

Statement for the Record
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Nominee for USAID Deputy Administrator
Before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee
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Senator Isakson, Senator Shaheen, Members of the Committee, I am honored to come before you today as President Trump's nominee to serve as Deputy Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). I'm grateful to President Trump and Administrator Green for their trust and confidence in me to serve in this important role.

During my consultations in preparation for this hearing, I had the pleasure and honor to meet with countless USAID employees who provided me with briefings and papers that detailed their work. To those dedicated Foreign Service, Civil Service, and contract employees, thank you for your counsel and guidance. Thank you for your commitment to making USAID the world's flagship development agency that promotes democracy and human rights, and delivers humanitarian assistance and development aid to friends, to allies, and to people who are eager to see change in the world.

I also want to express my personal gratitude to David Moore, who has done an outstanding job in the role of Acting Deputy these last months.

I want to thank my family for their unwavering support. My parents, both proud first-generation Americans, raised their four children with values of patriotism, with awareness of the role our country plays on the global stage, and with a sense of abiding loyalty to friends and allies. My mother, Sherry Glick, is here today, and my father, Jerry Glick, is watching me here from somewhere up above. I would also like to acknowledge my wonderful husband, Paul Foldi, and our sons, Matthew and Jonathan, who are here today.

I began my career at an interesting time in foreign relations. The influence of the Soviet Union was waning, and former satellite countries were coming out from under Moscow's grip. The Iron Curtain was lifting. As a State Department Foreign Service Officer, I served two tours of duty in Ethiopia and Nicaragua. For each tour, I was trained in the local language and culture prior to assuming my duties. While in Ethiopia, I saw two nations, Ethiopia and Eritrea, emerge from the brutal dictatorship and Red Terror of one of Africa's most notorious regimes. In Nicaragua, I saw a country trying to recover from civil war. Thousands of Nicaraguans who had fled the country when the brutal Sandinista regime took over were choosing to return to their homes under the leadership of Violeta Chamorro, only to find the Sandinistas had confiscated their properties. It saddens me today to see that Nicaragua, which had taken steps forward, which was growing economically and whose citizens were contributing meaningfully, has returned to a brutal, dictatorial regime. By contrast, I'm heartened to see that Ethiopia and Eritrea have taken important steps toward ensuring a lasting peace, and I look forward, if confirmed, to visiting the Horn of Africa and to promoting these efforts.

Since August 2017, I have had the great privilege of serving as the Deputy Secretary of the Maryland Department of Aging, a Cabinet agency. Like development, aging is not a partisan

issue. We're all doing it. Through my work in the Department of Aging, I have been reintroduced, after an absence of many years, to government service. It has been an honor to serve the older adult population of my State, many of whom are my friends and relatives. I am reminded on a daily basis of the important mission to which I am committed, as a leader of a granting agency, as an advocate for an important service agency, and as a senior leader in Governor Hogan's Administration. I understand the importance of being a good steward of taxpayers' dollars, of providing high quality service options and tracking their impact on people's lives, particularly for vulnerable populations; and of leading a large, professional, highly-capable team of people committed to serving Maryland's seniors. It's an honor to have been asked to serve in this role.

Throughout my travels over the past nearly 30 years, a common theme was evident – a desire of proud peoples, no matter where they live, to be self-reliant, to raise children into lives that were better than their own, and to live in peace with their neighbors.

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee, as Administrator Mark Green has said, the goal of USAID ultimately is to end the need for foreign assistance.

Should I be confirmed, it will be my role to assist him and the exceptional women and men of USAID in achieving this goal. USAID currently works in over 100 countries to provide humanitarian assistance, development skills, and capacity-building in all facets of society including health, education, democracy, economic growth, food security, and nutrition – to name but a few of the sectors in which the Agency works.

As Deputy Administrator, I will be charged with overseeing several key pieces of USAID programming, including all of USAID's regional programming, Global Health programs, and pending Congressional approval, the Bureau for Development, Democracy, and Innovation (DDI), which is proposed as part of USAID's redesign. I am particularly pleased that I will oversee USAID's democracy programming, as I believe that democracy and good governance are the underpinnings of USAID's work around the world. Without democratic governance, no country will be able to succeed on its journey to self-reliance.

If confirmed, I will ensure the Agency maintains its focus on the promotion of democratic values and free elections, one of the key pillars of our development work. The role of democracy and citizen-responsive governance cannot be underestimated when considering countries on the journey to self-reliance – countries that will one day be our partners in development projects around the world.

Most Americans view USAID as our nation's premier "first-responder" for those overseas suffering from disasters – both natural and man-made. Today, USAID is helping to care for Venezuelans who are fleeing chaos and dictatorship and finding safe haven in Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Brazil, and even the Caribbean. USAID is also supporting oppressed Rohingya in Burma and those who have fled across the border into Bangladesh. As Administrator Green emphasized on his trip to Burma and Bangladesh earlier this year, the U.S Government continues to pressure the Burmese civilian Government and the military to end the violence against the Rohingya and other ethnic groups, and calls on all parties to allow unfettered humanitarian

access to, and freedom of movement for, all communities in need.

Of course, refugee crises cannot be solved without addressing their underlying causes - failed, usually brutal, leadership in the countries from which refugees are forced to flee. America is a country that, from its very origins, was formed by people fleeing oppression. My ancestors fled from pogroms in Eastern Europe. My in-laws fled from the Soviets as the Red Army laid claim to lands in its so-called sphere of influence after World War II. My children are a mix of generations borne out of fear, oppression, and then new generations borne out of freedom. As American leaders, it is our duty to help others who are fearful of, and oppressed by, their own or hostile neighboring, governments, and it is the work of USAID to help foster the conditions for democratic rule to enable good governance to flourish.

Regrettably, there are parts of the world where people are struggling every day to survive. They are victims of wars, of human trafficking, of sexual violence in camps for refugee or internally displaced persons, of famine, of outbreaks of disease, and countless other privations. USAID is the largest humanitarian assistance organization in the world, and its ability to respond to crises, wherever they occur, is a testament to the men and women in the Agency's ranks, as well as to the American spirit of generosity and good will. If confirmed, it will be humbling to serve with people who walk in God's path every day and serve those who cannot care for themselves. Who bring them up, and who, in the process, put them on a journey to self-reliance.

I had the good fortune of working for many years in IBM's storied Research Division. Working with some of the smartest and most accomplished scientists on earth, from all over the world, we developed solutions to create a "smarter planet." The Smarter Planet envisioned by IBM is not unlike the vision we all have for a smarter, more sustainable earth with smart water use, smart energy, smart cities, smart agriculture, smart utilities, and on and on.

I share Administrator Green's unwavering commitment to end the need for foreign assistance, which I believe requires the United States to lead and engage in the world. If confirmed, I look forward to joining the USAID team worldwide to help lead others onto this path to self-reliance, which will move more countries from recipients of aid to donors.

When USAID's mission is achieved, it will deliver a world that is NOT one in which nations are without problems, but it will be one in which nations can determine their own course, in which they can marshal the resources necessary to be successful, and from which they can demonstrate to the rest of the world their resilience. I look forward to that day.

If confirmed, I commit to doing my utmost, every day, to make sure that we are good stewards of the U.S. taxpayers' dollars. I know how hard my fellow Americans work, how sometimes they make sacrifices just to get by, let alone to thrive.

If confirmed, and working with you, I will pursue efforts already underway to reform USAID's offices and procedures. If I learned nothing else from IBM, I learned there is always room for improvement, even when something is technically perfect. What I also learned from IBM is that the private sector has an important role to play in development. The private sector is a critical

partner, and will have a seat at the table alongside all other actors in the development space. Having worked across public, private, and non-profit sectors, I speak the language of each one, and believe I might be uniquely qualified to help USAID further its relationship with each of them. I look forward to the opportunity to work with partners in the private sector, the non-profit sector, and across academia to come up with new and more innovative ways to stretch everyone's investments further, in ways that are mutually beneficial to all.

If confirmed, it will be a tremendous honor to serve my country again, this time as the Deputy Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development. I know, too, that I will be humbled every day by the incredible work done by development and humanitarian assistance professionals all around the globe. Their dedication to helping others, usually complete strangers, on those strangers' journeys to self-reliance is truly God's work here on earth, and it would be my privilege and blessing to participate in USAID's efforts to reach those in crisis, and to help those who are striving for a better life.

Many years ago I "caught the bug" for international service. It carried me to East Africa, to Latin America, to Asia, to Europe, and now to this table before all of you today. Mr. Chairman, Ranking Member, and Members of the Committee, nearly 30 years later, my commitment to make a difference, through the power of American values, American compassion, and American skills is stronger than ever before. I know that this will not be an easy job. Indeed, if I ever wake in the morning to say that there's nothing left to do, I will know that my job is done. We're not there yet. If confirmed, I will work with Administrator Green to lead a world-class team to do life-changing work in environments that are often terribly hard. USAID does not sit back and rest on its laurels, nor should those who lead the Agency. I commit to working with you, with your counterparts in the House, and with the State Department, Defense Department, and others in the inter-agency to achieve our goals as a nation.

Thank you very much. I look forward to your questions.