

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225-5074

MINORITY (202) 225-5051

<https://oversight.house.gov>

March 14, 2025

Ms. Michelle Nunn
President and Chief Executive Officer
CARE
151 Ellis Street NE
Atlanta, GA 30303

Dear Ms. Nunn:

We write to expand our investigation of the Trump Administration's illegal effort to eliminate the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), freeze the distribution of federal foreign assistance, and disrupt USAID programs in approximately 130 countries.¹ To better understand the threats exacerbated by this effort, we are seeking additional information on how the dismantling of USAID will jeopardize global health and destabilize developing nations, as well as place our national security at risk. This information is especially important as the United States faces several public health and national security challenges that USAID is uniquely positioned to combat. As a non-profit organization that has carried out extensive work in support of USAID's mission, CARE's perspective is important in assessing the scope and scale of the damage caused by the Trump Administration's actions.

On January 24, 2025, Secretary of State Marco Rubio ordered a 90-day freeze on all new obligations of federal foreign assistance.² In his dual role as the acting administrator of USAID, Secretary Rubio declared that the goal of the federal funding freeze is to "identify programs that work and continue them and to identify programs that are not aligned with our national interest and identify those and address them."² However, evidence suggests that the objectives Secretary Rubio has articulated are not aligned with the reality of how humanitarian programming is currently being deployed.³ In fact, USAID staff report a complete "lack of clarity" around waivers to allow some critical medical assistance to continue, including treating people enrolled in active clinical trials.⁴ Few oversight controls to safeguard USAID's programming remain

¹ Letter from Ranking Member Gerald E. Connolly, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, to the Honorable Marco Rubio, Acting Administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development (Feb. 7, 2025) (online at <https://oversightdemocrats.house.gov/news/press-releases/ranking-members-connolly-and-subramanyam-launch-probe-doge-efforts-purge-usaid>); Congressional Research Service, *U.S. Agency for International Development: An Overview* (Jan. 6, 2025) (online at <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/IF/IF10261>).

² *The US State Department says humanitarian assistance can continue. Foreign aid workers say that's not happening*, CNN (Feb. 8, 2025) (online at www.cnn.com/2025/02/08/world/usaaid-humanitarian-assistance-aid-freeze-intl-latam/index.html).

³ *Id.*

⁴ U.S. Agency for International Development, Office of the Inspector General, *Oversight of USAID-Funded Humanitarian Assistance Programming Impacted by Staffing Reductions and Pause on Foreign Assistance* (Feb. 10,

following President Trump's February 11, 2025 decision to terminate USAID's Inspector General (IG) after the IG released a report documenting the wasteful effects of the Trump Administration's actions.⁵

Federal courts have barred the Trump Administration from unlawfully impounding foreign aid funds that the Department of State and USAID owe to grant recipients and contractors for work that has already been completed.⁶ Many contractors and non-profit organizations (NGOs) are reeling from the Administration's ban on foreign aid and are scrambling to keep lifesaving operations going.⁷ Contractors and NGOs awaiting payment and facing funding cuts have been forced to furlough or lay off thousands of employees, creating an unemployment ripple effect beyond the more than 10,000 people unlawfully terminated from USAID.⁸

On March 10, 2025, Secretary Rubio announced the permanent cancellation of 5,200 contracts, approximately 83% of U.S. foreign aid programs.⁹ If contracts are not restored promptly, approximately 1 million children will go without food and nutrition, 17.9 million people will not receive necessary malaria medications, and approximately 166,000 people may die, among many other devastating outcomes.¹⁰

Global health is one of the largest USAID investments and the agency funded at least \$7 billion in programming for treating HIV and preventing emerging pandemics as part of a broader swath of healthcare investments.¹¹ The Administration's decision to suspend all USAID programs and purge its entire 10,000-person workforce means that funds appropriated by Congress for humanitarian assistance will not be disbursed for their intended purpose of saving lives or preventing the spread of disease.¹² On February 4, 2025, Secretary Rubio referred the

2025) (online at <https://oig.usaid.gov/node/7439>); *Trump fires USAID inspector general one day after blistering report*, Washington Post (Feb. 11, 2025) (online at www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2025/02/11/trump-fires-usaid-inspector-general/); *Health Programs Shutter Around the World After Trump Pauses Foreign Aid*, New York Times (Feb. 1, 2025) (online at www.nytimes.com/2025/02/01/health/trump-aid-malaria-tuberculosis-hiv.html)

⁵ *Trump fires USAID inspector general one day after blistering report*, Washington Post (Feb. 11, 2025) (online at www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2025/02/11/trump-fires-usaid-inspector-general/).

⁶ *Judge Orders U.S.A.I.D and State Dept. to pay Funds 'Unlawfully' Withheld*, New York Times (Mar. 10, 2025) (online at www.nytimes.com/2025/03/10/us/politics/usaid-foreign-aid-freeze-release-deadline.html).

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ *Trump's foreign aid demolition hits major Christian charities*, Washington Post (Mar. 6, 2025) (online at <https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2025/03/06/usaid-state-christian-charities/>).

⁹ *Rubio announces that 83% of USAID contracts will be canceled*, NPR (Mar. 10, 2025) (online at www.npr.org/sections/goats-and-soda/2025/03/10/g-s1-52964/rubio-announces-that-83-of-usaid-contracts-will-be-canceled).

¹⁰ *Id.*

¹¹ Congressional Research Service, *U.S. Agency for International Development: An Overview* (Jan. 6, 2025) (online at <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/IF/IF10261>).

¹² U.S. Agency for International Development, Office of the Inspector General, *Oversight of USAID-Funded*

press to a waiver that allegedly allows humanitarian aid to continue during the foreign aid freeze, emphasizing that “if it’s providing food or medicine or anything that is saving lives and is immediate and urgent, you’re not included in the freeze.”¹³ However, reporting indicates that the widespread staffing reductions at USAID have made the waiver process “effectively moot” and lifesaving treatment is no longer accessible in many cases, contrary to the Secretary’s guarantees.¹⁴ The Secretary claims to have issued more than 180 waivers permitting certain programs to resume, yet NGOs and contractors in the field report confusion and uncertainty around the waiver process and are unable to resume work under the current funding freeze, despite the issuance of a waiver.¹⁵

The Trump Administration’s aid freeze has significantly paralyzed efforts to combat preventable diseases. As a result, not only are people dying from completely preventable illnesses, but countries are likely to see a resurgence of HIV and other diseases that can lead to economic destabilization.¹⁶ Antibiotics and antimalarial drugs are decaying in foreign warehouses due to the Administration’s foreign aid freeze.¹⁷ These circumstances taken collectively are concerning as the United States and at least 49 other countries battle avian flu outbreaks, which the Trump Administration has no meaningful effort to combat.¹⁸

In many instances, China is already stepping in where the Trump Administration has retreated. For example, reports from Nepal indicate that China has proposed an aid program of its own to replace the lapse in USAID assistance and is similarly attempting to replace \$385 million in program funding Colombia was receiving from USAID.¹⁹ China’s attempts to replace

Humanitarian Assistance Programming Impacted by Staffing Reductions and Pause on Foreign Assistance (Feb. 10, 2025) (online at <https://oig.usaid.gov/node/7439>)

¹³ *How Democrats Can Bolster Public Support for USAID*, Good Authority (Feb. 12, 2025) (online at <https://goodauthority.org/news/how-democrats-can-bolster-public-support-for-usaid-foreign-aid/>); *Rubio Asks if Aid Groups ‘Deliberately Sabotaging’ Projects After US Funding Freeze*, Barrons (Feb. 4, 2025) (online at www.barrons.com/news/rubio-asks-if-aid-groups-deliberately-sabotaging-projects-after-us-funding-freeze-61d54667).

¹⁴ *Dismantling of USAID Leaves No Staff to Process Aid Waivers, Sources Say*, Reuters (Feb. 7, 2025) (online at www.reuters.com/world/us/dismantling-usaid-leaves-no-staff-process-aid-waivers-sources-say-2025-02-07/); *U.S. Aid Freeze ‘Decimates’ Life-Saving Work Globally, Survey Finds*, Reuters (Feb. 19, 2025) (online at www.reuters.com/world/us/us-aid-freeze-decimates-life-saving-work-globally-survey-finds-2025-02-19/).

¹⁵ *Emergency Food, TB Tests and H.I.V Drugs: Vital Health Aid Remains Frozen Despite Court Ruling*, New York Times (Feb. 20, 2025) (online at www.nytimes.com/2025/02/20/health/usaid-freeze-hiv-tb-nutrition.html).

¹⁶ *Health Programs Shutter Around the World After Trump Pauses Foreign Aid*, New York Times (Feb. 1, 2025) (online at www.nytimes.com/2025/02/01/health/trump-aid-malaria-tuberculosis-hiv.html).

¹⁷ *Crucial aid sits in warehouses worldwide as USAID employees are told to stop working*, NBC (Feb. 4, 2025) (online at www.nbcnews.com/news/politics-news/trump-usaid-upheaval-paralyzing-global-delivery-food-medicine-rcna190565).

¹⁸ Letter from Ranking Member Gerald E. Connolly, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, to the Honorable Marco Rubio, Acting Administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development (Feb. 7, 2025) (online at <https://oversightdemocrats.house.gov/news/press-releases/ranking-members-connolly-and-subramanyam-launch-probe-doge-efforts-purge-usaid>).

¹⁹ *As USAID retreats, China pounces*, Politico (Feb. 10, 2025) (online at

USAID with its own assistance programs pose a tremendous global security risk as it seeks to expand its diplomatic and economic influence and undermine U.S. interests around the world.²⁰

To assist in our investigation, we respectfully request that you provide answers to the following inquiries.

1. On January 24, 2025, the Trump Administration froze foreign aid and since then, hundreds of USAID humanitarian programs have ceased operations all over the world.
 - a. To the best of your knowledge, what is the effect of the foreign aid freeze on programs that provided “food or medicine or anything that is saving lives and is immediate and urgent?”²¹
 - b. To the best of your knowledge, what does the Trump Administration’s foreign aid freeze mean for people who relied on USAID programs all over the world?
2. To the best of your knowledge, how will the Trump Administration’s decision to eliminate USAID and freeze funding for foreign assistance programs affect economic growth and economic security in developing countries?
3. To the best of your knowledge, is the Department of State’s waiver program successful at allowing medical care and other life-saving humanitarian assistance to resume?
 - a. Do you have any additional information that you would like to share about the waiver process, including but not limited to knowledge of whether waivers have been approved, delayed or denied by the Department of State?
4. On March 10, 2025, the Trump Administration cancelled 83% of U.S. foreign aid funding. Please describe how the cancellation of contracts and grants affects programs operated by CARE. Please share any relevant information including, but not limited to:
 - a. The number of CARE contracts or grants awarded by USAID that have been terminated as of March 14, 2025.

www.politico.com/newsletters/national-security-daily/2025/02/10/as-usaid-retreats-china-pounces-00195922).

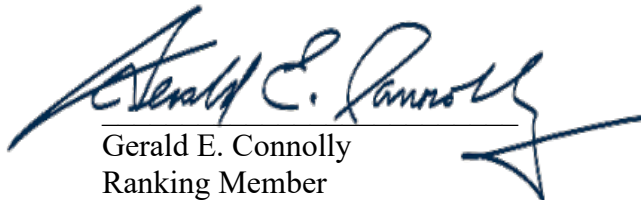
²⁰ Brookings, *Commentary: The implications of a USAID Shutdown* (Feb. 4, 2025) (online at <https://www.brookings.edu/articles/what-comes-after-a-usaid-shutdown/>).

²¹ *The US State Department Says Humanitarian Assistance Can Continue. Foreign Aid Workers Say That’s Not Happening*, CNN (Feb. 8, 2025) (online at www.cnn.com/2025/02/08/world/usaid-humanitarian-assistance-aid-freeze-intl-latam/index.html).

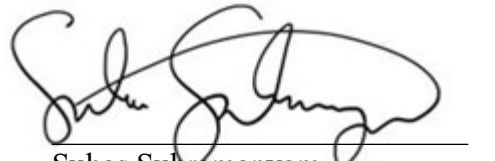
- b. The number of employees and the percentage of its total workforce CARE has laid off or furloughed as a result of the Trump Administration's foreign aid funding freeze and termination of USAID contracts and grants.
- c. A description of programs and projects CARE is no longer able to administer because of USAID funding cuts and the attendant implications for people served by these programs.
- d. Whether CARE is awaiting payment on any work it conducted on behalf of USAID prior to the Trump Administration's foreign aid funding freeze or contract terminations.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight committee of the House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate "any matter" at "any time" under House Rule X. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Committee Democratic staff at (202) 225-5051.

Sincerely,



Gerald E. Connolly
Ranking Member



Suhas Subramanyam
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Military and
Foreign Affairs

cc: The Honorable James Comer, Chairman
The Honorable William Timmons, Chairman
Subcommittee on the Military and Foreign Affairs

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March 14, 2025

Mr. Sean Callahan
President and Chief Executive Officer
Catholic Relief Services
228 W. Lexington Street
Baltimore, MD 21201

Dear Mr. Callahan:

We write to expand our investigation of the Trump Administration's illegal effort to eliminate the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), freeze the distribution of federal foreign assistance, and disrupt USAID programs in approximately 130 countries.¹ To better understand the threats exacerbated by this effort, we are seeking additional information on how the dismantling of USAID will jeopardize global health and destabilize developing nations, as well as place our national security at risk. This information is especially important as the United States faces several public health and national security challenges that USAID is uniquely positioned to combat. As a non-profit organization that has carried out extensive work in support of USAID's mission, Catholic Relief Services' perspective is important in assessing the scope and scale of the damage caused by the Trump Administration's actions.

On January 24, 2025, Secretary of State Marco Rubio ordered a 90-day freeze on all new obligations of federal foreign assistance.² In his dual role as the acting administrator of USAID, Secretary Rubio declared that the goal of the federal funding freeze is to "identify programs that work and continue them and to identify programs that are not aligned with our national interest and identify those and address them."² However, evidence suggests that the objectives Secretary Rubio has articulated are not aligned with the reality of how humanitarian programming is currently being deployed.³ In fact, USAID staff report a complete "lack of clarity" around waivers to allow some critical medical assistance to continue, including treating people enrolled in active clinical trials.⁴ Few oversight controls to safeguard USAID's programming remain

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² *The US State Department says humanitarian assistance can continue. Foreign aid workers say that's not happening*, CNN (Feb. 8, 2025) (online at www.cnn.com/2025/02/08/world/usa-id-humanitarian-assistance-aid-freeze-intl-latam/index.html).

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following President Trump's February 11, 2025 decision to terminate USAID's Inspector General (IG) after the IG released a report documenting the wasteful effects of the Trump Administration's actions.⁵

Federal courts have barred the Trump Administration from unlawfully impounding foreign aid funds that the Department of State and USAID owe to grant recipients and contractors for work that has already been completed.⁶ Many contractors and non-profit organizations (NGOs) are reeling from the Administration's ban on foreign aid and are scrambling to keep lifesaving operations going.⁷ Contractors and NGOs awaiting payment and facing funding cuts have been forced to furlough or lay off thousands of employees, creating an unemployment ripple effect beyond the more than 10,000 people unlawfully terminated from USAID.⁸

On March 10, 2025, Secretary Rubio announced the permanent cancellation of 5,200 contracts, approximately 83% of U.S. foreign aid programs.⁹ If contracts are not restored promptly, approximately 1 million children will go without food and nutrition, 17.9 million people will not receive necessary malaria medications, and approximately 166,000 people may die, among many other devastating outcomes.¹⁰

Global health is one of the largest USAID investments and the agency funded at least \$7 billion in programming for treating HIV and preventing emerging pandemics as part of a broader swath of healthcare investments.¹¹ The Administration's decision to suspend all USAID programs and purge its entire 10,000-person workforce means that funds appropriated by Congress for humanitarian assistance will not be disbursed for their intended purpose of saving

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⁹ *Rubio announces that 83% of USAID contracts will be canceled*, NPR (Mar. 10, 2025) (online at www.npr.org/sections/goats-and-soda/2025/03/10/g-s1-52964/rubio-announces-that-83-of-usaid-contracts-will-be-canceled).

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lives or preventing the spread of disease.¹² On February 4, 2025, Secretary Rubio referred the press to a waiver that allegedly allows humanitarian aid to continue during the foreign aid freeze, emphasizing that “if it’s providing food or medicine or anything that is saving lives and is immediate and urgent, you’re not included in the freeze.”¹³ However, reporting indicates that the widespread staffing reductions at USAID have made the waiver process “effectively moot” and lifesaving treatment is no longer accessible in many cases, contrary to the Secretary’s guarantees.¹⁴ The Secretary claims to have issued more than 180 waivers permitting certain programs to resume, yet NGOs and contractors in the field report confusion and uncertainty around the waiver process and are unable to resume work under the current funding freeze, despite the issuance of a waiver.¹⁵

The Trump Administration’s aid freeze has significantly paralyzed efforts to combat preventable diseases. As a result, not only are people dying from completely preventable illnesses, but countries are likely to see a resurgence of HIV and other diseases that can lead to economic destabilization.¹⁶ Antibiotics and antimalarial drugs are decaying in foreign warehouses due to the Administration’s foreign aid freeze.¹⁷ These circumstances taken collectively are concerning as the United States and at least 49 other countries battle avian flu outbreaks, which the Trump Administration has no meaningful effort to combat.¹⁸

In many instances, China is already stepping in where the Trump Administration has retreated. For example, reports from Nepal indicate that China has proposed an aid program of its own to replace the lapse in USAID assistance and is similarly attempting to replace \$385

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¹⁴ *Dismantling of USAID Leaves No Staff to Process Aid Waivers, Sources Say*, Reuters (Feb. 7, 2025) (online at www.reuters.com/world/us/dismantling-usaid-leaves-no-staff-process-aid-waivers-sources-say-2025-02-07/); *U.S. Aid Freeze ‘Decimates’ Life-Saving Work Globally, Survey Finds*, Reuters (Feb. 19, 2025) (online at www.reuters.com/world/us/us-aid-freeze-decimates-life-saving-work-globally-survey-finds-2025-02-19/).

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million in program funding Colombia was receiving from USAID.¹⁹ China's attempts to replace USAID with its own assistance programs pose a tremendous global security risk as it seeks to expand its diplomatic and economic influence and undermine U.S. interests around the world.²⁰

To assist in our investigation, we respectfully request that you provide answers to the following inquiries.

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 - a. To the best of your knowledge, what is the effect of the foreign aid freeze on programs that provided "food or medicine or anything that is saving lives and is immediate and urgent?"²¹
 - b. To the best of your knowledge, what does the Trump Administration's foreign aid freeze mean for people who relied on USAID programs all over the world?
2. To the best of your knowledge, how will the Trump Administration's decision to eliminate USAID and freeze funding for foreign assistance programs affect economic growth and economic security in developing countries?
3. To the best of your knowledge, is the Department of State's waiver program successful at allowing medical care and other life-saving humanitarian assistance to resume?
 - a. Do you have any additional information that you would like to share about the waiver process, including but not limited to knowledge of whether waivers have been approved, delayed or denied by the Department of State?
4. On March 10, 2025, the Trump Administration cancelled 83% of U.S. foreign aid funding. Please describe how the cancellation of contracts and grants affects programs operated by Catholic Relief Services. Please share any relevant information including, but not limited to:

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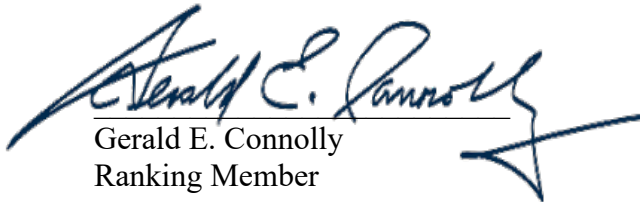
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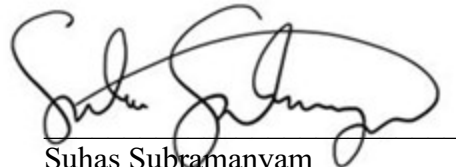
- a. The number of Catholic Relief Services contracts or grants awarded by USAID that have been terminated as of March 14, 2025.
- b. The number of employees and the percentage of its total workforce Catholic Relief Services has laid off or furloughed as a result of the Trump Administration's foreign aid funding freeze and termination of USAID contracts and grants.
- c. A description of programs and projects Catholic Relief Services is no longer able to administer because of USAID funding cuts and the attendant implications for people served by these programs.
- d. Whether Catholic Relief Services is awaiting payment on any work it conducted on behalf of USAID prior to the Trump Administration's foreign aid funding freeze or contract terminations.

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Ranking Member



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Subcommittee on the Military and
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March 14, 2025

Mr. Jamey Butcher
President and Chief Executive Officer
Chemonics International
1275 New Jersey Avenue, SE Suite 200
Washington, DC 20003

Dear Mr. Butcher:

We write to expand our investigation of the Trump Administration's illegal effort to eliminate the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), freeze the distribution of federal foreign assistance, and disrupt USAID programs in approximately 130 countries.¹ To better understand the threats exacerbated by this effort, we are seeking additional information on how the dismantling of USAID will jeopardize global health and destabilize developing nations, as well as place our national security at risk. This information is especially important as the United States faces several public health and national security challenges that USAID is uniquely positioned to combat. As a federal contractor that has carried out extensive work in support of USAID's mission, Chemonics International's perspective is important in assessing the scope and scale of the damage caused by the Trump Administration's actions.

On January 24, 2025, Secretary of State Marco Rubio ordered a 90-day freeze on all new obligations of federal foreign assistance.² In his dual role as the acting administrator of USAID, Secretary Rubio declared that the goal of the federal funding freeze is to "identify programs that work and continue them and to identify programs that are not aligned with our national interest and identify those and address them."² However, evidence suggests that the objectives Secretary Rubio has articulated are not aligned with the reality of how humanitarian programming is currently being deployed.³ In fact, USAID staff report a complete "lack of clarity" around waivers to allow some critical medical assistance to continue, including treating people enrolled in active clinical trials.⁴ Few oversight controls to safeguard USAID's programming remain

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⁴ U.S. Agency for International Development, Office of the Inspector General, *Oversight of USAID-Funded Humanitarian Assistance Programming Impacted by Staffing Reductions and Pause on Foreign Assistance* (Feb. 10,

following President Trump's February 11, 2025 decision to terminate USAID's Inspector General (IG) after the IG released a report documenting the wasteful effects of the Trump Administration's actions.⁵

Federal courts have barred the Trump Administration from unlawfully impounding foreign aid funds that the Department of State and USAID owe to grant recipients and contractors for work that has already been completed.⁶ Many contractors and non-profit organizations (NGOs) are reeling from the Administration's ban on foreign aid and are scrambling to keep lifesaving operations going.⁷ Contractors and NGOs awaiting payment and facing funding cuts have been forced to furlough or lay off thousands of employees, creating an unemployment ripple effect beyond the more than 10,000 people unlawfully terminated from USAID.⁸

On March 10, 2025, Secretary Rubio announced the permanent cancellation of 5,200 contracts, approximately 83% of U.S. foreign aid programs.⁹ If contracts are not restored promptly, approximately 1 million children will go without food and nutrition, 17.9 million people will not receive necessary malaria medications, and approximately 166,000 people may die, among many other devastating outcomes.¹⁰

Global health is one of the largest USAID investments and the agency funded at least \$7 billion in programming for treating HIV and preventing emerging pandemics as part of a broader swath of healthcare investments.¹¹ The Administration's decision to suspend all USAID programs and purge its entire 10,000-person workforce means that funds appropriated by Congress for humanitarian assistance will not be disbursed for their intended purpose of saving lives or preventing the spread of disease.¹² On February 4, 2025, Secretary Rubio referred the

2025) (online at <https://oig.usaid.gov/node/7439>); *Trump fires USAID inspector general one day after blistering report*, Washington Post (Feb. 11, 2025) (online at www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2025/02/11/trump-fires-usaid-inspector-general/); *Health Programs Shutter Around the World After Trump Pauses Foreign Aid*, New York Times (Feb. 1, 2025) (online at www.nytimes.com/2025/02/01/health/trump-aid-malaria-tuberculosis-hiv.html)

⁵ *Trump fires USAID inspector general one day after blistering report*, Washington Post (Feb. 11, 2025) (online at www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2025/02/11/trump-fires-usaid-inspector-general/).

⁶ *Judge Orders U.S.A.I.D and State Dept. to pay Funds 'Unlawfully' Withheld*, New York Times (Mar. 10, 2025) (online at www.nytimes.com/2025/03/10/us/politics/usaid-foreign-aid-freeze-release-deadline.html).

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ *Trump's foreign aid demolition hits major Christian charities*, Washington Post (Mar. 6, 2025) (online at <https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2025/03/06/usaid-state-christian-charities/>).

⁹ *Rubio announces that 83% of USAID contracts will be canceled*, NPR (Mar. 10, 2025) (online at www.npr.org/sections/goats-and-soda/2025/03/10/g-s1-52964/rubio-announces-that-83-of-usaid-contracts-will-be-canceled).

¹⁰ *Id.*

¹¹ Congressional Research Service, *U.S. Agency for International Development: An Overview* (Jan. 6, 2025) (online at <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/IF/IF10261>).

¹² U.S. Agency for International Development, Office of the Inspector General, *Oversight of USAID-Funded*

press to a waiver that allegedly allows humanitarian aid to continue during the foreign aid freeze, emphasizing that “if it’s providing food or medicine or anything that is saving lives and is immediate and urgent, you’re not included in the freeze.”¹³ However, reporting indicates that the widespread staffing reductions at USAID have made the waiver process “effectively moot” and lifesaving treatment is no longer accessible in many cases, contrary to the Secretary’s guarantees.¹⁴ The Secretary claims to have issued more than 180 waivers permitting certain programs to resume, yet NGOs and contractors in the field report confusion and uncertainty around the waiver process and are unable to resume work under the current funding freeze, despite the issuance of a waiver.¹⁵

The Trump Administration’s aid freeze has significantly paralyzed efforts to combat preventable diseases. As a result, not only are people dying from completely preventable illnesses, but countries are likely to see a resurgence of HIV and other diseases that can lead to economic destabilization.¹⁶ Antibiotics and antimalarial drugs are decaying in foreign warehouses due to the Administration’s foreign aid freeze.¹⁷ These circumstances taken collectively are concerning as the United States and at least 49 other countries battle avian flu outbreaks, which the Trump Administration has no meaningful effort to combat.¹⁸

In many instances, China is already stepping in where the Trump Administration has retreated. For example, reports from Nepal indicate that China has proposed an aid program of its own to replace the lapse in USAID assistance and is similarly attempting to replace \$385 million in program funding Colombia was receiving from USAID.¹⁹ China’s attempts to replace

Humanitarian Assistance Programming Impacted by Staffing Reductions and Pause on Foreign Assistance (Feb. 10, 2025) (online at <https://oig.usaid.gov/node/7439>)

¹³ *How Democrats Can Bolster Public Support for USAID*, Good Authority (Feb. 12, 2025) (online at <https://goodauthority.org/news/how-democrats-can-bolster-public-support-for-usaid-foreign-aid/>); *Rubio Asks if Aid Groups ‘Deliberately Sabotaging’ Projects After US Funding Freeze*, Barrons (Feb. 4, 2025) (online at www.barrons.com/news/rubio-asks-if-aid-groups-deliberately-sabotaging-projects-after-us-funding-freeze-61d54667).

¹⁴ *Dismantling of USAID Leaves No Staff to Process Aid Waivers, Sources Say*, Reuters (Feb. 7, 2025) (online at www.reuters.com/world/us/dismantling-usaid-leaves-no-staff-process-aid-waivers-sources-say-2025-02-07/); *U.S. Aid Freeze ‘Decimates’ Life-Saving Work Globally, Survey Finds*, Reuters (Feb. 19, 2025) (online at www.reuters.com/world/us/us-aid-freeze-decimates-life-saving-work-globally-survey-finds-2025-02-19/).

¹⁵ *Emergency Food, TB Tests and H.I.V Drugs: Vital Health Aid Remains Frozen Despite Court Ruling*, New York Times (Feb. 20, 2025) (online at www.nytimes.com/2025/02/20/health/usaid-freeze-hiv-tb-nutrition.html).

¹⁶ *Health Programs Shutter Around the World After Trump Pauses Foreign Aid*, New York Times (Feb. 1, 2025) (online at www.nytimes.com/2025/02/01/health/trump-aid-malaria-tuberculosis-hiv.html).

¹⁷ *Crucial aid sits in warehouses worldwide as USAID employees are told to stop working*, NBC (Feb. 4, 2025) (online at www.nbcnews.com/news/politics-news/trump-usaid-upheaval-paralyzing-global-delivery-food-medicine-rcna190565).

¹⁸ Letter from Ranking Member Gerald E. Connolly, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, to the Honorable Marco Rubio, Acting Administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development (Feb. 7, 2025) (online at <https://oversightdemocrats.house.gov/news/press-releases/ranking-members-connolly-and-subramanyam-launch-probe-doge-efforts-purge-usaid>).

¹⁹ *As USAID retreats, China pounces*, Politico (Feb. 10, 2025) (online at

USAID with its own assistance programs pose a tremendous global security risk as it seeks to expand its diplomatic and economic influence and undermine U.S. interests around the world.²⁰

To assist in our investigation, we respectfully request that you provide answers to the following inquiries.

1. On January 24, 2025, the Trump Administration froze foreign aid and since then, hundreds of USAID humanitarian programs have ceased operations all over the world.
 - a. To the best of your knowledge, what is the effect of the foreign aid freeze on programs that provided “food or medicine or anything that is saving lives and is immediate and urgent?”²¹
 - b. To the best of your knowledge, what does the Trump Administration’s foreign aid freeze mean for people who relied on USAID programs all over the world?
2. To the best of your knowledge, how will the Trump Administration’s decision to eliminate USAID and freeze funding for foreign assistance programs affect economic growth and economic security in developing countries?
3. To the best of your knowledge, is the Department of State’s waiver program successful at allowing medical care and other life-saving humanitarian assistance to resume?
 - a. Do you have any additional information that you would like to share about the waiver process, including but not limited to knowledge of whether waivers have been approved, delayed or denied by the Department of State?
4. On March 10, 2025, the Trump Administration cancelled 83% of U.S. foreign aid funding. Please describe how the cancellation of contracts and grants affects programs operated by Plan International. Please share any relevant information including, but not limited to:
 - a. The number of Chemonics contracts or grants awarded by USAID that have been terminated as of March 14, 2025.

www.politico.com/newsletters/national-security-daily/2025/02/10/as-usaid-retreats-china-pounces-00195922).

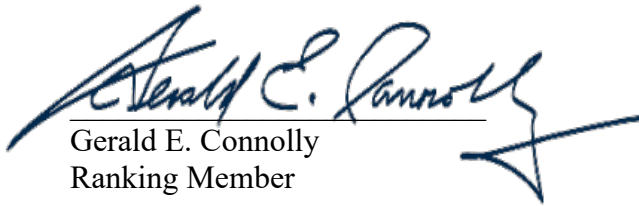
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²¹ *The US State Department Says Humanitarian Assistance Can Continue. Foreign Aid Workers Say That’s Not Happening*, CNN (Feb. 8, 2025) (online at www.cnn.com/2025/02/08/world/usaid-humanitarian-assistance-aid-freeze-intl-latam/index.html).

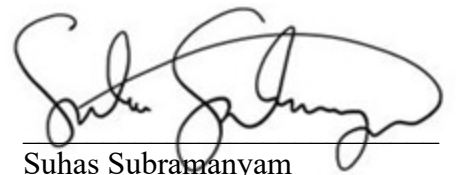
- b. The number of employees and the percentage of its total workforce Chemonics has laid off or furloughed as a result of the Trump Administration's foreign aid funding freeze and termination of USAID contracts and grants.
- c. A description of programs and projects Chemonics is no longer able to administer because of USAID funding cuts and the attendant implications for people served by these programs.
- d. Whether Chemonics is awaiting payment on any work it conducted on behalf of USAID prior to the Trump Administration's foreign aid funding freeze or contract terminations.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight committee of the House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate "any matter" at "any time" under House Rule X. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Committee Democratic staff at (202) 225-5051.

Sincerely,



Gerald E. Connolly
Ranking Member



Suhas Subramanyam
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Military and
Foreign Affairs

cc: The Honorable James Comer, Chairman
The Honorable William Timmons, Chairman
Subcommittee on the Military and Foreign Affairs

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225-5074

MINORITY (202) 225-5051

<https://oversight.house.gov>

March 14, 2025

Ms. Tjada D'Oyen McKenna
Chief Executive Officer
Mercy Corps
45 SW Ankeny Street
Portland, OR 97204

Dear Ms. McKenna:

We write to expand our investigation of the Trump Administration's illegal effort to eliminate the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), freeze the distribution of federal foreign assistance, and disrupt USAID programs in approximately 130 countries.¹ To better understand the threats exacerbated by this effort, we are seeking additional information on how the dismantling of USAID will jeopardize global health and destabilize developing nations, as well as place our national security at risk. This information is especially important as the United States faces several public health and national security challenges that USAID is uniquely positioned to combat. As a non-profit organization that has carried out extensive work in support of USAID's mission, Mercy Corps' perspective is important in assessing the scope and scale of the damage caused by the Trump Administration's actions.

On January 24, 2025, Secretary of State Marco Rubio ordered a 90-day freeze on all new obligations of federal foreign assistance.² In his dual role as the acting administrator of USAID, Secretary Rubio declared that the goal of the federal funding freeze is to "identify programs that work and continue them and to identify programs that are not aligned with our national interest and identify those and address them."² However, evidence suggests that the objectives Secretary Rubio has articulated are not aligned with the reality of how humanitarian programming is currently being deployed.³ In fact, USAID staff report a complete "lack of clarity" around waivers to allow some critical medical assistance to continue, including treating people enrolled in active clinical trials.⁴ Few oversight controls to safeguard USAID's programming remain

¹ Letter from Ranking Member Gerald E. Connolly, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, to the Honorable Marco Rubio, Acting Administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development (Feb. 7, 2025) (online at <https://oversightdemocrats.house.gov/news/press-releases/ranking-members-connolly-and-subramanyam-launch-probe-doge-efforts-purge-usaid>); Congressional Research Service, *U.S. Agency for International Development: An Overview* (Jan. 6, 2025) (online at <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/IF/IF10261>).

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following President Trump's February 11, 2025 decision to terminate USAID's Inspector General (IG) after the IG released a report documenting the wasteful effects of the Trump Administration's actions.⁵

Federal courts have barred the Trump Administration from unlawfully impounding foreign aid funds that the Department of State and USAID owe to grant recipients and contractors for work that has already been completed.⁶ Many contractors and non-profit organizations (NGOs) are reeling from the Administration's ban on foreign aid and are scrambling to keep lifesaving operations going.⁷ Contractors and NGOs awaiting payment and facing funding cuts have been forced to furlough or lay off thousands of employees, creating an unemployment ripple effect beyond the more than 10,000 people unlawfully terminated from USAID.⁸

On March 10, 2025, Secretary Rubio announced the permanent cancellation of 5,200 contracts, approximately 83% of U.S. foreign aid programs.⁹ If contracts are not restored promptly, approximately 1 million children will go without food and nutrition, 17.9 million people will not receive necessary malaria medications, and approximately 166,000 people may die, among many other devastating outcomes.¹⁰

Global health is one of the largest USAID investments and the agency funded at least \$7 billion in programming for treating HIV and preventing emerging pandemics as part of a broader swath of healthcare investments.¹¹ The Administration's decision to suspend all USAID programs and purge its entire 10,000-person workforce means that funds appropriated by Congress for humanitarian assistance will not be disbursed for their intended purpose of saving lives or preventing the spread of disease.¹² On February 4, 2025, Secretary Rubio referred the

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USAID with its own assistance programs pose a tremendous global security risk as it seeks to expand its diplomatic and economic influence and undermine U.S. interests around the world.²⁰

To assist in our investigation, we respectfully request that you provide answers to the following inquiries.

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 - a. To the best of your knowledge, what is the effect of the foreign aid freeze on programs that provided “food or medicine or anything that is saving lives and is immediate and urgent?”²¹
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2. To the best of your knowledge, how will the Trump Administration’s decision to eliminate USAID and freeze funding for foreign assistance programs affect economic growth and economic security in developing countries?
3. To the best of your knowledge, is the Department of State’s waiver program successful at allowing medical care and other life-saving humanitarian assistance to resume?
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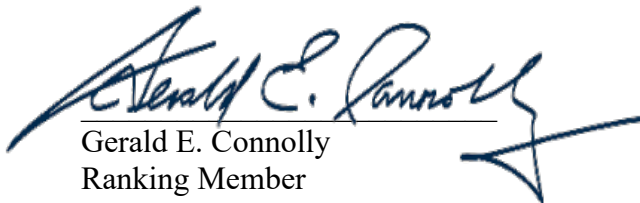
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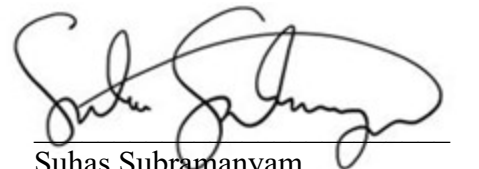
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Sincerely,



Gerald E. Connolly
Ranking Member



Suhas Subramanyam
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Military and
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cc: The Honorable James Comer, Chairman
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COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

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MAJORITY (202) 225-5074

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<https://oversight.house.gov>

March 14, 2025

Ms. Shanna Marzilli
President and Chief Executive Officer
Plan International USA
2300 N Street, NW Suite 350
Washington, DC 20037

Dear Ms. Marzilli:

We write to expand our investigation of the Trump Administration's illegal effort to eliminate the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), freeze the distribution of federal foreign assistance, and disrupt USAID programs in approximately 130 countries.¹ To better understand the threats exacerbated by this effort, we are seeking additional information on how the dismantling of USAID will jeopardize global health and destabilize developing nations, as well as place our national security at risk. This information is especially important as the United States faces several public health and national security challenges that USAID is uniquely positioned to combat. As a non-profit organization that has carried out extensive work in support of USAID's mission, Plan International USA's perspective is important in assessing the scope and scale of the damage caused by the Trump Administration's actions.

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⁷ *Id.*

⁸ *Trump's foreign aid demolition hits major Christian charities*, Washington Post (Mar. 6, 2025) (online at <https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2025/03/06/usaid-state-christian-charities/>).

⁹ *Rubio announces that 83% of USAID contracts will be canceled*, NPR (Mar. 10, 2025) (online at www.npr.org/sections/goats-and-soda/2025/03/10/g-s1-52964/rubio-announces-that-83-of-usaid-contracts-will-be-canceled).

¹⁰ *Id.*

¹¹ Congressional Research Service, *U.S. Agency for International Development: An Overview* (Jan. 6, 2025) (online at <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/IF/IF10261>).

lives or preventing the spread of disease.¹² On February 4, 2025, Secretary Rubio referred the press to a waiver that allegedly allows humanitarian aid to continue during the foreign aid freeze, emphasizing that “if it’s providing food or medicine or anything that is saving lives and is immediate and urgent, you’re not included in the freeze.”¹³ However, reporting indicates that the widespread staffing reductions at USAID have made the waiver process “effectively moot” and lifesaving treatment is no longer accessible in many cases, contrary to the Secretary’s guarantees.¹⁴ The Secretary claims to have issued more than 180 waivers permitting certain programs to resume, yet NGOs and contractors in the field report confusion and uncertainty around the waiver process and are unable to resume work under the current funding freeze, despite the issuance of a waiver.¹⁵

The Trump Administration’s aid freeze has significantly paralyzed efforts to combat preventable diseases. As a result, not only are people dying from completely preventable illnesses, but countries are likely to see a resurgence of HIV and other diseases that can lead to economic destabilization.¹⁶ Antibiotics and antimalarial drugs are decaying in foreign warehouses due to the Administration’s foreign aid freeze.¹⁷ These circumstances taken collectively are concerning as the United States and at least 49 other countries battle avian flu outbreaks, which the Trump Administration has no meaningful effort to combat.¹⁸

In many instances, China is already stepping in where the Trump Administration has retreated. For example, reports from Nepal indicate that China has proposed an aid program of its own to replace the lapse in USAID assistance and is similarly attempting to replace \$385

¹²U.S. Agency for International Development, Office of the Inspector General, *Oversight of USAID-Funded Humanitarian Assistance Programming Impacted by Staffing Reductions and Pause on Foreign Assistance* (Feb. 10, 2025) (online at <https://oig.usaid.gov/node/7439>)

¹³ *How Democrats Can Bolster Public Support for USAID*, Good Authority (Feb. 12, 2025) (online at <https://goodauthority.org/news/how-democrats-can-bolster-public-support-for-usaid-foreign-aid/>); *Rubio Asks if Aid Groups ‘Deliberately Sabotaging’ Projects After US Funding Freeze*, Barrons (Feb. 4, 2025) (online at www.barrons.com/news/rubio-asks-if-aid-groups-deliberately-sabotaging-projects-after-us-funding-freeze-61d54667).

¹⁴ *Dismantling of USAID Leaves No Staff to Process Aid Waivers, Sources Say*, Reuters (Feb. 7, 2025) (online at www.reuters.com/world/us/dismantling-usaid-leaves-no-staff-process-aid-waivers-sources-say-2025-02-07/); *U.S. Aid Freeze ‘Decimates’ Life-Saving Work Globally, Survey Finds*, Reuters (Feb. 19, 2025) (online at www.reuters.com/world/us/us-aid-freeze-decimates-life-saving-work-globally-survey-finds-2025-02-19/).

¹⁵ *Emergency Food, TB Tests and H.I.V Drugs: Vital Health Aid Remains Frozen Despite Court Ruling*, New York Times (Feb. 20, 2025) (online at www.nytimes.com/2025/02/20/health/usaid-freeze-hiv-tb-nutrition.html).

¹⁶ *Health Programs Shutter Around the World After Trump Pauses Foreign Aid*, New York Times (Feb. 1, 2025) (online at www.nytimes.com/2025/02/01/health/trump-aid-malaria-tuberculosis-hiv.html).

¹⁷ *Crucial aid sits in warehouses worldwide as USAID employees are told to stop working*, NBC (Feb. 4, 2025) (online at www.nbcnews.com/news/politics-news/trump-usaid-upheaval-paralyzing-global-delivery-food-medicine-rcna190565).

¹⁸ Letter from Ranking Member Gerald E. Connolly, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, to the Honorable Marco Rubio, Acting Administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development (Feb. 7, 2025) (online at <https://oversightdemocrats.house.gov/news/press-releases/ranking-members-connolly-and-subramanyam-launch-probe-doge-efforts-purge-usaid>).

million in program funding Colombia was receiving from USAID.¹⁹ China's attempts to replace USAID with its own assistance programs pose a tremendous global security risk as it seeks to expand its diplomatic and economic influence and undermine U.S. interests around the world.²⁰

To assist in our investigation, we respectfully request that you provide answers to the following inquiries.

1. On January 24, 2025, the Trump Administration froze foreign aid and since then, hundreds of USAID humanitarian programs have ceased operations all over the world.
 - a. To the best of your knowledge, what is the effect of the foreign aid freeze on programs that provided "food or medicine or anything that is saving lives and is immediate and urgent?"²¹
 - b. To the best of your knowledge, what does the Trump Administration's foreign aid freeze mean for people who relied on USAID programs all over the world?
2. To the best of your knowledge, how will the Trump Administration's decision to eliminate USAID and freeze funding for foreign assistance programs affect economic growth and economic security in developing countries?
3. To the best of your knowledge, is the Department of State's waiver program successful at allowing medical care and other life-saving humanitarian assistance to resume?
 - a. Do you have any additional information that you would like to share about the waiver process, including but not limited to knowledge of whether waivers have been approved, delayed or denied by the Department of State?
4. On March 10, 2025, the Trump Administration cancelled 83% of U.S. foreign aid funding. Please describe how the cancellation of contracts and grants affects programs operated by Plan International. Please share any relevant information including, but not limited to:

¹⁹ *As USAID retreats, China pounces*, Politico (Feb. 10, 2025) (online at www.politico.com/newsletters/national-security-daily/2025/02/10/as-usaid-retreats-china-pounces-00195922).

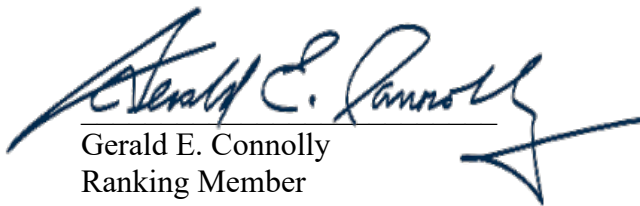
²⁰ Brookings, *Commentary: The implications of a USAID Shutdown* (Feb. 4, 2025) (online at <https://www.brookings.edu/articles/what-comes-after-a-usaid-shutdown/>).

²¹ *The US State Department Says Humanitarian Assistance Can Continue. Foreign Aid Workers Say That's Not Happening*, CNN (Feb. 8, 2025) (online at www.cnn.com/2025/02/08/world/usaid-humanitarian-assistance-aid-freeze-intl-latam/index.html).

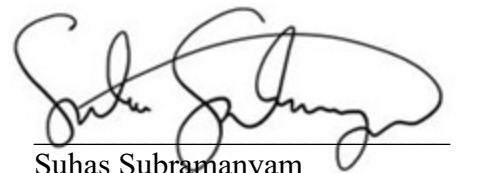
- a. The number of Plan International contracts or grants awarded by USAID that have been terminated as of March 14, 2025.
- b. The number of employees and the percentage of its total workforce Plan International has laid off or furloughed as a result of the Trump Administration's foreign aid funding freeze and termination of USAID contracts and grants.
- c. A description of programs and projects Plan International is no longer able to administer because of USAID funding cuts and the attendant implications for people served by these programs.
- d. Whether Plan International is awaiting payment on any work it conducted on behalf of USAID prior to the Trump Administration's foreign aid funding freeze or contract terminations.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight committee of the House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate "any matter" at "any time" under House Rule X. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Committee Democratic staff at (202) 225-5051.

Sincerely,



Gerald E. Connolly
Ranking Member



Suhas Subramanyam
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Military and
Foreign Affairs

cc: The Honorable James Comer, Chairman
The Honorable William Timmons, Chairman
Subcommittee on the Military and Foreign Affairs

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225-5074

MINORITY (202) 225-5051

<https://oversight.house.gov>

March 14, 2025

Ms. Janti Soeripto
President and Chief Executive Officer
Save the Children
899 North Capitol Street, Suite 900
Washington, DC 20002

Dear Ms. Soeripto:

We write to expand our investigation of the Trump Administration's illegal effort to eliminate the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), freeze the distribution of federal foreign assistance, and disrupt USAID programs in approximately 130 countries.¹ To better understand the threats exacerbated by this effort, we are seeking additional information on how the dismantling of USAID will jeopardize global health and destabilize developing nations, as well as place our national security at risk. This information is especially important as the United States faces several public health and national security challenges that USAID is uniquely positioned to combat. As a non-profit organization that has carried out extensive work in support of USAID's mission, Save the Children's perspective is important in assessing the scope and scale of the damage caused by the Trump Administration's actions.

On January 24, 2025, Secretary of State Marco Rubio ordered a 90-day freeze on all new obligations of federal foreign assistance.² In his dual role as the acting administrator of USAID, Secretary Rubio declared that the goal of the federal funding freeze is to "identify programs that work and continue them and to identify programs that are not aligned with our national interest and identify those and address them."² However, evidence suggests that the objectives Secretary Rubio has articulated are not aligned with the reality of how humanitarian programming is currently being deployed.³ In fact, USAID staff report a complete "lack of clarity" around waivers to allow some critical medical assistance to continue, including treating people enrolled in active clinical trials.⁴ Few oversight controls to safeguard USAID's programming remain

¹ Letter from Ranking Member Gerald E. Connolly, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, to the Honorable Marco Rubio, Acting Administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development (Feb. 7, 2025) (online at <https://oversightdemocrats.house.gov/news/press-releases/ranking-members-connolly-and-subramanyam-launch-probe-doge-efforts-purge-usaid>); Congressional Research Service, *U.S. Agency for International Development: An Overview* (Jan. 6, 2025) (online at <https://crsreports.congress.gov/product/pdf/IF/IF10261>).

² *The US State Department says humanitarian assistance can continue. Foreign aid workers say that's not happening*, CNN (Feb. 8, 2025) (online at www.cnn.com/2025/02/08/world/usa-id-humanitarian-assistance-aid-freeze-intl-latam/index.html).

³ *Id.*

⁴ U.S. Agency for International Development, Office of the Inspector General, *Oversight of USAID-Funded Humanitarian Assistance Programming Impacted by Staffing Reductions and Pause on Foreign Assistance* (Feb. 10,

following President Trump's February 11, 2025 decision to terminate USAID's Inspector General (IG) after the IG released a report documenting the wasteful effects of the Trump Administration's actions.⁵

Federal courts have barred the Trump Administration from unlawfully impounding foreign aid funds that the Department of State and USAID owe to grant recipients and contractors for work that has already been completed.⁶ Many contractors and non-profit organizations (NGOs) are reeling from the Administration's ban on foreign aid and are scrambling to keep lifesaving operations going.⁷ Contractors and NGOs awaiting payment and facing funding cuts have been forced to furlough or lay off thousands of employees, creating an unemployment ripple effect beyond the more than 10,000 people unlawfully terminated from USAID.⁸

On March 10, 2025, Secretary Rubio announced the permanent cancellation of 5,200 contracts, approximately 83% of U.S. foreign aid programs.⁹ If contracts are not restored promptly, approximately 1 million children will go without food and nutrition, 17.9 million people will not receive necessary malaria medications, and approximately 166,000 people may die, among many other devastating outcomes.¹⁰

Global health is one of the largest USAID investments and the agency funded at least \$7 billion in programming for treating HIV and preventing emerging pandemics as part of a broader swath of healthcare investments.¹¹ The Administration's decision to suspend all USAID programs and purge its entire 10,000-person workforce means that funds appropriated by Congress for humanitarian assistance will not be disbursed for their intended purpose of saving lives or preventing the spread of disease.¹² On February 4, 2025, Secretary Rubio referred the

2025) (online at <https://oig.usaid.gov/node/7439>); *Trump fires USAID inspector general one day after blistering report*, Washington Post (Feb. 11, 2025) (online at www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2025/02/11/trump-fires-usaid-inspector-general/); *Health Programs Shutter Around the World After Trump Pauses Foreign Aid*, New York Times (Feb. 1, 2025) (online at www.nytimes.com/2025/02/01/health/trump-aid-malaria-tuberculosis-hiv.html)

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⁶ *Judge Orders U.S.A.I.D and State Dept. to pay Funds 'Unlawfully' Withheld*, New York Times (Mar. 10, 2025) (online at www.nytimes.com/2025/03/10/us/politics/usaid-foreign-aid-freeze-release-deadline.html).

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ *Trump's foreign aid demolition hits major Christian charities*, Washington Post (Mar. 6, 2025) (online at <https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2025/03/06/usaid-state-christian-charities/>).

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¹² U.S. Agency for International Development, Office of the Inspector General, *Oversight of USAID-Funded*

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The Trump Administration’s aid freeze has significantly paralyzed efforts to combat preventable diseases. As a result, not only are people dying from completely preventable illnesses, but countries are likely to see a resurgence of HIV and other diseases that can lead to economic destabilization.¹⁶ Antibiotics and antimalarial drugs are decaying in foreign warehouses due to the Administration’s foreign aid freeze.¹⁷ These circumstances taken collectively are concerning as the United States and at least 49 other countries battle avian flu outbreaks, which the Trump Administration has no meaningful effort to combat.¹⁸

In many instances, China is already stepping in where the Trump Administration has retreated. For example, reports from Nepal indicate that China has proposed an aid program of its own to replace the lapse in USAID assistance and is similarly attempting to replace \$385 million in program funding Colombia was receiving from USAID.¹⁹ China’s attempts to replace

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¹³ *How Democrats Can Bolster Public Support for USAID*, Good Authority (Feb. 12, 2025) (online at <https://goodauthority.org/news/how-democrats-can-bolster-public-support-for-usaid-foreign-aid/>); *Rubio Asks if Aid Groups ‘Deliberately Sabotaging’ Projects After US Funding Freeze*, Barrons (Feb. 4, 2025) (online at www.barrons.com/news/rubio-asks-if-aid-groups-deliberately-sabotaging-projects-after-us-funding-freeze-61d54667).

¹⁴ *Dismantling of USAID Leaves No Staff to Process Aid Waivers, Sources Say*, Reuters (Feb. 7, 2025) (online at www.reuters.com/world/us/dismantling-usaid-leaves-no-staff-process-aid-waivers-sources-say-2025-02-07/); *U.S. Aid Freeze ‘Decimates’ Life-Saving Work Globally, Survey Finds*, Reuters (Feb. 19, 2025) (online at www.reuters.com/world/us/us-aid-freeze-decimates-life-saving-work-globally-survey-finds-2025-02-19/).

¹⁵ *Emergency Food, TB Tests and H.I.V Drugs: Vital Health Aid Remains Frozen Despite Court Ruling*, New York Times (Feb. 20, 2025) (online at www.nytimes.com/2025/02/20/health/usaid-freeze-hiv-tb-nutrition.html).

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¹⁹ *As USAID retreats, China pounces*, Politico (Feb. 10, 2025) (online at

USAID with its own assistance programs pose a tremendous global security risk as it seeks to expand its diplomatic and economic influence and undermine U.S. interests around the world.²⁰

To assist in our investigation, we respectfully request that you provide answers to the following inquiries.

1. On January 24, 2025, the Trump Administration froze foreign aid and since then, hundreds of USAID humanitarian programs have ceased operations all over the world.
 - a. To the best of your knowledge, what is the effect of the foreign aid freeze on programs that provided “food or medicine or anything that is saving lives and is immediate and urgent?”²¹
 - b. To the best of your knowledge, what does the Trump Administration’s foreign aid freeze mean for people who relied on USAID programs all over the world?
2. To the best of your knowledge, how will the Trump Administration’s decision to eliminate USAID and freeze funding for foreign assistance programs affect economic growth and economic security in developing countries?
3. To the best of your knowledge, is the Department of State’s waiver program successful at allowing medical care and other life-saving humanitarian assistance to resume?
 - a. Do you have any additional information that you would like to share about the waiver process, including but not limited to knowledge of whether waivers have been approved, delayed or denied by the Department of State?
4. On March 10, 2025, the Trump Administration cancelled 83% of U.S. foreign aid funding. Please describe how the cancellation of contracts and grants affects programs operated by Save the Children. Please share any relevant information including, but not limited to:
 - a. The number of Save the Children contracts or grants awarded by USAID that have been terminated as of March 14, 2025.

www.politico.com/newsletters/national-security-daily/2025/02/10/as-usaid-retreats-china-pounces-00195922).

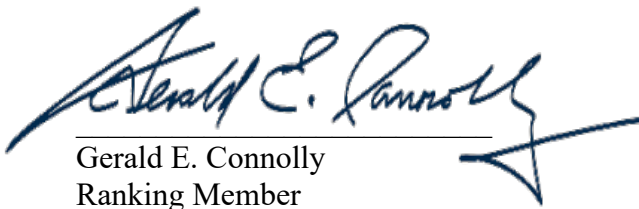
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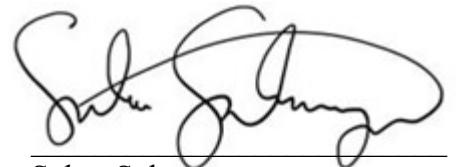
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- d. Whether Save the Children is awaiting payment on any work it conducted on behalf of USAID prior to the Trump Administration's foreign aid funding freeze or contract terminations.

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Sincerely,



Gerald E. Connolly
Ranking Member



Suhas Subramanyam
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Military and
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COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225-5074

MINORITY (202) 225-5051

<https://oversight.house.gov>

March 14, 2025

Mr. Dan L. Batrack
President and Chief Executive Officer
Tetra Tech
3475 East Foothill Boulevard
Pasadena, CA 91107

Dear Mr. Batrack:

We write to expand our investigation of the Trump Administration's illegal effort to eliminate the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), freeze the distribution of federal foreign assistance, and disrupt USAID programs in approximately 130 countries.¹ To better understand the threats exacerbated by this effort, we are seeking additional information on how the dismantling of USAID will jeopardize global health and destabilize developing nations, as well as place our national security at risk. This information is especially important as the United States faces several public health and national security challenges that USAID is uniquely positioned to combat. As a federal contractor that has carried out extensive work in support of USAID's mission, Tetra Tech's perspective is important in assessing the scope and scale of the damage caused by the Trump Administration's actions.

On January 24, 2025, Secretary of State Marco Rubio ordered a 90-day freeze on all new obligations of federal foreign assistance.² In his dual role as the acting administrator of USAID, Secretary Rubio declared that the goal of the federal funding freeze is to "identify programs that work and continue them and to identify programs that are not aligned with our national interest and identify those and address them."² However, evidence suggests that the objectives Secretary Rubio has articulated are not aligned with the reality of how humanitarian programming is currently being deployed.³ In fact, USAID staff report a complete "lack of clarity" around waivers to allow some critical medical assistance to continue, including treating people enrolled in active clinical trials.⁴ Few oversight controls to safeguard USAID's programming remain

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following President Trump's February 11, 2025 decision to terminate USAID's Inspector General (IG) after the IG released a report documenting the wasteful effects of the Trump Administration's actions.⁵

Federal courts have barred the Trump Administration from unlawfully impounding foreign aid funds that the Department of State and USAID owe to grant recipients and contractors for work that has already been completed.⁶ Many contractors and non-profit organizations (NGOs) are reeling from the Administration's ban on foreign aid and are scrambling to keep lifesaving operations going.⁷ Contractors and NGOs awaiting payment and facing funding cuts have been forced to furlough or lay off thousands of employees, creating an unemployment ripple effect beyond the more than 10,000 people unlawfully terminated from USAID.⁸

On March 10, 2025, Secretary Rubio announced the permanent cancellation of 5,200 contracts, approximately 83% of U.S. foreign aid programs.⁹ If contracts are not restored promptly, approximately 1 million children will go without food and nutrition, 17.9 million people will not receive necessary malaria medications, and approximately 166,000 people may die, among many other devastating outcomes.¹⁰

Global health is one of the largest USAID investments and the agency funded at least \$7 billion in programming for treating HIV and preventing emerging pandemics as part of a broader swath of healthcare investments.¹¹ The Administration's decision to suspend all USAID programs and purge its entire 10,000-person workforce means that funds appropriated by Congress for humanitarian assistance will not be disbursed for their intended purpose of saving lives or preventing the spread of disease.¹² On February 4, 2025, Secretary Rubio referred the

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The Trump Administration’s aid freeze has significantly paralyzed efforts to combat preventable diseases. As a result, not only are people dying from completely preventable illnesses, but countries are likely to see a resurgence of HIV and other diseases that can lead to economic destabilization.¹⁶ Antibiotics and antimalarial drugs are decaying in foreign warehouses due to the Administration’s foreign aid freeze.¹⁷ These circumstances taken collectively are concerning as the United States and at least 49 other countries battle avian flu outbreaks, which the Trump Administration has no meaningful effort to combat.¹⁸

In many instances, China is already stepping in where the Trump Administration has retreated. For example, reports from Nepal indicate that China has proposed an aid program of its own to replace the lapse in USAID assistance and is similarly attempting to replace \$385 million in program funding Colombia was receiving from USAID.¹⁹ China’s attempts to replace

Humanitarian Assistance Programming Impacted by Staffing Reductions and Pause on Foreign Assistance (Feb. 10, 2025) (online at <https://oig.usaid.gov/node/7439>)

¹³ *How Democrats Can Bolster Public Support for USAID*, Good Authority (Feb. 12, 2025) (online at <https://goodauthority.org/news/how-democrats-can-bolster-public-support-for-usaid-foreign-aid/>); *Rubio Asks if Aid Groups ‘Deliberately Sabotaging’ Projects After US Funding Freeze*, Barrons (Feb. 4, 2025) (online at www.barrons.com/news/rubio-asks-if-aid-groups-deliberately-sabotaging-projects-after-us-funding-freeze-61d54667).

¹⁴ *Dismantling of USAID Leaves No Staff to Process Aid Waivers, Sources Say*, Reuters (Feb. 7, 2025) (online at www.reuters.com/world/us/dismantling-usaid-leaves-no-staff-process-aid-waivers-sources-say-2025-02-07/); *U.S. Aid Freeze ‘Decimates’ Life-Saving Work Globally, Survey Finds*, Reuters (Feb. 19, 2025) (online at www.reuters.com/world/us/us-aid-freeze-decimates-life-saving-work-globally-survey-finds-2025-02-19/).

¹⁵ *Emergency Food, TB Tests and H.I.V Drugs: Vital Health Aid Remains Frozen Despite Court Ruling*, New York Times (Feb. 20, 2025) (online at www.nytimes.com/2025/02/20/health/usaid-freeze-hiv-tb-nutrition.html).

¹⁶ *Health Programs Shutter Around the World After Trump Pauses Foreign Aid*, New York Times (Feb. 1, 2025) (online at www.nytimes.com/2025/02/01/health/trump-aid-malaria-tuberculosis-hiv.html).

¹⁷ *Crucial aid sits in warehouses worldwide as USAID employees are told to stop working*, NBC (Feb. 4, 2025) (online at www.nbcnews.com/news/politics-news/trump-usaid-upheaval-paralyzing-global-delivery-food-medicine-rcna190565).

¹⁸ Letter from Ranking Member Gerald E. Connolly, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, to the Honorable Marco Rubio, Acting Administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development (Feb. 7, 2025) (online at <https://oversightdemocrats.house.gov/news/press-releases/ranking-members-connolly-and-subramanyam-launch-probe-doge-efforts-purge-usaid>).

¹⁹ *As USAID retreats, China pounces*, Politico (Feb. 10, 2025) (online at

USAID with its own assistance programs pose a tremendous global security risk as it seeks to expand its diplomatic and economic influence and undermine U.S. interests around the world.²⁰

To assist in our investigation, we respectfully request that you provide answers to the following inquiries.

1. On January 24, 2025, the Trump Administration froze foreign aid and since then, hundreds of USAID humanitarian programs have ceased operations all over the world.
 - a. To the best of your knowledge, what is the effect of the foreign aid freeze on programs that provided “food or medicine or anything that is saving lives and is immediate and urgent?”²¹
 - b. To the best of your knowledge, what does the Trump Administration’s foreign aid freeze mean for people who relied on USAID programs all over the world?
2. To the best of your knowledge, how will the Trump Administration’s decision to eliminate USAID and freeze funding for foreign assistance programs affect economic growth and economic security in developing countries?
3. To the best of your knowledge, is the Department of State’s waiver program successful at allowing medical care and other life-saving humanitarian assistance to resume?
 - a. Do you have any additional information that you would like to share about the waiver process, including but not limited to knowledge of whether waivers have been approved, delayed or denied by the Department of State?
4. On March 10, 2025, the Trump Administration cancelled 83% of U.S. foreign aid funding. Please describe how the cancellation of contracts and grants affects programs operated by Tetra Tech. Please share any relevant information including, but not limited to:
 - a. The number of Tetra Tech contracts or grants awarded by USAID that have been terminated as of March 14, 2025.

www.politico.com/newsletters/national-security-daily/2025/02/10/as-usaid-retreats-china-pounces-00195922).

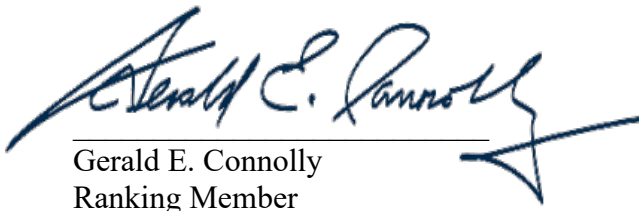
²⁰ Brookings, *Commentary: The implications of a USAID Shutdown* (Feb. 4, 2025) (online at <https://www.brookings.edu/articles/what-comes-after-a-usaid-shutdown/>).

²¹ *The US State Department Says Humanitarian Assistance Can Continue. Foreign Aid Workers Say That’s Not Happening*, CNN (Feb. 8, 2025) (online at www.cnn.com/2025/02/08/world/usaid-humanitarian-assistance-aid-freeze-intl-latam/index.html).

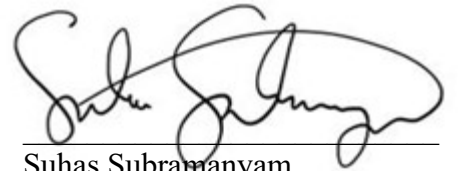
- b. The number of employees and the percentage of its total workforce Tetra Tech has laid off or furloughed as a result of the Trump Administration's foreign aid funding freeze and termination of USAID contracts and grants.
- c. A description of programs and projects Tetra Tech is no longer able to administer because of USAID funding cuts and the attendant implications for people served by these programs.
- d. Whether Tetra Tech is awaiting payment on any work it conducted on behalf of USAID prior to the Trump Administration's foreign aid funding freeze or contract terminations.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight committee of the House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate "any matter" at "any time" under House Rule X. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Committee Democratic staff at (202) 225-5051.

Sincerely,



Gerald E. Connolly
Ranking Member



Suhas Subramanyam
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on the Military and
Foreign Affairs

cc: The Honorable James Comer, Chairman
The Honorable William Timmons, Chairman
Subcommittee on the Military and Foreign Affairs