Eliminate Funding for the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

Heritage Recommendation:

Rationale:
UNFPA has faced continued assertions that it has been complicit in enforcement of China’s coercive one-child policy. The policy is often enforced by Chinese family planning officials through fines, forced abortions, and involuntary sterilization.

For years, the U.S. withheld funding to UNFPA under the Kemp–Kasten amendment that prohibits U.S. international aid from supporting coercive abortion procedures or involuntary sterilization. In 2009, however, Congress exempted UNFPA funding from the Kemp–Kasten language and has since sent tens of millions of taxpayer dollars to UNFPA, with the most recent allocation providing $35 million per year to the organization. Concerns about UNFPA donations were multiplied by a report released in 2011, which identified the organization among four of the United Nations' largest aid agencies found to have stockpiled a total of $12.2 billion in unused donations in 2009. Congress should permanently eliminate all federal funding to UNFPA.

Additional Reading:

Calculations:
Savings are expressed as budget authority and were calculated by using the FY 2014 estimated spending levels as found on page 177 of U.S. Department of State, “Fiscal Year 2015, Congressional Budget Justification: Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs,” http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/222898.pdf. This estimated spending has been increased at the same rate as discretionary spending in the CBO’s most recent August 2014 baseline spending projections.