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As promised, President Donald Trump's administration on Monday cut $180 million in aid to countries grappling with hunger and crime and that the move would be 'a presidential tantrum will limit our ability to actually help address the challenges forcing people to flee to the U.S.,' said Democratic Senator Bob Menendez.

White House officials told congressional aides last week that the administration would eliminate the aid, which is spent on food and nutrition programs for Central America that lawmakers had approved for fiscal 2017, 2018 and 2019.

The administration said in March it would cut aid to countries that had not reduced migration, but the move was met with opposition in Congress and from some of Trump's fellow Republicans as well as Democrats.

Congressional aides said the administration told them it would reallocate the money for those years has not yet been spent, which they have speculated could be used to fund a wall along the southern border.

The White House also said it would cut aid to El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, all countries Trump has made reducing illegal immigration one of his signature policy pledges.

Migrants from Central America walk on a highway during their journey to Mexico, as they seek asylum in the United States, in Ciudad Hidalgo, Mexico, June 11, 2019.

The administration said Trump was acting under a decades-old law that allows the president to cut aid to any country that is a source of illegal immigration into the U.S. The administration also said it would cut aid to Mexico.

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'As we have said before, the administration is trying to address the problem at its source,' she added.

Lupita Pineda, a 15-year-old migrant who crossed the border and is now waiting to see an attorney in Laredo, Texas, said she wasn't sure what will happen next.