



The largest alliance of U.S.-based international nongovernmental organizations focused on the world's poor and most vulnerable people.

January 7, 2011

The President of the United States
The White House

Dear Mr. President:

We, the undersigned members of InterAction, write to urge you to submit as strong a request as possible for FY 2012 for the international development and humanitarian assistance accounts.

We recognize the tough fiscal challenges before us as a nation, and appreciate the difficult political and budgetary landscape you face as president. We are very much aware of the real hardships and struggles many here at home are facing, and acknowledge and support your responsibility to respond to those needs.

As you have said, those needs and the wellbeing of all Americans here at home are inextricably tied to a world that continues to benefit from American leadership. Our nation's long-term prosperity, security, and fiscal health depend on the United States providing that leadership to create a safer, more stable, more prosperous world. Now more than ever, the United States must continue to invest in the civilian diplomacy, development, and humanitarian programs through which that leadership is provided. We applaud your administration's landmark efforts to make those programs more effective and efficient, and we support the sustained funding needed to carry those efforts through to fruition.

Just as we have a moral duty to help those most in need here at home, Americans have long felt a moral call to help the less fortunate overseas as well. As organizations acting on behalf of and with the support of millions of Americans to follow that call, we are particularly aware of the acute needs that continue around the world.

Given the strong practical and moral arguments for investing in our international development and humanitarian programs, and the small fraction of the federal budget those programs constitute, we urge you to submit as strong a request as possible for the international development and humanitarian accounts, and for the International Affairs account overall.

We pledge to do all that we can to support a strong request, to reach out to Congress and the American people to help make the case for continued investment in our civilian international engagement with the world.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continuing leadership.

Respectfully,
[Logos and names of signing organizations follow below]

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Melanie Macdonald
World Neighbors

Ruth Messinger
American Jewish World
Service

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CEDPA

Daniel Pellegrom
Pathfinder International

Robert Radtke
Episcopal Relief and
Development

Farshad Rastegar
Relief International

Jonathan Reckford
Habitat for Humanity

William S. Reese
International Youth Foundation

Carter Roberts
World Wildlife Fund

Ron Sconyers
Physicians for Peace

Alison Smith
InsideNGO

Richard Stearns
World Vision



1. Academy for Educational Development
2. Action Against Hunger
3. ActionAid International USA
4. African Medical & Research Foundation USA
5. Aid to Artisans
6. Alliance for Peacebuilding
7. Alliance to End Hunger
8. American Jewish World Service
9. American Near East Refugee Aid
10. American Red Cross
11. American Refugee Committee International
12. AmeriCares
13. Americas Relief Team
14. Amigos de las Americas
15. Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC) USA
16. Basic Education Coalition
17. Bread for the World
18. CARE
19. Center for Health & Gender Equity (CHANGE)
20. Centre for Development & Population Activities
21. CHF International
22. ChildFund International
23. Church World Service
24. CIVIC
25. Concern America
26. CONCERN Worldwide
27. Congressional Hunger Center
28. Creative Learning
29. Development Gateway
30. Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund, Inc. (DREDF)
31. Education Development Center
32. Episcopal Relief & Development
33. Ethiopian Community Development Council
34. Family Care International
35. FAVACA
36. Food for the Hungry
37. Freedom from Hunger
38. Friends of the Global Fight
39. Global Health Council
40. Habitat for Humanity International
41. Heartland Alliance
42. Heifer Project International
43. Helen Keller International
44. IMA World Health
45. IMMAP
46. INMED Partnerships for Children
47. InsideNGO
48. Institute for Sustainable Communities
49. International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL)
50. International Center for Research on Women (ICRW)
51. International Foundation for Electoral Systems
52. International Housing Coalition
53. International Medical Corps
54. International Medical Health Organization
55. International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC)
56. International Relief & Development, Inc.
57. International Relief Teams
58. International Rescue Committee
59. International Youth Foundation
60. IntraHealth International Inc.
61. Korean American Sharing Movement
62. Life for Relief and Development
63. Lutheran World Relief
64. Management Sciences for Health
65. Medical Teams International
66. Mercy - USA for Aid and Development
67. Mercy Corps
68. National Peace Corps Association
69. National Wildlife Federation
70. ONE Campaign
71. Operation USA
72. Opportunity International
73. Oxfam America
74. Pact
75. Pan American Development Foundation
76. PATH
77. Pathfinder International
78. PCI-Media Impact
79. Physicians for Human Rights
80. Plan USA
81. Plant with Purpose
82. Population Action International
83. Population Communication
84. Resolve
85. RESULTS, Inc.
86. ReSurge International
87. Rural Development Institute
88. Save the Children
89. Stop Hunger Now, Inc.
90. The Hunger Project
91. Transparency International - USA
92. Trickle Up Program
93. U.S. Climate Action Network
94. US Committee for Refugees & Immigrants
95. US Fund for UNICEF
96. Volunteers Association of Bangladesh
97. WaterAid America
98. WellShare International
99. Winrock International
100. Women Thrive Worldwide
101. World Food Program - USA
102. World Learning
103. World Neighbors
104. World Rehabilitation Fund, Inc.
105. World Relief
106. World Vision
107. World Wildlife Fund