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SUBCHAPTER I—INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT

PART I—DECLARATION OF POLICY; DEVELOPMENT
ASSISTANCE AUTHORIZATIONS

§ 2151. Congressional findings and declaration of policy

(a) United States development cooperation policy

The Congress finds that fundamental political, economic, and technological changes have resulted in the interdependence of nations. The Congress declares that the individual liberties, economic prosperity, and security of the people of the United States are best sustained and enhanced in a community of nations which respect individual civil and economic rights and freedoms and which work together to use wisely the world's limited resources in an open and equitable international economic system. Furthermore, the Congress reaffirms the traditional humanitarian ideals of the American people and renews its commitment to assist people in developing countries to eliminate hunger, poverty, illness, and ignorance.

Therefore, the Congress declares that a principal objective of the foreign policy of the United States is the encouragement and sustained support of the people of developing countries in their efforts to acquire the knowledge and resources essential to development and to build the economic, political, and social institutions which will improve the quality of their lives.

United States development cooperation policy should emphasize five principal goals:

- (1) the alleviation of the worst physical manifestations of poverty among the world's poor majority;
- (2) the promotion of conditions enabling developing countries to achieve self-sustaining economic growth with equitable distribution of benefits;
- (3) the encouragement of development processes in which individual civil and economic rights are respected and enhanced;
- (4) the integration of the developing countries into an open and equitable international economic system; and
- (5) the promotion of good governance through combating corruption and improving transparency and accountability.

The Congress declares that pursuit of these goals requires that development concerns be fully reflected in United States foreign policy and that United States development resources be effectively and efficiently utilized.

(b) Coordination of development-related activities

Under the policy guidance of the Secretary of State, the agency primarily responsible for administering subchapter I of this chapter should have the responsibility for coordinating all United States development-related activities.

(Pub. L. 87-195, pt. I, § 101, formerly § 102, Sept. 4, 1961, 75 Stat. 424; Pub. L. 87-565, pt. I, § 101, Aug. 1, 1962, 76 Stat. 255; Pub. L. 88-205, pt. I, § 101(c), Dec. 16, 1963, 77 Stat. 379; Pub. L. 89-171, pt. I,

§ 101, Sept. 6, 1965, 79 Stat. 653; Pub. L. 89-583, pt. I, § 101, Sept. 19, 1966, 80 Stat. 796; Pub. L. 90-137, pt. I, § 101, Nov. 14, 1967, 81 Stat. 445; Pub. L. 93-189, § 2(2), Dec. 17, 1973, 87 Stat. 714; Pub. L. 94-161, title III, § 301, Dec. 20, 1975, 89 Stat. 855; Pub. L. 95-88, title I, §§ 101, 113(b), Aug. 3, 1977, 91 Stat. 533, 538; renumbered and amended Pub. L. 95-424, title I, § 101, Oct. 6, 1978, 92 Stat. 937; Pub. L. 106-309, title II, § 203(a), Oct. 17, 2000, 114 Stat. 1091.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2000—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 106-309 substituted “five principal goals” for “four principal goals” in introductory provisions of third paragraph and added par. (5).

1978—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 95-424, in setting forth a new declaration of policy generally substituted four principal goals of development cooperation policy, they being (1) the alleviation of the worst manifestations of poverty, (2) self-sustained economic growth, (3) respect for civil and economic rights, and (4) the integration of the developing countries into an open and equitable economic system, for former seven pars. relating to: (1) primary responsibility for development being in the less developed countries themselves; (2) the active involvement of many countries; (3) the encouragement of regional cooperation; (5) assistance being of such nature as to help United States balance of payments; (6) furnishing of assistance in such manner as to promote efficiency, and (7) the furnishing of agricultural commodities, etc., to complement assistance under this subchapter.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 95-424 substituted provisions relating to the responsibility of the agency primarily responsible for administering the program for coordination of all development related activities, for former seven criteria for restructuring relationships with less developed countries, those criteria being: (1) sharing of technical expertise; (2) focusing on critical problems affecting the majority of the people; (3) use of the private sector; (4) development goals as the responsibility of each sovereign nation; (5) priority to undertakings directly improving the lives of the poorest people; (6) private investment in development programs; and (7) responsibility for coordination of activities with the agency having primary responsibility for administering this part.

Subsecs. (c) to (e). Pub. L. 95-424 struck out subsecs. (c) to (e).

1977—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 95-88, § 113(b)(1), inserted “environment and natural resources” to enumeration of fundamental needs of the people of less developed countries which development assistance must be used in meeting.

Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 95-88, § 113(b)(2), inserted “environment and natural resources;” after “population planning and health;”.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 95-88, § 101(a), substituted provisions under which the President developed the criteria and factors to be used in assessing the commitment and progress of countries in meeting the objectives set forth in subsec. (c) and transmitted a report by Jan. 31, 1978, to the Speaker of the House and to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate for provisions under which the President had established the criteria without Congressional involvement.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 95-88, § 101(b), added subsec. (e).

1975—Subsecs. (c), (d). Pub. L. 94-161 added subsecs. (c) and (d).

1973—Pub. L. 93-189 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a) and added subsec. (b).

1967—Pub. L. 90-137, in providing a new statement of policy, reaffirming basic foreign assistance principles, and recognizing new problems and need for new priorities, substituted five pars. concerned with (1) freedom, security, prosperity, aggression, subversion, ignorance,