



FISCAL YEAR 2010 APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST

STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS PROGRAMS

Nonproliferation and Disarmament Fund

I urge the Subcommittee to support a strong United States contribution to the Nonproliferation and Disarmament Fund. This fund provides for the United States contribution to the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Preparatory Commission. The funds contributed to the Preparatory Commission will support the Commission's mandate to develop and install an International Monitoring System (IMS) to detect nuclear explosions. The IMS provides the verification infrastructure necessary to implement the Treaty.

International Narcotics Control

The Fiscal Year 2002 Foreign Operations Conference Report contained language requiring the State Department to report to Congress regarding the Cuban government's efforts on behalf of drug interdiction and their willingness to cooperate with the United States counter-narcotic activities. In July 2002, the State Department reported that "should Cuba make increased seizures and arrests, it could help impede the drug traffic through the Jamaica-Cuba-Bahamas corridor." I request that the Subcommittee provide \$5 million to enable the United States to begin cooperation with Cuba on counter-narcotics efforts. Because of its close proximity to United States shores, Cuba represents one of the biggest threats to our drug interdiction efforts, yet it is largely ignored in our counter-narcotics efforts. The United States regularly cooperates with foreign government agencies throughout the world to gather information regarding narcotics production and trafficking networks. With this funding, the United States will be able to begin preliminary work to establish counter-narcotics cooperation with relevant Cuban agencies.

Internet Freedom

I urge the Subcommittee to provide \$50 million from existing Democracy Fund budget authority for efforts to facilitate and promote widespread, secure internet use by individuals residing in countries practicing repressive internet monitoring, censorship and control. This is a low-cost method of allowing people, especially those living under repressive regimes, to access all-source, uncensored, unfiltered information. This capability enables freedom of thought, expression and the unimpeded flow of ideas and information.

Millennium Challenge Corporation

I urge the subcommittee to support a contribution to the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC). The MCC will select countries that demonstrate a commitment to ruling justly, investing in their people and encouraging economic freedom to work in partnership with the United States to strengthen economic growth and reduce poverty. It is imperative the Congress fund this key initiative which is key to the United States' strategy towards global development.

International War Crimes Tribunals

The importance of the United States' contribution to peacekeeping activities like the International War Crimes Tribunals cannot be stressed enough. These operations directly serve the national interests of the United States

by helping to bring international criminals to justice and reducing the likelihood of unsanctioned interventions. I urge the Subcommittee to continue to support International War Crimes Tribunals in fiscal year 2010.

Global Health - Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

I urge the Subcommittee to support \$2.7 billion for the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria for fiscal year 2010. By December 2008, 3.5 million people who otherwise would have died of AIDS, TB or malaria over the past five years were alive as a result of the interventions delivered by programs supported by the Global Fund. Further, I urge the Subcommittee to provide continued funding for Maternal and Child Health Programs and for Combating Infectious Disease.

The Near East

Military and economic assistance to our peace-supporting allies in the Mideast remains an indispensable means of supporting the peace process. The provision of United States assistance to Israel and Egypt constitutes the cornerstone of our Mideast policy for the encouragement of a comprehensive regional peace, and I urge the Subcommittee to support not less than \$2.775 billion in Foreign Military Financing (FMF) assistance to **Israel**. It is crucial that the bill explicitly reaffirm the United States' commitment to Israel's security, including noting the importance of the 10 year U.S./Israel Security Agreement to strengthen Israel's defense.

The United States provides **Egypt** approximately \$2 billion in foreign aid each year. This serious commitment was made after Egypt signed the Egyptian-Israeli Peace Treaty of March 1979. I support continuation of this aid only if Egypt makes a fully committed effort to advance United States objectives in the Mideast.

On September 22, 2008, the governments of the United States and **Jordan** reached an agreement whereby the United States will provide a total of \$660 million in annual foreign assistance to Jordan over a 5-year period. I urge the Subcommittee to adhere to the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding by providing \$360 million in Economic Support Fund (ESF) assistance and \$300 million in FMF assistance contingent on the willingness of the Jordanians to support American interests in the region.

Any aid for the Palestinian Authority should only be permitted upon certification that the ruling government denounces violence, combats terrorism, respects Israel's right to exist and that no portion is controlled by a terrorist organization. Any aid given must be subject to stringent auditing requirements and financial transparency.

There are also many other important Middle East provisions that have long been in the bill which I hope will be maintained. These include, but are not restricted to, the multitude of policy provisions, restrictions and auditing requirements linked to bilateral assistance to the Palestinians that have helped ensure that no portion of the aid is diverted or misused and that the Palestinian Authority commit to negotiations with Israel and to fighting terror. I also hope that the Subcommittee will work to ensure steps are taken to promote the detection and destruction of smuggling networks and tunnels that lead from Egypt to Gaza.

United Nations Development Program/United Nations Population Fund

It is important for the United States to continue its support for those United Nations programs that continue to provide valuable assistance overseas in keeping with our national interests. In particular, I urge the Subcommittee to support funding for the **United Nations Development Program** which is charged with carrying out global development and enhancing local capacity including democratic governance, poverty reduction and combating HIV/AIDS. In addition, I urge the Subcommittee to provide funding for the **United Nations Population Fund** (UNFPA). I further urge the Subcommittee to encourage the Administration to spend the existing funds that were appropriated for UNFPA in previous fiscal years. I believe that the current lobbying, advocacy and funding restrictions should be eliminated in order to allow foreign non-governmental organizations to use their own funds to provide legal abortion services, including counseling and referrals.

Family planning programs supported by the United States save lives around the world. The current restrictions are unnecessary, and prevent many organizations from providing vital health and education services to women in need.

Export-Import Bank

The Export-Import Bank provides a vital service by assisting American exporters in maximizing their export sales, thus stimulating economic growth and job creation in the United States. Funding for the Export-Import Bank helps to meet the demands of developing businesses in Russia, Asia and other emerging markets. In fiscal year 2008, the Bank authorized a total of \$14 billion in loans, guarantees, and export credit insurance to support an estimated \$20 billion in exports. This represented an increase from fiscal year 2007, during which the Bank authorized \$13 billion in loans and guarantees to support an estimated \$16 billion in United States exports. By number of transactions, about 86 percent of the Bank's authorizations were directed toward support for small business exporters in both fiscal year 2007 and fiscal year 2008. Accordingly, I urge the Subcommittee to continue supporting the Bank. Funding will allow the Bank to match foreign, officially sponsored export credit competition, assume commercial and political risks that United States exporters or private sector institutions are unwilling or unable to undertake, and overcome limitations in private sector export financing.

African Development Foundation

Continued United States support for the countries of Africa is crucial to their ongoing development, and also serves our own national interests. It is important to maintain the overall level of United States aid to Africa in order to, among other efforts, strengthen democratic institutions, encourage trade and investment in the region, combat terrorism and fund health care programs to lower infant mortality rates and the reduce the spread of HIV. I strongly encourage the Subcommittee to provide a level of funding for the region commensurate with other regions of the world.

The African Development Foundation's (ADF) approach of fostering self-help and self-reliance has proven successful at delivering high impact, low-cost assistance. A United States contribution will enable ADF to finance projects aimed at alleviating poverty and promoting broad-based sustainable development and empowerment of the poor in Africa.

Overseas Private Investment Corporation

The Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) offers investment services to assist U.S. companies investing in 154 emerging economies around the world. Over the agency's 38-year history, OPIC projects have generated \$72 billion in U.S. exports and supported more than 273,000 American jobs. I urge the Subcommittee to continue funding for OPIC, which will enable OPIC to continue to emphasize activities and products that increase participation in its programs by American small businesses.

Migration and Refugee Assistance

Strong advocacy for refugee assistance programs reflects our fundamental commitment to helping those who have been forced to flee their native countries. Fiscal year 2010 funding for the Migration and Refugee Assistance program will sustain assistance for populations of concern, as well as support programs safeguarding the health of refugees. I believe that we should robustly fund the Migration and Refugee Assistance program due to the strains that have recently been placed on the program. I urge the Subcommittee to provide \$40 million for individuals seeking resettlement in Israel.

I urge the Subcommittee to provide \$45 million to replenish the U.S. Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance fund. Additionally, I strongly urge the Subcommittee to provide language to continue to permit Iranian citizens who have been persecuted on account of race, religion, political opinion or membership in a particular social group, access to refugee assistance.

The Independent States of the Former Soviet Union

I urge the Subcommittee to provide adequate funding to support countries at the forefront of democratic reform, such as Ukraine, Georgia, Moldova and the Kyrgyz Republic. Funding will support programs that promote democratic and economic reform, fight transnational threats, improve health care and education and provide humanitarian assistance. Additionally, I urge the subcommittee to include language conditioning aid to Russia with its termination of assistance to Iran and its nuclear and missile programs.

Education and Cultural Exchange Programs

I urge the Subcommittee to support robust funding for educational and cultural exchange programs. Programs such as the International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) provide invaluable opportunities to build goodwill with future leaders of other countries. Accordingly, I encourage the subcommittee to increase funding to the IVEP to restore the number of foreign leaders participating in the program to 5,000.