



CONGRESSIONAL BULLETIN

June 7, 2011

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the **third** edition of USAID's biweekly Congressional Bulletin. The objectives of this newsletter are –

- to inform you of the latest developments at USAID – including key personnel announcements and significant milestones reached – both in our development programs and the [USAID Forward Agenda](#);
- to preview new partnerships, policies, or strategies we are working on and invite you to engage with us as we move these forward; and
- to give you a sense of what's on the horizon – not only in terms of upcoming Congressional testimony or briefings but also opportunities to meet with our Mission Directors, when they're in Washington for consultations .

We welcome your input and want to make sure that this newsletter is useful to you. Please reply to USAIDCongressionalBulletin@usaid.gov to give us feedback on what you'd like to see more (or less) of in future editions.

Attached please find an updated list of our Legislative Affairs team. Please let us know how we can be of assistance to you in the future.

NOMINEES:

- **AA/Global Health and AA/Middle East:** The Senate Foreign Relations Committee held a confirmation hearing today (June 7) for **Dr. Ariel Pablos-Mendez**, nominee for Assistant Administrator for the Bureau for Global Health. Click [here](#) to read a copy of Dr. Pablos-Mendez's testimony. **Mara Rudman**, nominee for Assistant Administrator for the Middle East, has been placed on the Senate Executive Calendar. USAID is working with Senate leadership to bring her confirmation to the floor for a full Senate vote.

PERSONNEL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Director, Office of Development Credit Authority:** We are pleased to announce that **Ben Hubbard** has been named Director of the Office of Development Credit Authority (DCA) in the Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture, and Trade (EGAT). [DCA](#) is the premier platform for bringing commercial capital to underserved markets in developing countries. Through partial loan guarantees USAID has leveraged over \$2.4 billion dollars in private capital using only \$82 million of U.S. government resources. Prior to joining DCA, Ben was Acting Chief of Staff to Administrator Shah where he facilitated and coordinated overall Agency operations and played a lead role in designing and advancing USAID's agenda, goals and critical initiatives.
- **Veronica "Ronnie" Young Retires:** USAID's Bureau for Legislative and Public Affairs (LPA) will host a retirement celebration June 16 in honor of Ronnie Young who recently retired from USAID after 38 years of government service. Ronnie was a pillar of our legislative team, liaising

with the Office of Management and Budget, the Government Accountability Office, the Congressional Research Service, and in guiding our Communications Unit focused on correspondence, testimony, and questions for the record. Until further notice, please contact Maya Worman for assistance with these issues at mworman@usaid.gov or 202-712-1174. In addition, we invite you to join us in honoring Ronnie on June 16. Please email Alice Taylor at alice@usaid.gov.

TESTIMONY AND PUBLIC EVENTS:

- **House Foreign Affairs:** USAID Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Middle East **Christopher Crowley** testified before the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on the Middle East and South Asia on June 1 regarding the civilian transition in Iraq. State and Defense representatives also testified. Click [here](#) for SDAA testimony.
- **Deputy Steinberg to Speak at U.S. Institute for Peace:** Deputy Administrator **Donald Steinberg** will give the keynote address at a U.S. Institute for Peace Conference on Health Issues in Post Conflict and Unstable States on Friday, June 10. His speech will address “The USAID Experience in Fragile States.”
- **DAA/ME to Speak at American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee Convention:** USAID’s Deputy Assistant Administrator for Middle East, **Hady Amr**, will address the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee Annual National Convention at the Washington Marriott Wardman Park Hotel on June 10. The title of her address is “Popular Uprisings: Roundtable on Recent Developments in the Arab World.”
- **DRG 2.0 Conference:** USAID is hosting a conference on “Promoting Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance in 2011” on Monday and Tuesday, June 20-21, at the Hilton Arlington Hotel. The conference brings together critical and innovative thinkers in democracy, human rights, and governance to discuss pressing issues such as new opportunities for development, tools to assist in the presentation of human rights abuses, the integration of democracy, human rights, and governance across all of the development goals.
- **Administrator Shah to Speak at Bread for the World Event:** On June 12, **Dr. Shah** will join World Bank **President Robert Zoellick**, New York Times journalist **Mark Bittman**, U.S. Under Secretary of State **Maria Otero**, and Rev. **Gabriel Salguero** of the National Latino Evangelical Coalition are among the powerful speakers who will address Bread for the World’s National Gathering 2011 in Washington, DC. Under the theme “Changing the Politics of Hunger,” the event will feature inspiring plenary sessions, workshops, and worship services. Click [here](#) for more information.

TRAVEL:

- **AA/LAC Travel to Mexico:** **Mark Feierstein**, Assistant Administrator for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), travels to Mexico City and Ciudad Juarez the week of June 6 to meet with Mexican Government counterparts and NGOs with whom USAID will collaborate on the joint U.S. and Mexico security strategy.
- **USAID Policy Leadership at Education Fast Track Initiative Meetings:** Late last month, David Barth, Director of USAID’s Office of Education, represented the United States at the board meetings of the Education for All Fast Track Initiative in Kigali, Rwanda. The Education for All Fast Track Initiative is a global compact on education, and includes donor and developing country partners. For the first time, the USG had a full seat on the board, and used the opportunity to ensure alignment of the Fast Track Initiative strategic framework around three issues: 1) Quality education, particularly in the early grades; 2) Fragile states; and 3)

Gender. These three areas align with USAID's [education strategy](#) which was developed in close collaboration with Congress.

PARTNERSHIPS:

- **USAID - AusAid Collaborate on Government of Tanzania Health Programs:** USAID/Tanzania and Australia's development agency, AusAid, have reached an agreement whereby AusAid will transfer \$5.5 million of its health funding to USAID to program and oversee support addressing urgent gaps in the Tanzania's measles program and critical gaps in Tanzania's stocks for family planning commodities. The agreement is designed to reduce duplication and burden on host country governments.
- **USAID - Government of South Africa Collaboration on Woman-Controlled AIDS Prevention:** In the wake of a landmark USAID-funded study examining the effectiveness of Tenofovir, a microbicidal gel to prevent the transmission of HIV/AIDS among women, USAID intends to co-fund with the South African government a confirmatory trial of 1% tenofovir gel. The trial, called the "Follow-on African Consortium for Tenofovir Studies" (FACTS) 001, is scheduled to last up to 25 months and will enroll approximately 2,000 women. The trial will be conducted by newly created South African consortium including seven local research institutions and three South African woman scientists.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE UPDATE

USAID provides life-saving humanitarian assistance throughout the world. Below are links to the latest fact sheets describing our work:

- Cote d'Ivoire complex emergency [fact sheet #9](#), dated June 3, 2011
- East and Central Africa Regional [fact sheet #1](#), dated May 23, 2011
- Haiti earthquake and cholera [fact sheet #6](#), dated May 31, 2011
- Libya complex emergency [fact sheet #29](#), dated June 2, 2011
- Zimbabwe complex emergency [fact sheet #1](#), dated June 3, 2011

DEVELOPMENT LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE (DLI) UPDATE:

USAID has hired 720 new Foreign Service officers under the Development Leadership Initiative (DLI) -- a multi-year effort launched under the Bush Administration with strong, bipartisan support from Congress - to enhance the Agency's capability to effectively deliver U.S. foreign assistance and to increase its overseas presence. USAID is currently seeking applicants in the following backstops: Contracting Officers (BS-93), Agriculture Officers (BS-10), Crisis Stabilization & Governance Officers (BS-76) and Program/Project Development Officers (BS-02/94). To learn more about the DLI, including opportunities for employment, click [here](#).

For more information about USAID's programs, please visit: usaid.gov. To read our blog, see blog.usaid.gov.

The American people, through the U.S. Agency for International Development, have provided economic and humanitarian assistance worldwide for nearly 50 years.

