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*Wednesday, July 12, 2016*

**BUSINESS MEETING**

U.S. SENATE,  
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS,  
115<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

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*Wednesday, July 12, 2017*

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COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS,  
WASHINGTON, DC.

1           The committee met, pursuant to notice, at 10:11 a.m. in, Room 419, Dirksen  
2 Senate Office Building, Hon. Bob Corker, chairman of the committee, presiding.

3           Present: Senators Corker [presiding], Risch, Rubio, Young, Isakson, Cardin,  
4 Menendez, Shaheen, Coons, Murphy, Markey, Merkley, and Booker.

## **OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. BOB CORKER, U.S. SENATOR FROM TENNESSEE**

5           **THE CHAIRMAN.** What we have today is a business meeting that will consider the  
6 nomination of Mark Green to be the USAID Administrator, as well as the promotion of  
7 five Foreign Service Officer lists.

8           Ambassador Green has had a long history in both public service and  
9 international development. His expertise will serve him well in this position, and I fully  
10 support his nomination.

11          Senator Cardin, do you have any comments you would like to make?

## **STATEMENT OF HON. BEN CARDIN, U.S. SENATOR FROM MARYLAND**

12          **SENATOR CARDIN.** Mr. Chairman, I strongly support Mr. Green's nomination.  
13 His experience as a congressman, his passion for human rights and democracy, he is the

1 type of individual that we want to head the USAID. His championship on behalf of the  
2 PEPFAR program, his Ambassadorship to Tanzania, it is an impressive list.

3 But more importantly, I think he is the leader that we need at this time at USAID,  
4 and I strongly support his nomination.

5 **THE CHAIRMAN.** Is there any further discussion?

6 **SENATOR RUBIO.** I, too, strongly support his nomination, Mr. Chairman.

7 And I fully respect the right of all those here in the Senate to utilize all the rules  
8 at our disposal to state objections to public policy and the like. I hope that in the case of  
9 Mr. Green, in particular, that we would see to it to quickly and expeditiously move him  
10 to passage. These programs are important to our country, and I think he would do a  
11 phenomenal job in that post.

12 So I hope this can move very quickly. I cannot imagine a single member of the  
13 Senate voting against him.

14 **THE CHAIRMAN.** Thank you.

15 Any other comments?

16 I would just, in general, say I know there are some things underway, and I hope  
17 that once the things that are underway end, we can move. I think they have to file  
18 cloture on an Ambassador to Japan. It is a sad state for all of us. I also think that may  
19 change soon, and I hope that it does.

20 **SENATOR CARDIN.** Mr. Chairman, I really appreciated Senator Graham's

1 observations on how this committee works. When President Obama was the President,  
2 and you were chairman of this committee, you moved his nominations through this  
3 committee very quickly and very thoroughly, in the proper manner. I intend, as  
4 ranking member, to do everything I can to accommodate the efficient handling on this  
5 committee of nominations from President Trump.

6 I think you would acknowledge that we have done that.

7 **THE CHAIRMAN.** That is right.

8 **SENATOR CARDIN.** Both of us have challenges on the floor. In the last  
9 Congress, we had challenges on the floor moving nominations through, because, in  
10 some cases, individual Members objected. In other cases, the Majority Leader was not  
11 willing to give floor time to nominations. We have problems now.

12 I agree with you. I think when we have these nominations, we want to get them  
13 confirmed as quickly as possible. And I certainly will work with the chairman to try to  
14 accommodate them.

15 **THE CHAIRMAN.** Thank you.

16 If there is no further discussion, I would like to entertain a motion to approve all  
17 agenda items by voice vote.

18 **SENATOR RUBIO.** So moved.

19 **SENATOR COONS.** Second.

20 **THE CHAIRMAN.** So moved and seconded.

1 All those in favor, say aye.

2 [A chorus of ayes.]

3 **THE CHAIRMAN.** All opposed?

4 [No response.]

5 **THE CHAIRMAN.** With that, the ayes have it. The nomination and promotions are  
6 agreed to.

7 That completes the committee's business. I ask unanimous consent that staff be  
8 authorized to make technical and conforming changes.

9 Without objection, so ordered.

10 With that, and without objection, the committee will stand adjourned.

**[Whereupon, at 10:15 a.m., the meeting was adjourned.]**