



## Presidential Memorandum

**TO: Acting Administrator of the Agency for International Development (AID)**

**RE: Consideration of emergency contraception for contraceptive commodities program**

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration first approved the use of emergency contraceptive pills as a dedicated product to prevent pregnancy in 1998. Since that time, emergency contraception has been available in the federally-subsidized family planning program in the United States along with other FDA-approved methods of contraception. AID has supported information and education efforts in developing countries relating to emergency contraception where requested by the host government. However, AID has never taken any steps, as is normal with other newly-approved contraceptive methods, to determine whether emergency contraception as a dedicated product should be included in its commodities distribution program. I hereby direct the Acting AID Administrator to undertake such an assessment and follow up as appropriate.