

**Opening Statement of Adam Boehler
Nominee to be Chief Executive Officer of the
United States International Development Finance Corporation
United States Senate Committee on Foreign Relations
September 19, 2019**

Thank you, Chairman Risch, Ranking Member Menendez, and members of the Committee.
Thank you, Senators Cassidy and Whitehouse, for your kind introductions and your partnership.

It is an honor to appear before you as the nominee for Chief Executive Officer of the new U.S. International Development Finance Corporation. This Committee's ongoing insights will be critical to ensure that we serve the interests of the American people by addressing development challenges through investment and economic growth.

I am joined this morning by my wife Shira and our four children: Ruth, Abraham, Esther, and Rachel. I hope that they are not too young to appreciate witnessing democracy in action. I would also like to say hi to the first and third grade classes at Newman Elementary School in New Orleans who are watching this hearing right now.

I would like to recognize the talented professionals at OPIC and USAID's Development Credit Authority. If confirmed, I am committed to working in partnership with USAID and other federal agencies to further the goals established by Congress through the BUILD Act.

I would like to thank the current acting and former presidents of OPIC—David Bohigian, Elizabeth Littlefield, Rob Mosbacher, and Peter Watson—for being here today with me, as well as Ray Washburne for all of his insights.

I grew up in a small town outside of Albany, New York. My father is a primary care physician, and my mother is a speech pathologist who made home visits to children in need. Their commitment to helping others made a deep impression on me.

My first professional experience was in South Africa. The mayor of Johannesburg was taking classes at my university, and I stood outside his class to introduce myself. This led to a summer working for the Financial and Fiscal Commission, an agency set up by the South African Parliament to advocate on behalf of the provinces. That summer I was fortunate to attend President Mbeki's inauguration and watched Nelson Mandela pass the torch.

The first half of my career was focused on domestic and international investing in the United States and Israel. Later I started three successful businesses, the most recent being Landmark Health. At Landmark, we cared for chronically ill patients by providing 24/7 home medical care. My team and I grew Landmark from an idea to the largest home physician group in the country, with 20 offices and over 1,000 employees in the U.S. and India.

Two years ago, Dr. Patrick Conway, my predecessor at CMS, asked me if I would consider joining the government to run health care innovation for our country. This meant walking away from a company that I had built and loved. It was one of the most difficult decisions of my life. I

chose to do this because I saw public service as an opportunity to go from helping thousands to helping millions. I'm proud of the 600 committed people on my team and all that we are accomplishing at HHS.

I believe in empowering others and that diverse viewpoints drive successful innovation. If confirmed, I will apply this same belief, along with my international investment, entrepreneurial, and public sector experience, to DFC.

The need for a nimble, strategic development finance agency is clear in today's geopolitical landscape. The challenges facing less developed countries are vast. Private capital is an essential ingredient in solving the problems that people in emerging countries grapple with every day. From water purification in India, to energy in El Salvador; from a clinic in Cameroon to thousands of loans to women entrepreneurs throughout the world, DFC will work to improve conditions in developing countries. DFC will further benefit from close collaboration with other federal agencies as well as our allies internationally.

DFC will be a critical tool in American foreign policy to address the growing influence of China and other authoritarian governments. American values—transparency, rule of law, respect for people and the environment—afford us a unique competitive advantage.

DFC is a product of this Committee's hard work and bipartisan cooperation. If confirmed, I commit to work together with you and your staffs to ensure that we realize its full potential.

When I entered public service, I did not realize how emotional it would be. I did not realize that I would feel a little bit different when I see our flag or stand for our national anthem. I am proud to be an American, and I am proud to have the opportunity to continue to serve our great nation.

Thank you for considering my nomination today. I look forward to answering your questions.