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Account(s): International Environment Programs

Chairwoman Lowey, Ranking Member Rogers, and members of the subcommittee,

Thank you for your time here today soliciting public feedback on the coming fiscal year's appropriations process. I am the climate change policy lead at Oxfam America, a global anti-poverty non-profit.

I would like to speak briefly on the matter of international funding for the environment and conservation. I should also note that Oxfam America receives no funding from these accounts.

For decades, members of both parties have supported both bilateral and multilateral funding to help better protect and preserve the environment. These programs enable developing countries to care for our shared global ecosystem while strengthening American alliances, preventing conflicts, and bolstering national security. I should also note that the American public is now more attuned to the importance of these issues than ever before.

The omnibus appropriations package for the current fiscal year provided robust and increased support for these important programs. I would like to thank this committee for their hard work in that effort, and express real gratitude on behalf of our community.

In particular, the Fiscal Year 2020 bill language supporting adaptation, renewable energy, and sustainable landscapes is very strong and will help save lives, build resilience, and protect the vulnerable. Additionally, full funding for the Global Environment Facility (GEF) in FY20 will provide continued U.S. support for crucial efforts to protect endangered species, preserve forestlands, and aid farmers.

As members of the subcommittee know, American investments in these programs help leverage substantial matching commitments from other governments -- meaning that our spending is doubled many dozens of times over. Indeed, every American dollar invested in the GEF generates another \$40 from other countries and partners. In the energy arena, investment in developing country energy infrastructure is expected to exceed \$30 trillion over the next 25 years -- a small investment of U.S. funds now can help shape that enormous market for decades to come.

In Fiscal Year 2021, we hope you can find greater support for all of these accounts, owing to the vast and growing demand overseas for American leadership on the environment, renewable energy, and conservation.

In particular, we hope that the subcommittee can increase the adaptation programs line to \$192 million and the renewable energy programs line to \$194 million, an increase of \$15 million for both. Full funding of \$10 million for the voluntary U.S. contributions to both the UN Framework

Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) is also essential, as the U.S. remains an active and important contributor to both bodies. Additionally, we hope that the subcommittee can provide additional direction to State and USAID by instructing them to fund both the Least Developed Countries Fund (one of the premier multilateral resilience funds which the U.S. has previously supported) as well as the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (a pioneering, voluntary effort to reduce pernicious air pollutants).

Finally, we believe it remains vital for the U.S. to meet its existing pledge to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) by providing \$500 million or more in this fiscal year. 47 countries have now pledged over \$18 billion to the GCF, including 9 developing nations like Indonesia, Chile, Mexico, and Colombia. Additionally, the GCF is leveraging an additional \$15 billion in non-GCF co-financing, over \$2.67 for every \$1 the fund provides.