October 2, 1998

Willette L. Smith
Freedom of Information Officer
USAID M/AS/IRD
Room 2.7C
Ronald Reagan Building
Washington DC 20523-2701

Dear Ms. Smith:

On July 22, 1998 we requested, under the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of USAID grant/contract number HSH-1439-G-00-3018-00 to Children International, Kansas City, Mo. (our request was designated as TRB-016).

So far, we have received no indication whether USAID intends to produce this grant or deny it. We respectfully request an expeditious decision, so that we may exercise our right to a timely appeal in the event our request is denied.

In the meantime, we are also requesting the following materials associated with USAID grant/contract number HSH-1439-G-00-3018-00. We ask that you treat this as a new request, separate from TRB-016.

- All interim evaluations of the performance of this grant/contract;
- All final evaluations of the performance of this grant/contract;
- All amendments to this grant/contract;
- All correspondence concerning this grant/contract;
- All A-133 audits of the grantee/contractor, Children International;
- All audits of this grant/contract;
- All documents reflecting any investigation by the Office of Inspector General, USAID, of the performance of this
grant(contract, or of the grantee/contractor, Children International.

As you know, the Freedom of Information Act provides that if some parts of a file are exempt from release then "reasonably segregable" portions shall be provided. We are, therefore, requesting that if you determine that some portions of the requested documents are exempt, you provide us with a copy of the remainder of the document in question. We reserve our right to appeal any such decision.

The Chicago Tribune is prepared to pay reasonable costs for locating the requested files and reproducing them. However, the Freedom of Information Act permits you to reduce or waive the fees if that "is in the public interest because furnishing the information can be considered as primarily benefiting the public."

Because we plan to use this information in articles we are preparing for the Chicago Tribune, a daily newspaper with a paid circulation of five million copies per week, we feel this request plainly fits that category and ask you to waive any fees. If you rule otherwise, and if the fees will exceed $50, we reserve our rights under the statute to review and inspect the records that are responsive to this request and to select those which we want copied.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please feel free to contact me by telephone or fax at the number listed above. Otherwise, we expect to receive a reply within twenty working days specifying whether the requested documents exist and whether you intend to produce them.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

John Crewdson