

Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1999 Public Law 105-277, section 101(b)



**IAWG Mandate (H.R. 4328, Section 2414,
Page H11268)**

WORKING GROUP ON UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT- SPONSORED INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES AND TRAINING

Section 112 (f) and (g) of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961 (P.L. 87-256), as amended, (22 USC 2460 (f) and (g)) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

(g) Working Group on United States Government-Sponsored International Exchanges and Training.

(1) In order to carry out the purposes of subsection (f) and to improve the coordination, efficiency, and effectiveness of United States Government-sponsored international exchanges and training, there is established within the United States Information Agency a senior-level interagency working group to be known as the Working Group on United States Government-Sponsored International Exchanges and Training (in this section referred to as the 'Working Group').

(2) For purposes of this subsection, the term 'Government-sponsored international exchanges and training' means the movement of people between countries to promote the sharing of ideas, to develop skills, and to foster mutual understanding and cooperation, financed wholly or in part, directly or indirectly, with United States Government funds.

(3) The Working Group shall be composed as follows:

- A. The Associate Director for Educational and Cultural Affairs of the United States Information Agency, who shall act as Chair.
- B. A senior representative of the Department of State, who shall be designated by the Secretary of State.
- C. A senior representative of the Department of Defense, who shall be designated by the Secretary of Defense.
- D. A senior representative of the Department of Education, who shall be designated by the Secretary of Education.
- E. A senior representative of the Department of Justice, who shall be designated by the Attorney General.
- F. A senior representative of the Agency for International Development, who shall be designated by the Administrator of the Agency.
- G. Senior representatives of such other departments and agencies as the Chair determines to be appropriate.

(4) Representatives of the National Security Adviser and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget may participate in the Working Group at the discretion of the Adviser and the Director, respectively.

(5) The Working Group shall be supported by an interagency staff office established in the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the United States Information Agency.

(6) The Working Group shall have the following purposes and responsibilities:

- A. To collect, analyze, and report data provided by all United States Government departments and agencies conducting international exchanges and training programs.
- B. To promote greater understanding and cooperation among concerned United States Government departments and agencies of common issues and challenges in conducting international exchanges and training programs, including through the establishment of a clearinghouse for information on international exchange and training activities in the governmental and nongovernmental sectors.

- C. In order to achieve the most efficient and cost-effective use of Federal resources, to identify administrative and programmatic duplication and overlap of activities by the various United States Government departments and agencies involved in Government-sponsored international exchange and training programs, to identify how each Government-sponsored international exchange and training program promotes United States foreign policy, and to report thereon.
- D. (i) Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1998 and 1999, the Working Group shall develop a coordinated and cost-effective strategy for all United States Government-sponsored international exchange and training programs, including an action plan with the objective of achieving a minimum of 10 percent cost savings through greater efficiency, the consolidation of programs, or the elimination of duplication, or any combination thereof.
- (ii) Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1998 and 1999, the Working Group shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees setting forth the strategy and action plan required by clause (i).
- (iii) Each year thereafter the Working Group shall assess the strategy and plan required by clause (i).
- E. Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1998 and 1999, to develop recommendations on common performance measures for all United States Government-sponsored international exchange and training programs, and to issue a report.
- F. To conduct a survey of private sector international exchange activities and develop strategies for expanding public and private partnerships in, and leveraging private sector support for, United States Government-sponsored international exchange and training activities.
- G. Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1998 and 1999, to report on the feasibility and advisability of transferring funds and program management for the ATLAS or the Mandela Fellows programs, or both, in South Africa from the Agency for International Development to the United States Information Agency. The report shall include an assessment of the capabilities of the South African Fulbright Commission to manage such

programs and the cost effects of consolidating such programs under one entity.

(7) All reports prepared by the Working Group shall be submitted to the President, through the Director of the United States Information Agency.

(8) The Working Group shall meet at least on a quarterly basis.

(9) All decisions of the Working Group shall be by majority vote of the members present and voting.

(10) The members of the Working Group shall serve without additional compensation for their service on the Working Group. Any expenses incurred by a member of the Working Group in connection with service on the Working Group shall be compensated by that member's department or agency.

(11) With respect to any report issued under paragraph (6), a member may submit dissenting views to be submitted as part of the report of the Working Group.