

MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Secretary Harry K. Thomas, Jr.

FROM: Katrina Working Group – Deborah McCarthy

SUBJECT: Status Report 2/17/06

Interagency Agreement on Disposition of \$60.4 million in Foreign Donations: U/S Fore chaired phone call on 2/16 with NSC, DHS, DOE, HSC??and First Lady's office and obtained agreement to channel the funds through DOE for K-12, universities and Laura Bush Gulf Coast Library Initiative. DOE has received specific proposals for K-12, the libraries and two universities (Dillard and Xavier). DOE wants to give an initial allocation to Dillard and Xavier of 7.5 to 8 million, or below their requested amounts. U/S Fore urged that this not be a cap. DOE will hold \$20.4 million for additional proposals expected imminently. Depending on what comes in, the allocations for Dillard and Xavier could be increased. DOE prepared to work out an MOU with DOS in the next two weeks and disburse funds within two months. The NSC requested that DOE and DOS provide an outline of outreach efforts made to make schools aware of available funding.

Senator Lott and Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College: We received a first draft of a proposal from this community college, which Senator Lott is supporting??. It is geared toward new construction rather than Hurricane Recovery. The Interagency agreed to not include it in the DOE package. However, we are reaching out to DOE, and the Bush Clinton Fund to see how the proposal can be funded (albeit in likely modified form).

Implementation of HSC Katrina Comprehensive Review Taskers : Two working groups have been formed, one to develop SOPs for accepting and handling international assistance (WG-1) and the second to address the issue of foreign nationals and the media (WG-2). WG-1 has focused primarily on MATERIAL ASSISTANCE AND IS WORKING TO DETERMINE pull, push and no-go categories of goods. Pull include resources that FEMA or an ESF might not be able to acquire domestically and might request from the international community. Push includes resources that are not needed, but

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could be easily accepted and used when gift acceptances must be made for diplomatic purposes. NOTE: FEMA has not yet agreed in principle to the "pushing" of resources. No-GO are goods that cannot enter the country without significant regulatory changes and/or waivers. process/procedures in general. Subgroup is looking at how to bring in Northcom mil to mil assistance offers into the process. Agency gift authorities are being identified. We are developing templates of cables to be sent to embassies that provide direction on international assistance during large disasters.

GAO review: is almost complete. Requested information on MREs passed on 2/17. Exit meeting is scheduled for 2/22

Visit by Canadian Delegation on Lessons Learned: Representatives of Foreign Affairs Canada, specifically the Director for Humanitarian Affairs and Global Response and the Director for US relations visited with the KWG, CMS and other agency reps at State to discuss lessons learned. They noted that the GOC had spent much time during Katrina trying to determine what was really needed and they proposed that we share with them, if possible, the pull list we come up with. They also noted the need for a SOFA for military deployments. In particular they were interested in knowing what role DOS vs DHS would play if there was a natural disaster in Canada. We explained who had the lead in foreign affairs would be and the role of OFDA. They requested another exchange when the lessons learned SOPs are finalized.

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