



February 1, 2010

The Honorable Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition, we commend your steadfast leadership to invest in International Affairs Budget. Your Administration's request of \$58.5 billion for the FY11 International Affairs Budget strongly reinforces the continued bipartisan commitment of Congress and your Administration to invest in the non-military tools of development and diplomacy that are essential to strengthen our national security, build economic prosperity, and demonstrate our moral values.

Our broad-based, nationwide network of businesses, non-governmental and faith-based organizations -- representing millions of Americans and activists in all 50 states -- applauds your continued commitment to double foreign assistance and to ensure that the civilian-led tools of diplomacy and development are provided with adequate resources. The programs that comprise the International Affairs Budget are critical to addressing the roots causes of conflict and instability, responding to humanitarian crises, and creating new business markets for U.S. products and jobs here in the U.S.

In December, 247 bipartisan Members of Congress -- including 58 Senators and 189 Representatives -- signed letters to you urging a robust FY11 International Affairs Budget. They noted that "the critical programs funded in the International Affairs Budget foster economic and political stability, strengthen our allies, and fight the spread of poverty, disease, terrorism and weapons of mass destruction." The U.S. Global Leadership Coalition and our members across the country will work to build upon this bipartisan support and urge Congress to fully fund your Administration's FY11 International Affairs Budget request.

We applaud you for your visionary leadership on behalf of the International Affairs Budget. We look forward to continuing to work with your Administration to ensure that America is fully equipped to address the global challenges of the 21st century.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George Ingram".

George Ingram  
Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Liz Schroyer".

Liz Schroyer  
Executive Director