

103<sup>D</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

## **S. CON. RES. 26**

Urging the President to redirect United States foreign assistance policies and spending priorities toward promoting sustainable development, which reduces global hunger and poverty, protects the environment, and promotes democracy.

---

### IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 24 (legislative day, APRIL 19), 1993

Mr. SIMON (for himself, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. KERRY, Mr. WOFFORD, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DECONCINI, Mr. FEINGOLD, Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, Mr. DURENBERGER, and Mr. AKAKA) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee Foreign Relations

---

## **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

Urging the President to redirect United States foreign assistance policies and spending priorities toward promoting sustainable development, which reduces global hunger and poverty, protects the environment, and promotes democracy.

Whereas the easing of Cold War tensions requires a reassessment of United States foreign assistance objectives, programs, and spending priorities, and presents a unique opportunity to shift the emphasis from military and security-related priorities to addressing the urgent and inter-related problems of poverty and environmental destruction;

Whereas the post-Cold War world is one of tremendous human deprivation in which more than one-fifth of humanity exists in poverty, living a life of hunger, illness, and illiteracy;

Whereas tens of thousands of children in the developing world die each day, many of them from preventable diseases, and millions of other children are disabled or blind as a result of malnutrition;

Whereas in recent decades, the income gap between richest and poorest countries has widened, due in part to the large accumulated debt of many developing countries, with many countries now paying more in debt service than they receive in assistance and investment;

Whereas this debt and the resulting economic adjustments have taken their heaviest toll on the poor, especially women, in the form of higher food prices, reduced health care, education, housing, and other social services, and higher unemployment;

Whereas poverty-related conditions foster rapid population growth, which in turn exacerbates pressures on land and other natural resources, worsens unemployment, and strains government services;

Whereas poverty-related conditions of hunger, illiteracy, disease, and environmental degradation pose a serious threat to the economic and physical security of the United States and the world;

Whereas such conditions impede economic growth, undermine new democracies, fuel political instability within countries and across regions, foster displacement and massive migration, allow the spread of acquired immune deficiency

syndrome (AIDS) and other epidemics, and damage the environment;

Whereas the United States therefore has a direct self-interest in promoting development that will avert such threats and has historically been a leader in providing assistance in response to humanitarian emergencies;

Whereas United States development cooperation has made valuable contributions to sustainable development through selected bilateral economic assistance programs, and through selected contributions to multilateral organizations and programs;

Whereas nongovernmental organizations, both in the United States and in developing countries, are often highly qualified actors in promoting grassroots development, strengthening civil society, and providing humanitarian assistance;

Whereas only 1 percent of the United States Government budget is spent on foreign assistance, and only approximately 28 percent of that amount goes toward programs focused on sustainable development and humanitarian needs; and

Whereas since the mid-1980s, resources have begun to shift within the foreign assistance budget toward increased expenditures for humanitarian and sustainable development programs: Now, therefore, be it

1        *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*  
2        *concurring),*

3        **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4        This resolution may be cited as the “Many Neigh-  
5        bors, One Earth Resolution”.

1 **SEC. 2. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT POLICY AND PRO-**  
2 **GRAM OF ACTION.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President is urged to develop  
4 and implement a coordinated economic and development  
5 policy and program of action designed to promote broad-  
6 based, sustainable development.

7 (b) PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVES.—This policy and pro-  
8 gram of action should have as principal objectives the fol-  
9 lowing elements of sustainable development, which are  
10 interrelated and mutually reinforcing:

11 (1) ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES.—Expanding  
12 economic opportunities for women and men, espe-  
13 cially the poor, to increase their productivity, earn-  
14 ing capacity, and income in ways that do not harm  
15 the environment.

16 (2) BASIC HUMAN NEEDS.—Helping people  
17 meet their basic human needs for food, clean water,  
18 shelter, health care, and education necessary for all  
19 people to be productive and to improve their quality  
20 of life.

21 (3) ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND SUS-  
22 TAINABLE USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES.—Promot-  
23 ing environmental protection and sustainable use of  
24 land, water, forests, and other natural resources,  
25 taking into account the needs of present and future  
26 generations.

1           (4) PLURALISM, DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION,  
2           AND HUMAN RIGHTS.—Promoting pluralism, demo-  
3           cratic participation in economic and political deci-  
4           sions that affect the lives of all people (including  
5           participation of the poor), and respect for human  
6           and civil rights, including the rights of females and  
7           indigenous peoples.

8           (c) ALL RELEVANT ACTIVITIES OF THE GOVERN-  
9           MENT TO BE INCLUDED.—This policy and program of ac-  
10          tion should involve all relevant international activities of  
11          the United States Government, including—

12               (1) bilateral economic assistance programs;

13               (2) contributions to international and multilat-  
14          eral development agencies and institutions;

15               (3) policies concerning international agricul-  
16          tural, environmental, health, energy, trade, debt, and  
17          monetary issues; and

18               (4) foreign military assistance programs.

19          (d) SPECIFIC ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN.—In further-  
20          ance of this policy and program of action, the President  
21          is urged to do the following:

22               (1) Work with Congress to enact legislation  
23          providing for a post-Cold War foreign assistance  
24          program that would have as its primary purpose the  
25          promotion of sustainable development and that

1 would incorporate the objectives set forth in sub-  
2 section (b).

3 (2) Ensure that development cooperation pro-  
4 grams conform to the objectives in subsection (b) in  
5 ways that invigorate local community-based develop-  
6 ment through taking into account the relevant local-  
7 level perspectives of its beneficiaries (including  
8 women, minorities, and indigenous people) during  
9 the design, planning, implementation, and evaluation  
10 process for project and program assistance. Toward  
11 this objective, the agency primarily responsible for  
12 administering such assistance should consult closely  
13 with indigenous and United States-based nongovern-  
14 mental organizations that have demonstrated effec-  
15 tiveness in community-based development on behalf  
16 of sustainable development in developing countries.

17 (3) Provide government-to-government assist-  
18 ance only to countries that exhibit a commitment to  
19 development that promotes the objectives set forth in  
20 subsection (b) through relevant sectoral and national  
21 policies, with priority given to countries that have  
22 the highest incidence of hunger and poverty.

23 (4) Encourage and support the efforts of coun-  
24 tries to reduce their level of military spending when  
25 such spending is disproportionate to security needs

1 and disproportionate to spending on health, edu-  
2 cation, and environmental protection.

3 (5) Exercise leadership in building the global  
4 commitment and cooperation necessary for countries  
5 to make significant progress toward the goals adopt-  
6 ed at the 1992 International Conference on Nutri-  
7 tion, the 1992 United Nations Conference on Envi-  
8 ronment and Development, the 1990 World Summit  
9 for Children, and the 1985 World Conference on  
10 Women.

11 (6) Enter into negotiations with highly indebted  
12 poor countries that are committed to sustainable de-  
13 velopment on reducing the debt owed by such coun-  
14 tries to the United States Government, when debt  
15 reduction will support their sustainable development  
16 strategies.

17 (7) Develop and propose an effective system of  
18 evaluation and accountability for programs and  
19 projects of development cooperation, particularly re-  
20 garding their effectiveness in furthering the objec-  
21 tives set forth in subsection (b).

22 (8) Examine the necessity of restructuring or  
23 replacing the Agency for International Development  
24 in order to have an effective bilateral development

1 cooperation program that can achieve the objectives  
2 set forth in subsection (b).

3 (9) Give greater attention to linking emergency  
4 relief efforts to conflict resolution, rehabilitation,  
5 and longer-term development activities.

6 (10) Increase from approximately 30 percent in  
7 fiscal year 1993 to at least 35 percent in each of fis-  
8 cal years 1994 through 1997 the share of foreign as-  
9 sistance funds directed to programs that best serve  
10 sustainable development and humanitarian needs, in-  
11 cluding programs for basic human needs,  
12 microenterprise and credit, appropriate technology,  
13 sustainable agriculture, fisheries, forestry and water  
14 management, environmental restoration and con-  
15 servation, strengthening civil society and human  
16 rights, voluntary cooperation, disaster assistance,  
17 refugee assistance, and emergency and developmen-  
18 tal food assistance.

19 (11) Make every effort to increase, consistently,  
20 the absolute amount of funding for such programs  
21 in developing countries through reallocating funds  
22 within the bilateral economic assistance budget and  
23 by transferring funds out of security assistance pro-  
24 grams.

○