



## NOTE ON THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT'S POSITION ON POSTABORTION CARE

### Statement of Support for Postabortion Care

*The President's clear intention is that any restrictions (on family planning assistance) do not limit organizations from treating injuries or illnesses caused by legal or illegal abortions, for example, postabortion care.*

White House statement on the Mexico City Policy, January 22, 2001

USAID family planning assistance is subject to a number of abortion-related restrictions, including those outlined in the Mexico City Policy. These restrictions do not prohibit USAID assistance for postabortion care. A White House press release announcing President Bush's restoration of the Mexico City Policy on January 22, 2001, indicated that "[t]he President's clear intention is that any restrictions do not limit organizations from treating injuries or illnesses caused by legal or illegal abortions, for example, postabortion care."

USAID FP/RH funds may be used to support postabortion care activities regardless of whether the abortion was legally or illegally obtained, although no USAID funds may be used to purchase manual vacuum aspiration kits for any purpose. Foreign NGOs may also perform and promote postabortion care without affecting their eligibility to receive USAID assistance for family planning (Source: USAID Guidance on the Definition and Use of the Child Survival and Health Program Funds and the Global HIV/AIDS Initiative Account, FY 2004 Update, dated July 22, 2004).

The U.S. government does not provide support for induced abortions by MVA or any other method. This module, however, includes some research on induced abortion funded by sources other than the U.S. government. The inclusion of this research attempts only to present the most comprehensive and helpful review of research on postabortion care. Reference to such research does not affect the government's position against induced abortion in any way.