

4 December 1998

Dear Colleague,

Acting Resident Coordinator Arrangements

We have recently received a number of queries on the selection of Acting Resident Coordinators.

The ACC Statement on the Role and Functioning of the Resident Coordinator (ACC/1991/1) paragraph 18g states: *“to ensure continuity in the functioning of the system, the resident coordinator should designate, following consultations with the partners in the system, a senior representative of the United Nations system to act as resident coordinator in his/her absence from the country.”*

The acting Resident Coordinator should be a representative who is already accredited to the host Government. Whenever an acting Resident Coordinator is designated, DGO, the UNDP Regional Bureau concerned, all United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, as well as the United Nations Security Coordinator (Mr. Benon Sevan), and the United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator (Mr. Sergio Vieira de Mello) should be advised of the name and agency of the acting Resident Coordinator.

Although such circumstances will be rare, if the absence of the Resident Coordinator is expected to be an extended one, the outgoing Resident Coordinator should consult with the Administrator before designating an acting Resident Coordinator. Unusual cases may arise, particularly in emergency situations, where it may be necessary to appoint, after consultations at the level of Headquarters, an acting Resident Coordinator who is not currently a member of United Nations country team.

TO ALL UNITED NATIONS RESIDENT COORDINATORS

With respect to Support to the Resident Coordinator (SRC) funds under line 3.1, expenditures should be made with the explicit authorization of the acting UNDP Resident Representative or Officer-in-Charge, due to the need to ensure accountability for the use of such funds. The UNDP country office will continue to provide Resident Coordinator support services to the acting Resident Coordinator.

We hope that these clarifications are useful.

With best regards.

Yours sincerely,

James Gustave Speth

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