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UNITED NATIONS

U.S. Participation in
the Fourth World
Conference on Women





United States
General Accounting Office
Washington, D.C. 20548

National Security and
International Affairs Division

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The Honorable Jesse Helms
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations
United States Senate

The Honorable Christopher H. Smith
Chairman, Subcommittee on International Operations
and Human Rights
Committee on International Relations
House of Representatives

In response to your August 17 and July 28, 1995, requests, we examined certain issues related to the United Nations' (UN) Fourth World Conference on Women. As agreed with your staffs, this report provides information on (1) the cost of U.S. participation in the UN's Fourth World Conference on Women and the parallel, independently-convened nongovernmental organizations' (NGO) Forum, (2) the UN process for accrediting NGOs, and (3) the handling of Conference travel visas by the Chinese. A summary of our discussions with 28 U.S. NGOs regarding their perspectives on the accreditation process, adequacy of accommodations, and physical access to Conference and Forum facilities is provided in an appendix to this report.

We provided a briefing on these issues to your staffs on December 15, 1995. Our briefing document appears after this letter.

Background

The UN held its Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China, from September 4 to 15, 1995. The purpose of the Conference, as stated by the participating governments, was to advance equality, development, and peace for all women. About 17,000 participants registered at the Conference, including official delegations from 189 countries and representatives from 1,700 NGOs. Previous UN Conferences on Women were held in Mexico (1975), Copenhagen (1980), and Nairobi (1985).

Parallel to the Conference, nongovernmental organizations independently organized a forum to (1) provide opportunities for networking; (2) plan strategies for improving the lives of women through education, human and legal rights, health, and other areas; and (3) enable NGOs to influence the outcome of Conference activities. The NGO Organizing Committee negotiated with the Chinese government for a forum site and collected

donations from corporations, governments, and others to fund organizing activities. The Forum was held in Huairou, China—53 kilometers (about 30 miles) from Beijing—from August 31 to September 8, 1995. About 30,000 people attended the Forum, and some participated in both the Forum and Conference. U.S. officials estimated that about 7,000 U.S. citizens traveled to China for Conference and Forum activities.

Results in Brief

The UN estimated the costs of convening the Conference to be approximately \$13 to \$14 million, with financial support coming from voluntary donations, the host government, and the UN regular budget. The total cost to the United States for the Conference and Forum was approximately \$5.9 million. This amount includes \$4.8 million in direct costs incurred by 13 U.S. government agencies and the White House, and approximately \$1.1 million of the UN cost for the Conference, which was paid out of the UN regular budget.¹ Of the \$4.8 million direct expenditures, \$2.2 million was spent for preparatory activities, \$1.8 million for participation in the Conference, and \$0.8 million for Forum activities.

The UN invited NGOs to apply for accreditation to participate in Conference activities. Of the 2,450 NGOs worldwide that applied for accreditation, 277 were not accredited. Of the 588 U.S. NGOs that applied, 69 were not accredited. The UN's process for accrediting NGOs, although it underwent changes to include a broader representation of NGOs, was generally viewed by U.S. officials as fair and unbiased. We did not identify a pattern or particular agenda among U.S. NGOs not recommended for accreditation. Although two Tibet-based NGOs were accredited, no NGOs based in Taiwan were accredited to the Conference because they did not meet the Conference Secretariat's requirement of being incorporated in their country of origin. Taiwanese interests were represented by NGOs from other countries, including the United States.

U.S. officials characterized the access to the UN Conference from the Huairou site of the NGO Forum as adequate. The Chinese provided buses to shuttle NGO participants from the Forum site in Huairou to the Conference in Beijing, and electronic communications linked the two sites.

Although the Chinese were late in processing visas, an official of the U.S. Mission to the UN stated that most applicants did receive one. Possible causes of problems include the overwhelming number of visa requests received by the Chinese (about three times the expected number) and the

¹The United States is assessed 25 percent of the UN regular budget.

requirement to have a confirmed hotel reservation before applying for a visa.

Agency Comments

We discussed the information contained in this briefing with officials from the Department of State, the U.S. Agency for International Development, the White House, and the UN Conference Secretariat. We incorporated their comments where appropriate.

Scope and Methodology

To determine the costs associated with U.S. participation in the Conference, we compiled expenditure data provided to us by the White House; the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Education, Energy, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, Interior, Labor, State; the Environmental Protection Agency; Small Business Administration; U.S. Agency for International Development; U.S. Information Agency; Peace Corps; Postal Service; and the Resolution Trust Corporation and Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. We examined documents supporting the expenditure data provided by the agencies, but we did not independently verify that data. We obtained estimates on the overall costs of the Conference from the UN.

We gathered information on NGO's participation in the Conference from the UN and the United States' Representative to the UN Economic and Social Council, the Department of State, and the NGO Forum Planning Committee. We examined the list of U.S. NGO applicants for patterns that would have indicated exclusion of particular points of view on women's issues. We discussed the accreditation and visa processes with 23 U.S. NGOs that were accredited to the Conference and 5 that were not accredited. We also obtained information from the 23 accredited U.S. NGOs on NGO access to the Conference.

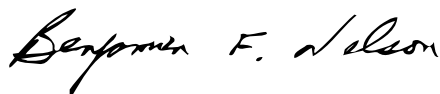
We performed our review between August and December 1995 in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards.

Appendix I lists members of the official U.S. delegation to the Conference. Appendix II provides detailed information on travel and nontravel expenditures by federal agency. Appendix III shows federal agency expenditures specifically for the Conference, appendix IV provides federal expenditures for participation in UN and NGO preparatory commissions and U.S. regional meetings, and appendix V shows federal expenditures for the NGO Forum 95. Appendix VI shows funding for countries assisted by the

U.S. Agency for International Development to participate in regional preparatory activities and the Conference and NGO Forum. Appendix VII provides a list of federal nontravel expenditures that supported Conference and Forum activities. Appendix VIII lists accredited U.S. NGOs, and appendix IX lists nonaccredited U.S. NGOs and reasons for nonaccreditation. Appendix X discusses the perspectives of 28 NGOs on the UN accreditation process and procedures and NGO access to the Conference.

We are sending copies of this briefing report to the Chairmen and Ranking Minority Members of the Senate and House Committees on Appropriations; the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs and the House Committee on Government Reform and Oversight; the Secretaries of Agriculture, Commerce, Education, Energy, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, Labor, and State; the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations; the Administrators of the U.S. Agency for International Development, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Small Business Administration; the Directors of the U.S. Information Agency and the Office of Management and Budget; and the Counsel to the President. Copies will be made available to others on request.

Please contact me on (202) 512-4128 if you or your staff have any questions concerning this report. Major contributors to this report were LeRoy W. Richardson, Margaret G. Morgan, and Olivia L. Parker.



Benjamin F. Nelson
Director, International Relations
and Trade Issues

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Abbreviations

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| E/NI | Europe and Newly Independent States Bureau |
| EPA | Environmental Protection Agency |
| HHS | U.S. Department of Health and Human Services |
| NGO | Nongovernmental organization |
| UN | United Nations |
| USAID | U.S. Agency for International Development |
| USIA | U.S. Information Agency |

Background

GAO Introduction

- Conference goals were equality, development, and peace.
 - UN Division for the Advancement of Women served as Conference Secretariat.
 - UN has held three previous conferences on women:
 - 1975 (Mexico)
 - 1980 (Copenhagen)
 - 1985 (Nairobi).
 - 7,000 U.S. citizens attended the Conference and NGO Forum.
-

The Fourth World Conference on Women was held September 4 to 15, 1995, in Beijing, China. The purpose of the conference, as stated by the participating governments, was to advance the goals of equality, development, and peace for all women.

The United Nations (UN) Commission on the Status of Women acted as the preparatory body for the Conference. The UN Division for the Advancement of Women served as the Secretariat. The duties of the Secretariat included all conference planning and operations, including receiving applications for nongovernmental organization (NGO) accreditation. The Division for the Advancement of Women served as the Secretariat for the previous conferences on women held in 1975 (Mexico), 1980 (Copenhagen), and 1985 (Nairobi). About 17,000 people registered to attend the Conference, including official delegations from 189 countries and representatives of 1,700 of the accredited NGOs. The members of the official U.S. delegation are listed in appendix I.

NGOs interested in women's issues held a parallel meeting—NGO Forum on Women Beijing '95—from August 31 to September 8, 1995, in Huairou, China, which is 53 kilometers (about 30 miles) from the Conference site. The Forum was organized by an NGO planning committee and financed by donations from governments, multilateral institutions, and private donors.¹ According to NGO organizers, the Forum provided an opportunity for NGOs to be involved in analyzing the forces that shape women's lives, presenting innovative NGO activities, and discussing future strategies. The Forum was open to all who wished to register, and about 30,000 people participated in over 4,000 scheduled activities.

About 7,000 U.S. citizens went to China—the largest movement ever of civilian Americans to a single destination, according to State Department officials—to participate in the Conference and NGO Forum. The State Department posted two additional consular officers in Beijing to provide assistance. State also published a leaflet (for distribution at the Conference and NGO Forum) on whom to call for consular assistance.

¹Donors included Apple Computer, Inc., The World Bank, The Ford Foundation, the government of Spain, the Swedish International Development Agency, NORAD (Norway) Overseas Development Administration, and U.S. Agency for International Development, among others. Four UN agencies to which the United States makes voluntary contributions—the UN Development Fund for Women, the UN Development Programme, the UN Fund for Population Activities, and the UN Children's Fund—also provided support to the Conference. These contributions are not included in the U.S. totals.

Costs of U.S. Participation

GAO UN Conference Funding Mechanisms

Trust fund contributions: \$6 million

Host country contributions: \$3 million

UN regular budget: \$4-5 million

Total: \$13-14 million

The UN Secretariat estimated costs for convening the Conference at \$13 to \$14 million.¹ Funding came from three sources: a Conference trust fund, host country contributions, and the UN's regular budget.

Donations for the trust fund could come from UN member nations (apart from their assessed contributions) or private sources. According to a UN official, the trust fund received donations of about \$6 million, with much of the funding used to assist planning efforts in less developed countries and regions.² As host country, China was required to contribute an amount equal to the increased costs of holding the conference in China rather than New York or Geneva where the UN has conference facilities. China's contribution totaled about \$3 million. The remainder of the total, some \$4 million to \$5 million, was funded through the UN's regular budget process. The U.S. share was 25 percent of the budgeted costs, or about \$1.1 million.

¹The UN does not have a centralized accounting system, so costs for UN agencies other than the Secretariat that might have participated in the Conference were not available within the time frames of our audit.

²The United States made a voluntary contribution of \$300,000 to the trust fund for Conference planning activities and to support travel of representatives of least-developed countries to regional conferences. This amount is included in expenditures for conference planning.

GAO U.S. Expenditures to Support
Conference and NGO Forum Activities

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Agency support: | \$4.8 million |
| • Conference | \$4.0 million |
| • Forum | \$0.8 million |
| U.S. share of UN costs: | \$1.1 million |
| Total: | \$5.9 million |

Total costs for U.S. participation in the Conference and NGO Forum, including preparatory activities, were approximately \$5.9 million. This total includes the U.S. share of UN budgeted costs of \$1.1 million, \$4.0 million in federal agencies' direct expenditures related to the Conference, and \$0.8 million in direct expenditures related to the Forum.

Appendix II shows travel and other costs by agency. Appendix III shows expenditures by federal agency specifically for the Conference, appendix IV shows federal expenditures for planning and preparation. Appendix V shows expenditures for the NGO Forum. Appendix VI shows expenditures for USAID-assisted countries. Appendix VII details other nontravel expenditures for conference preparation and participation.

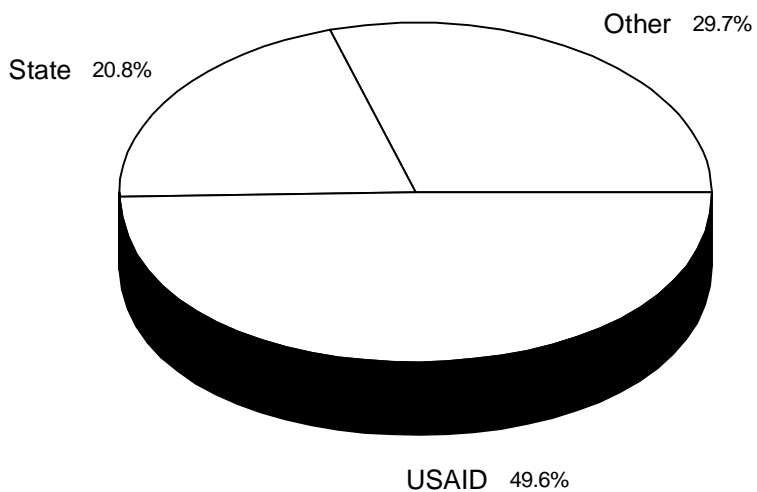
GAO Federal Entities Participating in
Conference and NGO Forum Activities

- *Agriculture*
 - *Commerce*
 - *Education*
 - *Energy*
 - *EPA*
 - *HHS*
 - *Interior*
 - *Justice*
 - *Labor*
 - *Peace Corps*
 - *State*
 - *USAID*
 - *USIA*
 - *White House*
-

The State Department took the lead in coordinating U.S. government preparations for the Conference. Other federal agencies and organizations and the White House took part in the Conference activities. The agencies represented different women's issues from labor and health issues to economic concerns.

The Departments of State and Labor jointly convened 10 official preparatory meetings in each of the 10 federal regions of the country under the theme "Women Thinking Globally, Acting Locally: On the Road to Beijing and the 21st Century." The meetings, open to the public, were designed to (1) provide information about the Conference and issues affecting the advancement of women, (2) identify successful strategies and actions taken for the advancement of women since the 1985 conference on women, (3) identify what still needs to be done, and (4) provide an opportunity for citizens to talk with government representatives.

GAO State and USAID Expenditures
Comprise 70% of Total Costs



Thirteen federal agencies and the White House spent \$4.8 million in appropriated funds to support Conference and Forum activities.³ USAID and the State Department together spent 70 percent of the federal resources expended on the conference activities. USAID expended the largest amount of resources, spending \$2.4 million primarily for support of USAID-assisted countries' participation in regional planning activities, the Conference, and the NGO Forum. The State Department, which paid for travel to Beijing for U.S. delegation leadership and State Department staff⁴ as well as for travel to international preparatory meetings, spent about 62 percent of its conference funds for travel costs. Travel costs to Beijing also comprised about 88 percent of expenditures for the White House. (See app. II.) Other officials who flew with the First Lady included her staff; the U.S. Ambassador to the UN; certain UN, State Department, National Security Council, and Secret Service employees; and accompanying press corps.⁵ The White House expects to be reimbursed for travel on Air Force One by members of the press, which will reduce travel costs to the U.S. government.

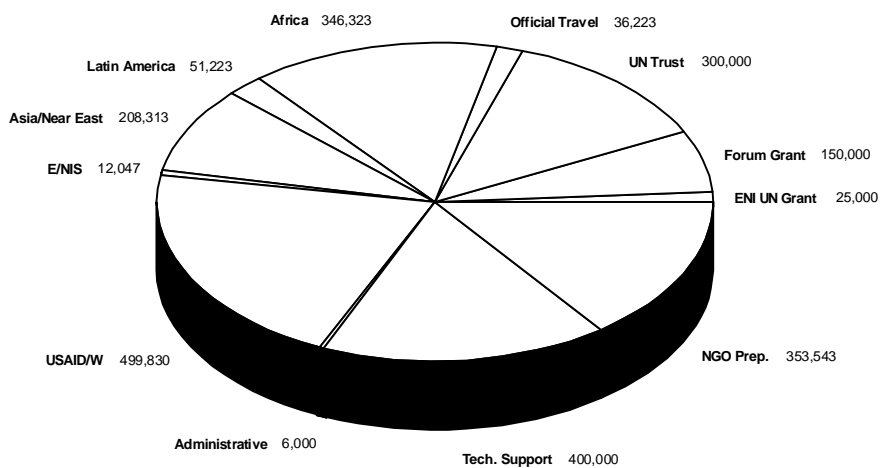
³The U.S. Postal Service sent a representative and sponsored an exhibit at the NGO Forum at a cost of \$25,921. The Resolution Trust Corporation/Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation sent a representative at a cost of \$5,627. These expenditures do not come from appropriated funds and are not included in our analysis.

⁴The State Department paid for travel by federal officials of cabinet rank. Other agencies were responsible for travel costs of their employees.

⁵The White House expenditures do not include costs for protection of the First Lady. The Secret Service said releasing information from which security tactical strength and resources could be assessed might compromise its ability to provide a secure environment for the First Lady. The Secret Service separately briefed the requesters' staff on these costs.

GAO USAID Expenditures for Conference and NGO Forum Activities

• Total: \$2,388,502



The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) spent more than other federal agencies on Conference and NGO Forum-related activities, with expenditures of \$2.4 million distributed among pre-Conference activities, the Conference itself, and the NGO Forum. (App. VI details expenditures for USAID-assisted countries.) Of this amount, USAID official travel amounted to \$36,223, or 1 percent of USAID's total. Many of the expenditures supported planning activities as follows:

- USAID provided \$300,000 to the UN Special Conference Trust Fund. The Trust Fund, created by the UN specifically for the Conference, was used to finance additional activities of the preparatory process and the Conference, in particular the participation of least-developed countries. According to USAID officials, USAID's grant was used specifically to fund travel for NGOs to Conference preparatory meetings and for computer equipment for the Conference Secretariat.
- USAID granted \$150,000 to the NGO Planning Committee.
- USAID's Europe and the Newly Independent States (E/NI) bureau gave a grant of \$25,000 to the UN for a regional preparatory meeting in Europe.
- USAID also funded workshops and other activities designed to prepare NGOs to participate in the Conference at a total cost of \$353,543. Workshops addressed topics such as women involved in law and development, women in policy-making roles, and women's health issues.
- USAID contracted technical support in conference planning activities at a cost of \$400,000. Contractors supported program office staff by conducting research, writing position papers, and developing materials for participants in planning meetings.
- Other expenditures totaling \$6,000 covered various administrative costs.
- USAID/Washington bureaus provided \$499,830 to facilitate travel by NGOs to regional meetings and the NGO Forum. These funds were spent on travel costs for delegates from least developed countries, according to USAID officials.
- USAID missions spent \$617,906 to support travel to preparatory activities, the Conference, and the NGO Forum by representatives from USAID mission-assisted countries in Europe and the Newly Independent States (\$12,047), Asia and the Near East (\$208,313), Latin America (\$51,223), and Africa (\$346,323).

GAO U.S. Direct Expenditures for
Conference

Preparatory Meetings for Conference
\$2.2 million

Conference: \$1.8 million

Total \$4.0 million

The total direct cost to the United States to support the activities of the Conference were \$4.0 million. Of this amount, \$2.2 million went for preparatory activities, including travel and other expenditures for 8 international preparatory meetings, 10 U.S. regional preparatory meetings, and international working meetings. This figure also includes support for participation by USAID-assisted countries. An additional \$1.8 million supported Conference attendance and participation by U.S. representatives.

GAO U. S. Direct Expenditures for Forum

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| Mission-funded assistance | \$0.4 million |
| USAID/Washington | \$0.2 million |
| Agency participation | \$0.2 million |
| Total: | \$0.8 million |

U.S. direct expenditures in support of the NGO Forum totaled \$0.8 million. About \$433,920 or 55 percent of this funding came from USAID missions, which supported participation of NGO representatives from assisted countries. An additional \$228,777 was provided by USAID/Washington bureaus to support NGO participation at the Forum. (See app. V.) The remainder supported exhibits sponsored by the Departments of Energy and Agriculture and travel for representatives from each of these departments.

UN Accreditation Process

GAO UN Accreditation Process and Procedures

- Applications reviewed by Secretariat.
 - Secretariat made recommendations for accreditation of NGOs to preparatory body.
 - Member countries challenged recommendation for some NGOs which were set aside for case-by-case reviews.
 - Preparatory body decided to accredit the recommended NGOs.
-

On December 20, 1993, the UN General Assembly directed the Conference Secretariat to receive and preliminarily evaluate NGO applications for accreditation to the Conference. As it reviewed NGO applications, the Secretariat presented lists of NGOs recommended for accreditation at preparatory meetings in March 1994 and March 1995. At each meeting, action was taken by the preparatory body to accredit the list of NGOs recommended by the Secretariat and not challenged by a member country delegation.

NGOs that were challenged by country delegations at the meetings were set aside from the list to be considered separately. A working group was established to review the basis for the challenge and the Secretariat's recommendation and to report to the preparatory body for a final determination.

GAO Criteria for NGO Accreditation

Each organization had to prove that it

- was a bona fide NGO,
 - was competent, and
 - conducted activities relevant to the work of the Conference.
-
- Indicators that an organization was bona fide and competent were
 - an independent governing body,
 - a stable financial history, and
 - incorporation in country of origin.

The UN invited NGOs to apply for accreditation to participate in the Conference and set out application criteria and a deadline for application. The Secretariat reviewed applicants to ensure they were bona fide NGOs,¹ had national or international scope, and had a purpose related to Conference objectives. NGOs were asked to provide evidence of their competence and relevance to the work of the Conference. They were instructed to include the following documentation with their applications:

- purpose of the organization,
- information on its programs and activities in areas relevant to the Conference,
- confirmation of the organization's activities at the national or international level,
- copies of annual reports with financial statements and a list of the members of the governing body, and
- a description of its membership.

¹According to U.S. and UN officials, indicators that an applicant was a bona fide NGO and competent to participate in the Conference included incorporation in the country of origin, an independent governing body, and a stable financial history.

GAO UN Directed Changes in Accreditation Procedures

Dissatisfaction with the accreditation process led to General Assembly Resolution 49/243, which

- clarified members' desire for broad NGO participation and
- directed Secretariat to
 - give reasons for nonrecommendation,
 - provide opportunities for NGOs to submit additional supporting information, and
 - extend the deadline for application to April 1995.

After NGOs and member countries' representatives expressed dissatisfaction with the review process and application of criteria during initial preparations for the Conference, the Secretariat's interpretation of the criteria evolved. According to a UN official, the Secretariat initially believed that the Commission on the Status of Women wanted to accredit only NGOs actively engaged in women's issues on a national or international level and, therefore, applied the registration criteria that an NGO be a national or international organization very strictly. However, this

interpretation excluded many NGOs active in women's issues on a more local level. Further, time constraints did not always allow the Secretariat to solicit additional information from all applicants before it made recommendations for accreditation. According to U.S. and UN officials, there was no standard procedure by which NGOs were notified of the status of their applications or allowed to submit additional supporting information. The perceived lack of fairness and transparency led NGOs to complain to the Secretariat and their countries' missions.

The U.S. Mission to the United Nations was a leader in drafting and galvanizing support for General Assembly Resolution 49/243, which directed the Secretariat to (1) extend the deadline for NGO applications to April 28, 1995, and (2) communicate in writing to the NGOs that had not been recommended for accreditation and invite them to submit additional information relevant to their qualifications for accreditation. The Conference Secretariat complied with General Assembly resolution 49/243 by extending the period it would accept applications to April 28, 1995; inviting NGOs not yet accredited to submit additional information by May 31, 1995; and re-reviewing a number of NGOs' applications. The Secretariat interpreted the requirement that an NGO have a national or international scope of activities more broadly, giving primary weight to the requirement that an applicant be a bona fide NGO, and recommended for accreditation many NGOs not previously recommended.

Because the deadline for application was extended past the last scheduled meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women, its parent organization, the Economic and Social Council, accredited the final group of NGOs to the Conference.² The Council voted on the last group of NGOs recommended for accreditation at its June 26 to July 28, 1995, meeting in Geneva, Switzerland. This group comprised organizations that applied before the April 28, 1995, deadline, including organizations that did not meet the requirements for the preliminary review but, on the basis of additional information supplied, appeared to the Secretariat competent and relevant to the Conference.

²The Commission on the Status of Women is one of eight functional commissions of the UN Economic and Social Council.

GAO NGO Accreditation Results

Secretariat recommended 2,184 of the 2,450 applicants.

- 19 challenged
 - 11 denied accreditation
 - 8 accredited

Secretariat recommended 523 of the 588 U.S. applicants.

- 7 challenged
 - 3 accredited
 - 4 denied accreditation
-

Of the 2,450 applicants for accreditation, 277 were not accredited.³ The Conference Secretariat recommended 2,184 for accreditation and did not recommend 266. The recommendations for 19 NGOs were challenged by particular countries. Eleven of the recommended NGOs were not accredited after challenges by particular countries. The Secretariat cited the following reasons for recommendations against accreditation for each nonrecommended applicant: the applicant (1) was not a bona fide NGO, (2) did not have a purpose clearly related to the Conference objectives, (3) did not have a national or international scope of activities, or (4) did not provide enough information for the Secretariat to recommend accreditation.

Of the 588 U.S. NGO applicants, 519 were accredited and 69 were not accredited. The Secretariat did not recommend 65 U.S. NGOs for accreditation. In 62 of these cases the Secretariat cited incomplete information as one reason for nonrecommendation. In reviewing the lists of NGOs that were recommended for accreditation, we found a variety of different perspectives on women's issues. We did not discern a pattern or particular agenda among those U.S. NGOs that were not accredited. State Department and U.S. Mission to the UN officials agreed with our analysis.

The Secretariat's recommendation to accredit was challenged in the cases of seven U.S. NGOs. China challenged the recommendation to accredit four U.S. NGOs: Human Rights in China, International Committee of Lawyers for Tibet, Sunray Meditation Society, and Tibetan Rights Campaign. India challenged the recommendation for accreditation of the Ananda Marga Universal Relief Team, and Iran challenged the recommendation for the Association of Iranian Women and the National Committee of Women for Democratic Iran. After consideration of the recommendation and the challenge, three of these NGOs—Human Rights in China, Sunray Meditation Society, and the National Committee of Women for Democratic Iran—were accredited. The remaining NGOs were not accredited.

³NGOs in consultative status to the Commission on the Status of Women or the Economic and Social Council were automatically accredited to attend the Conference. Over 1,000 NGOs hold such consultative status.

GAO Taiwan/Tibet NGO Accreditation

- No NGOs based in Taiwan met requirement of incorporation in the country of origin.
 - Two Tibet-based organizations were accredited.
 - 5 U.S.-based NGOs with Taiwan/Tibet interests applied for accreditation:
 - 1 accredited without challenge.
 - 2 accredited after challenge.
 - 2 denied accreditation.
-

According to a UN official, the requirement that NGOs must be incorporated in the country of origin—used as an indicator of an NGOs' bona fides at other conferences—did have the effect of precluding participation by Taiwanese organizations. Two Tibetan organizations were accredited. The Secretariat recommended for accreditation groups with Tibetan or Taiwanese interests that were incorporated in other countries.

China challenged the recommendation to accredit five NGOs with Taiwan/Tibet interests: Human Rights in China (United States), International Committee of Lawyers for Tibet (United States), the Sunray Meditation Society (United States), Tibetan Rights Campaign (United States) and Tibetan Women's Organization (Switzerland). After review by a working group of the Economic and Social Council, two of these NGOs—Human Rights in China and the Sunray Meditation Society—were accredited.

Handling of Conference Travel Visas by the Chinese

GAO Problems in Visa Process

- Some U.S. travelers received visas late, and a few never received them.
 - Possible causes of the problems are the following
 - China received three times the expected number of visa requests.
 - Requirement of confirmed hotel reservations caused problems.
-

According to officials of the U.S. Mission to the UN, host countries for UN conferences agree to give visas to accredited participants of the conference. The officials believed that most applicants for visas did receive them. However, delays in getting visas from China caused much frustration for Conference and NGO Forum participants. U.S. officials attributed at least some of the delays to the overwhelming response to the meetings. Instead of the expected 10,000 to 15,000 visa applications, China received about 35,000.

China's requirement that persons traveling to the Conference or NGO Forum have confirmed hotel reservations, in addition to documentation of accreditation to the Conference or NGO Forum registration, before they could apply for visas also contributed to delays in processing visas. Hotel reservation confirmations were late in arriving, which delayed participants' applications for visas. Some travelers received them only a few days before they were to depart for Beijing, and a few never received visas. Near the meetings' start dates, the Chinese government made efforts to speed up visa delivery by providing needed hotel confirmations via an overnight delivery service.

Official U.S. Delegation to the UN Fourth World Conference on Women

Delegation Leadership

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton, Honorary Chair
The Honorable Madeleine K. Albright, Chair and Head; U.S. Ambassador to the UN
The Honorable Donna Shalala, Co-Chair; Secretary of Health and Human Services
The Honorable Carol Browner, Co-Chair; Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency
The Honorable Timothy Wirth, Alternate Chair and Alternate Head; Under Secretary of State for Global Affairs
The Honorable Marjorie Margolies-Mezvinsky, Deputy Chair; former Member of Congress from Pennsylvania
The Honorable J. Veronica Biggins, Vice Chair; Executive Search Consultant, Heidrick & Struggles; former Assistant to the President and Director of Presidential Personnel, the White House
The Honorable Geraldine A. Ferraro, Vice Chair; U.S. Ambassador to the UN Human Rights Commission
The Honorable Thomas H. Kean, Vice Chair; President of Drew University; former Governor of New Jersey

Government Delegates

Evan Bloom, Attorney Advisor, Department of State
Iris J. Burnett, Chief of Staff, U.S. Information Agency
Bonnie J. Campbell, Director, Violence Against Women, Department of Justice
Mary Curtin, Human Rights Officer, Department of State
Nils Daulaire, Deputy Assistant Administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development
Kathleen Hendrix, Special Assistant, Global Conference Secretariat, Department of State
Judith Heumann, Assistant Secretary, Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education
Melinda Kimble, Deputy Assistant Secretary, International Organization Affairs, Department of State
Sharon Kotok, Officer in Charge of International Women's Programs, International Organization Affairs, Department of State
Sarah Kovner, Special Assistant to the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services
Madeleine M. Kunin, Deputy Secretary, Department of Education
Ginger Lew, General Counsel, Department of Commerce
Ambassador Victor Marrero, U.S. Representative to the Economic and Social Council of the UN

Ellen Marshall, Acting Senior Coordinator, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration, Department of State
Jean Nelson, Counselor to the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency
Karen Nussbaum, Director, Women's Bureau, Department of Labor
Jan Piercy, U.S. Executive Director, World Bank
Sally Shelton, Assistant Administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development
David Stewart, Assistant Legal Advisor, Department of State
Bisa Williams Manigault, Advisor, U.S. Mission to the UN

Nongovernment Delegates

Laila Al-marayati, M.D., Obstetrician and Gynecologist; Assistant Professor, University of Southern California School of Medicine; Vice-Chair, Muslim Women's League
Maria Antionetta Berriozabal, Lecturer/Consultant; Hispanas Unidas, U.S. Delegate to the Inter-American Commission on Women
Myrna Blyth, Editor-in-Chief and Publishing Director, Ladies' Home Journal
Elizabeth J. Coleman, Chairman of the Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer, Maidenform, Inc.; Vice Chair, President's Export Council
Lynn Cutler, Senior Vice President, The Kamber Group
Felice D. Gaer, Director, Jacob Blaustein Institute for the Advancement of Human Rights of the American Jewish Committee
Adrienne Germain, Vice President and Program Director, International Women's Health Coalition
Arthenia L. Joyner, Attorney and Founding Partner, Stewart, Joyner, Jordan-Holmes, Holmes, PA
Sister Dorothy Ann Kelly, O.S.U., President, College of New Rochelle
Dorothy V. Lamm, Columnist, Denver Post; Faculty Member, Estes Park Institute
Marilyn Monahan, Secretary-Treasurer, National Education Association
San Juanita Munoz, Youth Delegate; Fellow, Carnegie Mellon University, Heinz School of Public Policy
Julia Taft, President and Chief Executive Officer, InterAction, The American Council for Voluntary International Action
Linda Tarr-Whelan, President and Chief Executive Officer, Center for Policy Alternatives
Virginia Trotter Betts, J.D., M.S.D., R.N., President, American Nurses Association
Susan Roosevelt Weld, Ph.D., Professor of Chinese and Japanese Law, Boston College
Marie C. Wilson, President, Ms. Foundation for Women

Federal Agency Expenditures for the Conference, Preparatory Commissions, and the NGO Forum

| Agency | Travel | Nontravel | Total |
|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| USAID | \$1,153,959 ^a | \$1,234,543 | \$2,388,502 |
| State | 618,310 ^a | 382,585 | 1,000,895 |
| The White House | 629,598 ^{a,b} | 83,888 | 713,486 |
| USIA | 85,466 | 154,131 | 239,597 |
| Energy | 42,715 | 107,255 | 149,970 |
| EPA | 35,526 | 95,248 | 130,774 |
| Labor | 19,388 | 44,445 | 63,833 |
| Education | 31,108 | 9,871 | 40,979 |
| HHS | 36,618 | 0 | 36,618 |
| Commerce | 12,966 | 20,000 | 32,966 |
| Agriculture | 9,451 | 0 | 9,451 |
| Justice | 6,370 | 0 | 6,370 |
| Interior | 450 | 3,889 | 4,339 |
| Peace Corps | 242 | 0 | 242 |
| Total | \$2,682,167 | \$2,135,855 | \$4,818,022 |

^aAgency expenditures include some cost estimates.

^bThe White House expects to be reimbursed for travel costs incurred by accompanying members of the press.

Federal Agency Expenditures for the Conference

| Agency | Travel | Nontravel | Total |
|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| State | \$362,666 | \$362,307 | \$724,973 |
| The White House | 629,598 | 83,888 | 713,486 |
| USIA | 61,110 | 154,131 | 215,241 |
| EPA | 8,808 | 45,000 | 53,808 |
| Education | 28,112 | 9,871 | 37,983 |
| Energy | 27,316 | 850 | 28,166 |
| HHS | 24,803 | 0 | 24,803 |
| USAID | 21,596 | 0 | 21,596 |
| Justice | 6,370 | 0 | 6,370 |
| Labor | 5,872 | 0 | 5,872 |
| Commerce | 5,851 | 0 | 5,851 |
| Interior | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Agriculture | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Peace Corps | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | \$1,182,102 | \$656,047 | \$1,838,149 |

Federal Agency Expenditures for UN and U.S. Preparatory Commissions and Regional NGO Meetings

| Agency | Travel | Nontravel | Total |
|-----------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| USAID | \$469,666 | \$1,234,543 | \$1,704,209 |
| State | 255,644 | 20,278 | 275,922 |
| EPA | 26,718 | 50,248 | 76,966 |
| Labor | 13,516 | 44,445 | 57,961 |
| Commerce | 7,115 | 20,000 | 27,115 |
| USIA | 24,356 | 0 | 24,356 |
| HHS | 11,815 | 0 | 11,815 |
| Interior | 450 | 3,889 | 4,339 |
| Education | 2,996 | 0 | 2,996 |
| Peace Corps | 242 | 0 | 242 |
| Agriculture | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Justice | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Energy | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| The White House | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | \$812,518 | \$1,373,403 | \$2,185,921 |

Federal Agency Expenditures for NGO Forum

| Agency | Travel | Nontravel | Total |
|---------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| USAID | \$662,697 | \$0 | \$662,697 |
| Energy | 15,399 | 106,405 | 121,804 |
| Agriculture | 9,451 | 0 | 9,451 |
| Total | \$687,547 | \$106,405 | \$793,952 |

Funding for USAID-Assisted Countries

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Benin | \$71,741 |
| Burundi | 18,214 |
| Cote de'Ivoire | 5,659 |
| Gambia | 900 |
| Ghana | 53,505 |
| Guinea | 17,056 |
| Malawi | 36,670 |
| Mali | 11,207 |
| Mozambique | 3,735 |
| Namibia | 3,527 |
| Niger | 23,580 |
| Senegal | 35,311 |
| Tanzania | 10,773 |
| Uganda | 43,659 |
| Regional Economic Development Office | 10,786 |
| Bangladesh | 6,241 |
| Egypt | 36,088 |
| Indonesia | ^a |
| Jordan | 13,110 |
| Lebanon | 28,015 |
| Mongolia | 392 |
| Morocco | ^a |
| Philippines | 7,015 |
| Tunisia | 42,300 |
| West Bank/Gaza | 17,298 |
| Yemen | 28,499 |
| Fiji | 7,383 |
| Korea | 6,512 |
| Thailand | 8,662 |
| Reg. Supp./Thailand | 6,798 |
| Reg. Office Thailand | ^a |
| Bolivia | 5,455 |
| Brazil | 7,661 |
| El Salvador | 16,240 |
| Honduras | 17,142 |
| Reg. Housing Office | 2,360 |
| Latin American Bureau | 2,365 |

(continued)

Appendix VI
Funding for USAID-Assisted Countries

| | |
|--------------|------------------|
| Poland | 10,247 |
| Russia | 1,800 |
| Total | \$617,906 |

^aInformation was not provided in time for inclusion into this report.

Nontravel Expenditures by Federal Agencies

| Category | |
|---|---------|
| Representation | \$5,000 |
| Office and administrative expenses | |
| Lodging | 5,088 |
| Fax machine rentals and fax charges | 13,342 |
| Copier machine | 10,958 |
| Computer rental | 6,560 |
| Printers | 1,525 |
| Transport government property | 5,000 |
| Rental office space and media control rooms | 78,632 |
| Phone lines, equipment, and installation | 13,461 |
| Radios and telephones | 1,135 |
| Office furniture | 12,480 |
| Office equipment rental | 19,359 |
| Automated data processing equipment | 14,518 |
| Paper supplies | 4,830 |
| Office supplies | 1,313 |
| Service and vehicle rentals | 52,590 |
| Field travel | 9,800 |
| Supplies and materials | 6,931 |
| Federal Express | 381 |
| Taxicab rides | 1,330 |
| Office supplies, registration fees | 3,430 |
| Boxes for wheelchair ramp | 160 |
| Accessible van | 1,552 |
| Equipment, supplies, and vehicles | 83,888 |
| Personnel and Related Costs | |
| Overtime U.S. personnel | 13,896 |
| Temporary base pay for Americans | 260 |
| Temporary base pay for Americans for First Lady | 1,260 |
| Salary (Deputy Chair) | 65,141 |
| Contract Salary | 25,507 |
| Salary | 14,857 |
| Labor Service | 3,440 |
| Assistant for Conference Secretariat | 4,500 |
| Conference assistants | 8,813 |
| Language interpreter in Beijing | 1,400 |
| State Department overtime pay | 102 |

(continued)

Appendix VII
Nontravel Expenditures by Federal
Agencies

| Category | |
|--|---------|
| Contract services for attendant | 1,105 |
| Communications | |
| Internet access | 150 |
| Broadcasting WORLDNET | |
| Production | 17,175 |
| Translation | 5,375 |
| Travel | 10,143 |
| Transmission | 65,000 |
| Publications | |
| Media guidebook printing & shipping | 8,330 |
| Media guidebook development and design | 15,600 |
| Internet website development activities | 4,057 |
| Newsletter publications | 9,445 |
| Printing | 9,989 |
| Exhibit materials | 850 |
| Program Planning | |
| Department of Commerce | |
| Cooperative agreement with Department of Labor | 20,000 |
| Preparatory meeting costs | 35,000 |
| Oakland Conference (meeting rooms & equipment) | 17,248 |
| Interagency agreement | 8,000 |
| National Council of Negro Women (Grant) | 40,000 |
| Women's Environmental Development Organization (Grant) | 30,000 |
| Research | |
| American Women in Science | 65,405 |
| Oak Ridge National Laboratory | 20,000 |
| NGO Forum Planning Committee | 150,000 |
| U.N, Central Trust Fund | 300,000 |
| UN (Grant) | 25,000 |
| Technical support | 400,000 |
| InterAction (Grant) | 150,000 |
| PVO preparatory activities | 140,000 |
| Official NGO reports | 4,300 |
| Peruvian NGO workshops | 40,000 |
| NGO workshops | 15,457 |
| Administrative expenses | 6,000 |

(continued)

Appendix VII
Nontravel Expenditures by Federal
Agencies

| Category | |
|---|--------------------|
| Workshops | 3,786 |
| National Museum of Women In the Arts (Grant) | 5,000 |
| Total | \$2,135,855 |

U.S. NGOs Accredited for Participation in the UN Fourth World Conference on Women

3HO Foundation
8th Day Center For Justice
9 TO 5, National Association of Working Women
Academic Council on the United Nations System
Academy for Educational Development
Accion International
Adventist Development & Relief Agency (ADRA International)
Adventures in Health, Education and Agricultural Development (AHEAD, Inc.)
Advocates for Youth
African Women's Organization
African-American Institute, The
Alan Guttmacher Institute
Alberto Vollmer Foundation, Inc.
All Pakistan Women's Association
America 21, Family Values for the 21st Century
American Association for the Advancement of Science
American Association of Jurists
American Association of Retired Persons
American Association of University Women
American Bar Association
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American Council for Voluntary International Action (InterAction)
American Family Therapy Academy
American Forum for Global Education
American Friends Service Committee, Inc.
American Jewish Committee, The
American Jewish World Service, Inc.
American Life League, Inc.
American Medical Women's Association
American Planning Association
American Public Health Association
American Society of International Law
American Society of Women Accountants
Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
Anglican Consultative Council
Appalachian Women's Guild
Appropriate Technology International
Arab Women Solidarity Association
Armenian International Women's Association
Armenian Relief Society, Inc.
Arthur and Elizabeth Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America, Radcliffe College

Appendix VIII
U.S. NGOs Accredited for Participation in
the UN Fourth World Conference on Women

Asia Foundation, The
Asian & Pacific Islanders for Reproductive Health
Asian Law Caucus, Inc.
Asociación Para la Educación Teológica Hispana (Association for
Hispanic Theological Education)
Association for Experiential Education
Association for Women in Development - American University
Association for Women in Mathematics
Association for Women in Science
Association for World Education
Association Internationale de Droit Penal
Association of the Bar of the City of New York, The
Assumption College/Women's Studies
AVSC International
Ayuda
B'nai B'rith Women
Bar Association of San Francisco, The
Black Women's Agenda, Inc.
Boston Women's Health Book Collective, Inc.
Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual Organization
California Women Lawyers
Campaign for the Earth Foundation
Care USA
Caritas-A Fund of the TIDES Foundation
Carter Center, The
Catholics for a Free Choice
Center for Constitutional Rights
Center for Development of International Law
Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law
Center for International Strategy, Technology & Policy
Center for Justice and International Law
Center for Policy Alternatives
Center for Population and Family Health/Prevention of Maternal Mortality
Program
Center for Psychology and Social Change
Center for Reproductive Law and Policy, The
Center for Research on Women with Disabilities/Baylor College of
Medicine
Center for the Study of the Global South
Center for the Study of Women and Society
Center for Women's Global Leadership
Center of Concern

Appendix VIII
U.S. NGOs Accredited for Participation in
the UN Fourth World Conference on Women

Centre for Development and Population Activities
Centre for International Cooperation
Centre for Women, the Earth, the Divine, The
Child Health Foundation
Child Hope
Children's Express Foundation
Children's Fund for Southern Africa, Inc.
Chinese Immigrants Service, Inc.
Chinese Women's Association of America
Christian Brothers University
Christian Children's Fund
Church Women United
Church World Service and Witness
Citizens Network, The
Coalition Against Trafficking in Women
Coalition on Women and Religion/Church Council of Greater Seattle
Commission of the Churches on International Affairs
Committee of 200, The
Commonweal
Communication for Change, Inc.
Communications Coordination Committee for the United Nations
Concerned Women for America
Conference of Nongovernmental Organizations
Congregations of Saint Joseph
Congressional Human Rights Foundation
Connective Ministries
Conservation International
Consultation on Church Union
Consultative Group on Biological Diversity
Cooperative Housing Foundation
Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations
Coordination in Development, Inc. (CODEL)
Council of World Organizations Concerned About AIDS
Council on Peace Research in History
Counterpart Foundation
Couple to Couple League International, Inc.
Cousteau Society
Covington Community Center
Creative Associates International, Inc.
Defence for Children International
Development Group for Alternative Policies, The (The Development GAP)
Dialogue on Diversity, Inc.

Appendix VIII
U.S. NGOs Accredited for Participation in
the UN Fourth World Conference on Women

Dimock Community Health Center
Dr. Med. Letten F. Saugstad Fund
Eagle Forum
Earth Island Institute
Earthways Projects of Earth Trust Foundation
Ecumenical Coalition on Women and Society (Institute on Religion and
Democracy)
Elliot Institute for Social Sciences Research
Endometriosis Association
Environmental and Energy Study Institute
Environmental Defense Fund
Equality Now
Family Care International, Inc.
Family Health International
Family Life Council, Inc.
Family of the Americas Foundation, Inc.
Family Research Council
Family Therapy Practice Center
Family Violence Prevention Fund
Federally Employed Women, Inc.
Feminist Majority Foundation, The
Feminist Press
Feministas en Marcha
FLARE (Family, Life, America, Responsible Education)
Focus on the Family
Food for the Hungry International
Ford Foundation, The
Foundation for a Compassionate Society
Foundation for Global Community
Franciscan Health System
Franciscans International, Inc.
Francois-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health and Human Rights
Fraternite Notre Dame, Inc.
Freedom Forum
Freedom From Hunger
Freedom House
Friedrich Ebert Foundation
Friends of the Earth
Friends of the Pennsylvania Commission for Women
Friends World Committee for Consultation (Quaker United Nations Office)

Appendix VIII
U.S. NGOs Accredited for Participation in
the UN Fourth World Conference on Women

Friendship Ambassadors Foundation
General Board of Global Ministries, United Methodist Church
General Federation of Women's Clubs
Girls Incorporated
Girls' International Forum for Tomorrow
Global Alliance for Women's Health
Global Coalition for Africa
Global Education Associates
Global Exchange
Global Focus: National Museum of Women in the Arts
Global Fund for Women, The
GloLearn
Grassroots Organizations Operating Together in Sisterhood
Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan Council
Gullah Heritage Society
Haitian American Women Advocacy Network, Inc.
Harlem Women's Committee/New Future Foundation, Inc.
Harvard Institute for International Development/MIT Women in
Development Group
Health for Humanity
Heifer Project International
Helen Keller International
Hmong National Development, Inc.
Human Lactation Center, Ltd., The
Human Rights Advocates
Human Rights in China
Human Rights Watch
Hunger Project
Indigenous Women's Network
Indigenous World Association
Institute for Development Training
Institute for Global Security Studies
Institute for Reproductive Health
Institute for Urban Research/Morgan State University
Institute for Women's Policy Research
Institute for Women, Law and Development
Institute of Sisters of Mercy of the Americas
Inter-American Parliamentary Group on Population and Development
International Association Against Torture
International Association for Advancement, Inc.
International Association for Feminist Economics

Appendix VIII
U.S. NGOs Accredited for Participation in
the UN Fourth World Conference on Women

International Association of Educators for World Peace
International Association of Women Judges & International Women Judges
Foundation
International Catholic Child Bureau, Incorporated
International Center for Research on Women
International Coalition on Women and Credit
International Confederation of Christian Family Movements
International Organization of Indigenous Resource Development
International Cross-cultural Black Women's Studies Institute
International Educational Development/Humanitarian Law Project
International Federation for the Protection of the Rights of Ethnic,
Religious, Linguistic and Others
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission
International Health Awareness Network
International Human Rights Internship Program
International Human Rights Law group
International Immigrants Foundation
International Indian Treaty Council
International Institute for Human Resources Development in Health and
Human Services
International Institute of Rural Reconstruction
International Lactation Consultant Association
International League for Human Rights
International Mahavir Jain Mission
International Network of Women of Color in Preparation for the Fourth
World Conference on Women
International Planned Parenthood Federation/Western Hemisphere Region
International Political Science Association
International Projects Assistance Services
International Public Policy Institute
International Reproductive Rights Research Action Group
International Society for Community Development
International Studies and Programs
International Studies Association
International Synergy Institute
International Women's Anthropology Conference
International Women's Democracy Center
International Women's Health Coalition
International Women's Human Rights Law Clinic
International Women's Human Rights Project of the Center for Law &
Public Policy/St. John's University School of Law

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U.S. NGOs Accredited for Participation in
the UN Fourth World Conference on Women

International Women's Media Foundation
International Women's Rights Action Watch
International Women's Tribune Center
International Women's Writing Guild
IPAS (International Projects Assistance Services)
Iranian Women's Studies Foundation (Bonyad E Pajuhesh-haye Zanane
Iran)
Islamic African Relief Agency
John Snow, Inc. Research & Training Institute
Johns Hopkins Program for International Education in Reproductive
Health
Karamah: Muslim Women Lawyers Committee for Human Rights, Inc.
Katalysis North/South Development Partnership
Korean American Coalition on Jungshindae, Inc.
La Leche League International
Laubach Literacy International
Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law
Leadership America
Leadership Conference for U.S. Dominican Religious
Leadership Conference of Women Religious
League of Women Voters of the United States
Legion of Good Will
Life Choices, Inc.
Loretto Community
MacArthur Foundation (The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur
Foundation)
Madre, Inc.
Magee Womenscare International
Majority Peoples' Fund for the 21st Century
Margaret Sanger Center, International Planned Parenthood of New York
Marian College
Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic, Inc.
Massachusetts Citizens for Life, Inc.
Mathematical Association of America
Mautner Project for Lesbians With Cancer, The
Michigan State University (International Studies Program)
Midwives Alliance of North America
Mills College (Women's Leadership Institute)
Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights
Mira Med Institute
Moa Foundation

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U.S. NGOs Accredited for Participation in
the UN Fourth World Conference on Women

Mobility International U.S.A.
Moral Re-armament, Inc.
Mothers and Others for a Livable Planet
Mothers at Home
Ms. Foundation for Women
Multicultural Family and Youth Foundation
Muslim Women's League
Muslim World League
N.C. Council for Women
Na'amat USA, The Women's Labour Zionist Organization of America, Inc.
NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund
National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League
National Asian Women's Health Organization
National Association of Human Rights Workers
National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs,
Inc.
National Association of Women Business Owners
National Association of Women Lawyers
National Audubon Society
National Bar Association/Women's Division and the International Law
Section
National Black Women's Health Project, Inc.
National Breast Cancer Coalition, The
National Center on Women and Family Law, Inc.
National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
National Coalition of 100 Black Women
National Committee for Democratic Iran
National Committee on the United Nations Convention on the Elimination
of Discrimination Against Women
National Conference of Puerto Rican Women, Inc.
National Congress of Neighborhood Women
National Council for International Health
National Council for International Health (DC)
National Council for Research on Women
National Council of Jewish Women
National Council of Negro Women
National Council of Women of the United States, Inc.
National Council on Family Relations
National Family Farm Coalition
National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association
National Federation of Press Women
National Foundation for Women Business Owners

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U.S. NGOs Accredited for Participation in
the UN Fourth World Conference on Women

National Hispanic Council on Aging
National Institute for Leadership Development
National Institute of Womanhood, The
National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council
National Latina Health Organization
National Lawyers Guild
National Network of Women's Funds
National Organization for Women, Inc.
National Organization of Arab-American Women, Inc.
National Organization of Italian American Women
National Political Congress of Black Women (National Office)
National Resource Center on Domestic Violence/Pennsylvania Coalition
Against Domestic Violence
National Right to Life/Educational Trust Fund
National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the United States
National Wildlife Federation
National Women and HIV/AIDS Project, Inc.
National Women's Conference Center
National Women's Economic Alliance
National Women's Law Center¹
National Women's Political Caucus
National Women's Studies Association
Native American Community Board
Natural Resources Defense Council
Network of East-West Women
Network of Light
New Humanity
North America Taiwanese Women's Association
North-South Center
Nuclear Age Peace Foundation
Obafemi Awolowo Foundation, The
Office of Higher Education/American Council on Education
Older Women's League
One World Now, Inc.
Opportunities Industrialization Centers International, Inc.
Organizing Committee/People's Decade of Human Rights Education
Oxfam America
Pacific Rim Institute for Development and Education (PRIDE)
PACT (Private Agencies Collaborating Together) Pan Pacific & Southeast
Asia Women's Association International
Parents United for Child Care

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U.S. NGOs Accredited for Participation in
the UN Fourth World Conference on Women

Park Ridge Center
Parliamentarians for Global Action
Partners in Health Protection, Inc.
Partners of the Americas
Pathfinder International
Pathways to Peace
Peace Action
Peace History Society (formerly Council on Peace Research in History)
Peace Links, Inc.
Peacepower Foundation
People-Centered Development Forum
Philadelphia Congress of the National Political Congress of Black Women
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Philippine American Foundation
Physicians for Social Responsibility
Pittsburgh Beijing '95 and Beyond
Plan International
Planned Parenthood Federation of America
Plenty
Plutonium Free Future Women's Network
Population Action International
Population Communications
Population Communications International
Population Institute
Population Reference Bureau, Inc.
Population Resource Center
Presbyterian Church (USA)
Prison Fellowship International
Pro Women (Programs for Women)
Project Keshet
Proutist Universal, Inc.
Relief Society of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Religious Consultation on Population, Reproductive Health and Ethics
Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Research Action Information Network for Bodily Integrity of Women
Results, Inc.
Ribbon International
Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Center for Human Rights
Rockford Institute Center on the Family in America, The
Rural Development Leadership Network
Rutherford Institute, The

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U.S. NGOs Accredited for Participation in
the UN Fourth World Conference on Women

Sacramento Women's Network of the CSUS Multi-Cultural Center
San Diego Economic Conversion Council
San Diego State University/International Institute for Human Resources
Development
Save the Children Foundation
Secretariat for Family, Laity, Women and Youth, National Conferences for
Catholic Bishops
Seep Network, Inc.
Servas International (U.S.)
Shaler Adams Foundation
Sigma Delta Epsilon Graduate Women in Science, Inc.
Sisterhood Is Global Institute
Sisterlove, Inc.
Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
Sociologists for Women in Society
Solar Cookers International
Southwest Community Resources, Inc.
Southwest Network for Environmental and Economic Justice
St. Joan's International Alliance
Synergos Institute, The
Sunray Meditation Society
Talking Leaves Deep Ecology Education Project
Tam Cam Foundation, Inc.
Task Force for Child Survival and Development, The
Temple of Understanding
Temple University (Commonwealth)
Tinker Institute on International Law & Organizations
Tonantzin Land Institute
Trickle Up Program
True Majority, Inc., The
U & O Development Corporation, The
UCC Office for Church in Society
Union of Arab Lawyers
Unitarian Universalist Association
Unitarian Universalist Service Committee
United Church of Christ (United Church Board for Ministries and United
Church of Christ Coordinating Committee)
United Methodist Church/General Board of Church and Society
United Methodist Office, United Nations Association of USA
United Nations Association of San Diego
United Nations Association of USA
United Neighborhood Centres of America, Inc.

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U.S. NGOs Accredited for Participation in
the UN Fourth World Conference on Women

United States Catholic Conference
United States Committee for UNICEF
United States Committee for UNIFEM
Universal Institute, Inc./Women of Peace
University of Global Education
U.S.-China People's Friendship Association
Utah Association of Women
Value of Life Committee, Inc.
Vietnamese Women Overseas Association
W.K. Kellogg Foundation
Wakefield Women's Institute
Wellstart International
Western Consortium for Public Health (aka Pacific Institute for Women's Health)
Winrock International Institute for Agricultural Development-Women's Leadership Program
Wittenberg Center for Alternative Resources, Inc., The
Woman's National Democratic Club-Educational Foundation
Women Empowering Women of Indian Nations
Women for Faith and Family
Women for International Peace and Arbitration
Women for Meaningful Summits
Women in Film (Los Angeles)
Women in International Security
Women of All Colors
Women of Color Resource Center
Women of Reform Judaism, The Federation of Temple Sisterhoods
Women of the World
Women of Vision
Women Organized Resources for Liberia's Development, Inc. (WORLD, Inc.)
Women Refugees Project at Cambridge and Somerville Legal Services/Harvard Immigration and Refugee Program
Women's Action for New Directions, Inc.
Women's Affairs Committee of U.S.-Shanghai Association for Economic and Technological Exchange
Women's American ORT (Organization for Rehabilitation Through Training)
Women's Caucus, International AIDS Society (New York State Psychiatric Institute/HIV Center for Clinic & Behavioural Studies)

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U.S. NGOs Accredited for Participation in
the UN Fourth World Conference on Women

Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children
Women's Council of Dallas County
Women's Council of the University of Missouri-Kansas City
Women's Environment and Development Organization
Women's Federation for World Peace, International
Women's Freedom Network
Women's Information Network
Women's Initiative for Self Employment
Women's International Zionist Organization
Women's Leadership Project
Women's League for Conservative Judaism
Women's Research and Education Fund, Inc., of The National Association
of Commissions for Women
Women's Sports Foundation
Women's Studies Center
Women's World (World Organization for Rights, Literature and
Development)
Women's World Banking
Women, Men and Media
World Alliance of Reformed Churches
World Association for Psychosocial Rehabilitation—U.S. Branch
World Association of Former United Nations Interns and Fellows, Inc.
World Conference on Religion and Peace
World Council for Curriculum and Instruction
World Council of Credit Unions
World Federalist Association
World Federalist Movement
World Federation for Mental Health
World Federation of Methodist Women
World Federation of Public Health Associations
World Hunger Year
World Information Transfer
World Jewish Congress
World Muslim Congress
World Organization for the Family
World ORT Union
World Population Society
World Press Freedom Committee
World Share, Inc.
World Sustainable Agriculture Association
World Union for Progressive Judaism
World Vision International

Appendix VIII
U.S. NGOs Accredited for Participation in
the UN Fourth World Conference on Women

Worldwide Network (Women in Development and Environment)
YWCA of USA
Zero Population Growth
Zigen Fund, The
Zonta International

Source: Conference Secretariat, the UN Fourth World Conference on Women.

U.S. NGOs Not Accredited for Participation in the UN Fourth World Conference on Women

The Secretariat did not recommend 65 U.S. NGOs for accreditation. Four U.S. NGOs recommended by the Secretariat were not accredited after their accreditation was challenged by a particular country. Following are the Secretariat's reasons for not recommending NGOs:

- (1) The organization was strictly local or provided insufficient evidence to demonstrate that it had national or international membership/activities.
- (2) The primary objective and/or purpose of the organization was either not clearly relevant or seemed to be outside the substantive scope of the Conference and its preparatory process.
- (3) Not enough information was supplied to enable the Secretariat to complete its review.
- (4) The group was not a well-established, bona fide nongovernmental organization and/or did not provide information to demonstrate that it was an incorporated organization in the country in which it maintained its headquarters.

In the following list we name the 69 U.S. NGOs that were not accredited to the UN Fourth World Conference on Women. After each name, we list the reasons for nonaccreditation. We express these reasons by listing either the numbers that correspond to the reasons cited above or the name of the country that objected to an NGO's accreditation.

- Akosua Visions (1) (3)
- American Indian Law Alliance (3)
- Ananda Marga Universal Relief Team (India)
- Asian Pacific Environmental Network (2) (3)
- Association of Iranian Women USA (Iran)
- Atlantic County Advisory Commission on Women (1) (3)
- Behavioral Science Department, Raymond Walters College/
University of Cincinnati (1) (3)
- Black Americans for Life (1) (3)
- California Displaced Homemakers Network (1) (3)
- Carondelet Lifecare Ministries (1) (3)
- Catholic Campaign for America, The (2) (3)
- Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights (2) (3)
- Center for Experiential Learning, The (2) (3)
- Center for Natural and Traditional Medicines (2) (3)

Appendix IX
U.S. NGOs Not Accredited for Participation
in the UN Fourth World Conference on
Women

Centre for Women's and Children's Policy Research and Development (1) (4) (3)

Clergywomen's Interfaith Institute in the Berkshires (1) (3)

Clergywomen's Interfaith Institute (1) (3)

Coalition of Under-Represented Women (1) (3)

Community College of Denver (1) (3)

Conrad Program (3)

Demographic & Health Surveys Program, Macro International, Inc. (4) (3)

Diana Foundation, The (1) (3)

Fielding Institute, The (1) (2) (3)

Fund for New Priorities in America (2) (3)

Getting It Gazette (3)

Global Black Women's Network (1) (4) (3)

Global Interactive Marketing, Ltd. (Formerly Nu-Graphic Design A New York Corp.) (1) (4) (3)

Good Karma, Inc. (2) (3)

Highlander Research and Education Center (3)

Institute for Environmental Studies/University of Wisconsin-Madison (1)

International Campaign for Tibet (2)

International Committee of Lawyers for Tibet (China)

International Leadership Institute (4) (3)

Islamic Society of North America (3)

John Hopkins University Center for Communication Programs (1) (2) (3)

Kentucky Commission on Human Rights (1) (3)

Lorain County Community College—Women's Link (1) (3)

Mental Health Association of South Central Kansas (1) (3)

Minnesota International Center (1) (3)

Missouri Women's Council (1) (3)

National Coalition Building Institute (2) (3)

National Committee of Women for Democratic Iran (Iran)

National League of Cities (2) (3)

National Organization of Catholic Home Educators (2) (3)

Neighborhood Community Development Center of Urban Mission Min. Cor. (1) (3)

North Shore Women's Newspaper (1) (4) (3)

Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission and Its Committee on Women and Ireland (1) (3)

Northern New Jersey Chinese Association (1) (3)

Pacific and Asian American Center for Theology and Strategies (2) (3)

Peace Initiatives (2) (3)

Reprotect LC (4) (3)

Appendix IX
U.S. NGOs Not Accredited for Participation
in the UN Fourth World Conference on
Women

Roots International—Rebirth of Old Time Truths and Systems (2) (3)
Samhati (1) (3)
Social Innovations, Inc. (4) (3)
Society for Calligraphy (2)
Southerners for Economic Justice (1) (3)
Southwest Organizing Project (A Project of Southwest Community
Resources, Inc.) (1) (3)
Tibetan Rights Campaign (China)
The Trusteeship (1) (3)
United University Professions (1) (3)
Vermont-National Education Association (1) (3)
Very Special Arts, South Carolina (1) (3)
Way of the Cross Baptist Church Ministries, The (2) (3)
Wisconsin Conference of the United Church of Christ (1) (3)
Womanspace in Great Neck (1) (3)
Women’s Group, Inc. (4) (3)
Women’s Law and Public Policy Fellowship Program (1) (3)
Women’s Way (1) (3)
World League for Freedom and Democracy (2) (3)

U.S. NGO Views on UN Accreditation Process and Access to Conference

We talked to 28 U.S. NGOs that applied for accreditation to the Conference—23 that were accredited to attend the Conference and 5 that were not accredited.¹ Of the accredited NGOs, 13 had prior UN conference and forum experience and were able to compare their experience in China with other conferences. Their views are summarized below.

U.S. NGO Opinions on the Fairness and Transparency of the Accreditation Process Mixed

The UN instructed the Conference Secretariat to notify NGOs that had not been accredited of the status of their applications and to accept additional supporting information. Of the 23 accredited NGOs we interviewed, 16 said that both the accreditation process was fair and reasons for decisions clear, while 7 said they did not understand the process by which the decisions were made. Sixteen NGOs we spoke with were accredited on the basis of their initial applications, while 6 said they were asked for additional information to support their applications before being recommended for accreditation. Information in that regard could not be obtained for the remaining NGO.

Of the five NGOs we interviewed that were not recommended for accreditation or were recommended but not granted accreditation, one believed that the process was fair and reasons for decisions were clear. The other four nonaccredited NGOs asserted that the decision-making process was not transparent and questioned its fairness. Three NGOs not accredited stated that they were never notified of the status of their applications or the reasons for nonaccreditation. Two of the five nonaccredited NGOs believed that they were not accredited because of political reasons. Two others said their organizations were not given an opportunity to submit additional information or were not informed of the opportunity to submit more information in time to collect the necessary documentation.

Distance Between Conference and Forum Cited as Major Obstacle

The site of the NGO meetings that paralleled those of UN conferences are negotiated by the NGO organizing committees, completely separate from agreements between the UN and the host country. An agreement to hold the NGO Forum in Huairou, China, was reached in June 1995 after China retracted its offer of the Beijing Workers' Sports Center as the NGO meeting site.

¹We attempted to talk with 48 NGOs selected from UN lists of accredited and nonaccredited NGOs. We were able to discuss issues with 28.

The distance between the two sites—53 kilometers—was cited as the primary obstacle to accessibility of the Conference. Ten of the NGOs who attended the Conference and Forum said that the distance between the meeting sites in Beijing and Huairou obstructed interchange between NGOs and Conference official delegations. The Chinese provided buses and a dedicated road to facilitate movement between the two sites, but five NGO representatives complained that the buses were crowded and the schedules were not always convenient. Electronic communications that linked the two meetings were available.

Opinions also varied about the adequacy of the facilities for the NGO Forum. Ten NGOs that commented on the facilities found them adequate, whereas eight noted the lack of handicapped access and muddy conditions of the meeting areas to support their assessment that facilities were inadequate. NGOs with Taiwan/Tibet interests also reported acts of intimidation by Chinese authorities.

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