



## ARIZONA WILDLIFE FEDERATION

644 N. Country Club Drive, Suite E  
Mesa, Arizona 85201

July 2, 2004

Dear Representative Kolbe:

On behalf of thousands of concerned conservationists and wildlife enthusiasts in Arizona, we want to express our appreciation for your continued support and leadership regarding funding for international family planning, including the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). We know that human population growth is one of the most pressing environmental problems facing the planet. Without the support of leaders in Congress like you, families and wildlife worldwide would face even more daily challenges.

We recognize and appreciate your longstanding leadership for international family planning programs. As the Appropriations Committee prepares to discuss funding allocations for FY 2005, we hope you will continue to support funding for UNFPA.

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, Representatives Lowey and Kirk plan to offer an amendment to the FY 05 Foreign Operations Appropriations bill that would restore U.S. funding to UNFPA in the event that the Administration continues to try to withhold the U.S. contribution. This bipartisan amendment would direct U.S. funding to geopolitically important countries in the Middle East and Africa with significant family planning and reproductive health care needs. Specifying recipient countries provides additional assurances regarding the beneficial use of the funds.

Voluntary international family planning programs, like those sponsored by the UNFPA, are critical to slowing human population growth which in turn helps slow the pace of habitat destruction in the developing world. Again, we appreciate your ongoing support for and commitment to international family planning programs and ask for your support of the bipartisan Kirk-Lowey amendment. Your efforts make a world of difference to women, children, and our environment.

Sincerely,