August 1, 2019

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby  
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Vice Chairman, Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Leader McConnell, Minority Leader Schumer, Chairman Shelby, Vice Chairman Leahy,

Thank you for your leadership in supporting poverty reduction, conflict prevention, global health, and good governance. Following the bipartisan budget agreement, we the undersigned international, implementing and advocacy nonprofit organizations respectfully reaffirm our request that you provide a 302(b) allocation for the FY 2020 State and Foreign Operations bill that builds upon, and reinforces, America’s leadership around the world.

Strong investment in the State and Foreign Operations bill is urgently required given global needs and the value of U.S. leadership to making a tangible difference. Every day, 37,000 people are forced to flee their homes due to conflict and persecution, and the UN predicts that 132 million people will need humanitarian assistance in 2019.

In the Democratic Republic of Congo, nearly 1,700 people have died from Ebola over the past year, and just this month, the World Health Organization declared the outbreak a “public health emergency of international concern” as the disease threatens to spread across borders. U.S. humanitarian and global health programs are critical for saving lives, improving resilience, and building healthy economies.

While the numbers of those in need is high, there are no shortage of success stories that stem from U.S. foreign aid investments. From 2011 to 2017, USAID reached over 109 million learners in over 50 countries, including over 20 million children living in conflict and crisis settings, contributing to a significant global reduction in the number of out-of-school children. Between 2000 to 2016, U.S. foreign assistance contributed to an estimated 53 million lives saved from tuberculosis.

These programs serve as a critical pillar for U.S. leadership in the world. Not only do foreign assistance programs save lives, they give communities the tools they need to build safe and prosperous futures, all while promoting American values. The benefits are tangible: today, eleven of the United States’ top fifteen trading partners are former recipients of foreign aid.

We appreciate your continued support of the State and Foreign Operations bill and urge you to increase its 302(b) allocation in FY 2020.
Undersigned Organizations,

1,000 Days
Action Against Hunger
American Jewish World Service
Basic Education Coalition
Better World Campaign
Bread for the World
CARE USA
ChildFund International
Church World Service
Concern International
Feed the Children
Food for the Hungry
Global Communities
Global Health Council
Global Water 2020
InterAction
International Medical Corps
Internews
Islamic Relief USA
Jesuit Refugee Service/USA
MAG America
Mennonite Central Committee, U.S. Washington Office
Mercy Corps
Mercy-USA for Aid and Development
National Cooperative Business Association CLUSA International
Oxfam America
PATH
Refugees International

RESULTS
Solidarity Center
SPOON
The ONE Campaign
Save the Children
U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants
UNICEF USA
WaterAid
Women’s Refugee Commission
World Learning
World Vision