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MEDIA ADVISORY

San Francisco Business and Civic Leaders Join National Network to Urge Strong U.S. Leadership in Alleviating Global Poverty

Leaders of the Initiative for Global Development to Address Group at First Meeting

SAN FRANCISCO – San Francisco business and civic leaders will meet **Thursday, July 14th** to discuss the formation of a new and unique national organization working to address global poverty. This discussion will be led by Initiative for Global Development (IGD) co-founder Bill Gates Sr., REI, Inc. CEO Sally Jewel and Washington Council on International Trade President Bill Center. The meeting will take place at the same location where the United Nations charter was signed exactly sixty years ago.

The Initiative for Global Development, founded in Seattle by former EPA Administrator Bill Ruckelshaus, former U.S. Senator Dan Evans, Bill Gates Sr., Global Partnerships CEO Bill Clapp, and former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff John Shalikashvili, is establishing a national network of prominent business and civic leaders in San Francisco and 10 other cities to make the elimination of extreme global poverty a national priority. This is a critical year for the issue of global poverty, which will be discussed by world leaders at the G-8 summit, the UN assembly in September and the World Trade Organization ministerial in December. IGD hopes to tap into the Bay area's long history of international leadership to push for increased funding of foreign assistance, the Millennium Challenge Account and the AIDS Initiative.

WHAT: Initiative for Global Development Breakfast

WHO: IGD Co-Founder Bill Gates Sr., REI CEO Sally Jewel and Washington Council on International Trade President Bill Center
Prominent San Francisco Business and Civic Leaders

WHEN: **Thursday, July 14th, 7:30 a.m. PST**

WHERE: The Fairmont Hotel
Crown Room
950 Mason Street
San Francisco, CA 94108

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