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POPULATION DAY

JULY 11

The Central Contraceptive Procurement Project is
established by the USAID Administrator to provide
high-quality contraceptives and condoms for USAID-
supported family planning programs.

Ouagadougou Conference brings renewed attention to the World population reaches 7 billion.
need for family planning in West Africa. The conference –
a joint project of USAID, the French Government, the Bill
& Melinda Gates Foundation, and the Hewlett Foundation
– saw the French making a historic, first-ever commitment
to providing resources to family planning programs.

USAID issues a policy paper stating that family planning
programs will be based on fundamental principles of
voluntarism and informed choice.

The Alliance for Reproductive, Maternal and Newborn
Health is established, a 5-year public-private partnership
comprising USAID, DFID, AusAID, and the Bill & Melinda
Gates Foundation. The Alliance aims to help further the
world’s progress in achieving Millennium Development
Goals 5 a and b.

Family planning programs begin to expand to address
such critical issues as maternal and child health and
population and the environment.

President Barack Obama announces the Global Health
Initiative, a 6-year initiative to develop a co-comprehensive
approach to global health, with family planning as a key
priority focus.

The Helms amendment to the 1961 Foreign Assistance Act
prohibits funding the performance of abortion as a
method of family planning or motivating or coercing any
person to practice abortions.

New guidelines update USAID’s 1998 Programmatic
Technical Guidance on integrating family planning and
maternal and child health with services for preventing
HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases. The
guidelines include new information about effective inte-
gration of family planning into HIV programs and of HIV
counseling and services into family planning programs.

USAID’s Office of Population begins supporting World
Fertility Surveys. This is followed by support for addi-
tional reproductive health training and international
surveys, such as the Contraceptive
Prevalence Surveys, launched in 1975,
and the Demographic and Health
Surveys (DHS), launched in 1984. The
DHS are large national household
surveys that provide data for program
monitoring and evaluation.

The Office of Population and Reproductive Health formally
establishes a Population-Environment program in response
to legislative language in the FY 02 Foreign Operations
Appropriations Act stating that an unspecified portion of
funds allocated for family planning and reproductive
health should be used “in areas where population growth
threatens biodiversity or endangered species.”

USAID sponsors pilot projects and develops
successful community-based distribution systems
that bring family planning information and
services door-to-door.

President Nixon describes population growth as “one of the
most serious challenges to human destiny in the last third of
this century.” The Office of Population is established to
provide leadership, initiative, coordination, technical guid-
ance, and assistance in developing and conducting family
planning activities.

USAID makes its first purchase of contraceptives
for distribution in developing countries.

USAID launches a new initiative to address adolescent
reproductive health.

USAID family planning program begins. The U.S. Gov-
ernment adopts a plan to reduce birth rates in develop-
ing countries through its War on Hunger and investments
in family planning programs.

At the International Conference on
Population and Development
in Cairo, Egypt, 179 countries
adopt a 20-year Programme of
Action (PoA), which recognizes
that reproductive health and
rights – as well as women’s
empowerment and gender
equality – are cornerstones of
population and development programs.
The U.S. Government plays an integral role
in the negotiations and the development of
the PoA and is one of the 179 signatories.

After passing the Foreign Assistance Act in 1961, Congress
authorizes research on family planning issues, including the
provision of family planning information to couples who
request it.

The London Summit on Family Planning was held to help
raise global resources and awareness for family planning.

FDA approves use of Jadelle, the two-rod levonorgestrel
implant developed with USAID support.

World population passes 5 billion. The United Nations
establishes World Population Day to draw attention to
population and reproductive health issues.