

U.N. Population Fund did not ship defective condoms

In his May 8 Op-Ed piece, "Leaky population control," Steven W. Mosher wrongly states that condoms the U.N. Population Fund shipped to Tanzania were "leaky" and "failed permeability tests." No such test was performed.

The visual tests the Tanzanian Bureau of Standards did perform were not in accordance with World Health Organization (WHO) specifications.

An independent lab in the United States, chosen by WHO, is now retesting the condoms. The shipment in question is worth about \$214,000, not \$870,000, as Mr. Mosher claims.

The Population Fund procures condoms on behalf of HIV/AIDS prevention and family planning programs in developing countries. Suppliers must meet rigorous standards,

and every batch is tested according to WHO specifications. If any supplies are found to be defective, the manufacturer is required by contract to replace the entire shipment.

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