

Statement of Cherith Norman Chalet
Nominee for Representative of the United States of America to the
United Nations for UN Management and Reform
Committee on Foreign Relations
June 21, 2018

Thank you, Chairman Johnson, Ranking Member Murphy, and distinguished Members of the Committee. I am honored to appear before you today as the President's nominee to serve as the Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations for UN Management and Reform. I am grateful to President Trump and Ambassador Haley for their confidence and for this opportunity.

I am joined here today by my husband, George, whose love and support has been integral to me being a working mother and representing the United States at the UN for the last ten years, and my oldest child, Nicolai, who has already participated in many UN meetings after missing mom during marathon all-night negotiations. My other two children – my daughters Cara and Madeleine - unfortunately could not join me here as I am not sure I could contain their enthusiasm during the hearing as they are three and one. I am also joined by my parents, Scott and Marilee Norman, whose love and support provided the foundation that led me here today.

Enabling the United Nations to deliver on its mandate to maintain international peace and security, address human rights and development needs is no simple task. The United States is a champion for greater effectiveness and efficiency by emphasizing the need for the United Nations to show tangible impact and results, and by encouraging better ways of working. President Trump, Secretary Pompeo, and Ambassador Haley have all prioritized showing the value of the UN to the American taxpayer. This falls squarely on my shoulders, if confirmed, as U.S. Representative to the United Nations for Management and Reform. Through my experience as the UN Management and Reform Counselor for the United States Mission to the United Nations, I have seen firsthand the value of positive reform and the good that can be achieved through an effectively managed UN and the consequences when it is not managed effectively. For example, when we hold peacekeepers accountable for their performance, we see better results for the intended beneficiaries of peacekeeping operations.

I will assume the job, if confirmed, at an auspicious time as Secretary-General Guterres' plan to reform the UN system is underway. This presents real opportunities to align the UN's work on peace and security, development, and internal management with U.S. values and priorities. I am honored to work alongside Ambassador Haley and under her leadership to expand our reform efforts including greater accountability and transparency; strengthened whistleblower protections; fiscal discipline; and making the UN fit for purpose.

If confirmed, I intend to work closely with other Member States in the General Assembly to advance these priorities and other issues related to sound management and reform.

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before this committee today. I look forward to taking your questions.