Dated: January 11, 1995.
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Deputy Associate Director, Bureau of
Educational and Cultural Affairs.
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Conflict Resolution

ACTION: Notice—Request for proposals.

SUMMARY: The Office of Citizen Exchanges (E/P) announces a competitive grants program for nonprofit organizations in support of projects on the theme of Conflict Resolution for audiences in the following geographical areas: Subsaharan África; Ámerican Republics; East Asia (Korea, regional); Eastern Europe and the NIS; South Asia; and Western Europe (Northern Ireland, Greece-Cyprus-Turkey). USIA particularly is seeking projects which link American institutions and specialists with partners overseas. New and creative approaches to the issue of conflict resolution will be especially welcome. Proposals which request USIA funding of less than \$135,000 and which include significant cost sharing will be deemed more competitive.

Interested applicants are urged to read the complete Federal Register announcement before addressing inquiries to the Office or submitting their proposals.

After the deadline for submitting proposals, USIA officers may not discuss this competition in any way with applicants until final decisions are made.

Announcement name and number: All communications concerning this announcement should refer to the Conflict Resolution Grant Program, announcement number E/P–95–39. Please refer to title and number in all correspondence or telephone calls to USIA.

DATES: Deadline for Proposals: All copies must be received at the U.S. Information Agency by 5 p.m.

Washington, D.C. time on March 3, 1995. Faxed documents will not be accepted, nor will documents postmarked on March 3, 1995, but received at a later date. It is the responsibility of each grant applicant to ensure that proposals are received by the above deadline.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Interested organizations/institutions must contact the Office of Citizen Exchanges, E/PL, Room 216, United States Information Agency, 301 4th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20547, telephone (202) 619–5326, fax (202)

260–0437, to request detailed application packets, which include award criteria, all application forms, and guidelines for preparing proposals, including specific criteria for preparation of the proposal budget. Please direct inquiries on programmatic matters to the USIA Officer identified under each geographic heading.

ADDRESSES: Applicants must follow all instructions given in the Proposal Submission Instructions (PSI) and send only complete applications to: U.S. Information Agency, REF: E/P-95-39 Conflict Resolution Grant Competition, Grants Management Division (E/XE), 301 Fourth Street, S.W., Room 336, Washington, D.C. 20547.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the legislation authorizing the Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs, programs must maintain a non-political character and should be balanced and representative of the diversity of American political, social, and cultural life. "Diversity" should be interpreted in the broadest sense and encompass differences including but not limited to race, gender, religion, geographic location, socio-economic status, and physical challenges. Applicants are strongly encouraged to adhere to the advancement of this principle.

Overview

The Office of Citizen Exchanges works with U.S. private sector non-profit organizations on cooperative international group projects that introduce American and foreign participants to each others' social, economic, and political structures; and international interests.

Guidelines

Applicants should carefully note the following restrictions and recommendations for proposals in specific geographical areas:

Africa, Sub-Saharan

Proposals are invited to conduct a program to promote democratic society through the constructive management of conflict. The program can be defined at the local level or national level for one or more countries in Sub-saharan Africa. When conflict has arisen along religious, cultural, linguistic, or class lines, it is usually framed in pejorative or narrow terms which impede understanding and resolution. Sometimes, conflict has been fomented along such lines for political purposes. This program should address such problems by helping to develop skills to frame issues in non-disparaging terms which are amenable to negotiation and consensus building and to develop

mechanisms for making community decisions and managing power in ways which respect diversity while advancing common interests. The program should be comprised of at least two phases, one of which would bring African participants to the U.S., and the other phase would send U.S. counterparts to Africa.

Inquiries should be directed to Program Specialist Charlotte Peterson, (202) 619–5319, Internet CPETERSO@USIA.GOV

American Republics

USIA is interested in receiving proposals for the development of exchange programs to support conflict resolution in Haiti. Observers have long attributed that country's historic inability to construct a modern civil society at least in part to a "winner take all" attitude that governs relationships at every level. In a populace that is sharply divided in almost every way imaginable-rich and poor, rural and urban, educated and illiterate, civil and military, etc.—with almost nothing in between, there is little incentive or precedent for compromise. Instead, each side is continuously at war with the other, resulting in predictable cycles of victimization, aggression, retaliation and revenge. Proposing organizations should seek to work with indigenous counterparts that can help to introduce and then to institutionalize functional conflict resolution strategies in Haiti. Inquiries should be directed to Program Specialist Laverne Johnson, (202) 619-5326, Internet LJOHNSON@USIA.GOV

Western Europe

USIA is interested in receiving projects for Western Europe in the following fields:

- Proposals on Northern Ireland presenting creative ideas to exchange grassroots/community based participants to study models of reconciliation and mediation techniques through site visits, workshops and internships;
- Proposals for Greece, Cyprus and Turkey designed to improve professional media skills. The program might commence with a four to six week seminar for participants from the three countries which would serve to establish linkages between the media in the three countries, and their American counterparts, and perhaps challenge some of the stereotypes about each country. This program should include a minimum of a one-week internship with either a TV station, radio station, or newspapers in order for the participants to have first-hand