



U.S. AGENCY FOR  
INTERNATIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT

~~PDFDR177~~

AUG 18 1993

Mr. George T. Cody  
Executive Director  
American Task Force for Lebanon (ATFL)  
2213 M Street, NW, 3rd Floor  
Washington, DC 20037

Subject: Grant No. HNE-0360-G-00-3000-00

Dear Mr. Cody:

Pursuant to the authority contained in the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, the Agency for International Development (hereinafter referred to as "A.I.D." or "Grantor") hereby grants to the American Task Force for Lebanon, (hereinafter referred to as "ATFL" or "Grantee"), the sum of \$100,000 to provide support for a program to conduct a conference on the reconstruction of Lebanon as described in the "Schedule" of this grant, and the Attachment 2, entitled "Program Description".

This grant is effective and obligation is made as of the date of this letter and shall apply to commitments made by the Grantee in furtherance of program objectives during the period beginning with the date of the Grant Officer's signature and ending November 30, 1993, except that Pre-grant expenses incurred from July 1, 1993 and falling within the total grant amount are allowable up to an amount not to exceed \$2,000.

This grant is made to the ATFL on condition that the funds will be administered in accordance with the terms and conditions as set forth in Attachment 1, entitled "Schedule", Attachment 2, entitled "Program Description", and Attachment 3, entitled "Standard Provisions", which have been agreed to by your organization.

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Please sign the original and each copy of this letter to acknowledge your receipt of the grant, and return the original and all but one copy to the Grant Officer.

Sincerely,



Timothy T. Beans  
Grant Officer  
OP/B/HNE Branch  
Office of Procurement

Encl: Attachment 1. Schedule  
Attachment 2. Program Description  
~~Attachment 3. Mandatory and Optional Standard Provisions~~

ACKNOWLEDGED:

American Task Force for Lebanon

BY: George T. Cady, Ph.D.  
TYPED NAME: George T. Cady, Ph.D.  
TITLE: Executive Director  
DATE: August 18, 1993

FISCAL DATA

Negotiator : FAD  
PIOT NO: : 268-0360-3-3632251  
Project No. : 268-0360.09  
Project Office : NE/ME  
Project Officer : Bert Porter  
Voucher Paying Office : FM/CMP/DCB  
CEC No. : 62-248-974J  
EIN No. : 52-1611820  
Agreement Estimated Amount: \$100,000  
Obligated Amount : \$100,000  
Appropriation: :72-1131021.1  
Budget Plan Code: :NDVA-93-33268-IG-15  
Allotment No.: :341-63-268-01-69-31  
Funding Source: :AID/W:NE/ME

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## SCHEDULE

A. Purpose of Grant

1. The purpose of this Grant between the U.S. Agency for International Development (hereinafter referred to as A.I.D.) and the American Task Force for Lebanon (hereinafter referred to as ATFL) is to support ATFL in its activities related to the conduct of a conference on the reconstruction of Lebanon, as more fully described in Attachment 2, "Program Description" consisting of ATFL's original Summary and Draft Preliminary Proposal, as further revised in ATFL's letter and enclosures dated July 9, 1993, both of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

B. Period of Grant

1. The effective date of this Grant is the date of the Grant Officer's signature, except that Pre-grant expenses incurred from July 1, 1993 and falling within the total grant amount are allowable up to an amount not to exceed \$2,000. The estimated completion date of this Grant is November 30, 1993.

C. Amount of Grant and Payment

1. A.I.D. hereby obligates the amount of \$100,000 for the purposes of this Grant.
2. Payment shall be made to the Grantee in accordance with procedures set forth in Attachment 3, Optional Standard Provision No. 4, entitled "PAYMENT - COST REIMBURSEMENT".

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**D. Financial Plan**

The following is the grant budget, including local cost financing items, if authorized. Revisions to this budget shall be made in accordance with the Standard Provision of this Grant, entitled "Revision of Grant Budget".

<u>Cost Element</u>	<u>AID Funds</u>	<u>Other Non-Fed Funds*</u>
1. Travel and Per Diem	\$ 53,873	\$ 3,701
2. Conference Food and Beverage	\$ 13,133	\$ 40,713
3. Hotel Communication Services	\$ 5,200	\$ 30
4. Staffing	\$ 7,900	\$ 27,800
5. Printing	\$ 12,360	\$ 0
6. Other Direct Costs	\$ 7,534	\$ 11,040
TOTAL AGREEMENT AMOUNT	\$ 100,000	

\*Estimated amounts

**E. Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation**

1. Monitoring: Grantee will monitor the performance under this grant to ensure that time schedules are being met, projected work units by time periods are being accomplished, and other performance goals are being achieved. Events may occur that have significant impact upon Grantee's program. In such instances, the Grantee shall inform AID as soon as possible.

2. Evaluation: Together with the Final Report described below, the Grantee is to provide NE/ME Project Officer, Bert Porter, or his designee, with a report prepared by an independent consultant that objectively evaluates the conference and determines its impact.

3. Final Report: Required at expiration of the grant, incorporates all grant activities, internal evaluations, and final detailed financial statements.

4. Financial Reports: Grantee shall report in accordance with the reporting requirements provided in Attachment 3, Optional Standard Provision No. 4. PAYMENT - COST REIMBURSEMENT.

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F. Special Provisions

Optional Standard Provisions No. 3, 4, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24 are not applicable and are hereby deleted from this grant.

G. Title to Property

Title to property under this grant shall be vested in the Grantee in accordance with Attachment 3, Optional Standard Provision No. 21. TITLE TO AND USE OF PROPERTY (GRANTEE TITLE).

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## American Task Force for Lebanon

2213 M Street, N.W., 3rd Floor • Washington, D.C. 20037 • 202-223-9333 • Fax: 202-223-1399

Hon. Thomas A. Nassif, *Chairman*

George T. Cody, Ph.D., *Executive Director*

July 9, 1993

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Mr. Timothy T. Beans  
Branch Chief  
OP/B/HNE Branch  
Office of Procurement  
Agency for International Development  
320 Twenty-First Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20523

Dear Mr. Beans:

We are pleased that AID is contemplating awarding \$100,000 to help fund our Conference on Lebanon's Reconstruction. Our office has already been visited by AID's designated auditor and we are awaiting the report.

The following is a response to your fourteen requests for information.

1. The Conference on Lebanon's Reconstruction will be held from October 5-8, 1993. An additional few weeks will be required to compile synopses of the presentations and a database.
2. The Conference will examine reasons the Lebanese expatriate community is reluctant to reinvest in their homeland. This reluctance has ramifications because donor countries hesitate to give large-scale assistance to Lebanon if the Lebanese private sector lacks confidence.

The Conference will publicize the business opportunities for U.S. companies in Lebanon. Lebanon has been receiving sizable loans for specific infrastructure projects and American companies should be made aware of them in order to compete for the contracts.

The Conference will assemble top American and Lebanese policymakers affecting Lebanon's reconstruction. There are many dimensions to the retardation of Lebanon's rebuilding program. Not only can an exchange occur between Lebanese and American officials, but these officials will be available to answer questions from prospective Lebanese expatriate investors, representatives of U.S. companies, and the general public.

ATFL would produce a set of guidelines and policy recommendations that would be used as a basis to:

- a. repatriate Lebanese capital
- b. enable U.S. business to compete for contract work in Lebanon
- c. prescribe concrete measures that the U.S. and Lebanon can adopt to encourage private investment, rehabilitate Lebanon's private sector, and promote international lending in Lebanon

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Panelists will be asked to submit beforehand written suggestions for guidelines and policy recommendations. These will be synthesized and debated by a plenary session of panelists at the conclusion of the Conference. The resultant document will then be distributed to U.S. government agencies, the Lebanese government, chambers of commerce in the countries of the Lebanese diaspora, and U.S. companies.

We will publish a synopsis of the papers presented at the Conference and disseminate it to those cited in the previous paragraph, as well as academic institutions.

3. Please refer to the revised, detailed budget referred to as #3.
4. Please refer to the articles of incorporation referred to as #4.
5. Not applicable. We have never before received a U.S. government grant.
6. Our organization does not yet have a negotiated indirect cost rate with the U.S. government. Please refer to the document prepared by our accountant and referred to as #6.
7. Please refer to the staff manual referred to as #7.
8. Please refer to the attached organizational and cash flow charts, referred to as #8.
9. We are submitting our financial statements for 1990 and 1991, referred to as #9. Our financial statement for 1992 should be completed on July 16, 1993 and as soon as it has been approved by our Board of Directors, we will forward it to you.
10. We have completed and signed these forms.
11. Please refer to the accounting manual, referred to as #11.
12. We have included biographical data sheets on our Executive Director, Director of Research, and Office Manager. These are referred to as #12.
13. Please refer to the last page of the accounting manual, referred to as #11.
14. Not applicable. Our organization does not dispense grants.

Please let me know if you have any questions or want more information.

Sincerely,



George T. Cody, Ph.D.  
Executive Director

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# American Task Force for Lebanon

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 Mr. Woodrow W. Woody  
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\* *Executive Committee*

## Summary

The American Task Force for Lebanon (ATFL) -- incorporated in 1989 -- is a nonprofit organization providing a national framework for Lebanese Americans to articulate their commitment of friendship and cooperation between Lebanon and the United States. The ATFL seeks a constructive role to reestablish a united, secure, and independent Lebanon.

The ATFL strives to elevate the awareness of the American public and United States government toward Lebanon. The ATFL -- nonsectarian and nonpartisan -- embraces prominent Lebanese-American leaders in business, government, law, medicine, academia, entertainment and the arts.

Reconstruction in Lebanon is hampered by serious economic and political obstacles, resulting particularly in the unwillingness of the Lebanese expatriates to reinvest the \$10-20 billion in assets currently being held abroad. To address the issue of repatriation of capital and other impediments, the ATFL proposes holding a Conference on Lebanon's Reconstruction.

The conference objective and methodology -- to assemble United States policymakers and agency representatives, Lebanese decision-makers, the expatriate Lebanese business community, multinational corporations, representatives of traditional donor countries, and international financial institutions -- will investigate reasons the expatriate community is hesitant to reinvest and suggest solutions to these obstacles. In addition, the Conference will publicize business opportunities for U.S. companies in Lebanon and allow U.S. and Lebanese officials to express their concerns face-to-face, rather than through diplomatic channels.

The ATFL has prior experience organizing a major international conference. Under its auspices in 1991, the ATFL assembled high-level dignitaries from the United States, Lebanon, and Europe.

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## Draft

### Preliminary Proposal

#### Description

The American Task Force for Lebanon is planning a two-day Conference on Lebanon's Reconstruction. We are envisioning 7 panels, lasting between an hour and a half to two hours each, and 22 speakers. Of these speakers we will be inviting from Lebanon and the Lebanese diaspora, approximately 12 from a pool of ministers, deputy ministers, Council for Development and Reconstruction officials, presidents of banks, university professors, officials from the Beirut Chamber of Commerce & Industry and the General Federation of Labor, and the expatriate business community. We will invite 5 from a pool of officials from the State and Commerce Departments and the Agency for International Development, members of Congress, and U.S. academia. We will also invite 5 officials from a pool of the Bechtel Group, Arab Fund, World Bank, Islamic Development Bank, Saudi Fund, United Nations Development Programme, Kuwait Fund, and European Economic Community.

Although the program for the Conference is still in its discussion stage, some of the panel topics being considered are: Financing Reconstruction & Technical Assistance: role of the private sector, policies promoting private investment and privatization, bilateral and multilateral assistance; Political Dimension; Economic Reconstruction; Fiscal & Monetary Policy; Economic Sectors: role of sector, costs of rehabilitation, timetable; Social Infrastructure; and Rebuilding Beirut Central District and Other Areas

In addition to the 22 speakers, we are anticipating 165 paid registrants, 43 complimentary guests, and 35 members of the media. We will make a special effort to attract the Lebanese expatriate community and U.S. companies interested in doing business in Lebanon. Our organization has a database of 33,000 names of Arab-Americans, Lebanese and Arab expatriates, and others interested in the Middle East. We also have lists of 1000 U.S. corporations doing business in the Arab World and Lebanon.

#### Needs Assessment

The estimates on the costs to reconstruct Lebanon vary but all are considerable. Boutros Labaki of the Council for Development and Reconstruction, the Lebanese government agency overseeing the reconstruction, estimates the damage to Lebanon's productive infrastructure to be between \$6-12 billion (this does not include damage to private residences). Dr. Nasser Saidi of the The Private Bank & Trust Co. (London) sees Lebanon needing \$37.8-43.2 billion for reconstruction and redevelopment over the next ten years. Although, some assistance from international donors and lending institutions will be forthcoming, the major impetus for rebuilding will have to come from the Lebanese expatriate community, whose numbers total around 568,000 according to a study sponsored by St. Joseph University of Beirut and Laval University of Quebec.

The International Monetary Fund puts Lebanese deposits in foreign banks at \$10 billion and this does not include holdings outside of the banking system. The Final Report of the United Nations Inter-Agency Needs Assessment Mission to Lebanon (July 15-24, 1991) says that estimates of private Lebanese holdings outside of Lebanon may total as much as \$35-40 billion. There is no evidence of significant repatriation of Lebanese capital according to AID's October 1992 Lebanon Program Guidelines. The various international forums under the auspices of the World Bank and the United Nations have convened donor

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countries, lending institutions, and private voluntary organizations but none of these conferences has sought to attract the Lebanese expatriate community.

### **Objectives**

The American Task Force for Lebanon proposes a Conference on Lebanon's Reconstruction to complement previous studies and conferences on the reconstruction of Lebanon's infrastructure and the changing role of private voluntary organizations. Our Conference has three purposes.

First, the Conference will examine reasons the Lebanese expatriate community is reluctant to reinvest in their homeland. This reluctance has ramifications because donor countries hesitate to give large-scale assistance to Lebanon if the Lebanese private sector lacks confidence.

Second, the Conference would publicize the business opportunities for U.S. companies in Lebanon. Lebanon has been receiving sizable World Bank-coordinated loans for specific infrastructure projects and American companies should be made aware of them in order to compete for the contracts.

Third, the Conference would assemble top American and Lebanese policymakers affecting Lebanon's reconstruction. There are many dimensions to the retardation of Lebanon's rebuilding program: political, social, physical, and financial. Among these problems are regional tensions, the slow development of national reconciliation, brain drain, destruction of infrastructure, U.S. restrictions on travel to and from Lebanon, the outmoding of Lebanon's traditional economy, and the lack of insurance. Not only can an exchange occur between Lebanese and American officials, but these officials will be available to answer questions from prospective Lebanese expatriate investors, representatives of U.S. companies, and the general public.

### **Benefit to the Agency for International Development**

AID has conceded that it will play only a small part in the redevelopment of Lebanon compared to the vast sums that Lebanon needs; rather, AID believes that it could play a catalytic role. AID holds that the goals of U.S. foreign assistance to Lebanon are strengthening the central government through activities which support the private sector and promote democratic governance, and the reinforcement of U.S.-Lebanese friendship.

We believe that the Conference on Lebanon's Reconstruction could abet AID in playing a catalytic role in supporting the private sector, particularly in pinpointing the inhibitions of the Lebanese expatriate community to reinvest. With the new trend of U.S. government agencies aggressively marketing the products and services of American companies, the Conference could be invaluable in introducing representatives of these companies to decision-makers from Lebanon. U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon, Ryan Crocker, in an unclassified January 3, 1993 telegram wrote, "There is abundant opportunity for profit by American firms in these related areas, if U.S. companies are prepared to deal creatively with the ban on American citizens' travel to Lebanon and the absence of OPIC coverage."

### **Outcomes**

ATFL would produce a set of guidelines and policy recommendations that would be used as a basis to:

- a. repatriate Lebanese capital

- b. enable U.S. business to compete for contract work in Lebanon
- c. prescribe concrete measures that the U.S. and Lebanon can adopt to encourage private investment, rehabilitate Lebanon's private sector, and promote international lending in Lebanon

Panellists will be asked to submit beforehand written suggestions for guidelines and policy recommendations. These will be synthesized and debated by a plenary session of panellists at the conclusion of the Conference. The resultant document will then be distributed to U.S. government agencies, the Lebanese government, chambers of commerce in the countries of the Lebanese diaspora, and U.S. companies.

We will publish a synopsis of the papers presented at the Conference and disseminate it to those cited in the previous paragraph, as well as academic institutions.

### **Capacity**

On June 26-30, 1991, the ATFL hosted a major Conference on Lebanon to educate the American people about the process of national reconciliation and reconstruction in Lebanon. It consisted of seven panels, 30 speakers, a press conference, luncheons, receptions, an awards banquet, and it produced a book for the Conference on the background of the civil war and a prognosis for recovery. Among the dignitaries in attendance were Hon. Robert Kimmitt, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs; Hon. John H. Kelly, Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs; Salim Al-Hoss, Former Prime Minister of Lebanon; nine Lebanese ministers, former ministers and deputies; academics from Lebanon, France, Great Britain and the United States; 73 delegates and 122 observers; and the media.

### **Evaluation**

The ATFL wants to obtain an objective evaluation of the Conference on Lebanon's Reconstruction. An evaluation plan will determine the degree objectives are met and methodology is followed. In addition to funding the Conference to the maximum extent possible, ATFL would welcome an AID component or employ a consultant to measure results.

PROJECT AUTHORIZATION

NAME OF COUNTRY: Lebanon

PROJECT TITLE: Relief and  
Redevelopment

PROJECT NO.: 268-0360

1. Pursuant to Section 531 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, I hereby authorize the Relief and Redevelopment Project, to be carried out in Lebanon involving planned obligations of not to exceed \$19,500,000 in grant funds over an approximate three and one-half year period from the date of this authorization until September 30, 1996.

2. The project consists of relief and redevelopment assistance to needy Lebanese provided through U.S. private voluntary organizations and educational institutions. Redevelopment assistance will focus primarily on activities related to resettlement of displaced Lebanese citizens and to assist them to re-establish productive activities.

3. The Project Agreements, which may be negotiated and executed by the officers to whom such authority is delegated in accordance with A.I.D. regulations and Delegations of Authority, shall be subject to the following essential terms and covenants as A.I.D. may deem appropriate.

a. Source and Origin of Commodities, Nationality of Services:

Commodities financed by A.I.D. under this project shall have their source and origin in the United States or in Lebanon, except as A.I.D. may otherwise agree in writing. Except for ocean shipping, the suppliers of commodities or services shall have Lebanon or the United States as their place of nationality. Ocean shipping financed by A.I.D. under the project shall, except as A.I.D. may otherwise agree in writing, be financed only on flag vessels of the United States.



Dennis Chandler  
Acting Assistant Administrator  
Bureau for Near East

4/28/93  
Date

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# American Task Force for Lebanon

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## Summary

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The ATFL strives to elevate the awareness of the American public and United States government toward Lebanon. The ATFL -- nonsectarian and nonpartisan -- embraces prominent Lebanese-American leaders in business, government, law, medicine, academia, entertainment and the arts.

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The conference objective and methodology -- to assemble United States policymakers and agency representatives, Lebanese decision-makers, the expatriate Lebanese business community, multinational corporations, representatives of traditional donor countries, and international financial institutions -- will investigate reasons the expatriate community is hesitant to reinvest and suggest solutions to these obstacles. In addition, the Conference will publicize business opportunities for U.S. companies in Lebanon and allow U.S. and Lebanese officials to express their concerns face-to-face, rather than through diplomatic channels.

The ATFL has prior experience organizing a major international conference. Under its auspices in 1991, the ATFL assembled high-level dignitaries from the United States, Lebanon, and Europe.

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American Task Force for Lebanon  
Conference on Lebanon's Reconstruction

A.I.D. Funded Budget

Speaker Fees (Honorarium, travel and per diem)	\$ 50,000
Printing and Mailing (Promotional material, programs, proceedings, and reports)	15,000
Temporary Office Space and Equipment Rental (Telephone, fax, reproduction machine, supplies, etc.)	5,000
Conference Support Staff	20,000
Evaluation sub-contract	5,000
Miscellaneous (Security, Audio Equipment, etc.)	5,000
	<hr/>
	\$100,000

American Task Force for Lebanon  
List of Pledges

Al Tawfeek Co.	\$25,000
American Development Services Corporation	500
Anthony Asher	5,000
Ashland Oil, Inc.	6,000
Creative Services Inc.	2,500
Gulf Interstate Engineering	5,000
Haggar Apparel Co.	1,000
Jacobs Family Foundation	10,000
Woody Pontiac Sales	1,000
	<hr/>
Total	\$56,000

Statement of Work

**Purpose**

The American Task Force for Lebanon (ATFL) will organize and host a major Conference on Lebanon's Reconstruction in Washington, D.C. in the fall of 1993. The Task Force will assemble top American and Lebanese policymakers affecting Lebanon's reconstruction. These leaders can provide stimulating background discussion on political and economic issues impacting on Lebanon and can be available to answer specific questions from prospective investors, U.S. companies, and the general public.

The conference agenda will:

-- examine the Lebanese Government policy on such major concerns as exchange rate stability, monetary policy, financial reforms.

-- examine reasons the Lebanese expatriate community, private business, and international donors are reluctant to reinvest in Lebanon in order to provide specific recommendations for the Government of Lebanon on measures needed to attract participation in Lebanon's reconstruction. The discussion will go beyond the physical rebuilding of the country and will look at ways the Government of Lebanon can promote productive investment.

-- publicize the business opportunities for U.S. companies in Lebanon which currently exist with funds provided by the World Bank and other donors and to share information on how to deal creatively with the ban on American citizens' travel to Lebanon.

**Outcomes**

ATFL will produce a set of guidelines and policy recommendations to be used as a basis to:

- a. repatriate Lebanese and international capital
- b. enable U.S. business to compete for contract work in Lebanon.
- c. prescribe concrete measures that the U.S. and Lebanon can adopt to encourage private investment, rehabilitation of Lebanon's private sector, and promote international lending in Lebanon.

Panelist will be asked to submit beforehand written suggestions for guidelines and policy recommendations. These will be synthesized and debated by a plenary session of panelists at the conclusion of the Conference. The resultant documents will then be distributed to U.S. Government agencies, the Lebanese Government, Chambers of Commerce in the countries of the Lebanese diaspora, and U.S. companies.

The ATFL will publish a synopsis of the papers presented at the Conference and disseminate it to those cited in the previous paragraph, as well as academic institutions and the public.

#### **Implementation Schedule**

The Conference will be held in the Fall of 1993 and all A.I.D. funded activities associated with the conference will be completed no later than December 31, 1993.

#### **Coordination**

The ATFL will coordinate the details of the Conference and the agenda of the Conference with The Government of Lebanon, the Embassy of Lebanon in Washington, the Department of State (Lebanon Desk), and the Agency for International Development (Lebanon Desk).

#### **Evaluation and Final Report**

The ATFL will employ a qualified consultant to obtain an objective evaluation of the Conference on Lebanon's Reconstruction and determine its impact. The consultant will submit a written evaluation report which will be included with a final report to be submitted to the A.I.D. project officer by December 31, 1993. The final report will contain copies of all Conference papers, a listing of attendees with their addresses, and a complete budget.

#### **Funding**

The ATFL has budgeted conference costs at approximately \$200,000. A.I.D. will provide up to \$100,000, conditioned on the ATFL raising another \$50,000 in advance from other donors, and the remaining funds from income generated from conference package sales (hotel rooms, meals and registration fees) and sale of resulting publications. The budget for A.I.D.-funded activities is attached. The ATFL may transfer funds among budget line items, up to fifteen (15) percent of lines items within the total amount without prior A.I.D. approval.

#### **Standard Regulations**

All standard A.I.D. and U.S. government regulations will apply including competitive procurement, source and origin, per diem rates, and fly america regulations.

Agency for International Development  
Washington, D.C. 20523

April 30, 1993

MEMORANDUM

TO: FA/OP/B/HNE, Tim Beans  
FROM: NE/ME, Marx Sterne *Marx Sterne*  
SUBJECT: Negotiation of a Non-Competitive Grant

The negotiation of a non-competitive grant with The American Task Force for Lebanon (ATFL) for a Conference on Lebanon's Reconstruction is justified under A.I.D. Handbook 13, Chapter 2, paragraph 3.

This grant meets three separate criteria when competition is not required: A) for an unsolicited proposal which is unique, innovative, or proprietary; B) when the grant award is to a recipient which is considered to have exclusive or predominant capability, based on experience, specialized facilities or technical competence, or based on an existing relationship with the cooperating country; and E) Such other circumstances as are determined to be critical to the objectives of the foreign assistance program by the cognizant AA.

1. The proposal was not solicited by A.I.D. and is a unique and innovative offering which furthers U.S. interests in supporting Lebanon after 16 years of civil warfare. Acceptance would represent appropriate use of A.I.D. funds.

2. ATFL has a predominant capability to bring unique abilities to the conference organization. The ATFL represents the broadest range of support of the various Lebanese -American public interest groups, is fully recognized and supported by U.S. and Lebanese political and business leaders, and thus has the ability to draw the most broad-based support, attendance, and resulting action. The ATFL proved their expertise and technical competence by organizing, raising funds for, and sponsoring a widely acclaimed conference on Lebanon which was held in Washington, D.C. in June 1991.

3. The ATFL conference has been endorsed by the U.S. Embassy in Lebanon and funding for the conference has been approved by the Acting Assistant Administrator for the Near East Bureau.