

NOMINATIONS

THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 2020

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS,
Washington, DC.

The committee met, pursuant to notice, at 10:03 a.m. by video conference, Hon. Todd Young presiding.

Present: Senators Young [presiding], Cardin, and Merkley.

OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. TODD YOUNG, U.S. SENATOR FROM INDIANA

Senator YOUNG. Okay. Senator Merkley will be with us momentarily. I thank my colleagues for joining us and, most importantly, thanks so much to our witnesses.

This hearing of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations will come to order. I want to thank my fellow members of the committee and our nominees today for their patience with the technological limitations the COVID-19 pandemic has placed on us.

I hope everyone can hear me, incidentally. You can nod affirmatively if, indeed, that is the case or put your thumb up.

[Laughter.]

Senator YOUNG. Thank you. And the record will show that everyone nodded affirmatively. I know we all wish we could be meeting and hearing from this talented group of people in person.

I would also like to thank Senator Merkley for his willingness to help convene this hearing today and for his tireless work with me on many, many issues facing our nation abroad.

Today, this committee will consider the nominations of five individuals to represent the United States of America and their respective organizations.

Our nominees today are Ms. Jenny McGee to serve as the associate director of the United States Agency for International Development; the Honorable Steven Dowd to be U.S. director of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development; the Honorable Richard M. Mills to be deputy representative of the United States to the United Nations with a rank of ambassador; Mr. Jason Chung to be U.S. director of the Asian Development Bank with the rank of ambassador; Mr. Joseph Manso to be the U.S. representative to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons with the rank of ambassador.

Thank you for your willingness to serve.

For those of you that do not know, Senator Merkley and I have the privilege of leading the Foreign Relations Subcommittee on

Multilateral Organizations, and in that role we have oversight of some of the organizations which will be discussed today.

As we have discussed in our subcommittee and, indeed, as the full Senator Foreign Relations Committee has heard many times, the United States and the liberal democratic order is under assault by illiberal forces and governments.

These governments do not seek freedom and peace but instead seek power and influence over weaker nations from which they hope to gain regional and global dominance.

As has been a central conception of this administration's national security strategy, the United States is facing a period of great power conflict. This period of challenge, however, may not be limited to battlefields, at sea, on land, or in the air, and it is my deep hope that these differences will never erupt in open conflict.

But as we are already seeing, our adversaries are already waging serious and strong campaigns within and against international and multilateral institutions.

It is imperative that the United States refuse to sit back and accept our adversaries' marches down the field.

In short, it is time for the United States to go on offense. This means public servants exerting pressure within international organizations for those organizations to abide by their charters and to seek freedom, peace, prosperity, and opportunity.

Within the international fora to which the U.S. is a party, this is going to require a maximalist strategy of seeking partners, building coalitions, and creating pathways for these bodies to actually serve their member states.

For standard-setting bodies, this means open transparent mechanisms and leadership that upholds rules and regulations and does not serve the Government and industries of any one nation, and in development organizations this means a people and business first approach that leverages private sector capacity and human rights to support sustainable projects that are not abused by investing governments.

For our nominees today, I wish to underscore that agenda and requirement for you. If confirmed, I only ask that you execute your duties with unflagging effort, enthusiasm and patriotism.

I hope to hear how you will seek to do that shortly.

I now recognize, if he has joined us, my friend and distinguished colleague, Senator Merkley, for his opening comments.

**STATEMENT OF HON. JEFF MERKLEY,
U.S. SENATOR FROM OREGON**

Senator MERKLEY. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. We have been having technical difficulties. I could see you all but there was—I was not being admitted on the video end, and that seems to have been fixed on the fourth try.

So I am good. Good to be with you now as we all come into this different age, and this is an important hearing and thank you to the nominees who are willing to serve, putting themselves forward to tackle the significant challenges that we have in a variety of fields.

I am pleased that even in the midst of disruptions to normal Senate business we are able to move forward and consider impor-

tant nominees in the multilateral institution and development spheres.

Each of these nominees would oversee critical work, touching on key challenges such as economic development and human rights and climate chaos and weapons proliferation, humanitarian relief.

If confirmed, they would assume leadership roles during a global pandemic that has killed more than 375,000 people. It has had a devastating impact on the global economy.

The COVID-19 crisis has given rise to tremendous global health and humanitarian needs, severely disrupting the global food supply. It has propelled hundreds of millions of people into unemployment and financial peril. It has exacerbated the risk of human rights abuse and violent conflict and harmed many of the world's most vulnerable.

Meanwhile, we need to increase United States leadership and work in diplomacy and development. We have to avoid any retreat from organizations and international agencies and such agencies as you all will be tasked to lead if confirmed.

Several of these positions have relevance for our country's coronavirus response. All of them are vital to promoting democracy and peace building and economic dignity, now more important than ever.

I look forward to hearing from each of you and how you will ensure that the United States works in partnership with the international community to solve the critical challenges the world faces.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Senator YOUNG. Well, thank you, Senator Merkley, for those words and for your continued leadership in this area.

We will now turn our attention to our nominees. All five have already served or are currently serving the United States in various roles around the globe, and I am sure our conversations today will reflect that expertise and commitment to service.

I offer my congratulations to all of you on your nominations to these respective roles and thank you for your willingness to serve in them, and I especially want to thank your families for the sacrifices they have made and will continue to make upon your confirmations.

Now, before I go further, I understand Congressman Don Bacon from the great state of Nebraska wishes to be recognized in order to introduce a nominee.

Please proceed.

Mr. BACON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and also thank the ranking member and the committee for having me on today. I really appreciate you all leading the way and getting our—you are showing the way how to get our country back to work. I thank you.

I have the honor of introducing to the committee a colleague, a friend, and a distinguished public servant, Jenny McGee.

Jenny has been nominated by the president to serve in the newly-created position of USAID associate administrator for relief response and resilience, and I thank the committee for the opportunity just to say a few words on her behalf.

As a citizen, I am deeply grateful that capable and patriotic Americans like Jenny will be willing to devote their lives to serve our nation in challenging positions of consequence.

USAID embodies the nobility of this calling, and with the advice and consent of the Senate we will greatly benefit from Jenny's experience, her leadership, and her passion to build a more peaceful and prosperous world.

I had the honor of serving with Jenny on active duty in the Air Force where she was known as a leader of integrity who served with distinction in some of the most dynamic and challenging missions confronting our country.

Her nomination now before the committee represents an important opportunity with the right person and the right position at the exact right time.

By the way, when I served with her she oversaw all of the training, all of the promotions, all the assignments for all of our Air Force intelligence personnel, a tremendous responsibility, and she did it with superb excellence.

So as USAID associate administrator, Jenny will be charged with providing strategic guidance for the Bureaus of Humanitarian Assistance, Conflict Prevention, and Stabilization and Resilience and Food Security.

Her distinguished service in the Middle East and Europe to her policy experience in the Pentagon and the National Security Council, Jenny has proven time and time again her ability to solve conflicts challenges while inspiring others to exceed their expectations of themselves.

So through the storied history, USAID has symbolized American leadership and manifests the compassion of the American people. Equally important, it plays an increasingly central role in our national security strategy of the United States.

So I can think of no better leader to nominate for this important job and I ask for the committee's thoughtful consideration of the nomination before you.

Standing before you, you have Jenny. She is full of integrity, she is mission focused, and she is compassionate. She is going to do a great job for America.

I thank you, and I yield back.

Senator YOUNG. Well, thank you so much, Congressman, and you are welcome to stay with us for the remainder of the hearing. I do know how busy our jobs are. So I will leave that up to you. Feel at liberty to shove off if you like, sir.

Okay. To all our nominees today, without objection, your full written statements will be included in the record. I would ask each of you to kindly summarize your written statement in no more than five minutes, if possible. That could be challenging for senators but we ask that of our nominees.

We will hear first from Ms. Jenny McGee, the president's nominee to serve as associate administrator for Relief Response and Resilience at the U.S. Agency for International Development.

As Congressman Bacon noted, Ms. McGee served our nation with great distinction for 31 years in the United States Air Force, retiring in December as a colonel in her career.

Colonel McGee served in command at operational intel, surveillance, and reconnaissance units around the globe. She additionally served on the staff of the National Security Council and within the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

She held senior positions within the U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Africa, at CENTCOM and the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency, and perhaps most importantly, she is a graduate of Indiana's own Purdue University.

Ms. McGee, thank you for being here and please proceed.

STATEMENT OF COLONEL JENNY A. MCGEE, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE, RETIRED, OF TEXAS, TO BE AN ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Ms. MCGEE. Good morning, and thank you, sir.

Mr. Chairman, Ranking Member, and distinguished members of the committee, I am honored to appear before you today as President Trump's nominee for associate editor—excuse me, associate administrator for Relief Response and Resilience at the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

I am grateful to President Trump, former Administrator Green, Acting Administrator Barsa, Deputy Administrator Glick, for their trust in me to serve in this important new role, and I would like to thank Congressman Bacon for his kind introduction and his leadership, his counsel, and his friendship.

If confirmed to this new position as associate administrator, I would oversee three bureaus for some of the most fast-paced and high-profile work of the agency: the Bureaus for Humanitarian Assistance, Conflict Prevention and Stabilization, and Resilience and Food Security.

This is certainly a herculean task to which I will devote all of my energy, capabilities, and heart. During the confirmation process, I have had the honor to meet with many USAID employees.

To those dedicated Foreign Service, civil service, and contract employees, I thank you for your counsel and your guidance. Under the leadership of Rear Admiral Tim Ziemer, Dr. Beth Dunford, Trey Hicks, Rob Jenkins, this incredible team responds to natural and manmade disasters, supports programs to reduce global hunger, and works to prevent conflict and violent extremism.

Both Admiral Ziemer and Dr. Dunford have just or are retiring this month and I would like to salute their service and thank them for their decades of service to the nation.

I must also thank my family, friends, and colleagues who have given me tremendous support and encouragement over the years. My wonderful husband, Patrick, is a retired U.S. Navy officer and is here with me today. Thank you, dear. And my—

Senator YOUNG. That is fantastic. That is fantastic. Hi, Patrick, and welcome.

[Laughter.]

Ms. MCGEE. And my grandfather, Joe, is a retired U.S. Air Force senior master sergeant and an Air Force civil servant, and my mother, Tokiko, are both in Ohio, safely in their home.

The life and opportunities I have had, including my military career, all stem from my parents' decision to adopt me from an orphanage in Seoul, South Korea, and I am grateful to their unconditional love and values and their belief in this great nation.

When I decided to retire from 31 years in the Air Force, I knew I wanted to continue to serve in a role that emphasizes our exceptional American values and commitment to democracy and humanitarian assistance.

During my career, I have appreciated the opportunity to work with USAID, most directly as part of logistics planning in the wake of the 2010 Haiti earthquake.

My units have also engaged in security assistance work across the spectrum, supporting the agriculture and land use in Niger and Ghana, and the capacity-building projects across Africa and Europe.

In every engagement I have admired the consistent courage, commitment, and mission focus of USAID personnel and, if confirmed, it will truly be an honor to join the USAID team.

If confirmed as associate administrator, I will work to strengthen the integration of our humanitarian assistance, resilience, and crisis prevention programming, a critical task as we respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, which created a unique set of challenges abroad, particularly in fragile contexts.

While physical distancing is an effective tool to contain the spread of COVID-19, there is no space for distancing in Cox's Bazar, the world's largest refugee camp, hosting some 600,000 Rohingya refugees, and despite a declared cease fire in Yemen, the fighting has escalated, complicating efforts to respond to a burgeoning outbreak in that country.

Beyond responding to immediate needs, we must also prepare for secondary and tertiary effects of the pandemic. Deteriorating health systems and widespread food insecurity could lead to new humanitarian crises. Democratic institutions will need to be rebuilt or reinforced.

If confirmed, I would be proud to help bring all of the agency's assets to bear to contain the disease and help the world maximize its recovery from COVID-19.

If confirmed as associate administrator, I will have four priority areas. First and foremost, I will work to ensure the safety and security of the 1,500 personnel I would directly oversee, many of whom work in dangerous environments and difficult circumstance.

Second, I will work to integrate and streamline USAID's humanitarian assistance, food security and resilience programming, and conflict prevention interventions to address fragility, respond to global crises, and act as a stabilizing force in times of country transition.

Third, I will strengthen and elevate the U.S. Government's humanitarian voice both in the interagency and on the world stage.

And last but, certainly, not least, I will work to improve the administration's ability to identify fragile states and deliver corrective mitigating measures by further strengthening civil and military collaboration.

Senator, if confirmed as associate administrator, I pledge to be a strong advocate for USAID's mission and people to take full advantage of the expertise of our workforce and partners, and to be a good steward of taxpayer dollars.

I am humbled every day by the incredible work of humanitarian and development professionals and, if confirmed, I look forward to the service, the teamwork, and the camaraderie alongside them.

It is an honor to appear before you today and I look forward to your questions.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Ms. McGee follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF COLONEL JENNY MCGEE, USAF (RET.)

Chairman Risch, Ranking Member Menendez, and distinguished members of the committee, I am honored to appear before you today as President Trump's nominee to be Associate Administrator for Relief, Response, and Resilience at the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). I am grateful to President Trump, Secretary Pompeo, former Administrator Green, Acting Administrator Barsa, and Deputy Administrator Glick for their trust and confidence in me and my leadership to serve in this important new role.

I am truly humbled to be considered for the Agency's Associate Administrator for Relief, Response and Resilience, whose mandate is at the forefront of U.S. national security interests. As part of USAID's Transformation, this new position is a new principal in the Office of the Administrator, specifically responsible for some of the most fast-paced and high-profile work at the Agency. The three Bureaus I would oversee-Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), Conflict Prevention and Stabilization (CPS), and Resilience and Food Security (RFS)-will improve the Agency's effectiveness in providing life-saving aid, preventing and addressing crises, strengthening self-reliance, and avoiding hunger. This is certainly a Herculean task, to which I would devote all of my energy, capabilities, and heart. It would be an honor to help USAID continue this important work to protect America's security and prosperity, and assist countries along their Journey to Self-Reliance.

I want to recognize the service of the extremely dedicated and talented USAID workforce who have led the Agency's response to natural and man-made disasters, designed programs to reduce global hunger and malnutrition, and worked to prevent conflict and violent extremism. Under the leadership of Rear Admiral Tim Ziemer, Trey Hicks, Rob Jenkins and Dr. Beth Dunford, this incredible team has responded to hurricanes in the Caribbean; earthquakes in Indonesia and Albania; drought and locust infestations in the Horn of Africa; the threat of famine in Yemen, South Sudan, and Nigeria; and the ongoing conflicts and crises in Syria, Iraq, and Venezuela. I sincerely thank Admiral Ziemer, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Jenkins, and Dr. Dunford for their counsel in our interactions, and I look forward to a continued strong working relationship as we create an effective and streamlined approach to preventing and responding to crises. Both Admiral Ziemer and Dr. Dunford have been forces of stability within the Agency and extremely influential in driving forward USAID's mission. I admire their dedication to service, and I wish them well in their retirement.

During my consultations in preparation for this hearing, I had the pleasure and honor to meet with many 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, and for making USAID the world's flagship development agency that makes such a difference in the lives of so many.

I must also thank my family, friends, and colleagues who have given me tremendous support and encouragement over the years. My wonderful husband, Patrick, a retired U.S. Navy officer, is here with me today, while my proud parents, Joe and Tokiko, remain safely inside their home in Ohio. My father was born on a small farm in Maine and ultimately retired after 23 years of active duty in the Air Force and then as an Air Force civilian. My family is dedicated to service and country, and has sacrificed over the years in support of my own long Air Force career. The life and opportunities I have had, including my military career, all stem from my parents' decision to adopt me from an orphanage in Seoul, South Korea. I am grateful for their unconditional love, and for the values they instilled in me. My commitment to service is rooted in the gratitude and patriotism that I have as a result.

When I decided to retire after 31 years in the Air Force, I knew I wanted to continue to serve our country, and in a role that emphasizes our exceptional American values and commitment to democracy and humanitarian assistance. During my time in the White House Situation Room, on the staff of the National Security Council, and in military units around the world, I have had the opportunity to see USAID

hard at work to support communities in their Journey to Self-Reliance. I have been part of coordination with USAID on security in Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and South Asia, and have worked on security assistance projects directly with allies in all of these regions. After the 2010 earthquake in Haiti, my unit communicated directly with USAID and its government partners on the ground to assist the logistics effort to deliver relief. I actively participated in planning at U.S. Southern Command headquarters, as well as the Air Force's theater operations center, to best support the delivery of aid. My units have supported planning in typhoon-relief activities in Asia; improvements to agriculture and the use of land in Niger and Ghana; and capacity-building projects in North and East Africa, the Sahel, and Europe. In every engagement or observation, I have always admired the consistent courage and commitment of USAID's personnel and partners, who operate in challenging environments with a true focus on mission.

If confirmed as Associate Administrator, the challenge that lies ahead is not lost on me. I am prepared to work with Acting Administrator Barsa and Deputy Administrator Glick to guide the strategic direction of the Agency, particularly when it comes to the work of the new Bureaus I will oversee. I also look forward to strengthening the integration of our humanitarian assistance, investments in resilience, and crisis-prevention programming as the Agency responds to the most significant global health crisis of our lifetime. While we battle the pandemic of COVID-19 here at home, we must also respond to the unique set of challenges the outbreak has caused abroad, particularly in countries that already are facing humanitarian crises, conflict, and a lack of access to basic social services.

Physical distancing proves to be one of the most effective tools to contain the spread of COVID-19. However, there is no space for distancing in Cox's Bazar, the world's largest refugee camp, which hosts some 600,000 Rohingya refugees. Children in South Sudan cannot wash their hands when they have no consistent access to clean water. And as COVID-19 spreads across conflict zones, the impact of the disease could potentially be catastrophic. Despite a declared cease-fire in Yemen, the fighting has escalated, which complicates efforts to respond to a burgeoning outbreak in the country. USAID has experience operating in these fragile contexts and is the designated Agency to lead the USG's humanitarian responses overseas, including COVID-19. If confirmed, I would be proud to help bring all of the Agency's assets to bear in containing the disease.

Responding to the COVID-19 crisis means not only assisting with the immediate health needs, but preparing for the secondary and tertiary effects of the crisis. The post-COVID-19 world will be fragile. Deteriorating health care could lead to new humanitarian crises. The outbreak likely will reduce the supply of food in many communities, which could cause widespread hunger.

Democratic institutions will need rebuilding or reinforcement. I look forward to leading USAID's response to helping the world maximize its recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

USAID is already investing heavily in the tools and capacity to confront the outbreak. RFS is funding partners under the Feed the Future initiative to procure, transport and deliver food to affected communities. BHA is assisting people in countries that already are suffering from humanitarian tragedy, where the risk to vulnerable populations is great and access to basic and life-saving health care is limited. The parts of USAID that soon will become CPS are conducting field-driven analysis of vulnerabilities in fragile countries and providing assistance to reduce the risks of violence; combat misinformation; and fund civil-society organizations that are working to promote effective, transparent responses to the outbreak.

If confirmed as Associate Administrator, I look forward to working closely with USAID's leadership, Congress, the U.S. Government interagency, and the international community on the following priority areas:

First and foremost, my priority would be the safety and security of USAID's personnel. The Bureaus I would directly oversee have approximately 1,500 staff members. Many of them are working in dangerous environments and under difficult conditions, and are still maintaining the same dedication to mission while facing all the COVID-19 challenges. If confirmed, I would work to ensure all of our staff have the resources to safeguard and care for themselves.

My second priority would be to integrate and streamline USAID's humanitarian assistance, investments in food security and resilience, and interventions to prevent conflict to address fragility, respond to global crises, and act as a stabilizing force in times of transition. These efforts optimize USAID's effectiveness and directly support the President's National Security Strategy to contribute to American security and stability.

Third, I would strengthen and elevate the U.S. Government's humanitarian voice, both within the interagency and on the world stage. The U.S. Government is the

largest donor of humanitarian aid, and we must use our leadership role to encourage consistent adherence to international humanitarian principles as well as to leverage additional financial support for the greatest needs.

Last, but certainly not least, I would work to improve the administration's ability to identify fragile states and deliver corrective, mitigating measures. By further strengthening civil-military collaboration, USAID can play a key role in combining foreign assistance, diplomatic engagements, and defense strategy to effectively stabilize conflict-affected areas.

In a world as complex as ours, with our national security challenged by a myriad of threats with global reach, we must bring to bear the entirety of our statecraft toolbox, including our most sophisticated development tools. If confirmed as USAID Associate Administrator for Relief, Response, and Resilience, I pledge to be a strong advocate for our mission and our people; to take full advantage of the tremendous expertise of our workforce and partners; and to be a good steward of taxpayer dollars—always a precious resource, especially in these trying times. I would be humbled everyday by the incredible work of humanitarian assistance and development professionals around the globe, and I look forward to the service, challenge, and teamwork alongside them.

Thank you for your time. It is an honor to appear before you today. I look forward to your questions.

Senator YOUNG. Thank you, Ms. McGee.

Next, we will hear from the Honorable Steven Dowd, who has been nominated to serve as the U.S. director of the European Bank for Reconstruction in Development.

Mr. Dowd served as the U.S. executive director of the African Development Bank since 2017. He has been responsible for overseeing that organization's audit in finance activities, and in that capacity he has helped lead America's growing developmental infrastructure and monetary activities on the African continent.

He previously worked for over three decades in the private sector and has been the leader of major multi- industry companies.

Mr. Dowd, thank you for being here and please proceed.

STATEMENT OF HON. J. STEVEN DOWD OF FLORIDA, TO BE UNITED STATES DIRECTOR OF THE EUROPEAN BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

Mr. DOWD. Chairman Young, Ranking Member Merkley, and distinguished members of the Foreign Relations Committee, it is a great honor to appear before you today as the nominee to serve as executive director of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Before discussing my background in the EBRD, I would like to introduce my wife, Lillian. Lillian is an attorney and an ardent defender of legal rights for women and girls in Africa.

We share a great love for Africa. My deepest thanks to Lillian and our three children, Steven, Thomas, and Andrea, for their love and support.

Also watching today is my college professor from more than four decades ago, Professor Frederick Schweitzer of Manhattan College.

Serving at the African Development Bank has been a privilege. It is not an easy job but it is immensely satisfying. Tough issues from strategic program design and implementation to complex and sensitive governance issues need to be addressed in a balanced but firm manner.

Americans are the most generous people in the world, but often multilateral institutions have become ineffective and often driven by political agendas.

International cooperation can be important and constructive. But it should serve U.S. interests by working toward clear benefits for the people of developing countries.

American leadership is essential to revitalizing and renewing multilateral development assistance.

Due in part to its many successes in private sector-led growth and promoting democratic value systems aligned to ours, many EBRD countries are valued allies and important trading partners of the United States.

The EBRD support plays a crucial role in the southern and eastern Mediterranean region as well as in Ukraine, Mongolia, and Central Asia.

In fact, the EBRD is one of the few instruments the U.S. has to engage in Central Asia at a time of Belt and Road, and great power competition, as mentioned by Senator Young.

Having said that, the EBRD is at a crossroads and the United States will be an essential voice and a consensus leader in shaping the bank's direction and purpose in the years ahead.

Rather than expanding into sub-Saharan Africa, the EBRD should finish the job in its existing portfolio. Knowing African finance and some African leaders well, I would leave the door open to deeper African engagement to the future.

The bank must accelerate prosperity by crowding in private capital many times bigger than the collective capital at EBRD from investment funds, sovereign wealth funds, pension funds, insurance funds, and other pools of long-term funds.

There are other challenges facing the EBRD, from debt sustainability to the economic shock of COVID-19, as discussed by Senator Merkley.

There is much work to be done. My experience in development banking and finance, coupled with private sector executive experience, provide me with a skill set well suited to the challenges at the EBRD.

Charting the course forward, the bank must be guided by its democratically grounded mandate that assists clients toward market-oriented growth and investment, promotes entrepreneurial initiative, fortifies banking and credit systems, and bolsters legal frameworks to support contract and property rights.

These are the components of shared prosperity, peace, and stability. I will resolutely safeguard our nation's vital interests and deeply-rooted values at the EBRD should you allow me the opportunity to serve as executive director.

Thank you again for the opportunity to appear before you today. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Dowd follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF J. STEVEN DOWD

Chairman Young, Ranking Member Merkley, and distinguished members of the Foreign Relations Committee, it is a great honor to appear before you today as the nominee to serve as Executive Director of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Before discussing my background and the EBRD, I would like to introduce my wife, Lillian. Lillian is an attorney and an ardent defender of legal rights for women and girls in Africa. We share a great love for Africa. My deepest thanks to Lillian and our three children Steven, Thomas and Andrea for their love and support. Also

watching today is my college professor from more than four decades ago: Professor Frederick Schweitzer of Manhattan College.

Serving as United States Executive Director at the African Development Bank has been a privilege. It's not an easy job. But it is one that is immensely satisfying as it can potentially unleash forces that improves the lives and livelihoods of millions. However, tough issues—from strategic design and implementation to complex and sensitive governance issues—need to be addressed in a balanced but firm manner.

In my view, development assistance is not a charitable exercise, nor is multilateralism an end in itself. Americans are the most generous people in the world. They have always been forthcoming and willing to support those less fortunate. Their generosity extends beyond immediate neighborhoods and borders as they are keen to lend a helping hand to all around the globe. They want a better life for people living thousands of miles away, who they may never know. I believe that these hard-earned dollars must be safeguarded rather than taken for granted by ensuring they are used for the purposes intended and delivers the greatest impact. Traditionally, this has been achieved by complementing our bilateral support with multilateral assistance.

Although the objectives of the multilateral institutions remain relevant, in many cases these institutions have become ineffective and often driven by political agendas. The attention to results, value for money and focus on the client, ie. the disadvantaged, is often neglected or misplaced. Nonetheless, the U.S. agreed to large capital increases, and negotiated substantial reform packages, for the World Bank and the African Development Bank. However, especially at a time when many Americans have lost their jobs, American tax dollars need to be as effectively managed as possible. International cooperation can be important and constructive. American leadership will be essential to revitalizing and renewing the mission and focus of multilateral development assistance.

The EBRD was set up in 1991 in response to the fall of the Berlin Wall. The EBRD has helped dozens of countries establish democratic capitalism. Many of the countries where EBRD works are now members of the EU and NATO and are valued allies and important trading partners of the United States. EBRD should focus its efforts on countries where the private sector is less well developed and EBRD support can have a larger impact, for example in Central Asia, and with vital national security partners across the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean. Conversely, it should reduce its engagement in more advanced European countries, through a graduation process.

The EBRD has been a critical partner in times of democratic change and even upheaval in Ukraine, Mongolia and Central Asia. In fact, the EBRD is one of the few instruments the United States has to engage in Central Asia at a time of Belt and Road and Great Power competition.

The EBRD is one of the largest investors in many countries where it operates in support of private sector growth and enjoys trust, great prestige and influence in those countries. It certainly deserves our close attention.

The EBRD has strong finances, with significant room to increase investment. In the current crisis, the EBRD should look to increase its investment portfolio to help address immense private sector needs, particularly for small and medium size enterprises. In doing so, it should carefully guard its AAA rating and avoid coming back to shareholders for additional capital.

Having said that, the EBRD is at a crossroads and I believe the United States is an essential voice in shaping the bank's direction and purpose in the years ahead. Briefly, the EBRD has to decide whether to focus on its current footprint of countries which encompasses the original countries in the post-Soviet world along with Middle Eastern and North African countries. Or, to expand its mission to encompass sub-Saharan African countries (and potentially beyond). Given this choice, we believe the bank should focus on the first option: the current footprint of countries and "finish the job" before seeking to expand to additional countries. I hasten to add that, given my familiarity with African finance and friendship with some leaders in Africa, and as the largest shareholder of the EBRD at 10% of the shares, the United States will be an active and engaged shareholder in this and all future debates.

In my business career I would often ask colleagues: "what business are we in?" They might say we are in the widget business. I would say, "no, we are in the leverage business." It is the same in the development banking business: our job is to leverage the collective capital of the shareholders to do more with less. We must accelerate prosperity by "crowding in" private capital many times bigger than the collective capital at the EBRD making use of current and new financial instruments that only a development institution can bring to bear. Investment funds, sovereign wealth funds, pensions funds, insurance funds and other pools of long-term funds

must be incentivized to engage vigorously in development. They can and should be brought to the table. For this is a win-win for all of the players around the table.

There are other immediate challenges facing the EBRD—among them pending leadership changes, Brexit, a crisis in remittance flows, and, certainly not least of all, debt sustainability. Of course, these challenges are made more complicated given the economic shock of Covid-19 and its aftermath. There is much work to be done. My experience in development banking and finance coupled with private sector executive experience, provide me with a skill-set well suited to the challenges at the EBRD.

Charting the course forward, the bank must be guided by its founding mandate. A democratically grounded mandate, that assists clients toward market-oriented growth and investment; promotes entrepreneurial initiative; fortifies banking and credit systems; and bolsters legal frameworks to support contract and property rights.

Good governance and free enterprise underpin fundamental freedoms and the rule of law, the sure path to innovation and wealth creation. These are the components of shared prosperity, peace and stability—the reward for which is a better future.

I will resolutely safeguard our nation's vital interests and deeply-rooted values, and vigorously represent your fiduciary oversight obligations at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development—should you allow me the opportunity to serve as U.S. Executive Director.

Chairman Young, Senator Merkley, and members of the committee, I thank you for this opportunity to appear before you, and look forward to your questions.

Senator YOUNG. Thank you, Mr. Dowd.

Our next nominee is the Honorable Richard Mills, who is the nominee to be deputy ambassador and deputy representative of the United States to the United Nations bodies in New York.

Mr. Mills is a career member of the Senior Foreign Service Class of Minister-Counselor. He currently serves as the Chargé d'Affaires of the U.S. Embassy to Canada, and from 2015 to 2018 served as the U.S. ambassador to Armenia.

In a career of service spanning three decades, Mr. Mills has additionally served as a diplomat in Lebanon, Malta, Iraq, the United Kingdom, Saudi Arabia, Ireland, Russia, France, and Pakistan.

He has also served as a political officer in the U.S. mission to the United States and in numerous positions here in Washington.

Mr. Mills, please proceed.

STATEMENT OF HON. RICHARD M. MILLS OF TEXAS, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE THE DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNITED NATIONS, WITH THE RANK AND STATUS OF AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY

Mr. MILLS. Thank you, Chairman Young. I appreciate that introduction, and my thanks as well to Ranking Member Merkley, distinguished members of the committee.

I am very honored to appear before you today as the president's nominee to serve as the deputy representative of the United States to the United Nations.

As the chairman mentioned, I have been privileged to serve on behalf of the American people in many places during my career in the U.S. Foreign Service, including in Armenia as ambassador and, most recently, here in Ottawa where I lead an outstanding team at the U.S. mission to Canada.

But it will be a special privilege for me if I am confirmed to join Ambassador Kelly Craft's team and return to the U.S. mission to

the United Nations where I previously had the great privilege of serving from 2001 to 2003.

That experience provided me insight into the strengths and the weaknesses of the U.N. system. The strengths are real. I think we see those strengths in conflict and post-conflict zones where the U.N. blue helmets can provide space for peace to take root.

We see them where U.N. agencies such as UNICEF and the World Food Program save lives and bring hope to devastated communities, and I see those strengths when the U.N. Security Council applies meaningful sanctions to rogue states such as North Korea and Iran.

In all of these examples of U.N. effectiveness, Mr. Chairman, I think you find the United States at the center of the action. It is my view that the U.N. would quickly, in fact, lose its bearings without the continuing stewardship and leadership of the United States.

I say that because no other nation demands more of the U.N. than the United States. I say that because the values on which the U.N. is founded are American values: peace, protection of human rights, respect for sovereignty, and we need to defend those values.

And I say that because even now, 75 years after the creation of the U.N., a majority of member states still look, I believe, to the United States to lead the way.

Mr. Chairman, the weaknesses in the U.N. system are apparent as well. The COVID crisis dramatically, for example, underscored the need for an incredible and effective World Health Organization.

Unfortunately, the WHO's failings in response to the crisis have underscored to the United States and to our like-minded partners that we must demand maximum transparency from international organizations and never allow individual member states to politicize technical international agencies like the WHO, and if it happens, the United States must act.

I do believe positive steps have been taken in recent years to improve accountability in the entire U.N. system. Since my previous tour at the U.N. mission I have seen increased scrutiny of peacekeeping mandates and that has improved the efficiency and the effectiveness of peacekeeping missions.

Secretary General Guterres has taken important steps to improve transparency and strengthen reporting requirements. But, as I think we all know, this is an ongoing process. So, if confirmed, I look forward to supporting Ambassador Craft, her team, and the hard continuing work of promoting oversight and making sure there is continuing reform.

Mr. Chairman, other members states, as we have heard from the other panelists, can and need to do more to support financially the world's expanding humanitarian needs.

Last year, the United States contributed more than \$9 billion to U.N. humanitarian responses. Unfortunately, the needs outstrip the resources.

As the situations in Syria, Yemen, Venezuela continue to worsen, the United States is asking U.N. members to do more.

In addition, as you mentioned, Mr. Chairman, I am aware that there are other actors on the global stage that pose challenges to the U.N.'s core principles and to American values—a more asser-

tive China, for example, which his eager to assume leadership, leadership roles across the U.N. system, and then use U.N. venues to advance its own ideology and self-interested vision for global development.

Iran continues to fuel conflict in Syria, Yemen, and Iraq. Russia, too, is hard at work propping up the Assad and the Maduro regimes, and shielding both of them from international action in the Security Council.

This is all to say, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, that in a complex world an effective U.N. remains crucial to protecting America's interest in the world.

If confirmed, I look forward to helping the U.N. mission ensure the U.N. remains an effective tool.

Thank you. I welcome your questions and your comments.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Mills follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF RICHARD M. MILLS, JR.

Thank you, Chairman Risch, Ranking Member Menendez, and distinguished members of the committee. I am honored to appear before you today as the President's nominee to serve as the Deputy Representative of the United States to the United Nations.

I am also honored to have—off-camera—with me today my much better half, Leigh Carter. Leigh and I met early in our respective Foreign Service careers, married as entry-level officers thirty years ago, and throughout my time in the U.S. Foreign Service, she has been a mentor, a true partner, and most of all a wise sounding board for me.

I am grateful to have had the opportunity to serve on behalf of the U.S. people in many places during my thirty year career in the Foreign Service, including in Armenia as U.S. Ambassador and most recently in Ottawa where I led for the past ten months the outstanding team at the U.S. Mission to Canada. But it will be a particular pleasure for me, if confirmed, to join Ambassador Craft's team at USUN, where I previously served in the early 2000s. Ambassador Craft chose me to serve as her deputy chief of mission in Canada in 2018 and we worked together for nine months before she left Ottawa for New York. She was a caring, thoughtful leader of the team in Canada and I am proud of what the team at Mission Canada accomplished under her leadership. If confirmed, I look forward to working with the Ambassador and helping the team she has assembled at USUN achieve U.S. policy priorities at the U.N.

Mr. Chairman, as I mentioned, I served at USUN once before, from 2001-2003. A time when the U.N. system faced two of its greatest post-war challenges: the aftermath of 9/11 and marshalling support for the reconstruction of post-Saddam Iraq. That experience provided me insight into the strengths and weaknesses of the U.N. system. The strengths are real, and often evident in circumstances of dire human need and conflict. It is evident in conflict and post-conflict zones where U.N. blue helmets provide the space for peace to take root. It is in these same environments where UNICEF and the World Food Program save lives and bring hope to devastated communities. It is through the Security Council that meaningful sanctions can be applied to rogue states such as Iran, and unwelcome scrutiny can be applied to the conduct of corrupt actors such as Nicolas Maduro and Bashar al Assad. In all those examples of U.N. effectiveness, you will find the United States at the center of the action. In fact, Mr. Chairman, it is my view that the United Nations would quickly lose its bearings without the continuing stewardship of the United States.

I say that because no other nation demands more of the U.N. than the United States. I say that because the values upon which the U.N. is built are American values—peace, freedom, respect for sovereignty, individual liberties. And I say that because even now, 75 years after the U.N. was created, the majority of member states look to America to lead the way.

Mr. Chairman, an effective network of international organizations has never been more crucial to global peace, health, and prosperity. We need only consider the COVID-19 crisis to recognize the crucial need for a credible and effective World Health Organization. Unfortunately, WHO's failings in response to this crisis remind us that the United States and our like-minded partners must be vigilant, must

demand maximum transparency from organizations, and must never allow individual member states to contort or politicize these important international tools.

The World Health Organization's performance during the COVID pandemic is an important indicator that oversight and reform must be a continuous exercise, and meaningful accountability must be applied in instances of mismanagement or misconduct. Positive steps have been taken in recent years to improve transparency and accountability in the U.N. system, but that drumbeat must continue, and if confirmed, I will actively support that effort. Increased scrutiny of peacekeeping mandates has improved the efficiency and effectiveness of peacekeeping missions and in several instances resulted in missions being completed and closed.

Secretary-General Guterres has taken important steps to improve accountability and strengthen reporting requirements. We need to encourage further action to maximize the U.N.'s value to the American people and to American national security.

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, there is one reality at the United Nations that stubbornly refuses to yield, a reality that Ambassador Craft is fighting hard to counter, and that is anti-Israel bias. Far too often the United States stands in small company in our defense of Israel. If confirmed, I look forward to joining Ambassador Craft in her vigorous campaign to expose to the light this deplorable situation.

Combatting anti-Israel bias is first among Ambassador Craft's overarching priorities, but demonstrating American leadership on a broader scale runs a close second.

A few months ago, the Ambassador hosted a groundbreaking event in New York to assemble innovative private sector actors for discussion of unlocking the unlimited potential for partnership with the United Nations to advance humanitarian and development objectives.

That event aligns with the Ambassador's vision for a growing pool of private sector partners that can bring American expertise and innovation to some of the world's pressing challenges. I share the Ambassador's excitement about this potential, and if confirmed will look for every opportunity to advance her vision.

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, other member states can and should do more to support financially the world's expanding humanitarian needs. Last year the United States contributed more than 9 billion dollars to U.N. humanitarian responses, extending decades of American leadership in these efforts. Unfortunately, the needs outstrip the resources, and as the situations in Yemen, Syria, and Venezuela continue to worsen, the United States is asking more nations to do more. If confirmed, I will support Ambassador Craft's outreach to member states to encourage them to reconsider their current levels of support.

In addition, we must be cognizant of other forces at work on the global stage that pose challenges for American leadership. A more assertive China, for example, which is eager to assume leadership roles across the U.N. system and use U.N. venues to advance its own vision for global economic development.

Iran continues to roil its region, fueling conflict in Syria, Yemen, and Iraq. Russia too is hard at work propping up the Assad and Maduro regimes, and shielding both from international action at the Security Council.

All that to say, Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, that in a complex world the United Nations remains a crucial institution. An institution that, when effective, serves American interests and those of the global community. Maintaining the U.N.'s effectiveness requires the focus and skilled efforts of the outstanding team at USUN. I believe I am ready to add value to their efforts, and if confirmed I will endeavor to do so.

Thank you and I welcome your questions.

Senator YOUNG. Thank you, Mr. Mills.

Our next nominee is Mr. Jason Chung, who has been nominated to serve as the U.S. director of the Asian Development Bank with the rank of ambassador.

Mr. Chung currently serves as the U.S. alternative executive director of the ADB, a position he has served in since 2018 and represents the U.S. on the board of directors.

He previously served in the Treasury Department as the deputy assistant secretary for public affairs and had served in the department's International Affairs Office.

Mr. Chung previously worked as a consultant in Washington, D.C., as well as in the U.S. House of Representatives and for the state of Maryland.

Mr. Chung, please proceed.

STATEMENT OF JASON MYUNG-IK CHUNG OF VIRGINIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DIRECTOR OF THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR

Mr. CHUNG. Chairman Young, Senator Merkley, and members of the committee, I am honored to be President Trump's nominee to be U.S. director of the Asian Development Bank with the rank of ambassador.

I am grateful to Secretary Mnuchin for his confidence in recommending me for this position. I also appreciate the support from Undersecretary McIntosh and my colleagues at the Treasury Department.

I would like to acknowledge my wife, Suzanna, and sons, Davis and Alexander, and humbled to have the three of them in my life.

Likewise, I am grateful to my parents for their love and guidance throughout my life.

As the son of immigrants, it has been an incredible honor to serve my nation in various roles in government. As you said, Mr. Chairman, I served as deputy assistance secretary at the Treasury Department working on international affairs and development issues under then Undersecretary David Malpass.

I also gained firsthand appreciation for the legislative and oversight processes during my five years working in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Currently, as U.S. alternate director to the Asian Development Bank, I serve on the ADB's board of directors. I help advance the ADB's core mission of achieving a prosperous, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Asia and the Pacific while ensuring ADB's programs online with American goals, values, and policies.

The world is facing a profound public health and economic challenge and looks to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The United States and G-20 have called on international financial institutions and multilateral development banks to provide urgently needed financial and technical support to the developing world.

This support comes at a crucial time when resources are scarce and the needs are many. ADB is in the unique position to help bridge these gaps in an appropriate and thoughtful way.

It is imperative that the U.S. promotes transparency and exercises oversight authority at the ADB during this time.

While responding to the COVID-19 pandemic that has taken center stage at international institutions across the globe, I would note how ADB programs fit into the overall U.S. strategic interest.

During the past year and a half, the U.S. staff and I have set out goals to be achieved and we have begun to accomplish these goals.

One accomplishment includes the approval of a differentiated pricing scheme for sovereign loans. This initiative strengthens the ADB's financial sustainability by requiring upper middle income countries like China and Kazakhstan, among others, to pay increased premiums for borrowing from ADB.

This will help alleviate the need for U.S. taxpayer-funded capital increase and mirrors reforms the World Bank Group enacted a few years ago.

We also use our perch at ADB to advance debt transparency and sustainability. As the premier development and lending institution in the region, ADB has a key role to play in supporting the IMF and World Bank multi-pronged approach for addressing emerging debt vulnerabilities.

Given the vast development needs and financing gap in the region, we are also closely monitoring the activities of other financiers.

We strongly advocate for other institutions to follow sound development practices on debt sustainability, accountability, and anti-corruption, as well as enact vigorous environmental and social safeguards.

We are keenly aware of China's goals and ambitions through Belt and Road Initiatives or other instruments. We highlight the shortcomings of BRI to provide necessary lending safeguards, governance, and debt transparency.

We have arranged frameworks and MOUs with ADB and with USAID, OPIC, now DFC, to serve as high-quality transparent alternatives to the debt trap programs by China.

We have worked with our partners on the board of directors to prevent ADB projects from being introduced in nations and regions where state actions run contrary to American values.

For instance, the U.S. and our European partners prevented board approval of two ADB projects planned for Xinjiang, China. Legislative mandates such as trafficking in persons have provided us with strong tools to discourage institutions like the ADB from supporting programs and nations that abuse human rights.

If fortunate to be confirmed, I look forward to continuing with the progress that the office has made in advancing ADB's core mission and American values abroad.

I remain committed to alleviating corruption, enhancing transparency, and strengthening institutions in Asia and the Pacific.

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, thank you for allowing me to appear before you today. I look forward to working with you and members of both the Senate and the House in addressing our goals in Asia and the Pacific.

I look forward to answering any questions you may have and, if confirmed, I hope to foster a close working relationship with you and your staffs.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Chung follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF JASON MYUNG IK CHUNG

Before proceeding, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge my family. I want to thank my wife, Susannah, and two children, Davis and Alexander, for their love and support throughout this process. I am lucky and humbled to have the three of them in my life; they are my compass and they are truly the light of my life.

Likewise, I am grateful to my parents for their love and guidance throughout my life. They came to this country as immigrants, seeking a better life for themselves and their eventual family. Because of their hard work, perseverance, and many sacrifices, their son is now appearing before the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee. I am grateful for the life they provided me.

As the son of immigrants, it has been an incredible honor to serve my nation in various roles in government at different points in my life. Over my career, I served as a deputy assistant secretary at the U.S. Treasury Department, working on international affairs and development issues under the leadership of then-Under Secretary David Malpass. I also gained a first-hand appreciation for the legislative process during my 5 years working in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Now, in my current role as United States Alternate Director to the Asian Development Bank, I serve on the ADB's Board of Directors, representing the views of the United States at the institution. I help to advance the ADB's core mission of achieving "a prosperous, inclusive, resilient and sustainable Asia and the Pacific" all while making sure ADB's programs are in line with American goals, values, and the administration's larger Indo-Pacific Strategy.

Today, the world is facing a profound public health and economic challenge as it looks to respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. The United States and the G20 have called on the international financial institutions and multilateral development banks to provide urgently needed financial and technical support to many in the developing world. This support comes at a crucial time where resources are scarce, and needs are many.

The ADB is in a unique position to help bridge those gaps in an appropriate and thoughtful way. The ADB currently has different modalities and initiatives to assist in the health response, social protection, and economic recovery efforts. It is imperative that the United States promotes transparency and exercises its oversight authority at the ADB during this time to maximize the benefits of these initiatives and to mitigate any risks associated with expanded technical assistance, budget support, and project based loans to developing member countries.

While responding to the COVID-19 pandemic has taken center stage at international institutions across the globe, it is worth mentioning how the ADB and its programs fit into overall U.S. strategic interests. During the past year and a half, the U.S. staff and I have set out goals to achieve, and we have begun to accomplish these goals. One accomplishment included the approval of a "differentiated pricing" scheme for sovereign loans. Known as the "Diversification of Financing Terms," this initiative strengthens ADB's financial sustainability by requiring upper-middle income nations like China and Kazakhstan, among others, to pay increased premiums for borrowing from the ADB. This initiative will help alleviate the need for a U.S. taxpayer-funded capital increase and mirrors the reforms that the World Bank Group enacted a couple of years ago.

The "Diversification of Financing Terms" initiative is illustrative of our overarching desire to heighten financial sustainability at the ADB. Each day, we look for ways to enhance the sustainability of the institution. A more sustainable ADB will rely less on U.S. taxpayer-funded interventions now and in the future. Moreover, the additional income will bolster ADB's ability to support the poorest and most vulnerable countries in Asia and the Pacific, primarily through grants and concessional loans.

Additionally, we are using our perch at the ADB to advance debt transparency and sustainability. As the premier development institution in the region and the leading partner for many countries, including in the Pacific, ADB has a key role to play in supporting the IMF and World Bank's Multi-Pronged Approach for Addressing Emerging Debt Vulnerabilities. We are advancing this agenda through other avenues as well, such as the ongoing negotiations for the next replenishment of the Asian Development Fund.

Given the vast development needs and financing gaps in the region, we are also closely monitoring the activities of other financiers. We strongly advocate for other institutions to follow sound development practices on debt sustainability, rigorous environmental and social safeguards, accountability, and anti-corruption.

We are keenly aware of China's regional goals and ambitions, whether it is through Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) or other instruments. We are highlight the failure of BRI to provide necessary lending safeguards, governance, and debt transparency as well. I believe the ADB is a better partner for countries to help them achieve sustainable economic growth. We work to prevent heavy-handed Chinese interventions in Asian and Pacific nations, and we consult with our U.S. and international development partners to provide better alternatives for borrower nations in the region.

Within this vein, we have arranged frameworks and memoranda of understanding with the U.S. Agency for International Development and the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, now the Development Finance Corporation, to serve as high-quality, transparent alternatives to the debt-trap programs fueled by China. These efforts focus on helping the neediest countries, all while ensuring that these countries have a path toward sustainable economic growth.

We also have worked with our partners on the Board of Directors to prevent ADB projects from being introduced in nations and regions where state actions run contrary to American values. For instance, the United States and our European partners prevented Board approval of two ADB projects planned for Xinjiang, China. Legislative mandates, such as the trafficking in persons and human rights mandates have provided us with strong tools to discourage institutions like the ADB from supporting programs in nations whose governments are not complying with the minimum standards for trafficking in persons and are engaging in a pattern of gross violations of internationally recognized human rights.

If I am fortunate enough to be confirmed, I look forward to continuing the efforts and progress the Office of the U.S. Executive Director has made in advancing the ADB's core mission and American values abroad. I will remain steadfast in my efforts to alleviate corruption, enhance transparency, and strengthen institutions in Asia and the Pacific. I also will focus on creating sustainable economic growth in the region and raising median incomes. Finally, I will work to curtail China's opaque and non-market lending practices in Asia and the Pacific and I will continue to work with our U.S. and international partners to provide developing nations with better alternatives to Chinese lending.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for allowing me to appear before you today. I look forward to working with members of this committee and the interested members of both the Senate and the House in addressing all of our goals in Asia and the Pacific. I look forward to answering any questions you may have and, if confirmed, I hope to foster a close working relationship with you and your staffs as it relates to ADB's COVID-19 response initiatives and the ADB's role in Asia and the Pacific more broadly.

Senator YOUNG. Thank you, Mr. Chung.

Next, we will hear from Mr. Joseph Manso, who is the president's nominee to be U.S. Representative to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons with the rank of ambassador.

Mr. Manso is a career member of the Senior Foreign Service Class of Minister-Counselor and has served as a diplomat since 1985. He currently serves as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for International Organization Affairs where he has been since 2018.

He previously served as director in the Offices of the U.N. Political Affairs and Regional European Security Affairs as well as the Deputy Permanent Representative at the U.S. mission to NATO.

In a variety of diplomatic, law enforcement, and military affairs roles, he has served in Spain, Mexico, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Iraq, and at the U.N. in New York as well as roles here in Washington. He has also taught at the National War College.

Mr. Manso, please proceed.

STATEMENT OF JOSEPH MANSO OF NEW YORK, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, FOR THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR DURING HIS TENURE OF SERVICE AS UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE TO THE ORGANIZATION FOR THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

Mr. MANSO. Thank you, Chairman Young. Thank you, Ranking Member Merkley, and distinguished members of the committee.

It is an honor to come before this committee as the president's nominee to be the next U.S. Permanent Representative to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons.

If confirmed, I pledge to work closely with this committee and Members of Congress to advance U.S. interests at the OPCW.

I would not be here today without the support and love of my wife, Patricia, and my daughters, Lauren and Marissa. They have

shared my Foreign Service journey, moving 16 times in the past 35 years, usually without complaint.

I would also not be here without the love and support of my parents, Jose and Mary Manso. I thank them and all my family.

We are all patriots here and none of us requires further proof of the goodness of the United States. But the fact that this country has offered so much to the son of an immigrant from Spain underlines how America remains a land of opportunity.

It is for me a privilege to serve the American people as a Foreign Service Officer and I have sought throughout my career to protect and advance the interests of the United States whether at NATO, United Nations, the OSCE, or my bilateral postings.

If confirmed, this OPCW assignment would be a logical follow-on to my years of multilateral work in the Foreign Service.

The mission of the OPCW to end the development, production, stockpiling, transfer, and use of chemical weapons is essential to the security of the American people.

This mission has had strong and continuous bipartisan support since the Chemical Weapons Convention, the CWC, entered into force in 1997.

In April 2017, President Trump stated it is in the vital national security interests of the United States to prevent and deter the spread and use of deadly chemical weapons.

The United States has made it a priority to restore deterrence against the use of chemical weapons. In the past two years, the United States and its partners led efforts at the OPCW to take action seeking to stop further chemical weapons use.

In June 2018, States Parties of the OPCW agreed to an unprecedented decision condemning recent uses of chemical weapons in the U.K., Malaysia, and in Syria by the Assad regime the 2018 decision directing the OPCW to establish attribution arrangements for the use of chemical weapons in Syria.

The OPCW is mandated to identify perpetrators for use of chemical weapons in Syria, which the OPCW has addressed through the creation of the Investigative and Identification Team, the IIT.

The IIT released its first report in April 2020, attributing responsibility to the Assad regime, which it identified as the perpetrator of three chemical weapons attacks that occurred in Syria in March 2017.

In response to the report, the United States is urging responsible states to work together to push for accountability for the Syrian regime's confirmed use of chemical weapons, looking at the full array of tools available at the OPCW, the U.N., and to us as sovereign states.

Chemical weapons use will not be tolerated.

Another example of U.S. leadership in addressing chemical weapons use was in response to the Salisbury and Amesbury incidents involving military-grade nerve agents referred to as Novichoks.

The United States, Canada, and the Netherlands jointly submitted a proposal to add two chemical families of Novichoks to the Annex to the Convention. This proposal was adopted by consensus at last year's Conference of the States Parties.

The additions of these lethal nerve agents developed by the former Soviet Union will ensure their declaration and subject them to verification by the OPCW.

This change that goes into effect next week represents the first ever addition to the CWC Annex on Chemicals and reflects the convention's adaptability to current threats.

If confirmed, I would be honored to aggressively take forward this work, which have been accomplished thus far through U.S. leadership.

If the United States is to succeed in restoring deterrence against chemical weapons use and driving chemical weapons use to zero, we must continue to support these efforts.

And now the most beautiful words in the English language, Mr. Chairman, in conclusion, I am proud of what the United States has accomplished at the OPCW and, if confirmed, I would be honored to be part of the administration's team committed to effective multilateralism and advancing our national security objective of seeking a world free of chemical weapons.

Thank you.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Manso follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF JOSEPH MANSO

Mr. Chairman, Ranking Member Merkley, and distinguished members of the committee: it is an honor to come before this committee as President Trump's nominee to be the next U.S. Permanent Representative to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW). I am grateful for and humbled by the confidence the President and Secretary Pompeo have placed in me. If confirmed, I pledge to work closely with this committee and Members of Congress to advance U.S. interests in the OPCW. If confirmed, this OPCW assignment would be a logical follow-on to my years in the Foreign Service, and I would not be here without the love and support of my wife, Patricia, and my daughters Lauren and Marisa. They have shared my Foreign Service journey, moving 16 times in the past 34 years, usually without complaint. I would also not be here without the love and support of my parents, Jose and Mary Manso. I thank them and all my family.

We are all patriots here, and none of us requires further proof of the goodness of the United States, but the fact that this country has offered so much to the son of an immigrant from Spain underlines how America remains a land of opportunity. It is for me a privilege to serve the American people as a Foreign Service Officer, and I have sought throughout my career to protect and advance the interests of the United States, whether at NATO, the United Nations, the OSCE, or my bi-lateral postings.

The mission of the OPCW, to end the development, production, stockpiling, transfer, and use of chemical weapons, is essential to the security of the American people. This mission has had strong and continuous bipartisan support since the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) entered into force in 1997.

In April 2017, President Trump stated, "It is in the vital national security interests of the United States to prevent and deter the spread and use of deadly chemical weapons." The United States has made it a priority to restore deterrence against the use of chemical weapons and has made clear its national security importance.

In the past two years, the United States and its partners led efforts at the OPCW to stop further chemical weapons use. In June 2018, the OPCW Conference of the States Parties adopted an unprecedented decision condemning recent uses of chemical weapons in the UK, Malaysia, Iraq, and in Syria by the Assad regime. The 2018 decision directed the OPCW to establish arrangements to identify perpetrators for use or likely use of chemical weapons in Syria, which the OPCW accomplished through the creation of the Investigation and Identification Team (the "IIT"). The IIT released its first report in April and attributed to the Assad regime responsibility for three chemical weapons attacks in March 2017. In response to the report, the United States is urging responsible states to work together to push for accountability for the Assad regime's confirmed use of chemical weapons and to prevent further use, looking at the full array of tools available at the OPCW, the U.N., and belonging to sovereign states. CW use will not be tolerated.

Another example of U.S. leadership in addressing chemical weapons use was in response to the Salisbury and Amesbury incidents involving the military-grade nerve agent referred to as Novichoks. The United States, Canada, and the Netherlands jointly submitted a proposal to add two chemical families of Novichoks to Schedule 1 of the Annex on Chemicals to the Convention, which was adopted by consensus at last year's Conference of the States Parties. The addition of these lethal nerve agents developed by the former Soviet Union will subject them to the routine verification requirements under the Convention. This change, which goes into effect next week, represents the first-ever addition to the CWC Annex on Chemicals in the Convention's history and reflects the Convention's adaptability to current threats.

If confirmed, I would be honored to take forward this work, which has been accomplished thus far through tireless U.S. leadership. If the United States is to succeed in restoring deterrence against chemical weapons use and driving chemical weapons use to zero, we must continue to support these efforts, and we must encourage and support proactive initiatives against chemical weapons development, production, stockpile, and use.

If confirmed by the Senate, I will work to ensure that the OPCW remains a viable and effective force for promoting a world free from chemical weapons by addressing possible future chemical weapons threats. In October 2019, the United States, Australia, Switzerland and 21 additional co-sponsors launched an initiative to adopt a set of decisions making clear States Parties' understanding that under the CWC the aerosolized use of central nervous system (CNS)-acting chemicals for law enforcement is impermissible. The United States is working to create a broad coalition of states committed to ensuring there is no use of CNS-acting chemicals as chemical weapons.

This administration has emphasized it is crucial to call out non-compliance with the Convention to make clear such behavior is not acceptable, and to prevent further malign behavior. I fully support this administration priority. The United States announced its assessment of Iran's non-compliance with the Convention in its national statement to the Fourth CWC Review Conference in November 2018. The United States highlighted its assessment that the Russian Federation violated the Convention when it used a Novichok in an assassination attempt in the United Kingdom. Sadly, the Syrian regime has used chemical weapons repeatedly against the Syrian people as a means to gain a military advantage and to terrorize people into submission. And in November 2019 in its national statement at the OPCW Conference of the States Parties, the United States also raised to States Parties' attention Burma's non-compliance with the Chemical Weapons Convention. This demonstrates the United States' concerted effort to address CWC non-compliance and not to allow these violations to go unchallenged. I am fully committed to making it clear that States Parties must comply with their obligations under the Chemical Weapons Convention. In the case of Burma, we are working with that Government to help them come into compliance with their obligations, having engaged with them repeatedly on these issues, including by declaring and destroying a historic chemical weapons production facility, most recently with a bilateral consultation in late February in the Burmese capital, Nay Pyi Taw.

In conclusion, I am proud of what the United States, States Parties and the OPCW together have accomplished thus far. If confirmed, I will be honored to be part of the administration's team committed to effective multilateralism and advancing our national security objective of seeking a world free of chemical weapons and driving chemical weapons use to zero.

Thank you.

Senator YOUNG. Well, thank you, Mr. Manso. Thank you all for your previous service and for your willingness to be nominated for these posts.

We will now open it up for questions from the committee, and I suppose I have prerogative since I am chairing this hearing. But I will defer to our ranking member, Senator Merkley, if he would like to proceed.

Senator MERKLEY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will jump right in then.

And, Ms. McGee, when we had the chance to talk I noted that we are in an incredibly challenging world situation. Existing famines, complicated by weather the last year, locusts, COVID-19, and

military conflicts are expected to double the number of people on the planet who are in acute food shortages, from about 135 million to, roughly, twice that—265 million to 270 million people.

I had asked if you would meet with leaders of groups like Mercy Corps. I gather you did that yesterday. And maybe you could just give us a little bit of a sense of the role those organizations play in partnership with USAID and any insights that you might have gained from that dialogue.

Ms. MCGEE. Thank you, Senator.

Indeed, we did have that session yesterday and I very much appreciated the active participation and the candor and the viewpoints that were shared by the associations and the groups that attended.

As you can imagine, COVID-19 response was foremost in many of their minds. The guidance and operating conditions that they are contending with are challenging, both, of course, on a humanitarian response perspective as well as to continue a long-term development work.

They are certainly aware of USAID's priority and approach along with the State Department to do work that would help prevent backsliding and loss of some of the gains, the hard-fought gains, that have been achieved on the development and the spectrum of USAID, its partners, and the host nations abroad.

So USAID, along with the other COVID strategies, are working on, of course, the global health emergency aspect as well as working to prevent further humanitarian consequences of existing complex crises and anything that could further exacerbate that.

So USAID and the partners are on the ground working as best they can. Of course, they are contending with logistical impacts, as you and I also discussed, in relation to some of the movement restrictions that are being caused by the response to COVID-19.

I will say that Yemen was also raised as a concern. Of course, that is the largest humanitarian crisis in the world. The U.S. remains one of the largest donors to the humanitarian response and so the continuing and exacerbating conditions on the ground there in Yemen were also highlighted.

And then there were some questions about USAID organization when some of the particulars will manifest such that the agencies and organizations will see them. But they also, certainly, shared their passion, their commitment on the ground of their workers and appreciating that we will have a candid and close working relationship.

I committed that to them and I certainly ask them for their candid feedback at all times, and we emphasize with one another the importance of that exchange that I spoke about, certainly the best intents that all of us have, you know, in Washington or on the staff to put forward policies or operating guidance that does not always necessarily come out, you know, the chute in the best most ideal way, you know, in the context of an operating environment. And so that dialogue was necessary.

Senator MERKLEY. I am going to cut you off there because you have answered the question. Thank you very much for meeting with those groups and to have an ongoing dialogue with them,

their expertise and their role in delivering assistance around the planet.

Mr. Dowd, I wanted to turn to the role of the EBRD. It often focuses on project loans, equity investments, and guarantees to the private sector.

Right now economic havoc is afflicting Greece, Albania, Bosnia, and Herzegovina, other countries in southeastern Europe that are impacted by the pandemic in all kinds of ways including the role of tourism.

Should they be a special focus of the bank in the year or two to come?

Mr. DOWD. Thank you, Senator.

Certainly, and I have some encouraging news there. I am not at the bank, obviously, yet so I do not know the details.

But I understand that the bank has allocated, I believe, \$21 billion for short-term liquidity assistance to small and medium-sized businesses in the bank's portfolio, and I believe in the longer run the bank has dedicated most of the 2020 program and the 2021 program to COVID-related effects and aftermath of the COVID.

So I think the bank has taken steps and, certainly, this will be a key area as these countries, the countries in the portfolio, seek to rebuild after the devastating financial consequences of the virus.

And also, it is another reason to at least postpone any thinking of expanding the bank's portfolio. It seems that would be ill timed as the resources of the bank will be in such demand in the countries you identified and other countries.

Senator MERKLEY. And I found it very interesting when you talked about the potential plan for sub-Saharan Africa and your sense that that is not the right thing to do at this moment and you are bringing expertise directly from the African Development Bank to that conversation.

The European Investment Bank, the lending arm of the European Union, announced in November that it would phase out possible fuel investments by the end of 2021, citing the worldwide impacts of carbon pollution and climate chaos on the human condition.

Is it time for the EBRD to follow suit?

[Pause.]

Mr. DOWD. I am sorry. Okay.

Senator, the EBRD, I think, is, from what I can see, and I am not there, but I think they are aggressively pursuing programs along those lines. I do not know the details.

But as a consensus-driven organization, I think that there is a consensus for strengthening programs along these lines and I think you will be pleased.

I mean, you and I spoke during my interview there, and I appreciated that very much, about this very topic and that is something I will monitor and I would certainly welcome the input from you and your staff in helping guide our interaction at the bank.

Senator YOUNG. Senator Merkley?

Senator MERKLEY. Yes?

Senator YOUNG. We may have—if I could—if I could just interject. I think we are going to have a number of senators with great interest in our nominees here wanting to ask questions.

So we may circle back. The hearing has been scheduled until noon so if time permits opportunity for—

Senator MERKLEY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will just note on that point, Mr. Dowd, that the EBRD is continuing to finance possible fuel projects, Romanian-based Black Sea oil and gas, bonds with possible fuel companies in Ukraine, Bulgaria, Greece, Turkey, and Egypt, gas grid projects, the Trans Adriatic and Trans Anatolian pipelines.

So, certainly, you are not yet following the path of the European Investment Bank, but for the same reasons that bank cited its change of policy I think it is a conversation that is important for us to be part of as we consider the humanitarian impacts on the economy and the environment around the world.

Thanks so much.

Senator YOUNG. Thank you, Senator Merkley.

Ambassador Mills, you previously served at the U.S. mission to the United Nations, as I indicated in your introduction, from 2001 to 2003. That was back when John Negroponte was our ambassador.

What has changed? I am going to ask some fairly short questions here as kind of a lightning round. So perhaps you could give me a tight answer, if possible.

But what has changed about the United States' relationship with that institution, with the United Nations, from your standpoint since you last served there?

Mr. MILLS. I think the United States is much more focused on reform, accountability, and transparency, and we have seen some results, and I think that is the biggest difference since I was last there.

When I was there in 2001 to 2003, we were all shocked by the beginning reports about sexual exploitation and abuse in some of the peacekeeping operations, and I think we have seen some real reform there.

I think Secretary General Guterres has an annual report now that comes out that describes where the zero tolerance policy is being followed. There is more engagement with the troop-contributing countries.

And so, to me, that is one example how a bit more aggressive focus on reform and transparency has made a difference because of our leadership.

Senator YOUNG. Thank you, Ambassador.

Next question is for Colonel McGee.

Colonel McGee, the conflict in Yemen is one in which I have been deeply involved with a number of my colleagues. There has been a lot of focus on the extent to which food insecurity plays a role in feeding greater desperation and leading to more conflict.

For a period of time I focused on what I regarded as violations of the law or from the coalition, and my hope is that we can eventually find a political agreement, a path towards peace.

So what is USAID doing now to prepare for eventual political agreement in Yemen that will open the door for greater international involvement in caring for those desperate people in that country?

Ms. MCGEE. Thank you, Senator.

I agree. I share your concern about the profound state of affairs that exist in Yemen and the ongoing fighting and displacement of personnel.

As we know, the Yemeni people have been suffering with tremendous humanitarian need and health crises that continue.

We are—USAID continues to provide lifesaving assistance both in the north and throughout the country as well as food assistance, water, sanitation, health care protection and those kinds of things.

It is a place where we want to closely monitor the use of our U.S. taxpayer dollars. That has been \$1.1 billion since the start of fiscal year '19 and so it is important that we are ensuring that those funds are being applied towards the most vulnerable people who need them and in the way that was intended when Congress appropriated the funds and as we are programming to do with our partners on the ground.

And so those provisions continue. We continue to participate in the donor conferences as well. There was just a pledging conference a couple of days ago.

The U.S. did participate and did attend and, as you know, we are contending with the situation in the north where the Houthis have been blocking aid and interfering with the provision of aid as intended and harassing aid workers.

So we continue to call on the Houthis with a concerted voice of groups to try to improve that situation and expand our programming.

Senator YOUNG. It is very difficult to give a tight answer when asked anything about Yemen. I have discovered that. So but that was—thank you so much for that fulsome response.

And, lastly, I will just ask, because my time is expiring as well, Mr. Chung, if you could try and address in a very concise fashion what you see the role of China and India being, looking ahead at the ADB in coming years.

I know that is a very large question. But if you have any reflections on that topic.

Mr. CHUNG. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

China and India are our two largest borrowers. So the idea is that, especially with China, I think the focus will always be now putting them on a path to graduation so they are no longer borrowers from the institution.

For India, India is a little bit more complicated due to the fact that, as you know, ADB's mission is to alleviate the poor and vulnerable. India is in quite a predicament as we speak.

So I think, in a way, they are going to continue to borrow both on the sovereign and nonsovereign side of the ledger and you will see probably increased programming in that country while we will push for decreased programming and loan support for China.

Senator YOUNG. Thank you, Mr. Chung.

I believe Senator Gardner is with us. In this Zoom era it can be sometimes difficult to determine if that is the case. I know Senator Gardner has gaveled in and has great interest in this topic. But we are often double and triple booked.

Senator Gardner, you are recognized if you are with us at this time.

[No response.]

Senator YOUNG. Otherwise, we will move on to another one of my colleagues. Okay.

Senator Cardin, who I know has been at another hearing, but he, too, is quite interested in this.

Senator Cardin, are you—are you with us for this hearing?

[No response.]

Senator YOUNG. Okay. Next is Senator Barrasso.

Senator Barrasso, you are recognized.

[No response.]

Senator YOUNG. Okay. It is a Thursday here in Washington. We tend to have a lot of hearings and votes before we fly back to our respective states.

Well, I will proceed with more questions then, and they only get harder. I am sorry.

So, Mr. Chung, what actions would you pursue as director to minimize China's attempt to squeeze Taiwan out of the ADB?

Mr. CHUNG. Thank you very much for that question.

I can tell you, as we speak we are addressing these concerns at the institution.

Right now, I will be honest with you, there is unequal treatment of Taiwan and Taiwanese nationals at the institution and we are working with our Taiwanese board colleague to address those issues.

We are going to—we have already asked my colleagues at the Treasury Department to send notes to ADB management on this topic and we are in the process of discussing these issues in terms of unequal treatment and fairer treatment for a founding member of the institution as well.

Senator YOUNG. I look forward to staying in touch, should you be confirmed, on that topic. I imagine that once—it is going to be one that we in Congress continue to press on, and I know this administration is quite interested in that.

Are there members, Mr. Chung, of the ADB that, to put it colloquially, are not pulling their weight as it relates to their contributions and can you name them.

Mr. CHUNG. Mr. Chairman, that is somewhat of a loaded question, I will be honest with you. You know, I do think that with our colleagues and with our partners, especially the Europeans, that we are working in every capacity to prevent impropriety that takes place in the bank, namely, from the Chinese.

I think we are working together to encourage the bank to graduate China. I think at times there are geopolitical consequences with China being the largest neighbor in the region and some of the bilateral force that they bring to be bear being that neighbor.

But I do believe there is some impetus and a role that the Europeans, Australians, as well as the Japanese. We are firmly addressing the issue as it relates to China.

And there is also issues regarding bank processes and institutional constructs that we are looking to address with those who are like-minded with us as well.

Senator YOUNG. Okay.

Mr. Dowd, what value does the United States provide to and derive from our involvement in the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development?

Mr. DOWD. Thank you, Senator.

As I mentioned in my opening statement and expand a little bit in my written statement that I submitted, the—particularly focusing on Central Asia, it is one of the very few channels the United States has to engage there and this—Central Asia is sort of the heart of the Belt and Road program and the EBRD has been very effective there and I think it is something that is to the U.S. benefit.

Also in the Mediterranean, as I mentioned earlier also, in the Middle Eastern area I think it is another means for like-minded countries that are interested in democratic development in the long run—it is not an easy process—but especially a hearing to the rule of law, because in many of these countries, as in Africa, as I experienced, we are engaged in how it might be described as the rule of law versus corruption.

And I, for one, have no tolerance for corruption, and any of these institutions should be leading the way on anti-corruption, both within their institutions and beyond and all their clients, and this is something that I assure you will be a high priority to me at the EBRD.

Thank you.

Senator YOUNG. So to what extent is the EBRD already—are they deeply involved in the Middle East and supporting development efforts there already or is that sort of something you see as important to the future? Help educate me on this, if you would, sir.

Mr. DOWD. Yes. In the eastern Mediterranean countries the bank is very engaged as well as in Egypt where there is a considerable portfolio.

I believe Egypt is the second largest client of the bank, Turkey being the first. But also across the Arab world, as you were mentioning, in Tunisia, in Morocco, certainly, and I think that there is interest in expanding possibly into Algeria and who knows, maybe Libya someday if things ever get to a point where they are settled enough to engage in private sector development.

But across many Middle Eastern countries, the bank is very engaged again in promoting democratic values and rules-based operations.

Thank you.

Senator YOUNG. Thank you. That is quite helpful.

I see Senator Merkley is with us and I will happily—if he would like to ask some additional questions I will happily recognize him at this time.

Otherwise, I am loaded with more questions and, as I said, they only get more difficult.

Senator MERKLEY. Mr. Chung, I wanted to turn to the Asian Development Bank, and you noted that China needs to be put on a path to graduation.

When do you—what date do you have in mind for China's graduation?

Mr. CHUNG. Senator, I wish I had a specific date in mind. The sooner the better, obviously. We are—as I noted in our bilateral meeting a couple weeks ago—ADB is in the process of working with China on their next five-year lending program and it is our

position as well as the Japanese position to put them on that path to graduation in that—in that document in that lending program.

If it was up to me, China would have graduated already and if it was up to me a little bit more I would put them—they would be graduating at the end of this five-year document, which is supposed to take place starting in 2021.

Senator MERKLEY. So thank you, Mr. Chung. Just to share with you my perspective on this, I have watched China do massive investments at home in metro systems, in freeways, on bullet trains.

How many miles—you may not know the answer to this but I will pose it rhetorically in case—unless you want to jump in. But how many miles of bullet trains does the U.S. have and how many miles does China have?

I will just pause for a second in case you wanted to jump in.

Mr. CHUNG. Sir, I do not know the answer of how many miles of bullet train rail that China has. I do believe I know what the answer is going to be in the United States and I could not agree with you more on these issues, and I think the priority is from my office and the office that—in the elevation position that I am seeking is to get China to graduate so they no longer are borrowers.

Senator MERKLEY. As you probably were—I know you said you knew the answer I am sure you were thinking zero in the United States.

Mr. CHUNG. Yes.

Senator MERKLEY. And I was on the very first link from Beijing to Tianjin. That was about—I think it was 200 kilometers or 200 miles, and that was not that many years ago. It is after I came to the Senate. I think it was about 2013, about seven years ago, and China now has 16,000 miles of bullet trains.

And just out of curiosity, as Chairman Young was interviewing you, I wanted to look up the highest tech magnetically levitated trains and I see a whole series of videos on YouTube about China having the fastest mag lev train in the world.

It bothers me subsidizing China, which is turning around and using its capital to do debt trap financing and I think you used that word in your testimony—debt trap financing.

It took me back to college when I read a book by Cheryl Payer called “The Debt Trap,” and at that time it was not about China. It was about other international institutions that were lending to very poor countries and then those countries’ elite were stashing their money in Switzerland and the whole country of very poor people was trapped trying to pay back that debt, which was a horrific situation.

But now we have China engaged in predatory actions of this nature. So I—if it was up to me, they would be cut off yesterday. I do not think we should be part of financing China.

I am still waiting for a bridge over the Columbia River where we still have an ancient bridge on wooden piers that interrupts the main north-south corridor on I-5 between Oregon and Washington.

And so you get my sense of concern about this. I also wanted to turn to the issue of China’s abuse of the Uighurs in Xinjiang and, basically, a million people put into a high-tech slave camp with facial recognition, cell phone tracking, concentrated almost slavery style work centers, and how—and just really feeling like the U.S.

has to take a major stand about this including blocking products being brought to the United States from this operation.

And how can the bank possibly play a role in highlighting and cutting off funding to anything involved or connected to that massive human rights abuse?

Mr. CHUNG. Senator, thank you very much for that question. As I noted in my testimony, I, along with my colleagues and my partners on the board, we essentially killed two projects that were slated for that province in China, Xinjiang.

And, you know, we felt that, you know, the measures undertaken by the Chinese authorities in that did not warrant any type of funding ADB would provide and, as you noted, it would be—it would be U.S. tax dollars subsidizing this problem.

And, Senator, I could not agree with you more. We are not going to stand for this and we will do everything in our power to make sure that, one, China does not receive any additional funding for that—for this province.

I have had assurances by bank management, and we are extremely vigilant on this key issue. Secondly, we are working on putting China on this path to graduation so they no longer are going to be borrowing from the Asian Development Bank also.

That is probably going to be my primary focus in my current position and if I am confirmed for the director position as well. You have my solemn word on that.

Senator MERKLEY. Thank you very much, Mr. Chung. I appreciate that.

And Mr. Mills, we had the opportunity to highlight this issue at the United Nations. Your thoughts on that?

Mr. MILLS. I share my panelist's concern about what is happening and yours as well, Senator. This is an issue that the U.N. needs to address.

The U.S. Government has, as you know, taken some action. We have taken visa restriction sanctions on PRC and local regional officials who we believe are responsible for the crimes you have outlined.

Treasury has put, I believe, over 15 PRC entities on its list—restricted list. So we are taking some action. The U.N. needs to take action, too.

I know it is a strong concern of Ambassador Craft and her team in New York and I know they press to bring light to it through whatever mechanisms they can in the U.N. and to assemble a coalition of like-minded states to press China to take action and stop these crimes.

Senator YOUNG. Thank you, Ambassador Mills.

I would like to recognize Senator Cardin of the great state of Maryland.

Senator Cardin?

Senator CARDIN. Thank you, Chairman Young.

And let me, first, thank all of the witnesses for not just being here today but for your willingness to serve our country.

I was listening to the hearing a little bit earlier. I know you called on me, I was dual tasking with two committees that are meeting at the same time. So very much I appreciate your response.

To Ms. McGee, I did hear your response to Senator Merkley in regards to the issue of what you are doing on trying to balance different priorities. This is a new division within State, and I guess my concern is this: We are very much interested in making sure America plays a key role in humanitarian assistance globally. That is part of our DNA. We want to make sure we are aggressively engaged in helping people that desperately need help around the world.

But we always do that within the parameters of our values—promoting human rights. So I just really want to get your view as to how do you balance a country that people desperately need human rights—desperately need humanitarian assistance, I should say—but have challenges as far as their governments, how they handle their human rights?

How do you leverage America's participation on humanitarian aid to advance the core values of this country in respecting basic human rights?

Ms. MCGEE. Thank you, Senator.

Our American values, as you say, are part of our DNA and underpin everything that we do. USAID uses a needs-based assessment for saving as many lives as possible and [audio malfunction in hearing room] being those who are most vulnerable and in greatest need.

And so we approach that need with as much, again, targeted contextual information and analysis as we can. We respect the needs and rights of those that we are seeking to help and that is the way in which we and our partners conduct our operations.

We work with as many partners and agencies as we can to deliver the best response and that is on policy level, at operational level, and on the ground, executing the programs.

Senator CARDIN. I would just make one additional observation. We are not doing the people any favors when we provide humanitarian aid that gets diverted to corrupt regimes and does not reach the individuals themselves—the people themselves.

So we have to have a pretty firm policy of why we are doing humanitarian aid: To reach people and to advance U.S. values.

So I am going to expect that you will keep our committee informed on how you are meeting that mission. I can tell you there is strong interest among all of our members to advance U.S. humanitarian assistance but also recognizing that we do not want to fund corrupt regimes and see this money just diverted.

Ms. MCGEE. Absolutely, Senator. I share that concern wholeheartedly. USAID does use safeguards and provisions in concert with its partners such as geotagging photos, video distribution of aid, and vetting of bad actors—well, to prevent bad actors and diversion of aid and egregious use. So that is absolutely a concern and I commit to you that I will absolutely ensure taxpayer dollars are used as intended.

Senator CARDIN. Mr. Dowd, if I could turn to you just for one moment.

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development has an explicit political mandate to support democracy. And yet, when we look at its history it has supported a lot of countries that, certainly, are not democracies.

So how do we promote the mission of the Bank? How does U.S. leadership make it clear that we expect our participation to carry out the core mission, which is to promote democracy?

Mr. DOWD. Thank you, Senator.

Yes, indeed, in the founding mandate of the EBRD it explicitly says that this is a democratically-focused bank and it advances democratic values.

And perhaps that has been somewhat forgotten. I do not know. I give them the benefit of the doubt. And, of course, many of the countries with which the EBRD does business are not exactly glowing examples of democratic progress.

But I would hope that the bank will be a voice for democratic participation and it is a long-term process, and I certainly can tell you this.

I will be a strong voice for democracy in all of the bank's dealings and for those values that we as Americans hold, which are free markets, free elections, and democracy.

I think it should be a part and, as I say, it is unique among multilateral banks and that it explicitly calls for that and that is something I will be reminding people of frequently.

Thank you.

Senator CARDIN. Well, thank you for that answer. That is exactly what I wanted to hear, that you—

[Laughter.]

Mr. DOWD. Well—

Senator CARDIN [continuing]. That is in the core mission of the document and, obviously, it has not been carried out with a lot of the different loans that have been given.

So I appreciate your commitment to remind your colleagues of the mission of the Bank as you go forward with particular projects.

And to all of you, I ask all of our nominees, how are you going to advance American values, how are you going to advance basic human rights, how are you going to advance what makes America truly unique in world participation?

So I will be following up with each of you as to how you will use your position, if confirmed, to advance our values and how you can see working with our committee and how we can work together to accomplish that mission.

Again, thank you all for your willingness to serve.

Senator YOUNG. Thank you, Senator Cardin.

Ms. McGee, in 2018 USAID underwent some sort of fundamental restructuring, the emphasis was on increasing resiliency. One of the goals associated with that resiliency initiative was to, and this is a quote from USAID documents, "elevate and integrate humanitarian and development assistance through the Office of the Associate Administrator for Relief, Resilience, and Response."

So as the nominee to fill this position, how do you assess USAID's efforts to elevate and integrate humanitarian and development assistance and what, if any, metrics might be available to accurately make that assessment or it might be qualitative instead, which is fine.

Ms. MCGEE. Indeed. Thank you, Senator.

That move was legally put into motion just before former Administrator Green departed USAID earlier this year. He legally estab-

lished the Office of the Administrator with the immediate change being the establishment of this associate administrator position for relief, response, and resilience, as you say, or we say, more briefly, our three.

It is—it is, I think, a reflection just as many organizations contend with addressing the urgent issues while attempting to work towards and continue to work towards strategic objectives.

And so this position and the formation of the three bureaus that it would oversee are a reflection of a cohesive and structural approach to do that, particularly in this COVID environment.

It has been said that if USAID had not designed this new structure, it would need to now. And so I think it was—it was great forethought that that design organizationally was made.

In the position I would be providing strategic direction and priorities and advocacy as well as advice for those—for those bureaus, those being humanitarian assistance, conflict prevention and stabilization, and resilience and food security, and engaging with the interagency and externally with Congress, external stakeholders, private sector host nations, et cetera.

And so that is the approach, again, to address that continuum from immediate humanitarian assistance to the long-term development.

And so part of my role will be—the real focus on integration will be ensuring that collaboration mechanisms are in place, accountability to coordination across those—across those functions so that we are sharing and updating information as we go and so that we are maintaining the focus and delivering on the excellent results that have always been the case through humanitarian assistance and also that long-term development.

Senator YOUNG. Well, thank you. As you, clearly, have command of where strategically things need to head and it seems you have more than a sense of what steps need to be taken, but if we in Congress can assist in those efforts, moving forward, if any additional authorities might be needed I look forward to working with you on that effort.

Mr. Manso—

Ms. MCGEE. Thank you.

Senator YOUNG [continuing]. OPCW was and has been actively involved in Syria in recent years as the Assad regime has used chemical weapons against the people of Syria.

I know that OPCW has made some valiant efforts to try and hold that regime to account. But he has—Assad has escaped justice, escaped accountability, and continues to—continues to defy international norms and laws.

What more, in your assessment, can OPCW do in Syria to draw attention to the atrocities perpetrated by Assad against his people through the use of chemical weapons?

Mr. MANSO. Well, thank you, Senator, for that question and for touching on this very important issue.

And what I would say is that the Assad regime has escaped accountability thus far, but we are not finished with this issue and this issue is not—the world is not finished with this issue.

So I think there are a number of things that we can do and we are doing, and if confirmed, I would be very aggressive in pursuing these steps.

So the first set of steps would be within the OPCW itself. They are going to conduct further investigations into other attacks to maintain a constant effort to develop the facts, present the facts to the international community, and have a political drumbeat of the need for accountability.

There are then also technical steps we could take within the OPCW such as denying them the right to vote and denying them the right to speak and other types of steps that we can do to indicate that they are in a pariah status and that they are out of compliance with their obligations in the Chemical Weapons Convention.

There are steps we could take at the United Nations including the United Nations Security Council and, lastly, there are steps we could consider bilaterally. We already have taken some bilateral steps including sanctions.

So we are by no means at the end of this story and it is very much the intention of the administration and, if confirmed, my intention to aggressively pursue these steps.

Senator YOUNG. Well, that is incredibly encouraging. Thank you.

Russia has had—they have met with some success, Mr. Manso, in creating a false narrative about the use of chemical weapons in Syria, and as you contemplate stepping into this role with OPCW, what might that organization do as it relates to their findings related to chemical weapons use in Syria that has not already been done, if anything?

Mr. MANSO. Well, thank you for that question. It is, indeed, a very good observation and I have over my career dealt with the Russians a great deal.

And something that you realize is they regard lying as a diplomatic tool. So, therefore, the first thing to do is to make this clear that they are not attached to the truth as something that is important in diplomatic discourse and they are perfectly willing to use untruths.

And I must say that in a number of their efforts of, particularly, trying to tarnish well-known NGOs, or to tarnish the work of the investigative team that was put together by the OPCW, there are ample facts that we need to bring out in terms of public discourse that show that they are reflecting a position that is not true.

But what I would say is this. This is the kind of issue that is not an event. You do not do it once and it is done. It is a process. They will be tireless in promoting a false narrative. So we have to be tireless in promoting the truth. This is a marathon, not a sprint.

Senator YOUNG. So the fact-finding missions—this gets a little more operational—that OPCW sends in to determine whether or not chemical weapons have been used, the composition of those missions, of those teams, has been criticized by the Russians, as I understand it, for not including Russians, right, on the teams.

Is that a fair criticism and, if so, why? If not, why not?

Mr. MANSO. I would say it is not a fair criticism. The OPCW has a commitment to what is called geographic diversity and their

Technical Secretariat. So they do have a broad range of nations represented in their technical secretariat and among their experts.

These teams are multinational teams chosen, largely, on the basis of their expertise and, therefore, the teams also represent a broad base of technical expertise and of nationalities.

But no one country has the right to insist that their nationals be on the team and, I might add, it does not strike me as the best practice if you have a nation that is potentially involved in the incident as an enabler that their nationals be on the team.

So I do not think the Russians have a fair criticism here.

Senator YOUNG. I am grateful for that closing with a dose of common sense. So I think that makes a lot of sense. I do not want Russians on those teams.

So I thank each of you for your patriotism, for your desire to serve. You are all very intelligent people with an incredible record of service, and you have many professional options but you want to serve your country during these challenging times.

That says a lot about you. It says a lot about your families. I am so appreciative for your time and your testimony here today. I know Senator Merkley is as well.

I believe we have votes going on, Senator Merkley. They have been called. They will be called in about two minutes.

So if there are additional questions from any of my colleagues they will submit those questions to you in writing. We hope you will provide a fairly quick turnaround of responses to those questions and the record is going to remain open until the close of business on Friday for that purpose.

So thanks again to each of you. This hearing is now adjourned. Thank you all.

[Whereupon, at 11:32 a.m., the hearing was adjourned.]

Additional Material Submitted for the Record

RESPONSES TO ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR THE RECORD
SUBMITTED TO JENNY A. MCGEE BY SENATOR ROBERT MENENDEZ

COVID-19 Supplementing Funding

Question. Congress has appropriated nearly \$2B in supplemental funding to USAID to address the global COVID-19 pandemic, more than \$500 million of which is under International Disaster Assistance (IDA), an account which you will directly oversee in your role. We understand that USAID has not expeditiously obligated this funding to our partners fighting the pandemic, and is experiencing delays due to friction with the White House.

- What is the reason for the delay?

Answer. Congress appropriated \$1 billion in supplemental funding for the pandemic of COVID-19 to the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), including \$558 million in International Disaster Assistance (IDA). As of June 8, 2020, I understand USAID has committed approximately \$185 million in COVID-19 IDA supplemental funding. In preparing for my hearing, I learned that IDA funds are unique in that, once USAID commits funds to a forthcoming award, partners are able to begin implementing activities and expending against that grant, cooperative agreement, or contract, even before final obligation. Implementing partners, including non-governmental organizations, can do this by requesting a Pre-Award Letter (PAL), which is permission from USAID to start work and a promise from the Agency that funding is coming soon. United Nations agencies can do the same by tapping into their internal forward-funding facilities. In effect, at the time of obligation into

an award, USAID then reimburses humanitarian partners for work already undertaken. This means that even before USAID makes a formal obligation, implementing partners are spending IDA money on the ground.

I understand that USAID is prioritizing all awards funded from the IDA account with supplemental appropriations for COVID-19, and that the Agency is moving expeditiously to ensure its partners have these additional resources. In particular, staff have briefed me that USAID is prioritizing resources that scale up and expand ongoing interventions in health and water, sanitation, and hygiene to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19, as well as directing significant resources to respond to growing global food-insecurity related to the pandemic.

I understand the Agency is working to review and resolve bottlenecks and, if confirmed, ensuring USAID is committing and obligating COVID-19 funding expeditiously will be one of my top priorities.

Question. Should you be confirmed, what will you do to ensure that these funds are quickly and efficiently obligated to humanitarian partners fighting the COVID-19 pandemic overseas?

Answer. If confirmed, I would ensure that committing and obligating funds quickly and efficiently, including supplemental appropriations in the International Disaster Assistance (IDA) account, remains the top priority for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Under my leadership, if confirmed, USAID would make every effort to get these additional resources quickly to the Agency's partners so they can continue critical and life-saving programs.

This includes continuing to provide non-governmental organizations (NGOs) partners with Pre-Award Letters (PALs), which enable them to begin implementing programs and spending money against an award prior to the obligation of funds. United Nations partners also mobilize resources against our commitments through their internal forward-financing facilities. If confirmed, I will ensure that USAID also continues to reassess its internal processes and systems to identify efficiencies and areas for improvement and apply course-corrections in real time.

In addition, if confirmed, I would ensure USAID increases communications and outreach to its partners to ensure they are aware of the status of their proposals.

Question. In addition, please provide us with your strategy to coordinate an effective U.S. humanitarian response to the global COVID-19 pandemic, in coordination with the Department of State?

Answer. It is critical that the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), through the Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), continue to lead the humanitarian efforts of the United States around the world, especially in humanitarian settings where the COVID-19 pandemic is exacerbating needs among already vulnerable populations. If confirmed, I would continue USAID's ongoing and robust engagement with the Bureau of Population, Migration, and Refugee (PRM) at the U.S. Department of State to ensure a coordinated and holistic humanitarian response. I understand this coordination is most evident in countries like the Lebanese Republic, where USAID will use supplemental funding for COVID-19 from the International Disaster Assistance account to provide emergency food assistance to Syrian refugees and PRM will use supplemental funding appropriated to the Migration and Refugee Assistance account to support complementary interventions, such as education and health care.

Access to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Question. We understand that USAID has included specific restrictions on the local and regional procurement of PPE by its partners fighting the COVID-19 pandemic on the ground.

- Please provide us with USAID's policy on partner procurement of PPE in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Answer. USAID released the following policy guidance on PPE on June 9, 2020. I understand that this new guidance supersedes the clause on "Covered Material" previously included in awards funded through supplemental appropriations for COVID-19 in the International Disaster Assistance account; the Agency will modify existing awards with this clause accordingly.

USAID's Policy Guidance on PPE/Covered Materials

USAID's implementing partners must seek the prior written approval of their Agreement or Contracting Officer(s) to procure the following supplies with USAID's funds: N95 filtering facepiece respirators; other filtering facepiece respirators; elastomeric, air-purifying respirators and appropriate particulate filters/cartridges; PPE surgical masks; PPE gloves or surgical gloves; ventilators; or COVID-19 test kits

that are meant for the U.S. market. These commodities are collectively called “Covered Material.”

However, implementing partners may use USAID’s funding to procure Covered Material without further approvals in either of the following two situations:

1. For the protection of, and use by, their staff under both grants and contracts from USAID. In this situation, implementing partners may procure Covered Material from any source; or

2. When procuring Covered Material for the safe and effective continuity of USAID-funded programs, including the protection of beneficiaries (but not the protection of their staff, covered in #1 above), implementing partners may procure Covered Material manufactured locally or regionally, provided the Covered Material is not, and could not reasonably be intended, for the U.S. market.

All other PPE and COVID-19 test kits not mentioned above are not restricted from procurement or subject to limitations pursuant to this guidance.

Collaboration Across USAID

Question. As the administration has made moves to create the R3 structure within USAID, one of the main benefits touted has been better humanitarian and development collaboration within the agency. However, only small component parts of USAID’s development functions will be controlled under the R3 umbrella.

- What steps would you take to ensure synergies between the functions of the three bureaus under your control with the rest of the Agency?

Answer. I believe synergies between the functions of the Bureaus for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), Conflict Prevention and Stabilization (CPS), Resilience and Food Security (RFS) and the rest of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) are critical to the successful attainment of U.S. national security objectives. If confirmed as Associate Administrator for Relief, Response and Resilience (R3), my role would be to coordinate Agency-wide efforts related to disaster, conflict, resilience, water, nutrition, and food security.

If confirmed, I commit to using existing internal USAID coordination mechanisms to engage with the rest of the Agency. For example, I understand former Administrator Green created the cross-Agency Leadership Councils for Water, Nutrition, and Resilience to facilitate collaboration and ensure a whole-of-Agency response to these issues. In particular, I understand USAID’s Resilience Leadership Council engages leadership from across the Regional Bureaus; the Bureau for Global Health; and the Bureau for Education, Economic, and the Environment. It is also my understanding that the Bureau for Conflict Prevention and Stabilization (CPS) is expanding its Sector Council on Countering Violent Extremism to serve as a platform for the Agency to discuss issues across peace and security. By involving staff from across the Regional and Functional Bureaus, CPS should ensure the coordination of stabilization and transition issues across the Agency, and serve as a forum for adaptive learning.

In addition to using these existing mechanisms to coordinate between the R3 family of Bureaus and the rest of the Agency, if confirmed, I also would remain open to creating new approaches to enhance and improve that coordination. If confirmed, I commit to promoting a collaboration-minded work environment within the R3 family of Bureaus.

Responsiveness

Question. Do you commit to respond promptly to all requests for information by members of this committee?

Answer. Yes, in accordance with law and the rules and regulations of USAID.

Question. Do you commit to appear before this committee upon request?

Answer. Yes, with the understanding that any such appearance would be organized through and conducted according to USAID practice.

Question. If you become aware of any suspected waste, fraud, or abuse in the Department, do you commit to report it to the Inspector General?

Answer. Yes, when the Inspector General is the appropriate channel. I am committed to upholding high standards of accountability, and, if confirmed, would not tolerate waste, fraud, or abuse.

Administrative

Question. Has anyone ever made a formal or informal complaint or allegation of sexual harassment, discrimination (e.g., racial, ethnic, religious, etc.), or inappropriate conduct against you, in a workplace or any other setting? If so, please de-

scribe the nature of the complaint or allegation, your response, and any resolution, including any settlements.

Answer. No. I have not received such complaints or allegations of either a formal or informal nature.

Question. Have you ever addressed concerns or allegations of sexual harassment, discrimination (e.g., racial, ethnic, religious, etc.), or inappropriate conduct made against any employee over whom you had supervisory authority? If so, please describe the outcome and actions taken.

Answer. While I served as the Director of Intelligence at the Headquarters for United States Air Forces in Europe—Air Forces Africa at Ramstein Air Base (July 2015–July 2017)—two incidents of alleged sexual harassment and assault came to my attention.

In the first instance, prior to my arrival, a female enlisted member based elsewhere had accused a junior officer on the staff of sexual assault. The alleged incident occurred a few years earlier, and the Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) was looking into it. My predecessor had suspended the junior officer's access to classified information, an action I continued as his functional senior. Because the allegation involved misconduct by an officer, only the Commanding General had the authority to decide whether or not to prosecute. Ultimately, the AFOSI report was inconclusive as to the underlying assault. However, because the alleged incident occurred while the junior officer and the enlisted member were traveling together, this constituted a violation of the prohibition against fraternization and a demonstration of unprofessional behavior. I therefore coordinated with the office of the Judge Advocate General at Ramstein Air Base to draft a Letter of Counseling for the junior officer and presented it to him with a verbal reprimand, in concert with a video appearance by his Squadron Commander at the time of the incident, to reinforce the same message.

In a second circumstance, it came to my attention that a female junior officer had mentioned feeling uncomfortable around a new male civilian employee. They worked in an office that was two levels below me in the Intelligence Directorate. I take even non-verbal cues and discomfort very seriously, and asked for the junior officer to come speak to me privately so I could better understand her concerns about what had transpired. While the junior officer did not report any verbal or physical incidents, she conveyed her feelings of unease around the civilian. I told her that, regardless of whether or not he was aware that his conduct was causing her to feel uncomfortable, it was nevertheless not appropriate. I advised that she begin formally documenting her uncomfortable experiences, explaining that her documentation would be useful in the event of continuing or worsening issues that might lead to a need for formal personnel action against the civilian, and that her notes would be most helpful if she made them contemporaneously. I also assured her that I would be tracking the situation closely, and that she could contact me personally with any further concerns. Following our conversation, I spoke directly with the civilian's supervisor, shared the discussion I had with the junior officer, and took steps to ensure the her interactions with the civilian were limited moving forward. I instructed the supervisor to incorporate this situation into his planned counseling of the civilian regarding a handful of other issues, to watch closely, and to formally document the complaint in the event that issues continued or worsened. As I was shortly departing for my next assignment, I ensured my Deputy was aware of the situation, so that any needed, appropriate follow-up would occur following my departure.

Question. Do you agree that any targeting of or retaliation against career employees based on their perceived political beliefs, prior work on policy, or affiliation with a previous administration, is wholly inappropriate and has no place in the federal government?

Answer. Yes, I agree that the federal government should not employ prohibited personnel practices.

Question. If confirmed, what will you do to ensure that all employees under your leadership understand that any retaliation, blacklisting, or other prohibited personnel practices will not be tolerated?

Answer. Retaliation, blacklisting and other prohibited personnel practices are never acceptable, and if confirmed, I commit to ensuring that the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) would not tolerate them.

I know equal employment opportunity (EEO), diversity, and inclusion are among USAID's core values. Even from the outside, I can see the Agency is dedicated to removing impediments to inclusion by enforcing EEO laws and policies; promoting

diversity; and providing an environment free of discrimination and harassment in which all employees are valued, and can contribute to their fullest potential.

I understand that USAID follows the statutorily required process for redress for employees who have faced harassment, including sexual harassment, which includes set timeliness and protections against retaliation. If confirmed, I would follow these processes.

Additionally, I understand that USAID provides mandatory training on the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (the NO FEAR Act) to all employees every two years as required by law, and the Agency's Office of Civil Rights and Diversity (OCRD) conducts anti-discrimination and anti-harassment trainings. I also understand that, as part of USAID's onboarding program, employees receive harassment training upon their entrance on duty—which is vitally important. If confirmed, I commit to taking this training as soon as I assume the job.

RESPONSES TO ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR THE RECORD SUBMITTED
TO JENNY A. MCGEE BY SENATOR BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

Human Rights

Question. What are the most important actions you have taken in your career to date to promote human rights and democracy? What has been the impact of your actions?

Answer. Prior to my active duty military service, for years I had planned a career as a journalist.

I took journalism courses and served as editor-in-chief of both my high school and college newspapers. I have always believed in the criticality of a free press, and that free and independent journalism is vital to open and democratic societies.

I then embarked on a 31-year career in the U.S. Air Force, during which I swore to uphold our Constitution. As an intelligence officer, I have reported on other governments' crackdowns on their citizens, as well as various forms of undemocratic acts and maltreatment to inform policy-makers and my chain of command. I have also produced intelligence about foreign actors who sought to attack our democracy, or that of our allies. This includes my tours of duty in the White House Situation Room and on the staff of the National Security Council. In addition, when assisting partner governments in the development of their intelligence/security services or military intelligence capabilities, the protection of human rights and democratic values was fundamental and underpinned all discussions.

Diversity

Question. Research from private industry demonstrates that, when managed well, diversity makes business teams better both in terms of creativity and in terms of productivity. What will you do to promote, mentor, and support your staff that come from diverse backgrounds and underrepresented groups?

- What steps will you take to ensure each of your supervisors at USAID are fostering an environment that is diverse and inclusive?

Answer. The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) works to support communities in our partner countries as they address some of the most challenging and complex issues in the world today. To be successful, the Agency's leaders must draw upon a diverse range of perspectives to ensure proposed programmatic interventions consider the broadest range of factors possible. This diversity of thought is the strength that drives the most creative and innovative solutions to the challenges in our partner countries.

In my military experience, valuing diversity and ensuring every team member has a voice have been critical to success, and will continue to be core tenets of my leadership approach. If confirmed, I would continue to incorporate these practices in my leadership and draw upon the tremendous diversity of experience and expertise of the USAID team and its implementing partners. I also would make clear my expectations for this to my leadership team and hold them accountable.

This approach is also consistent with broader USAID principles, as championed by former Administrator Mark Green, Acting Administrator John Barsa, and Deputy Administrator Bonnie Glick. If confirmed, I would ensure the R3 family of Bureaus emphasizes diversity and inclusion in its daily operations and professional development opportunities and engagement, in full compliance with the Agency's regulations, practices, and norms, with an eye to developing the most-effective programs on behalf of the American people.

Conflicts of Interest

Question. Do you commit to bring to the committee's attention (and the USAID Inspector General) any change in policy or U.S. actions that you suspect may be influenced by any of the President's business or financial interests, or the business or financial interests of any senior White House staff?

Answer. I commit to complying with all relevant Federal ethics laws, regulations and rules, and to raising concerns that I might have through appropriate channels.

Question. Do you commit to inform the committee if you have any reason to suspect that a foreign government, head of state, or foreign-controlled entity is taking any action in order to benefit any of the President's business or financial interests, or the interests of senior White House staff?

Answer. I commit to complying with all relevant Federal ethics laws, regulations and rules, and to raising concerns that I might have through appropriate channels.

Question. Do you or do any members of your immediate family have financial interests in any foreign country?

Answer. No, not to my knowledge.

Role of Associate Administrator

Question. The position for which you are nominated, Associate Administrator for Relief, Response, and Resilience, is a new position at USAID with oversight responsibilities for three new bureaus: Humanitarian Assistance, Conflict Prevention and Stabilization, and Resilience and Food Security.

- How will you work to support and empower USAID Foreign Service officers and civil service employees with significant experience in development and humanitarian assistance? How would you ensure that their expertise is reflected in policy and programmatic decision-making?

Answer. I mentioned during my opening statement that, in preparation for my hearing, I had the opportunity to meet with many dedicated Foreign Service Officers (FSOs), members of the Civil Service (CS), and contract staff at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). I understand that FSOs and CS employees are part of the organizational makeup of the Bureaus for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), Conflict Prevention and Stabilization (CPS) and Resilience and Food Security (RFS) at USAID. The Bureaus have FS and CS employees in senior management, middle management and non-supervisory positions. USAID staff have briefed me that the unique perspectives and expertise of FSOs, CS employees, and others have been part of all aspects of the design and decision-making process around Transformation.

USAID's FSOs bring a wealth of knowledge from their experience in working at the Agency's field Missions across the world to manage programs that address a range of humanitarian and development challenges. The Agency's CS employees provide institutional knowledge from their experience in serving in various parts of USAID headquarters, especially engagement with the interagency, Congress, and other U.S. stakeholders.

If confirmed, I commit to listening to, and relying on the expertise and diverse perspectives of, FS, CS and contract employees to make well-informed decisions about USAID's programming and policies.

Question. How do you intend to work with and learn from humanitarian and development implementers? Will you commit to engaging with outside organizations working in this space?

Answer. If confirmed, I commit to engaging regularly with humanitarian and development actors around the world to coordinate our efforts to save lives and assist communities in need. Thanks to the generous support of Congress and the American people, the United States is the world's leading provider of humanitarian and development assistance; however, because of growing need and protracted crises, I understand the ability of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to create innovative solutions and effective responses often depends on successful partnerships with other organizations.

If confirmed, I would ensure USAID deepens and strengthens its partnerships with key actors, including United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations, civil society, faith-based organizations, and the private sector. I recognize that USAID cannot achieve its mission without these relationships, and I look forward to listening to, and learning from, these partners. I also commit to relying on USAID's field staff, who regularly engage with a variety of actors on the ground and who provide vital country-specific and regional context, to inform my decision-making. For this work to be successful and sustainable, we must create interventions

that are appropriate, targeted, and not duplicative, to ensure maximum effectiveness and impact.

USAID Restructure

Question. Major restructuring in an agency is difficult at any time, and is likely to be more complicated now as USAID is in the midst of helping countries fight the coronavirus pandemic.

- How do you plan to coordinate the respective roles of the State Department and USAID in their shared humanitarian responses under this new USAID bureau?

Answer. The Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA) at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) became operational on June 5, 2020. USAID is responsible for more than \$6 billion of the U.S. Government's approximately \$9 billion humanitarian assistance portfolio. I believe the Transformation will strengthen USAID's role as the Lead Federal Coordinator for international disaster assistance, and will elevate and unify its humanitarian voice in the U.S. Government inter-agency, and with international partners.

I understand USAID/BHA and staff in the Bureaus of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM) and International Organization Affairs (IO) at the U.S. Department of State communicate regularly to ensure strong coordination of their respective roles and to enable the U.S. Government to speak with one voice on global humanitarian responses and issues.

To further elevate this coordination, in November 2018 Secretary Pompeo and then-USAID Administrator Mark Green launched the Humanitarian Assistance Steering Council (HASC), the senior-level body tasked with improving the effectiveness and accountability of U.S. and international humanitarian efforts and increasing burden-sharing.

If confirmed, I would co-chair the HASC and continue its important work, which aims to align U.S. humanitarian assistance to the President's foreign policy and national security priorities, and contributes to the smooth and effective delivery of humanitarian aid. Closer coordination results in better information sharing, better insight into dynamics on the ground in all affected countries, and better understanding of the plans of our important United Nations and non-governmental partners, at global, regional, and country levels.

If confirmed, I would work to coordinate USAID's humanitarian assistance closely with all of the Departments and Agencies of the U.S. Government, including the U.S. Department of State.

Question. Will restructuring the bureaus of Humanitarian Assistance, Conflict Prevention and Stabilization, and Resilience and Food Security improve USAID's effectiveness?

Answer. As Associate Administrator for Relief, Response, and Resilience (R3), I would oversee the newly created Bureaus for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), Conflict Prevention and Stabilization (CPS), and Resilience and Food Security (RFS) at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). I understand the intent of the new structure is to further strengthen USAID's efficient and holistic approach to programming, across the spectrum of preventing, preparing for, responding to, and mitigating disasters. Also, I expect the new R3 structure would elevate USAID's voice with U.S. Government interagency colleagues on these issues.

If confirmed as R3 Associate Administrator, I would lead a focused and coordinated structure to provide strategic and cohesive guidance to the three R3 Bureaus. I would set priorities, promote an integrated approach across all three Bureaus, and work creatively to improve effectiveness in achieving the R3 Vision across the allied investment strategies. Each Assistant to the Administrator (AtA) for an R3 Bureau would serve as the "first-line" of day-to-day coordination within and across the R3 Bureaus, and with the wider Agency. I would support the R3 AtAs by providing higher-level direction and representation within the Agency and beyond.

I understand the restructuring of BHA, CPS and RFS will improve USAID's effectiveness in the following ways:

BHA. BHA will unite and elevate U.S. humanitarian assistance into one Bureau that can respond better to the magnitude, complexity, and protracted nature of today's emergencies. BHA will create a strong platform for more coordinated and more effective responses to humanitarian crises. It will achieve efficiencies by eliminating redundancies and optimizing resources for joint operations, and integrating food and non-food humanitarian assistance further. USAID recognizes the importance of interagency and multilateral coordination, and this unified structure will enable USAID to maintain a lead role in global coordination.

CPS. Once operational, CPS will elevate USAID's capabilities to analyze fragility and conflict; strengthen the Agency's focus on preventing violent extremism; and coordinate efforts in prevention, stabilization and response. The proposed CPS Bureau will have a field-driven focus, and also will manage civilian-military coordination with the U.S. Department of Defense to inform and support U.S. foreign policy and national security priorities.

RFS. RFS became fully operational in early March 2020. The new Bureau elevates resilience and nutrition and strengthens coordination across the technical areas of agriculture-led growth; water security, sanitation and hygiene; nutrition; and resilience. Through the new structure, and close collaboration with the other two Bureaus under the R3 structure, RFS will help vulnerable families and communities transition from crisis—including recurrent crises—to development and, ultimately, self-reliance. RFS continues the work of Water for the World Act to expand safe and sustainable access to water, sanitation, and hygiene for all, and the U.S. Government's Feed the Future initiative to combat global hunger, poverty, and malnutrition.

Question. What challenges do you anticipate facing in this new Associate Administrator role and with the new bureaus under its purview? How do you plan to overcome these challenges?

Answer. Today, we are seeing the rise of protracted, man-made disasters as well as continued risk from natural disasters. To respond effectively to these complex challenges, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) must coordinate its humanitarian, conflict prevention, resilience and food security programming to address the needs of affected populations holistically. The creation of the new R3 family of Bureaus under one Associate Administrator provides an opportunity to strengthen linkages between humanitarian and development assistance, and more broadly, across the peace, development, and humanitarian continuum. If confirmed, I commit to build on USAID's experience with cross-Agency efforts to build resilience in areas of recurrent crisis, with the aim of fostering more stable and peaceful societies.

USAID also operates in complex environments where coordination poses unique challenges. To address them, it is critical to maintain flexibility to adjust and refine approaches, based on needs on the ground and by using a range of interventions. If confirmed, I would rely on the counsel of my staff in Bureaus for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), Conflict Prevention and Stabilization (CPS), and Resilience and Food Security (RFS) to develop and carry out coordinated, creative solutions that draw upon each of their unique perspectives and toolkits.

For example, I understand the programs USAID has funded in the Sahel region of West Africa showcase this collaborative approach. The Sahel continues to face a number of shocks and vulnerabilities with varied causes: scarcity of water, extreme weather, high levels of poverty, low access to health care, lack of access to high quality basic education, poor governance, and increased conflict and violent extremism. Emergency assistance alone cannot solve these complex problems; they require comprehensive responses that allow communities to become and remain more self-reliant. I know USAID's programs make important contributions toward this goal. Both BHA and RFS fund distinct, but complementary, activities to address immediate needs and build resilience to food-insecurity, persistent poverty, conflict, and recurrent climate shocks. CPS is strengthening resistance to violent extremist organizations by building the capacity of local groups, improving community-government collaboration, promoting community cohesion, productively engaging youth most vulnerable to recruitment, and supporting reintegration and reconciliation. If confirmed, I commit to continue to build on these types of integrated, combined efforts help households and communities become more resilient and less vulnerable to shocks and stresses.

Coronavirus Pandemic

Question. The unprecedented coronavirus pandemic has consumed countries' focus around the world.

- How do you believe the global coronavirus pandemic will shape the focus of the Humanitarian Assistance, Conflict Prevention and Stabilization, and Resilience and Food Security bureaus?

Answer. I believe the coronavirus pandemic and the increasing frequency and complexity of shock and stresses that communities and countries face require the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to do business differently. I understand USAID has brought these three Bureaus together to form a more robust

and comprehensive link between sustainable development and the response to, and mitigation of, conflict.

BHA. The COVID-19 pandemic is re-shaping the humanitarian landscape by creating new needs across the globe while exacerbating emergencies that existed prior to the pandemic. I understand BHA is deploying resources to address the immediate, short-term impacts of the pandemic. However, BHA is beginning to see the secondary and medium-term impacts of COVID-19 become increasingly intertwined with pre-existing vulnerabilities. In East Africa, for instance, pandemic-related economic and market stressors are compounding the impact of drought, conflict, and the infestation of desert locusts. This will require BHA not only to prioritize resources carefully to save the most lives, but also to continue to work with partners to adapt programs to be more “COVID-sensitive” moving forward. If confirmed, I look forward to working with BHA to continue to adapt and improve our humanitarian programming, by taking into account the lessons learned during this COVID-19 pandemic.

RFS. The economic impact from efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 have far-reaching implications for food production systems, including small- and medium-sized businesses and people’s livelihoods, incomes, and ability to grow, raise, and purchase food. These effects will continue for years to come, as an estimated 148 million people could become poor and hungry because of measures put in place to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 (a full 20-percent increase over current levels). COVID-19 also is already causing financial losses for water and sanitation utilities, which threatens services now and into the future. In response, I understand RFS is helping USAID’s Missions flex their existing development programming to help keep vulnerable families from backsliding further into need while mitigating disruptions to these systems, protecting development gains, and speeding economic recovery. If confirmed, I look forward to working with RFS to ensure this rapid response continues and adapts as new data and analysis become available on COVID-19’s far-reaching impacts.

CPS. COVID-19 is much more than a health and economic crisis. The COVID-19 pandemic has the potential to undermine USAID’s efforts in fragile contexts and further destabilize these already volatile environments. I understand many of the countries in which USAID funds programs already were in acute crisis, recovering from crisis, or in the middle of a fragile political transition even before the COVID-19 pandemic. With the onset of the pandemic, we are already observing concerning trends. Some authoritarian governments are using the crisis to further entrench their power and curb rights. Traditionally marginalized populations, including women, are under increased threat during the pandemic, which require increased protections. Corrupt and criminal actors are exploiting the crisis to misuse and divert life-saving funds and resources. In some cases, violent extremist organizations are capitalizing on the pandemic by increasing attacks where security forces are distracted, blaming the West and neighboring governments for the effects of COVID-19, spreading disinformation, and stepping in as health providers to gain popular support. Foreign malign actors, such as the Communist Party of China and the Kremlin also are exploiting the pandemic to promote their authoritarian governance models. Support for preventing and stabilizing conflict are critical for responding to these challenges, ensuring an effective response to the pandemic, and helping communities stay on a path toward self-reliance. If confirmed, I look forward to working with CPS to ensure that USAID is mitigating the impacts of COVID-19 on fragile societies.

Question. As countries begin to recover from the pandemic, how will you work to strengthen resilience so countries can better withstand future shocks? How can USAID ensure that partner country governments and civil society have ownership in this process?

Answer. Amid the pandemic of COVID-19, it is more important than ever to make progress in coordinating across humanitarian and development actors and to support joint and cross-sector analyses and country-led collective outcomes. If confirmed, I would ensure the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) is layering, sequencing, and integrating its humanitarian assistance with longer-term programs to address current and future risks. I understand USAID coordinates across sectors to reduce shocks and stresses that lead to an increased need for humanitarian assistance. These efforts involve host-country governments and civil society, with the understanding that lasting progress can only happen when they are owners of their own development. COVID-19 compounds numerous existing shocks

people in developing countries already face, especially in areas of recurrent crises. If confirmed, I would strengthen USAID's partnerships with host-country governments and civil society to improve early warning, early response, and other systems and build national capacity and commitment to prepare for and manage shocks, reduce future humanitarian needs, and advance communities on the Journey to Self-Reliance.

RESPONSES TO ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR THE RECORD
SUBMITTED TO HON. J. STEVEN DOWD BY SENATOR JOHN BARRASSO

Question. When reviewing projects at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), what criterion will you use in determining whether the United States will support energy development projects?

Answer. First of all, I would consider any United States legal requirements. I will insist that energy projects are driven by and respectful of the circumstances and needs of recipient countries, not dictated by others. And, I will demand that any energy alternative guarantees value for money, cost efficiency, and maximum impact for the people for whom a project is designed.

Question. Do you believe the EBRD should support all types of energy resources?

Answer. Absolutely. I embrace the all of the above strategy, driven by analytics that demonstrate the highest return on investment and the most cost-effective delivery to consumers.

Question. Will you commit to objecting to and voting against additional restrictions on financing and investments for energy projects at the EBRD?

Answer. Yes.

Question. Please identify the current financing and investment restriction in place for energy projects at the EBRD.

Answer. The EBRD approved a revised Energy Sector Strategy in December 2018, which states that the EBRD will not finance any greenfield coal-fired power plant except in rare circumstances, where there are no economically feasible alternative energy sources. The U.S. Executive Director at the time voted against this strategy. The EBRD does finance oil and gas projects that meet its requirements for additionality, sound banking, and transition impact.

Question. Do you pledge to work to eliminate these financing restrictions and other barriers to financing of traditional energy resources, such as coal, oil and natural gas at the EBRD?

Answer. Yes.

Question. Coal provides an affordable and reliable energy source, which is important to countries looking for assistance in poverty alleviation and economic development. Do you agree with this statement? If not, why not?

Answer. Yes.

Question. How much financial assistance has the United States made to the EBRD?

Answer. Unlike other multilateral development banks, the EBRD only makes market-based loans and calls on shareholders for capital increases much less frequently. The United States has not provided new paid-in capital to the EBRD since 2006. Our total paid in capital contributions are \$636 million. The United States makes targeted contributions to donor trust funds hosted at the EBRD; for example, in 2019 the United States gave \$5 million to the Small Business Impact Fund (SBIF), which supports lending and advisory services for over a million SMEs. Total U.S. contributions to EBRD trust funds since the EBRD's inception in 1991 is \$552 million.

Question. What level of influence does the United States have over the EBRD operations and EBRD loan policy?

Answer. The United States has a 10 percent shareholding in the EBRD. Consequently, we do not have veto power, but I will be a strong voice for commonsense loan policies, especially in the realm of energy projects. I will work closely with like-minded shareholders to seek to guide the EBRD's investment operations in line with U.S. policy objectives.

Question. Do you believe poverty alleviation and economic development should be primary goals of the EBRD?

Answer. Yes, but in the case of the EBRD, these goals are furthered through focus on private sector development and promoting transition to a market economy and democracy.

Question. What specific criterion should be used to determine whether a country needs to graduate from the EBRD? What countries have already graduated from the EBRD? What countries are close to graduating?

Answer. Graduation from EBRD borrowing for the most advanced transition countries remains a fundamental principle of the EBRD and I believe it should be a priority for the United States. However, progress on graduation has been delayed, initially due to the prolonged financial crisis in Europe, spillover effects of Russian aggression in Ukraine, and most recently the economic impacts of the current pandemic.

The Czech Republic graduated from EBRD borrowing in 2007. The other seven EBRD member countries that joined the European Union in 2004 (Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovak Republic and Slovenia) are expected to graduate from the EBRD in the medium term.

Question. What do you believe the position of the United States should be regarding EBRD's interest in expanding to different regions including sub-Saharan Africa?

Answer. I do not see a strong case for EBRD expansion into sub-Saharan Africa at this time. I question the EBRD's ability to utilize its specialized knowledge in this region and see potential for the EBRD to disrupt the work of existing institutions in the region such as the AfDB. The EBRD should instead focus on the less advanced countries where it already operates and support their transition to fully functioning private sector-driven economies.

Question. Along with the EBRD, other development banks, including the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, and national development banks, are funding projects in EBRD member countries. How can the United States ensure the development banks are not duplicating efforts, creating redundancies, and working at cross-purposes?

Answer. Treasury works to encourage coordination between multilateral and bilateral development finance institutions to ensure complementary finance in all regions, including through close coordination between the U.S. Executive Director's Offices at the International Financial Institutions, Treasury, and other U.S. agencies. In EBRD's case, its transition mission and strong focus on private sector and sub-sovereign public finance (e.g. municipal services) differentiate it from those MDBs which provide sovereign guaranteed public finance.

RESPONSES TO ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR THE RECORD
SUBMITTED TO HON. J. STEVEN DOWD BY SENATOR ROBERT MENEDEZ

Democracy and Human Rights

Question. What are the most important actions you have taken in your career to date to support democracy and human rights? What has been the impact of your actions?

Answer. At the African Development Bank, I have consistently and forcefully spoken out for human rights and democracy. For example, I have spoken both formally and informally in opposition to human trafficking and child labor. I have also assisted my wife, where appropriate, in her fight for legal and property rights for women and girls. With respect to the impact such interventions have, I would say that change is a slow process, but consistent messaging and effort will hopefully deliver long-term improvements in the lives of those suffering under cruel circumstances. I have also been insistent that the African Development Bank champion democracy as a philosophical underpinning of its transactions throughout Africa. There has been resistance to this effort, but I am an indefatigable champion for democracy.

Question. What issues are the most pressing challenges to democracy or democratic development in the countries where EBRD works? These challenges might include obstacles to participatory and accountable governance and institutions, rule of law, authentic political competition, civil society, human rights and press freedom. Please be as specific as possible.

Answer. Among the most pressing challenges across the region are weak institutions, high levels of corruption, and bureaucratic red tape that foster opportunities for corruption. These institutional weaknesses and corruption create space for non-democratic actors, including China, Russia, and transnational terrorist groups, to undermine democratic governance, human rights, and economic freedom via a variety of means including force, predatory lending, and misinformation and propaganda. Russia, Belarus, and other countries in the EBRD's region have struggled to make progress to build democratic institutions. It is core to the EBRD's mission to support countries committed to building multi-party, pluralistic democratic institutions, and I believe the EBRD should continue to provide frank assessments of countries' progress in all of these areas and to support those countries that are making progress.

Question. What steps will you take—if confirmed—to support democracy in the countries where EBRD works? What do you hope to accomplish through these actions? What are the potential impediments to addressing the specific obstacles you have identified?

Answer. The EBRD has a unique mission to support the transition of countries from command economies to multi-party democracies with market economies. The EBRD's political mandate as stated in Article 1 of its charter makes it unique among development banks. The United States views this mandate as a critical element to the EBRD's work in the region to promote vibrant and open democracies.

I will advocate for the EBRD to support countries in strengthening public institutions, improving public financial management, and improving transparency and anti-corruption, while opposing assistance to countries that are gross violators of human rights. I will also advocate for EBRD to consult actively with civil society groups and implement robust safeguards and accountability over its operations. I look forward to working with you and your staff to encourage democracy and democratic values. I will work with EBRD management and staff to promote democratic policies in recipient countries and apply calibrated approaches to operating in countries that are not making progress on the transition to democracy. I will work with other U.S. Government stakeholders (State Department, USAID, DFC, among others) to increase visibility on these core principles. Our legislative mandates help us to highlight these values in practical terms, and our application of them to EBRD projects encourages the EBRD to pursue additional, similar efforts to address the concerns we highlight in recipient countries.

Question. If confirmed, do you commit to meet with civil society members, human rights and other non-governmental organizations in the U.S., local human rights NGOs, and other members of civil society in the countries where EBRD works?

Answer. Yes. As U.S. Executive Director at the African Development Bank (AfDB), I have met with representatives of civil society organizations, including to understand how people adversely affected by an AfDB-financed project engage through the institution's own independent review mechanism to ask for compliance with established policies and procedures.

Question. Will you and your mission teams actively engage with the countries where EBRD works on the right of labor groups to organize, including for independent trade unions?

Answer. Yes.

Question. Will you commit to using your position, if confirmed, to defend the human rights and dignity of all people in the countries where EBRD works, no matter their sexual orientation or gender identity? What challenges do the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) people face in the countries where EBRD works? What specifically will you commit to do to help LGBTQ people in the countries where EBRD works?

Answer. EBRD promotes and encourages diversity in the workplace, including in countries where EBRD has a presence. I will support the institution in continuing this practice

Responsiveness

Question. Do you commit to respond promptly to all requests for information by members of this committee?

Answer. If confirmed, I commit to respond promptly to all requests for information by members of this committee, in accordance with U.S. laws and regulations.

Question. Do you commit to appear before this committee upon request?

Answer. If confirmed, I commit to appear before this committee upon request, in accordance with U.S. laws and regulations.

Question. If you become aware of any suspected waste, fraud, or abuse in the Department, do you commit to report it to the Inspector General?

Answer. If confirmed, I commit to comply with all relevant laws, regulations, and rules, and to raise concerns that I may have through appropriate channels.

Administrative

Question. Following President Trump's comments last year welcoming derogatory information on a U.S. political figure from foreign entities, it is important that the Treasury Department have explicit guidance for all of its personnel on how to deal with this scenario. If a foreign person or government approaches you or a staffer at the mission with derogatory information on a U.S. political figure, what is your understanding of official Treasury Department policy on how to handle this specific situation? Has a cable with clear guidance on how to handle this specific situation been sent to all U.S. embassies?

Answer. Should I find myself in this kind of an interaction, I would abide by guidance from the State Department and the Treasury Department as well as relevant U.S. laws. My understanding is that I would report this to the Treasury Department Inspector General or the State Department Inspector General and, if needed, report this issue to the Regional Security Officer and other law enforcement colleagues and hand over any and all information.

Question. Has anyone ever made a formal or informal complaint or allegation of sexual harassment, discrimination (e.g., racial, ethnic, religious, etc.), or inappropriate conduct against you, in a workplace or any other setting? If so, please describe the nature of the complaint or allegation, your response, and any resolution, including any settlements.

Answer. No.

Question. Have you ever addressed concerns or allegations of sexual harassment, discrimination (e.g., racial, ethnic, religious, etc.), or inappropriate conduct made against any employee over whom you had supervisory authority? If so, please describe the outcome and actions taken.

Answer. No.

Question. Do you agree that any targeting of or retaliation against career employees based on their perceived political beliefs, prior work on policy, or affiliation with a previous administration, is wholly inappropriate and has no place in the federal government?

Answer. I agree that the federal government should not employ prohibited personnel practices.

Question. If confirmed, what will you do to ensure that all employees under your leadership understand that any retaliation, blacklisting, or other prohibited personnel practices will not be tolerated?

Answer. I will work to ensure that the EBRD maintains strong and effective institutional policies addressing these and related issues for all EBRD staff, including a strong whistleblower policy and staff code of conduct.

RESPONSES TO ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR THE RECORD
SUBMITTED TO HON. J. STEVEN DOWD BY SENATOR BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

Human Rights

Question. What are your most meaningful achievements to date in your career to promote human rights and democracy? What has been the impact of your actions?

Answer. At the African Development Bank, I have consistently and forcefully spoken out for human rights and democracy. For example, I have spoken both formally and informally in opposition to human trafficking and child labor. I have also been insistent that the African Development Bank champion democracy as a philosophical underpinning of its transactions throughout Africa. There has been resistance to this effort, but I am an indefatigable champion for democracy.

Diversity

Question. Research from private industry demonstrates that, when managed well, diversity makes business teams better both in terms of creativity and in terms of productivity. What will you do to promote, mentor, and support your staff that come from diverse backgrounds and underrepresented groups?

Answer. On a personal level, I absolutely embrace diversity. Operationally, the position does not involve much in the way of direct hiring, but among those assigned to our office the message is all are welcome, and all are respected. If confirmed, I will endeavor to ensure that the EBRD applies similar principles in its approach to recruitment, retention, and promotion of staff.

Question. What steps will you take to ensure each of the supervisors at the EBRD are fostering an environment that is diverse and inclusive?

Answer. Again, as a board member I will not have direct say in bank hiring. However, I will always support and encourage diversity and inclusiveness. In the event that I were to observe disrespectful behavior in any context, I would voice opposition decisively and categorically.

Conflicts of Interest

Question. Do you commit to bring to the committee's attention (and the Treasury Department Inspector General) any change in policy or U.S. actions that you suspect may be influenced by any of the President's business or financial interests, or the business or financial interests of any senior White House staff?

Answer. I commit to comply with all relevant Federal ethics laws, regulations and rules, and to raise concerns that I may have through appropriate channels.

Question. Do you commit to inform the committee if you have any reason to suspect that a foreign government, head of state, or foreign-controlled entity is taking any action in order to benefit any of the President's business or financial interests, or the interests of senior White House staff?

Answer. I commit to comply with all relevant Federal ethics laws, regulations and rules, and to raise concerns that I may have through appropriate channels.

Question. Do you or do any members of your immediate family have any financial interests in any foreign country abroad?

Answer. No.

RESPONSES TO ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR THE RECORD SUBMITTED
TO HON. RICHARD M. MILLS, JR. BY SENATOR ROBERT MENENDEZ

Question. From the date of your arrival in Canada in November 28, 2018, until Ambassador Craft's departure on June 23, 2019, how many days did you serve as Chargé d'Affaires? (Note: Please list the total number of calendar days between your arrival and June 23, 2019, as well as the number of days that you served as Chargé).

Answer. From the date of my arrival at the Mission (November 10, 2018) to the Ambassador's final departure from post (August 23, 2019), I served a total of 172 full or partial days as Chargé d'Affaires, out of a total of 287 calendar days.

Question. Did you sign any departure notices/cables for Ambassador Craft when she traveled outside of Canada?

Answer. Yes, it is common practice for a Chargé d'Affaires to sign out Request for Permission cables for their chiefs of mission. I did that as necessary, including on cables requesting amended travel itineraries.

Question. Following Ambassador Craft's tenure in Ottawa, did U.S. Embassy Ottawa implement any changes to policies or procedures with regard to absences from post?

Answer. No, those policies and procedures for Chiefs of Mission are set by the Department and overseen by the Under Secretary for Management.

Question. Please describe any impact on U.S. Embassy Ottawa that Ambassador Craft's absences had on operations or staff morale.

Answer. Morale among mission staff in Ottawa and the U.S. constituent posts across Canada was excellent during the Ambassador's tenure, and operations continued without interruption when the Ambassador was traveling. She was in every

instance available and involved in Mission activities, including providing guidance and direction as necessary.

Question. In the instances in which Ambassador Craft traveled outside of Canada without State Department authorization or extended without authorization a previously approved trip, did you provide Ambassador Craft with any guidance about the importance of always seeking official approval from the State Department for her trips? Please detail any such guidance that you provided.

Answer. During my overlapping tenure with the Ambassador, I can recall no instance in which there was a failure to request and receive authorization for such travel.

Question. Do you agree that a strong, consistent, and visible presence at the U.S. mission to the United Nations is important?

Answer. Yes.

Question. Do you commit to providing the Senate Foreign Relations Committee with updates, when requested, regarding your own attendance or absence from the U.S. mission to the United Nations as well as Ambassador Craft?

Answer. Yes, I agree to accommodate all congressional requests for information by supplying the requested information to the fullest extent, consistent with applicable statutes, the U.S. Constitution, and Department of State procedures.

Question. Do you commit to respond promptly to all requests for information by members of this committee?

Answer. Yes, with the understanding that any such response would be organized through the Department of State's Bureau of Legislative Affairs and conducted in accordance with long-standing Department and Executive Branch practice.

Question. Do you commit to appear before this committee upon request?

Answer. Yes, with the understanding that any such appearance would be organized through the Department of State's Bureau of Legislative Affairs and conducted in accordance with long-standing Department and Executive Branch practice.

Question. If you become aware of any suspected waste, fraud, or abuse in the Department, do you commit to report it to the Inspector General?

Answer. If confirmed, I commit to complying with all relevant federal ethics laws, regulations, and rules, and to raise any concerns that I may have through appropriate channels.

Question. Has anyone ever made a formal or informal complaint or allegation of sexual harassment, discrimination (e.g., racial, ethnic, religious, etc.), or inappropriate conduct against you, in a workplace or any other setting? If so, please describe the nature of the complaint or allegation, your response, and any resolution, including any settlements.

Answer. No.

Question. Have you ever addressed concerns or allegations of sexual harassment, discrimination (e.g., racial, ethnic, religious, etc.), or inappropriate conduct made against any employee over whom you had supervisory authority? If so, please describe the outcome and actions taken.

Answer. Over the course of my career, I have had occasion to address workplace interactions that resulted in damage to office cohesion and relationships. In those rare instances, I employed counseling and team-building measures that improved communication and strengthened morale. If confirmed, I will be keenly attuned to such matters, including any conduct that might constitute sexual harassment or discrimination.

Question. Do you agree that any targeting of or retaliation against career employees based on their perceived political beliefs, prior work on policy, or affiliation with a previous administration, is wholly inappropriate and has no place in the federal government? If confirmed, what will you do to ensure that all employees under your leadership understand that any retaliation, blacklisting, or other prohibited personnel practices will not be tolerated?

Answer. Yes. I agree that the federal government should not employ prohibited personnel practices. I take allegations of such practices seriously and if confirmed,

I will maintain a policy of no tolerance for retaliation, blacklisting, or other prohibited personnel practices.

RESPONSES TO ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR THE RECORD SUBMITTED
TO HON. RICHARD M. MILLS JR. BY SENATOR BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

Question. What are your most meaningful achievements to date in your career to promote human rights and democracy? What has been the impact of your actions?

Answer. Promotion of the U.S. human rights and democracy agenda has been a key component of my career, from serving as the Human Rights Officer during my second overseas tour at Consulate St. Petersburg to my time at Embassy Baghdad as the Senior Democracy Advisor, responsible for overseeing all of the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor programs in Iraq. Looking back, I assess my most meaningful accomplishments are two.

First, during my tour at USUN, leading the Mission's effort to create the Special Court for Sierra Leone, intended to provide accountability and justice to the victims of the country's decade long civil strife. I visited the country as part of that effort and worked with human rights groups, the host country legal community, and the U.N. system, to build what I assess was a successful mechanism to bring a measure of justice to the country.

Second, as Ambassador to Armenia, I focused the Embassy on assisting the Armenian people in building the infrastructure of democracy. In particular, we focused on fighting corruption through a free press and supporting Armenian organizations pressing for the rule of law and transparency. It was the Armenian people that led the "Velvet Revolution" of 2018, and peacefully removed a corrupt government that held onto power through un-democratic means. I do believe, however, it was the work of the U.S. Embassy in providing the Armenian people with some of the tools to make peaceful change that helped the revolution succeed.

Question. Research from private industry demonstrates that, when managed well, diversity makes business teams better both in terms of creativity and in terms of productivity. What will you do to promote, mentor, and support your staff that come from diverse backgrounds and underrepresented groups?

Answer. If confirmed, I will endeavor at every appropriate opportunity to promote diversity in the workplace, promote excellence, and mentor staff from all backgrounds. I have made it a hallmark of my career to cultivate diversity and inclusion, and know firsthand the many benefits of a diverse workplace that embraces dissimilar perspectives and welcomes the views of all.

Question. What steps will you take to ensure that your supervisors and colleagues at the United Nations are fostering an environment that is diverse and inclusive?

Answer. If confirmed, I intend to lead by example and guide with encouragement. Creating and sustaining an inclusive work environment takes effort and attention. I will ensure that supervisors at the U.S. Mission are appropriately trained and accountable, and that all employees know that I am an advocate and an available resource.

Question. Do you commit to bring to the committee's attention (and the State Department Inspector General) any change in policy or U.S. actions that you suspect may be influenced by any of the President's business or financial interests, or the business or financial interests of any senior White House staff?

Answer. Yes. If confirmed, I commit to complying with all relevant federal ethics laws, regulations, and rules, and to raise any concerns that I may have through appropriate channels.

Question. Do you commit to inform the committee if you have any reason to suspect that a foreign government, head of state, or foreign-controlled entity is taking any action in order to benefit any of the President's business or financial interests, or the interests of senior White House staff?

Answer. Yes. If confirmed, I commit to complying with all relevant federal ethics laws, regulations, and rules, and to raise any concerns that I may have through appropriate channels.

Question. Do you or do any members of your immediate family have any financial interests in any country abroad?

Answer. My investment portfolio includes diversified mutual funds, which may hold interests in companies with a presence overseas, but which are exempt from

the conflict of interest laws. I also currently hold financial interests in a number of companies which have interests in various foreign countries. I am committed to following all applicable ethics laws and regulations and will remain vigilant with regard to my ethics obligations.

RESPONSES TO ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR THE RECORD
SUBMITTED TO JASON MYUNG-IK CHUNG BY SENATOR JOHN BARRASSO

Question. When reviewing projects at the Asian Development Bank (ADB), what criterion will you use in determining whether the United States will support energy development projects?

Answer. We review each project on its own merits, assessing the country's needs, and the consistency with the ADB's strategy in that country. ADB country strategies are negotiated between the developing member country and the ADB with input from the United States and other members. These country strategies provide a roadmap for ensuring that ADB activities provide a coherent and agreed structure.

Question. Do you believe the ADB should support all types of energy resources?

Answer. Yes.

Question. Will you commit to objecting to and voting against additional restrictions on financing and investments for energy projects at the ADB?

Answer. We will review any such proposals consistent with our "all of the above" energy policy, and work to ensure that they reflect U.S. priorities.

Question. Please identify the current financing and investment restriction in place for energy projects at the ADB.

Answer. Under current ADB policy, all energy sector investments will comply with ADB safeguard policies regarding the environment, involuntary resettlement, and indigenous peoples. ADB will not be involved in financing nuclear power generation. ADB will not finance coal mine development except for captive use by thermal power plants, and oil field development except for marginal and already proven oil fields. ADB will support (i) safety in coal mines, (ii) environmentally and socially sound mining practices and efficient use of coal for power generation, (iii) carbon capture and storage (or sequestration) once technologically viable, (iv) coal bed methane extraction and use, (v) coal gasification, (vi) coal scrubbers, (vii) waste coal utilization, and (viii) efficient coal transportation over land and sea.

Question. Do you pledge to work to eliminate these financing restriction and other barriers to financing of traditional energy resources, such as coal, oil and natural gas at the ADB?

Answer. I will work to eliminate any barriers to financing of traditional energy resources, such as coal, oil, or natural gas.

Question. Coal provides an affordable and reliable energy source, which is important to countries looking for assistance in poverty alleviation and economic development. Do you agree with this statement? If not, why not?

Answer. Yes.

Question. How much financial assistance has the United States made to the ADB?

Answer. The United States has paid in \$991.2 million in capital contributions since the ADB's inception and has subscribed to an additional \$18.8 billion in callable capital. The United States has contributed to \$4.3 billion to the Asian Development Fund, the ADB's concessional window.

Question. What level of influence does the United States have over the ADB operations and ADB loan policy?

Answer. The United States is the co-largest shareholder in ADB along with Japan, with 12.751 percent voting power each, and the second-largest historical donor to the Asian Development Fund, which provides grants to the poorest and most vulnerable countries in Asia and the Pacific. We are a leading voice on strategic, policy, and operational issues. Our influence is magnified by working closely with like-minded shareholders. With Japan we hold a joint veto over major governance decisions such as the admission of new members and increases in ADB's authorized capital stock.

As I noted in my written and oral testimony, I am particularly proud of our efforts on two issues relevant to using our influence: projects in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR), China; and a change in ADB's loan policy to introduce "differentiated pricing" terms. On China, we used leverage generated by legislative mandates to ultimately secure denial of two projects slated for Board consideration in XUAR. We led a coalition with our European partners to force ADB Management to abandon plans to seek approval for the two projects, focusing in particular on the grave human rights issues where the Uyghur people are concerned. One was an urban revitalization project, and the other was a customs and trade facilitation project (cross border). The impact of our actions include that ADB will not propose any new projects in XUAR for the foreseeable future.

On loan pricing, our efforts resulted in the approval of a "differentiated pricing" scheme for sovereign loans. Known as the "Diversification of Financing Terms" initiative in ADB parlance, this initiative strengthens ADB's financial sustainability by requiring upper-middle income nations like China and Kazakhstan, among others, to pay increased premiums for borrowing from the ADB. This initiative will help alleviate the need for a U.S. taxpayer-funded capital increase and mirrors the reforms that the World Bank Group enacted a couple of years ago.

Question. Is poverty alleviation and economic development top priorities at the ADB?

Answer. Yes. The Bank's charter states that "[t]he purpose of the Bank shall be to foster economic growth and co-operation in the region of Asia and the Far East and to contribute to the acceleration of the process of economic development of the developing member countries in the region, collectively and individually."

Question. Along with the ADB, other development banks, including the World Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and national development banks, are funding projects in ADB member countries. How will you ensure ADB is not duplicating efforts, creating redundancies, and working at cross-purposes?

Answer. All the multilateral development banks (MDBs), including the ADB, prepare a Country Strategy (CPS) for each country. These documents describe the sectors in which the ADB plans to engage and are guided by both the country's own development strategy and the ADB's corporate priorities. The Board receives updates from the country teams ahead of a CPS and the CPS is endorsed by the Board. In both of these instances, we engage to make sure the strategy is appropriate, measured, targeted, and designed to avoid duplication and deliver maximum additionality. In addition, the ADB closely coordinates with all donors in each country to help ensure there is a proper division of labor and to reduce duplication. Any time the United States becomes aware of any duplication or redundancies, we will engage immediately with Senior Bank Management to help de-conflict. Lastly, the ADB also provides Regional Cooperation Strategies for an ADB-defined region or subregion, which also provide us an opportunity to examine strategic priorities at a higher level in order to mitigate working at cross-purposes.

Question. What is your view of the ADB's current longterm corporate strategy called "Strategy 2030?"

Answer. I believe Strategy 2030 lays out the viability of ADB as an organization as well as the areas in which to assist client countries in the region. For example, I was pleased that Strategy 2030 clearly articulated a plan to differentiate ADB loan pricing based on recipients' income levels and that it focused on the need to improve application of the ADB's graduation policy to better focus ADB efforts on the poorest and most vulnerable countries. Despite that, I was disappointed that Strategy 2030 fell short in establishing a clear prioritization for ADB as an institution.

Question. Strategy 2030 set out priorities to support ADB member countries in line with commitments made under the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris agreement on climate change. The priorities include tackling climate change, building disaster resilience, and enhancing environmental sustainability. The United States has announced its withdrawal from the Paris agreement on climate change, which will occur this year. When reviewing projects, what criterion will you use in determining whether the United States will support climate change projects at the ADB?

Answer. The MDBs are well aware of the administration's position with regard to the Paris Climate Accord. The United States is respectful of the interests of many developing countries to borrow from the MDBs to address risks arising from severe

weather. The United States does not support work by the MDBs that directly contribute to implementing the Paris Climate Accord.

RESPONSES TO ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR THE RECORD
SUBMITTED TO JASON MYUNG-IK CHUNG BY SENATOR ROBERT MENENDEZ

Democracy and Human Rights

Question. What are the most important actions you have taken in your career to date to support democracy and human rights? What has been the impact of your actions?

Answer. As I noted in my written and oral testimony, I am proud of our efforts to promote human rights and democracy as they relate to Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR), China. We used leverage generated by our legislative mandates to ultimately secure denial of two projects slated for Board consideration in XUAR, China. We led a coalition with our European partners to force ADB Management to abandon plans to seek approval for the two projects, focusing in particular on the grave human rights issues where the Uyghur people are concerned. One was an urban revitalization project, and the other was a customs and trade facilitation project (cross border). The impact of our actions include that ADB will not propose any new projects in Xinjiang Province for the foreseeable future. We remain vigilant on any project that takes place in China, especially in XUAR.

Question. What issues are the most pressing challenges to democracy or democratic development in the countries where ADB works? These challenges might include obstacles to participatory and accountable governance and institutions, rule of law, authentic political competition, civil society, human rights and press freedom. Please be as specific as possible.

Answer. The issues most pressing are in the areas of accountable governance, providing for basic human need and human rights issues in some member countries, and the ability to provide relief to those in need. ADB projects provide a significant value to client countries; but on occasion, it is difficult to see how the projects, loans, and technical assistance get to those who need it most. One example would be providing relief for displaced persons. On more than one occasion, civil society organizations (CSO) have sought out our office to point out how ADB and the client government's executing agency did not provide the necessary relief for the displaced population in question. Furthermore, it was the CSO's belief that the Government was complicit in evicting the local population in order for ADB to complete an energy project. As noted in the first question, it is a significant concern on issues of human rights in XUAR and similar issues involving the Rohingya in Myanmar. This specific challenge stems from ADB's ability to ensure ADB resources are not going towards any Burmese entities that are involved with the crisis. Furthermore, it is ensuring that ADB resources supplied to the Government and other international organizations in support of refugees in Bangladesh as a result of the ongoing humanitarian crisis.

Question. What steps will you take—if confirmed—to support democracy in the countries where ADB works? What do you hope to accomplish through these actions? What are the potential impediments to addressing the specific obstacles you have identified?

Answer. I believe this is a hallmark of what we can do as we represent the United States at the AsDB. I will advocate for the ADB to support countries in strengthening public institutions, improving public financial management, and improving transparency and anti-corruption, while opposing assistance to countries that are gross violators of human rights. I will also advocate for ADB to consult actively with civil society groups and implement robust safeguards and accountability over its operations. I look forward to working with you and your staff to encourage democracy and democratic values. I will work with ADB management and staff to promote democratic policies in client countries. I will work with other U.S. Government stakeholders (State Department, USAID, DFC, among others) to increase visibility on these core principles. Our legislative mandates help us to highlight these values in practical terms, and our application of them to ADB projects encourages the ADB to pursue additional, similar efforts to address the concerns we highlight in client countries.

Question. If confirmed, do you commit to meet with civil society members, human rights and other non-governmental organizations in the U.S., local human rights NGOs, and other members of civil society in the countries where ADB works?

Answer. For the last two years as Alternate U.S. Director, I have been a member of the ADB Board Compliance Review Committee, the body that oversees ADB's accountability mechanisms. In carrying out these duties and continuing the strong tradition of close oversight of accountability issues by the U.S. Executive Director's Office at ADB, I have met with NGOs and civil society groups and will continue to do so. I will encourage these groups to seek out our office as issues arise on both proposed and existing projects to work to ensure that the ADB is held accountable.

Question. Will you and your mission teams actively engage with the countries where ADB works on the right of labor groups to organize, including for independent trade unions?

Answer. I will engage with all groups and encourage my staff to do so as well. If the need arises, I will encourage ADB to work with these key stakeholders and stress the importance of supporting initiatives on which these organized groups focus.

Question. Will you commit to using your position, if confirmed, to defend the human rights and dignity of all people in the countries where ADB works, no matter their sexual orientation or gender identity? What challenges do the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) people face in the countries where ADB works? What specifically will you commit to do to help LGBTQ people in the countries where ADB works?

Answer. ADB promotes and encourages diversity in the workplace, including in countries where ADB has a presence. I will support the institution in continuing this practice. I will work with ADB management and Board colleagues to support LGBTQ and human rights endeavors. For example, ADB recently organized a webinar on LGBTQ inclusion in operations in partnership with the World Bank, EBRD, and IDB. I will actively support similar efforts in the future and encourage ADB to build on this initiative.

Responsiveness

Question. Do you commit to respond promptly to all requests for information by members of this committee?

Answer. If confirmed, I commit to respond promptly to all requests for information by members of this committee, in accordance with U.S. laws and regulations.

Question. Do you commit to appear before this committee upon request?

Answer. If confirmed, I commit to appear before this committee upon request, in accordance with U.S. laws and regulations.

Question. If you become aware of any suspected waste, fraud, or abuse in the Department, do you commit to report it to the Inspector General?

Answer. If confirmed, I commit to comply with all relevant laws, regulations, and rules, and to raise concerns that I may have through appropriate channels.

Administrative

Question. Following President Trump's comments last year welcoming derogatory information on a U.S. political figure from foreign entities, it is important that the Treasury Department have explicit guidance for all of its personnel on how to deal with this scenario. If a foreign person or government approaches you or a staffer at the mission with derogatory information on a U.S. political figure, what is your understanding of official Treasury Department policy on how to handle this specific situation? Has a cable with clear guidance on how to handle this specific situation been sent to all U.S. embassies?

Answer. My understanding, based on the trainings and classes on these topics mandated for all Treasury employees, is that I would report such a situation to the relevant security and counterintelligence offices at Treasury. Should I find myself in this kind of an interaction, I would abide by guidance from the State Department and the Treasury Department as well as relevant U.S. laws. In my current position at the ADB—and in the ED position, should I be confirmed—I would also report this foreign contact to security officials at the Embassy, and to other law enforcement colleagues, as needed, and provide them with any and all information in my possession.

Question. Has anyone ever made a formal or informal complaint or allegation of sexual harassment, discrimination (e.g., racial, ethnic, religious, etc.), or inappro-

appropriate conduct against you, in a workplace or any other setting? If so, please describe the nature of the complaint or allegation, your response, and any resolution, including any settlements.

Answer. No, not to my knowledge.

Question. Have you ever addressed concerns or allegations of sexual harassment, discrimination (e.g., racial, ethnic, religious, etc.), or inappropriate conduct made against any employee over whom you had supervisory authority? If so, please describe the outcome and actions taken.

Answer. I have not had an instance of these types of issues brought to my attention.

Question. Do you agree that any targeting of or retaliation against career employees based on their perceived political beliefs, prior work on policy, or affiliation with a previous administration, is wholly inappropriate and has no place in the federal government? If confirmed, what will you do to ensure that all employees under your leadership understand that any retaliation, blacklisting, or other prohibited personnel practices will not be tolerated?

Answer. I agree that the federal government should not employ prohibited personnel practices. If confirmed, I will maintain a policy to ensure that prohibited personnel practices will not take place.

RESPONSES TO ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR THE RECORD SUBMITTED
TO JASON MYUNG-IK CHUNG BY SENATOR BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

Human Rights

Question. What are your most meaningful achievements to date in your career to promote human rights and democracy? What has been the impact of your actions?

Answer. As I noted in my written and oral testimony, I am proud of our efforts to promote human rights and democracy as they relate to proposed ADB projects in Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR), China. We used leverage generated by our legislative mandates to ultimately secure denial of two projects slated for Board consideration in XUAR, China. We led a coalition with our European partners to force ADB Management to abandon plans to seek approval for the two projects, focusing in particular on the grave human rights issues where the Uyghur people are concerned. One was an urban revitalization project, and the other was a customs and trade facilitation project (cross border). The impact of our actions include that ADB will not propose any new projects in Xinjiang Province for the foreseeable future. We remain vigilant on any project that takes place in China, especially in XUAR.

Diversity

Question. Research from private industry demonstrates that, when managed well, diversity makes business teams better both in terms of creativity and in terms of productivity. What will you do to promote, mentor, and support your staff that come from diverse backgrounds and underrepresented groups?

Answer. As an Asian American and someone who comes from an immigrant family, I support staff from diverse backgrounds and underrepresented groups. I promote diversity of thought and an inclusive decision-making process. I support efforts to hire staff from varying backgrounds to work in the Office of the U.S. Executive Director, consistent with U.S. law.

Question. What steps will you take to ensure each of the supervisors at the Asian Development Bank are fostering an environment that is diverse and inclusive?

Answer. The Office of the U.S. Executive Director promotes diversity and inclusion, both within our office and to the wider ADB community, and we are keenly aware that there are those in the institution who do not share these ideals. I supported setting gender targets in ADB's corporate results framework, including a target to increase the share of female International Staff. I also supported the creation in 2019 of a new Office of Professional Conduct (OPC) to increase awareness around bullying, harassment, sexual harassment, retaliation, and abuse, as well as contribute to workplace conflict resolutions. The OPC promotes best practices at ADB on these issues to foster a positive and productive work environment based on mutual respect regardless of background or position. We will work with ADB management to foster diversity and inclusivity and will work to address the concerns of

those staff who feel that they are retaliated against for issues outside of work performance, consistent with the policies and procedures of the Bank.

Conflicts of Interest

Question. Do you commit to bring to the committee's attention (and the Treasury Department Inspector General) any change in policy or U.S. actions that you suspect may be influenced by any of the President's business or financial interests, or the business or financial interests of any senior White House staff?

Answer. I commit to comply with all relevant Federal ethics laws, regulations and rules, and to raise concerns that I may have through appropriate channels.

Question. Do you commit to inform the committee if you have any reason to suspect that a foreign government, head of state, or foreign-controlled entity is taking any action in order to benefit any of the President's business or financial interests, or the interests of senior White House staff?

Answer. I commit to comply with all relevant Federal ethics laws, regulations and rules, and to raise concerns that I may have through appropriate channels.

Question. Do you or do any members of your immediate family have financial interests in any country abroad?

Answer. As indicated in my financial disclosure statement, I have two bank and two ADB retirement accounts abroad, both in the Philippines. I do not have any other foreign financial interests.

RESPONSES TO ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR THE RECORD
SUBMITTED TO JOSEPH MANSO BY SENATOR BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

Question. What are your most meaningful achievements to date in your career to promote human rights and democracy? What has been the impact of your actions?

Answer. I worked to promote human rights in Mexico. Working with a range of NGOs, I facilitated a nation-wide effort to monitor the Mexican elections in the mid-1990s. I also led the team that drafted the State Department's human rights reports from 1995 to 1998. These reports had enough of an impact on the Government of Mexico that they asked for human rights consultations with the USG, which was a change from their prior policy of not wanting to talk to us about human rights issues. When President Clinton visited Mexico in the mid-1990s, I proposed and arranged for him to meet with key opposition leaders. During this period, one of Mexico's leading human rights proponents told me he had never felt so respected by the American Embassy.

Question. Research from private industry demonstrates that, when managed well, diversity makes business teams better both in terms of creativity and in terms of productivity. What will you do to promote, mentor, and support your staff that come from diverse backgrounds and underrepresented groups?

Answer. I strongly agree that diversity is essential, not only is it the right thing to do, it makes us stronger as an organization. If confirmed, I will at the OPCW: recruit from a broad pool of candidates; make everyone feel welcome and part of the team; monitor performance and address any issues early and in a constructive manner working to set each individual up for success; set aside time to mentor officers individually; pay attention to morale issues and to the tone in the office; use my behavior to model correct tone and conduct in the office.

Question. What steps will you take to ensure each of the supervisors at the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons are fostering an environment that is diverse and inclusive?

Answer. The current Director General of the OPCW, Ambassador Fernando Arias, ran on a platform of enhancing staff diversity and gender balance in the Technical Secretariat. DG Arias set the tone for his tenure of DG and for the Organization by selecting a female Deputy Director General from Cameroon. Subsequently, he has followed up by creating a gender point of contact in each division, instituting new hiring practices aimed at attracting more women candidates. The OPCW has increased the number of women in the Technical Secretariat from 22 to 27 percent over the last three years. He is also working to increase geographic diversity, seeking more qualified candidates from Africa, Latin America, and Asia. The disparity is primarily due to a low rate of minimally-qualified applicants from these regional groups applying for positions.

If confirmed, I will publicly support and encourage these steps by OPCW leadership aimed at fostering diversity among the Technical Secretariat, and encourage DG Arias to work to identify additional recruitment tools to make it easier for OPCW positions to be advertised globally. Further, I will encourage other countries to take a vested interest in promoting OPCW positions and ensure that qualified candidates from their country or regional group apply for OPCW vacancies. DG Arias' initiatives can only be actualized if all States Parties remain committed to a gender and geographically balanced workforce.

Question. Do you commit to bring to the committee's attention (and the State Department Inspector General) any change in policy or U.S. actions that you suspect may be influenced by any of the President's business or financial interests, or the business or financial interests of any senior White House staff?

Answer. If confirmed, I commit to complying with all relevant federal ethics laws, regulations, and rules, and to raise any concerns that I may have through appropriate channels.

Question. Do you commit to inform the committee if you have any reason to suspect that a foreign government, head of state, or foreign-controlled entity is taking any action in order to benefit any of the President's business or financial interests, or the interests of senior White House staff?

Answer. If confirmed, I commit to complying with all relevant federal ethics laws, regulations, and rules, and to raise any concerns that I may have through appropriate channels.

Question. Do you or do any members of your immediate family have financial interests in any country abroad?

Answer. Neither I nor any member of my immediate family have any specific financial interests abroad. My investment portfolio includes mutual funds, those funds may hold interests in companies with an international presence, but these are exempt from conflict of interest laws. I am committed to following all applicable ethics laws and regulations and remaining vigilant with regard to my ethics obligations.
