

ANITA BOTTI



Anita Botti is Chief of Staff and Principal Deputy in the Secretary's Office of Global Women's Issues. Ms. Botti previously served as a Legislative Liaison Officer in the Department's Bureau of Legislative Affairs and as the first Congressional Coordinator for the Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs and for the Under Secretary for Economic and Business and Agricultural Affairs. In 1997, Ms. Botti was seconded to the President's Interagency Council on Women and served as Chair of the U.S. Interagency Task Force on Trafficking in Human Beings. As Chair, Ms. Botti developed and promoted the Department's three-pronged anti-trafficking strategy: (1) prevention through the development of economic alternatives for women, (2) protection of, and assistance to, trafficked victims, and (3) prosecution of the traffickers. Ms. Botti worked closely with Congress to gain bipartisan support for, and ultimate passage of, a new law entitled the "Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000." Ms. Botti also represented the United States in domestic and international fora dealing with trafficking and other major international issues affecting women.

Ms. Botti began her career at the Department of State in 1985, serving in the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration. As Director of the U.S. Refugee Reception and Placement Program from 1992 to 1997, she had direct oversight of the cultural orientation, admission, and resettlement of over 100,000 U.S.-bound refugees annually. Ms. Botti has worked in Southeast Asia with the United Nations High Commissioner's staff to develop protection guidelines and programs for unaccompanied refugee minors living in refugee camps.

Before joining the Department of State, Ms. Botti served with the Peace Corps both overseas and in the U.S., starting her career as a Peace Corps Volunteer in the British West Indies from 1968-70. From 1972-76, she worked as Desk Officer for the Caribbean, and Deputy Director for the Latin American Region. In recognition of her performance, she was selected, and served, as the Director of Management at Peace Corps Headquarters in Washington from 1976-78.

Ms. Botti has served on the board of Private Agencies Cooperating Together (PACT), a U.S. non-governmental organization working in development worldwide. She has numerous awards for her outstanding service, including the Director General's Cup.

She holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in demography.

1. What is one thing you hope people will learn from your presentation?
That Gender Based Violence is an issue that all of civil society must address.
2. What is one thing you would like to happen as a result of this conference?
I hope that the conference will raise awareness of the complexity of the situation and the many players involved.