




78 Heads of Government have Signed a Statement on Population Stabilization

On December 10th 1966, Human Rights Day, United Nations Secretary-General U Thant received a Statement presented to him by John D. Rockefeller III, signed by 11 signatory countries: Australia, Denmark, Finland, Iran, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom, the United States and Yugoslavia.


HAROLD HOLT
Prime Minister
Commonwealth of Australia



JENS OTTO KRAG
Prime Minister
Kingdom of Denmark


DR. D. URHO KEKKONEN
President
Republic of Finland


SHAH MOHAMMAD REZA PAHLAVI
Emperor
Iran

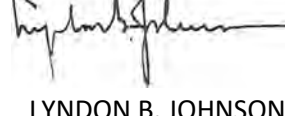

DR. J. ZUILSTRA
Prime Minister
Netherlands

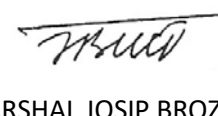

KEITH HOLYOAKE
Prime Minister
New Zealand


PER BORTEN
Prime Minister
Kingdom of Norway

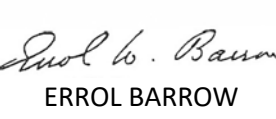

TAGE ERLANDER
Prime Minister
Kingdom of Sweden



HAROLD WILSON
Prime Minister
United Kingdom

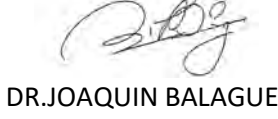

LYNDON B. JOHNSON
President
United States of America



MARSHAL JOSIP BROZ TITO
President
Yugoslavia

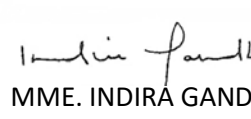
A year later, the following countries signed: Barbados, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Japan, Jordan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Morocco, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, and the United Arab Republic.

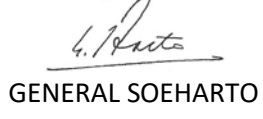

ERROL BARROW
Prime Minister
Barbados

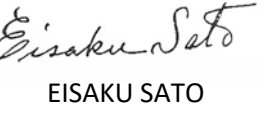

CARLOS LLERAS RESTREPO
President
Republic of Colombia



DR. JOAQUIN BALAGUER
President
Dominican Republic

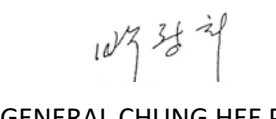

LT. GEN. J. A. ANKRAH
Chairman of the National Liberation Council
Republic of Ghana

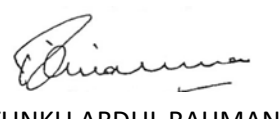

MME. INDIRA GANDHI
Prime Minister
Republic of India


GENERAL SOEHARTO
Acting President
Indonesia

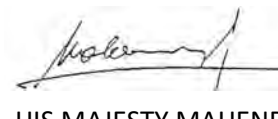

EISAKU SATO
Prime Minister
Japan



HIS MAJESTY HUSSEIN
King
Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan



GENERAL CHUNG HEE PARK
President
Republic of Korea


TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN
Prime Minister
Malaysia


HIS MAJESTY HASSAN II
King
Kingdom of Morocco



HIS MAJESTY MAHENDRA
King
Kingdom of Nepal



FIELD MARSHAL MUHAMMAD AYUB KHAN
President
Islamic Republic of Pakistan



FERDINAND MARCOS
President
Republic of the Philippines


LEE KUAN YEW
Prime Minister
Republic of Singapore


THANOM KITTIKACHORN
Prime Minister
Kingdom of Thailand


ERIC WILLIAMS
Prime Minister
Republic of Trinidad and Tobago


HABIB BOURGUIBA
President
Tunisian Republic


GAMAL ABDEL NASSER
President
United Arab Republic

In his presentation John D. Rockefeller noted that the principal barrier to population stabilization has been its sensitivity. The Statement on Population by World Leaders notes that:

"It took all of mankind's history to reach one billion by 1800. The 2nd billion arrived in 1930. At today's rate of increase there will be 4 billion by 1975. This unprecedented increase presents us with a situation unique in human affairs and a problem that grows more urgent with each passing day.

The numbers themselves are striking, but their implications are of far greater significance. Too rapid population growth seriously hampers efforts to raise living standards, to further education, to improve health, to provide better housing, and in some countries to assure sufficient food. In short, the human aspiration to live a better life is being frustrated and jeopardized.

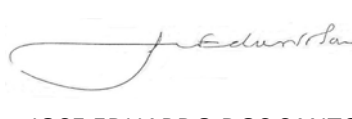
We believe that the population problem must be recognized as a principal element in long-range national planning if governments are to achieve their economic goals and fulfill the aspirations of their people.

We believe that the great majority of parents desire to have the knowledge and the means to plan their families; that the opportunity to decide the number and spacing of children is a basic human right.

Recognizing that family planning is in the vital interest of both the nation and the family, we, the undersigned, earnestly hope that leaders around the world will share our views and join with us in this great challenge for the well being and happiness of people everywhere."

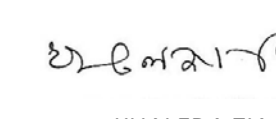
At the 1984 International Conference on Population and Development in Mexico, the Statement on Population Stabilization was presented to United Nations Fund for Population Activities Executive Director Rafael Salas by Kenyan Vice President Mwai Kibaki, the ranking diplomat at the ceremony. In 1985 Prime Minister of India Rajiv Gandhi presented the Statement to United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar at the 40th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations with 40 signatures.

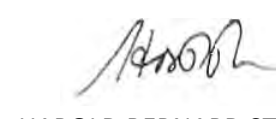
At the 1994 ICPD conference in Cairo, Dr. Nafis Sadik, Executive Director of the UNFPA, accepted the Statement signed by 75 heads of government from Haryono Suyono, chairman of the BKKBN. A year later President Suharto of Indonesia personally requested all 109 heads of government of the Non-Aligned Nations to sign the Statement. On October 25th, 1995, at the 50th anniversary of the United Nations, Dr. Nafis Sadik presided over the ceremony in which President Suharto of Indonesia presented the Statement to the Secretary-General of the UN, Boutros Boutros-Ghali. In Dr. Sadik's comments, she emphasized, "The importance of population and development issues and the urgency of population stabilization must be recognized."

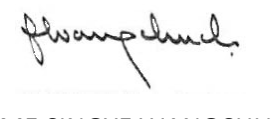

JOSE EDUARDO DOS SANTOS
President
Republic of Angola
1984

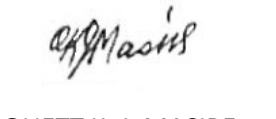

FRED SINOWATZ
Federal Chancellor
Austria
1984


HUSSAIN MUHAMMAD ERSHAD
President
People's Republic of Bangladesh
1984


KHALEDA ZIA
Prime Minister
People's Republic of Bangladesh
1994


HAROLD BERNARD ST. JOHN
Prime Minister
Barbados
1984


JIGME SINGYE WANGCHUCK
His Majesty, King of Bhutan
Kingdom of Bhutan
1984 & 1994

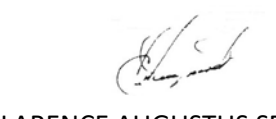

QUETT K. J. MASIRE
President
Republic of Botswana
1984


NORODOM RANARIDDH & HUN SEN
1st and 2nd Prime Minister
Kingdom of Cambodia
1994

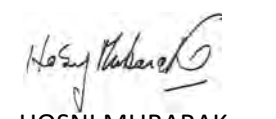

ZHAO ZIYANG
Premier of the State Council
People's Republic of China
1984

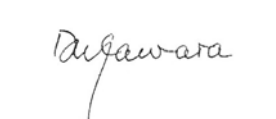

CESAR GAVIRIA TRUJILLO
President
Republic of Colombia
1994

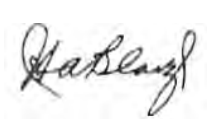

SPYROS KYPRIANOU
President
Republic of Cyprus
1984


CLARENCE AUGUSTUS SEIGNORET
President
Commonwealth of Dominica
1984

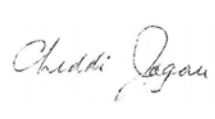

SALVADOR JORGE BLANCO
President
Dominican Republic
1984


HOSNI MUBARAK
President
Arab Republic of Egypt
1984 & 1994


SIR DAWDA JAWARA
President
Republic of the Gambia
1994



HERBERT A. BLAIZE
Prime Minister
Grenada
1984


JOAO BERNARDO VIEIRA
President
Republic of Guinea-Bissau
1984

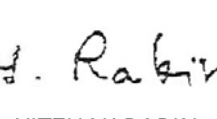

CHEDDI JAGAN
President
Republic of Guyana
1994


JEAN-CLAUDE DUVALIER
President for Life
Republic of Haiti
1984

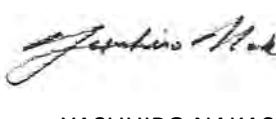

STEINGRÍMUR HERMANNSSON
Prime Minister
Republic of Iceland
1984

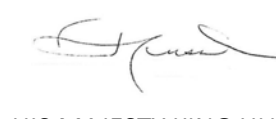

RAJIV GANDHI
Prime Minister
Republic of India
1984

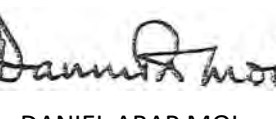

SOEHARTO
President
Republic Indonesia
1994


YITZHAK RABIN
Prime Minister
State of Israel
1994



EDWARD PHILIP GEORGE SEAGA
Prime Minister
Jamaica
1984

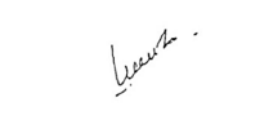

YASUHIRO NAKASONE
Prime Minister
Japan
1984


HIS MAJESTY KING HUSSEIN I
King of the Hashemite
Kingdom of Jordan
1984 & 1994



DANIEL ARAP MOI
President
Republic of Kenya
1984


CHUN DOO-HWAN
President
Republic of Korea
1984



KIM IL-SUNG
President
Democratic People's Republic of Korea
1994


NOUHAK PHOUMSAVANH
President
Lao People's Democratic Republic
1994



SAMUEL KANYON DOE
President
Republic of Liberia
1984

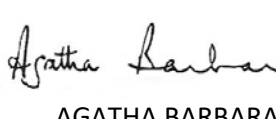

MUAMMAR GADDAFI
Brother Leader & Guide of the Revolutionary Party
Libya
1994

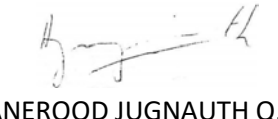

BRANKO CRVENKOVSKI
President
Republic of Macedonia
1994


HASTINGS KAMUZU BANDA
President
Republic of Malawi
1994


MAHATHIR MOHAMAD
Prime Minister
Malaysia
1994


MAUMOON ABDUL GAYOOM
President
Republic of the Maldives
1994



AGATHA BARBARA
President
Republic of Malta
1984



ANEROOD JUGNAUTH Q.C.
Prime Minister
Republic of Mauritius
1984

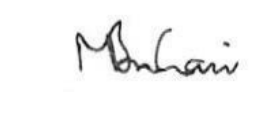

ANDREI SANGHELI
Prime Minister
Republic of Moldova
1994

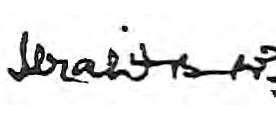

HIS MAJESTY HASSAN II
King
Kingdom of Morocco
1984



THAN SHWE
Prime Minister
Union of Myanmar
1994


BIRENDRA BIR BIKRAM SHAH DEV
King
Kingdom of Nepal
1984

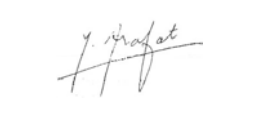

GIRIJA PRASAD KOIRALA
Prime Minister
Nepal
1994



MUHAMMADU BUHARI
Head of State
Federal Republic of Nigeria
1984


MAJOR-GEN. IBRAHIM B. BABANGIDA
President
Federal Republic of Nigeria
1994



MUHAMMAD NAWAZ SHARIF
Prime Minister
Islamic Republic of Pakistan
1994


HARUO REMELIK
President
Republic of Palau
1984



YASSER ARAFAT
President
State of Palestine
1994



NICOLAS A. BARLETTA
President
Republic of Panama
1984


ALBERTO FUJIMORI
President
Republic of Peru
1994


FERDINAND MARCOS
President
Republic of the Philippines
1984

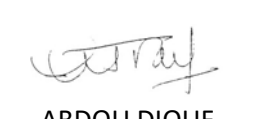

NICOLAE VACAROIU
Prime Minister
Romania
1994

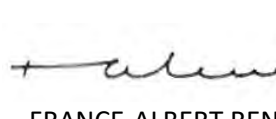

JUVENAL HABYARIMANA
President
Republic of Rwanda
1984


SIR ALLEN M. LEWIS
Governor-General
Saint Lucia
1984


JAMES FITZ-ALLEN MITCHELL
Prime Minister
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
1984


EVARISTO CARVALHO
Prime Minister
Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe
1994

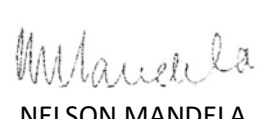

ABDOU DIOUF
President
Republic of Senegal
1984

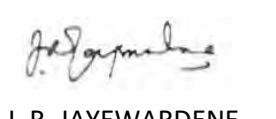

FRANCE-ALBERT RENE
Prime Minister
Republic of Seychelles
1984



LEE KUAN YEW
Prime Minister
Republic of Singapore
1984



GOH CHOK TONG
Prime Minister
Republic of Singapore
1994



JOZEF MORAVCIK
Prime Minister
Slovak Republic
1994



NELSON MANDELA
President
Republic of South Africa
1994


J. R. JAYEWARDENE
President
Sri Lanka
1984

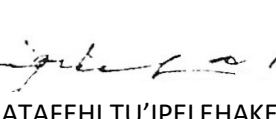

D. B. WIJETUNGA
President
Sri Lanka
1994



ABDEL RAHMAN SWAR AL-DAHAB
President
Democratic Republic of Sudan
1984


RONALD VENETIAAN
President
Republic of Suriname
1994

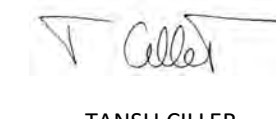

ALI HASSAN MWINYI
President
United Republic of Tanzania
1994

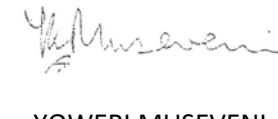

GENERAL PREM TINSULANONDA
Prime Minister
Kingdom of Thailand
1984


FATAFEHI TU'IPELEHAKE
Honorable Prime Minister
Kingdom of Tonga
1984


PATRICK MANNING
Prime Minister
Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
1994

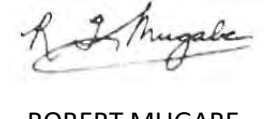

HABIB BOURGUIBA
President
Republic of Tunisia
1984


TANSU CILLER
Prime Minister
Republic of Turkey
1994


YOWERI MUSEVENI
President
Republic of Uganda
1994


ISLAM KARIMOV
President
Republic of Uzbekistan
1994


ATI GEORGE SOKOMANU
President
Republic of Vanuatu
1984


ROBERT MUGABE
Prime Minister
Republic of Zimbabwe
1984

Humankind has many challenges: to obtain a lasting peace between nations; to preserve the quality of the environment; to conserve natural resources at a sustainable level; to advance the economic and social progress of the less developed nations; to assure basic human rights and at the same time accept responsibility for the planet Earth and future generations of children; and to stabilize population growth.

Degradation of the world's environment, income inequality, and the potential for conflict exist today because of rapid population growth. If this unprecedented population growth continues, future generations of children will not have adequate food, housing, health services, education, earth resources and employment opportunities.

We believe that the time has come now to recognize the world-wide necessity to achieve population stabilization and for each country to adopt the necessary policies and programs to do so, consistent with its own culture and aspirations.

To enhance the integrity of the individual and the quality of life for all, we believe that all nations should participate in setting goals and programs for population stabilization. Measures for this purpose should be voluntary and should maintain individual human rights and beliefs.

We urge national leaders to take an active personal role in promoting effective policies and programs. Emphasis should be given to improving the status of women, respecting human rights and beliefs, and achieving the active participation of women in formulating policies and programs. Attention should be given to setting realistic goals and timetables and developing appropriate economic and social policies.

Recognizing that early population stabilization is in the interest of all nations, we earnestly hope that leaders around the world will share our views and join with us in this great undertaking for the well-being and happiness of people everywhere."