boost in spending is not a fait accompli. We must fight to ensure that Congress commits to the increase in Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria while preventing politics from intruding on decisions about health care.

The purpose of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria is to attract, manage and disburse additional resources for health through a new public-private partnership. It is hoped that this will make a sustainable and significant contribution to the reduction of infections, illness and death and thereby mitigate the impact caused by HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria in countries in need, and contribute to poverty reduction as part of the Millennium Development Goals.

Mr. Speaker, We still have a long way to go to raise awareness about the disease and to ensure that Nations have the resources to implement proven prevention and treatment programs. We must do more to help those countries to combat these deadly diseases.

We must commit ourselves to doing more, and I hope that this Congress can make that commitment, and I strongly urge the President of the United States to do the same for the Global Fund.

AMERICAN HEROES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCCOTTER). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from California (Mr.