



April 9, 2013

The Honorable Hal Rogers
Chairman
Appropriations Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Ranking Member
Appropriations Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Lowey:

On behalf of the more than 400 business and NGO members of the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition (USGLC), including business, military, and faith-based leaders in all 50 states, we urge you to support a strong 302(b) allocation for the FY14 International Affairs Budget.

Development and diplomacy accounts have been cut deep and disproportionately in recent years -- 19% below FY10 enacted levels (excluding funding provided for Frontline states under Overseas Contingency Operations). Further deep cuts to these programs, particularly at a time of so many global hotspots and needs for U.S. leadership, would be very detrimental to our national interests.

International Affairs programs are critical tools for advancing America's national security and economic interests and responding to humanitarian crises. For 1% of total federal spending, these programs are cost-effective investments at tackling the root causes of conflict and extremism so we only need to deploy the military as a last resort. They also are vital to building new markets for U.S. goods and services and saving lives.

The modest investments we make in the International Affairs Budget are fundamental to building a better, safer world. Given the disproportionate cuts these programs have already shouldered, we urge you to support a strong 302(b) allocation for the FY14 International Affairs Budget.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Lane".

Bill Lane, Caterpillar
USGLC Co-President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carolyn Miles".

Carolyn Miles, Save the Children
USGLC Co-President

CC: The Honorable John Boehner, Speaker of the House
The Honorable Eric Cantor, Majority Leader
The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, Majority Whip
The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Minority Leader
The Honorable Steny Hoyer, Minority Whip
The Honorable Kay Granger, Chairwoman, State-Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee