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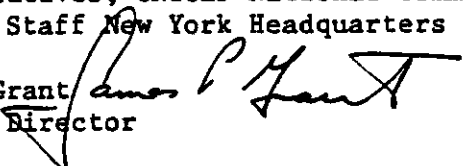
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CF/EXD/1990-013
17 September 1990

TO: Regional Directors
Representatives
Assistant Representatives
Directors, Geneva, Copenhagen, Tokyo, Florence
Chief Executives, UNICEF National Committees
Executive Staff New York Headquarters

FROM: James P. Grant 
Executive Director

SUBJECT: Summit Declaration and Plan of Action

I am delighted to advise that the personal representatives of Heads of State/Government meeting in the Planning Committee for the World Summit for Children on 14 September approved by consensus the draft Declaration and Plan of Action. The documents as approved by the Planning Committee will now be presented to the Heads of State/Government for adoption.

Some relatively minor amendments were made on the 31 July draft of these documents (also published as UNICEF Executive Board document E/ICEF/1990/L.20, 7 August 1990). The final draft, as approved on 14 September 1990, will now remain as such until the day of the Summit. The Summit is expected to formally approve the Declaration by acclamation, following which it will be read to the world by six children. Each Head of State/Government present at the Summit will then affix his/her signature to the Declaration. Countries represented by Ministers will be able to initial the Declaration indicating that their Heads of State/Government will sign it later in their respective capitals.

The final draft of the Declaration and Plan of Action being dispatched to you now should be treated as non-quotable and embargoed until 20.00 hours GMT on Sunday, 30 September. You may, of course, use them very discreetly for appropriate advocacy purposes. We hope that reference to and quotations from the Declaration and Plan of Action would be included in statements by Heads of State/Government at the Summit.

We can all be very proud of and happy with these documents which are the fruits of much hard work and creative ideas contributed by many UNICEF staff members. I believe, as I said to the Planning Committee that the documents mark an historic and momentous step forward for children. While many enormous challenges remain in these last few days before the Summit, we can all feel gratified that the expected approval of the draft Declaration and Plan of Action already portend a major success of the Summit.

Thank you.