Dear Mr. Speaker:

I ask the Congress to consider the enclosed Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Budget amendments for national security activities at the Department of Defense (DOD), the Department of State (State), and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to fund Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO).

These amendments would provide $5.8 billion for DOD OCO activities to support the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces, and to degrade and ultimately defeat the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), including through military operations as part of Operation Inherent Resolve. For State and USAID, a total of $5.8 billion would support the Administration's counter-ISIL and counterterrorism objectives, including the efforts to implement the diplomatic engagement, governance, and stabilization components of my Administration's counter-ISIL strategy, strengthen embassy security, and respond to relief and recovery needs, as well as provide additional humanitarian assistance for areas liberated from ISIL and other unforeseen needs.

Overall, these amendments would increase the OCO funding requested for FY 2017 by $11.6 billion, for a total FY 2017 OCO request of $85.3 billion. Consistent with last year's bipartisan budget agreement, these amendments would provide equal funding increases for defense and non-defense security programs.

The details of these amendments are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

While these amendments focus on funding our overseas national security efforts, our efforts here at home are equally important to fighting terrorism and protecting the American people. For this reason, I urge the Congress to fully fund not only the international security needs outlined in this request, but also
the domestic security programs included in the FY 2017 Budget. Specifically, the Congress should fund critical cybersecurity programs and ensure the Nation has the resources needed to aggressively counter evolving cybersecurity threats. I also encourage the Congress to provide the resources necessary for the Department of Homeland Security's Transportation Security Administration and its Countering Violent Extremism programs.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

The Honorable Paul D. Ryan  
Speaker of the  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515
November 10, 2016

The President
The White House

Dear Mr. President:

Submitted for your consideration are amendments to your Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Budget for national security activities at the Department of Defense (DOD) and the Department of State (State) and U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), to be designated as Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO).

These amendments would provide the resources needed to continue tailored support to help the Afghan National Defense and Security Forces (ANDSF), and support your comprehensive strategy to degrade, and ultimately defeat, the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), including military operations associated with Operation Inherent Resolve (OIR). These amendments include an additional $5.8 billion for DOD OCO funding (for an FY 2017 OCO total of $64.6 billion) for military operations associated with Afghanistan and OIR; as well as an increase of $5.8 billion for State and USAID OCO funding (for an FY 2017 OCO total of $20.7 billion) to support the Administration's counter-ISIL and counterterrorism objectives, including the efforts to implement the diplomatic engagement, governance, and stabilization components of the Administration's counter-ISIL strategy, strengthen embassy security, and respond to relief and recovery needs, as well as to provide additional humanitarian assistance for areas liberated from ISIL and other unforeseen needs.

These amendments include $2.5 billion for DOD to maintain approximately 8,400 troops in Afghanistan through FY 2017, consistent with your announcement on July 6, 2016. Since the U.S. combat mission in Afghanistan ended in December 2014, the ANDSF have assumed full responsibility for Afghanistan's security nationwide. The ANDSF have grown stronger, but continue to face a determined insurgency. Maintaining a U.S. force posture of approximately 8,400 troops into 2017, together with our 41 allies and partners who together contribute another 6,000 troops, would enable the NATO-led coalition to continue to provide focused assistance on crucial capabilities such as intelligence, logistics, aviation, and command and control. This critical support would help the ANDSF secure their country and prevent Afghanistan from being used as a safe haven for terrorists to attack our Nation. This U.S. force level also preserves the counterterrorism platforms that are central to your post-2016 plan.

This request also includes $814.5 million to provide essential capabilities to the Afghan Air Force and Special Mission Wing. This funding would enable DOD to start transitioning Afghanistan's aging and battle-worn fleet of Russian-made helicopters to U.S.-made helicopters.
Transitioning to U.S. platforms will ensure that Afghan forces have the necessary tactical capabilities for warfare in the rugged Afghan countryside, as well as uninterrupted access to parts and services to maintain their helicopters. This request also includes funding for additional fixed-wing aircraft that would provide Afghan commanders with close air support capability.

Based on the U.S.-led global coalition's sustained progress in Iraq and Syria, our approach to countering ISIL continues to evolve with emerging requirements and additional funding needs identified subsequent to the FY 2017 OCO request submitted to the Congress in February. The coalition continues to enable local partners to challenge ISIL's territorial control in Iraq and Syria and disrupt its efforts to plan external attacks through the use of precision airstrikes, Special Operations forces, and intelligence collection and exploitation, along with the development of capable local ground forces in Iraq and Syria. To seize the opportunities created by successes in recent months, your military and civilian leaders recommend intensifying our efforts as Iraqi forces begin to engage ISIL forces in Mosul. These amendments request funding for DOD to support a range of military operations against ISIL in the Middle East region, including:

- sustainment of U.S. personnel forward deployed to the U.S. Central Command area of operations, including the additional forces you recently approved, who are providing training, advice, and assistance to partner security forces engaged in the fight against ISIL;
- operations and maintenance costs for air and ground operations;
- enabling activities that support forces and operations, especially the people, platforms, and network capabilities that will allow a surge in intelligence collection, analysis, exploitation, and sharing among coalition partners that is essential to countering not only ISIL’s core and branches, but its ability to conduct external operations and extend its influence in cyberspace; and
- stipend support to Kurdish Peshmerga forces in cooperation with the Iraqi government, in order to reinforce the Iraqi Kurds' continued constructive engagement in counter-ISIL operations toward Mosul and respond to economic pressures faced by the Kurdistan Regional Government of Iraq.

The request for State and USAID includes $5.8 billion to support implementation of the diplomatic engagement, governance, stabilization and other components of the Administration’s counter-ISIL and counterterrorism objectives as well as to provide additional humanitarian assistance for areas liberated from ISIL and other unforeseen needs. State and USAID funding would support:

- unexploded ordnance and explosive remnants of war removal in severely contaminated areas that have been liberated from ISIL across Iraq, Syria, and Libya;
- immediate stabilization needs for liberated areas in Iraq, including support for the Funding Facility for Immediate Stabilization in Iraq;
• support for State's Global Engagement Center to strengthen counter-violent extremism communication;
• police training, stabilization and core development work in northern Nigeria and the broader Lake Chad Basin region affected by Boko Haram/ISIL West Africa Province;
• increased diplomatic presence in Somalia, along with enhanced stabilization and governance support to improve community resistance to the influence of extremist groups;
• support for peace processes and emerging countering violent extremism and counterterrorism needs in Africa, Asia, and other crisis areas;
• increased diplomatic movements in and out of Syria, Libya, and Yemen as the security situation on the ground allows;
• longer-term stabilization needs for additional areas liberated from ISIL in the future and other unforeseen needs arising from the historic global refugee crisis, including support for such multilateral funding instruments as the Syria Recovery Trust Fund, the United Nations (UN) Development Program's Funding Facility for Expanded Stabilization, and the UN Stabilization Fund for Libya;
• expanded technical assistance for the transitional government in Libya and support to political processes in Yemen;
• a Relief and Recovery Fund that would provide flexible funding to support a range of additional needs following the counter-ISIL campaign;
• humanitarian assistance for areas liberated from ISIL and other unforeseen needs; and
• a one-time increase for embassy security to accelerate planned construction and security enhancement projects.

Overall, these amendments would increase the OCO funding requested for FY 2017 by $11.6 billion, for a total FY 2017 OCO request of $85.3 billion. Consistent with last year's bipartisan budget agreement, these amendments would provide equal funding increases for defense and non-defense security programs.

While these amendments focus on funding our overseas national security efforts, our efforts here at home are equally important to fighting terrorism and protecting the American people. For this reason, the Congress should fully fund domestic security programs, including needs that have arisen since submission of your FY 2017 Budget. While the Congress has supported many of the cybersecurity programs included in the FY 2017 Budget, additional needs remain outstanding in areas such as securing Federal information technology systems, protecting critical infrastructure, and investing in our cybersecurity workforce. In addition, the Department of Homeland Security requires funding for the Transportation Security Administration to maintain its enhanced operational posture and upgrade outdated equipment, and for grant funding and programs that support Countering Violent Extremism efforts. We will work with the Congress to ensure these needs are included in FY 2017 appropriations.
Recommendation

I have reviewed these amendments and am satisfied that they are necessary at this time. Therefore, I join the heads of the affected Departments and agencies in recommending that you transmit the amendments to the Congress.

Sincerely,

Shaun Donovan
Director

Enclosures
This amendment would provide $94.0 million to enable the Department of Defense (DOD) to support the increased personnel and authorities associated with Operations Freedom's Sentinel and Inherent Resolve in Afghanistan and Iraq. This includes funding for incremental pay, allowances, subsistence, permanent change of station travel, and other Army personnel costs for increased Active component and Guard and Reserve troops activated for duty. This request also includes funding for special pays, including imminent danger pay, family separation allowance, foreign language proficiency pay, and hardship duty pay.
This amendment would provide $7.4 million to enable DOD to support the increased personnel and authorities associated with Operations Freedom's Sentinel and Inherent Resolve in Afghanistan and Iraq. This includes funding for incremental pay, allowances, subsistence, permanent change of station travel, and other Navy personnel costs for increased Active component and Reserve troops activated for duty. This request also includes funding for special pays, including imminent danger pay, family separation allowance, foreign language proficiency pay, and hardship duty pay.
This amendment would provide $5.8 million to enable DOD to support the increased personnel and authorities associated with Operations Freedom's Sentinel and Inherent Resolve in Afghanistan and Iraq. This includes funding for incremental pay, allowances, subsistence, permanent change of station travel, and other Marine Corps personnel costs for increased Active component and Reserve troops activated for duty. This request also includes funding for special pays, including imminent danger pay, family separation allowance, foreign language proficiency pay, and hardship duty pay.
Agency: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—MILITARY PROGRAMS
Bureau: MILITARY PERSONNEL
Heading: Military Personnel, Air Force
Subheading: (Overseas contingency operations)

FY 2017 Budget
Appendix Page: 322

FY 2017
Pending Request: $719,896,000
Proposed Amendment: $37,640,000
Revised Request: $757,536,000

(In the appropriations language under the above heading, delete "$719,896,000" and substitute $757,536,000.)

This amendment would provide $37.6 million to enable DOD to support the increased personnel and authorities associated with Operations Freedom's Sentinel and Inherent Resolve in Afghanistan and Iraq. This includes funding for incremental pay, allowances, subsistence, permanent change of station travel, and other Air Force personnel costs for increased Active component and Guard and Reserve troops activated for duty. This request also includes funding for special pays, including imminent danger pay, family separation allowance, foreign language proficiency pay, and hardship duty pay.
This amendment would provide $2.9 billion to finance the cost of operating and maintaining the Army in support of Operations Freedom's Sentinel and Inherent Resolve. This includes resources necessary to finance the costs associated with support for Active component forces and mobilized Reserve and National Guard personnel. Included are amounts for pre-deployment training and operation costs for ground operations and flying hours to include fuel, supplies, and repair parts. This request also includes pay and subsistence of civilians, transportation, contract services for maintenance and repair of equipment and facilities, and costs to reset equipment redeployed from theater.
This amendment would provide $95.5 million to finance the cost of operating and maintaining the Navy in support of Operations Freedom's Sentinel and Inherent Resolve. This includes resources necessary to finance the costs associated with support for Active component forces and mobilized Reserve personnel. Included are amounts for operation costs of flying hours to include fuel, supplies, and repair parts. This request also includes transportation, contract services for maintenance and repair of equipment and facilities, and costs to reset equipment redeployed from theater.
This amendment would provide $168.4 million to finance the cost of operating and maintaining the Marine Corps in support of Operations Freedom's Sentinel and Inherent Resolve. This includes resources necessary to finance amounts for pre-deployment training and operation costs for ground operations to include fuel, supplies, and repair parts. This request also includes transportation, contract services for maintenance and repair of equipment and facilities, and costs to reset equipment redeployed from theater.
Agency: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—MILITARY PROGRAMS
Bureau: OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
Heading: Operation and Maintenance, Air Force
Subheading: (Overseas contingency operations)

FY 2017 Budget
Appendix Page: 326

FY 2017
Pending Request: $9,498,830,000

Proposed Amendment: $382,496,000

Revised Request: $9,881,326,000

(In the appropriations language under the above heading, delete "$9,498,830,000" and substitute $9,881,326,000.)

This amendment would provide $382.5 million to finance the cost of operating and maintaining the Air Force in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. It includes the operation costs for flying hours to include fuel, supplies, and repair parts.
This amendment would provide $413 million to support Operations Freedom's Sentinel and Inherent Resolve. This includes resources necessary to finance amounts for: communications; sustainment; supplies; airlift; contract services (non-command, control, communications and computers), processing, evaluation, and dissemination (PED); intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR); and other classified activities. This request would also finance network backbone support and continued ISR, PED, and other activities in support of the classified agencies.
This amendment would provide $2.5 million for medical and dental services to increased Active forces (above baseline), mobilized Reserve components, and their family members in support of Operations Freedom's Sentinel and Inherent Resolve. This request would also cover the incremental costs associated with the treatment of combat casualties at military treatment Facilities, pre-/post-deployment processing for personnel, aeromedical transportation of casualties, and post deployment health assessments.
This amendment would provide $814.5 million to begin transitioning the Afghan National Defense Security Forces (ANDSF) from Russian-manufactured rotary wing aircraft to U.S.-manufactured rotary wing aircraft. The current fleet of Russian helicopters is increasingly difficult to sustain and will require significant recapitalization in the coming years. This amendment would also provide for additional cargo and close air support aircraft for the ANDSF. Close air support remains the single greatest operational challenge for the ANDSF.
Agency: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—MILITARY PROGRAMS

Bureau: OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Heading: Iraq Train and Equip Fund

Subheading: (Overseas contingency operations)

FY 2017 Budget
Appendix Page: 332-333

FY 2017
Pending Request: $630,000,000

Proposed Amendment: $289,500,000

Revised Request: $919,500,000

(In the appropriations language under the above heading, delete "$630,000,000" and substitute $919,500,000.)

This amendment would provide $289.5 million to support the military and other security forces of or associated with the Government of Iraq's operations against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). This funding would be available for DOD to provide assistance, specifically stipends and sustainment.
This amendment would provide $46.5 million for the replenishment and fielding of 535 all-up rounds of the Lethal Miniature Aerial Missile Systems and related support equipment as requested by the Special Operations Command Central in the Joint Urgent Operational Needs Statement CC-0556. This request is in support of Operations Freedom's Sentinel and Inherent Resolve and other counter-ISIL efforts for analytics, targeting, training, and equipment to support deployed U.S. Forces.
Agency: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—MILITARY PROGRAMS
Bureau: PROCUREMENT
Heading: Other Procurement, Army
Subheading: (Overseas contingency operations)

FY 2017 Budget
Appendix Page: 335

FY 2017
Pending Request: $1,373,010,000
Proposed Amendment: $98,500,000
Revised Request: $1,471,510,000

(In the appropriations language under the above heading, delete "$1,373,010,000" and substitute $1,471,510,000.)

This amendment would provide $72.0 million to support a Counter Unmanned Aerial Systems capability Joint Urgent Operational Need. Funds would support the integrating, procuring and fielding of networked counter-small unmanned aerial systems at sites in theater within a two-year window.

This amendment would also provide $26.5 million to support an urgent need in theater for cyber access. Funds would support the acquisition of critical infrastructure to gain cyber operational access and analysis of violent extremist organizations. This amendment would provide funds for classified programs.
Agency: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—MILITARY PROGRAMS
Bureau: PROCUREMENT
Heading: Joint Improvised-Threat Defeat Fund
Subheading: (Overseas contingency operations)
FY 2017 Budget
Appendix Page: 335
FY 2017
Pending Request: $408,272,000
Proposed Amendment: $99,800,000
Revised Request: $508,072,000

(In the appropriations language under the above heading, delete "$408,272,000" and substitute $508,072,000.)

This amendment would provide $99.8 million to enable the Joint Improvised-Threat Defeat Organization to sustain current requirements and meet the increased Joint Staff-validated requirements from the United States Central Command and the United States Special Operations Command. This request is in support of Operation Inherent Resolve and other counter-ISIL efforts for analytics, targeting, training, and equipment to support deployed U.S. Joint Forces.
Agency: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—MILITARY PROGRAMS

Bureau: PROCUREMENT

Heading: Other Procurement, Navy

Subheading: (Overseas contingency operations)

FY 2017 Budget
Appendix Page: 337

FY 2017
Pending Request: $124,206,000

Proposed Amendment: $5,000,000

Revised Request: $129,206,000

(In the appropriations language under the above heading, delete "$124,206,000" and substitute $129,206,000.)

This amendment totaling $5.0 million would provide $3.6 million for the reset of medical support equipment and $1.4 million for the reset of medical support vehicles.
Agency: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—MILITARY PROGRAMS
Bureau: PROCUREMENT
Heading: Other Procurement, Air Force
Subheading: (Overseas contingency operations)

FY 2017 Budget
Appendix Page: 339

FY 2017
Pending Request: $3,696,281,000
Proposed Amendment: $137,884,000
Revised Request: $3,834,165,000

(In the appropriations language under the above heading, delete "$3,696,281,000" and substitute $3,834,165,000.)

This amendment would provide $137.9 million for classified programs. Additional details will be provided under separate cover.
This amendment would provide $78.7 million to support a Counter Unmanned Aerial Systems capability Joint Urgent Operational Need. These funds would support the developing, testing and integration of networked counter-small unmanned aerial systems at sites in theater within a two-year window.

This amendment would also provide $60.5 million to support an urgent need in theater for cyber access. Funds would support the rapid acquisition of critical infrastructure to gain cyber operational access and analysis of violent extremist organizations.

This amendment includes funds for classified programs. Additional details will be provided under separate cover.
Agency: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—MILITARY PROGRAMS
Bureau: RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST, AND EVALUATION
Heading: Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-Wide
Subheading: (Overseas contingency operations)

FY 2017 Budget
Appendix Pages: 340-341

FY 2017
Pending Request: $162,419,000
Proposed Amendment: $3,000,000
Revised Request: $165,419,000

(In the appropriations language under the above heading, delete "$162,419,000" and substitute $165,419,000.)

This amendment would provide $3.0 million for classified purposes. Additional details will be provided under separate cover.
This amendment would provide an additional $746.2 million for Diplomatic and Consular Programs (D&CP) to fund necessary diplomatic engagement expenses to support the counter-ISIS strategy, including expanded personnel support, facility and security resources in key locations, and investment in the platforms that will allow for sustainability of counter-ISIS gains. Given that U.S. Embassies in Libya and Yemen have been on departure status for more than a year, and are operating remotely, and U.S. Embassies in West Africa operate on minimum staffing, this requirement places a premium on building back presence, oversight, and local engagement as quickly as security and resources allow. The D&CP funding includes $557.6 million for Worldwide Security Protection, which would support increased diplomatic movements and security-related activities within areas impacted by ISIS or other violent extremists. Other D&CP funding would support enhanced public diplomacy and the Global Engagement Center to further counter-ISIS messaging and efforts to counter violent extremism.
Agency: DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

Bureau: ADMINISTRATION OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Heading: Office of Inspector General

Subheading: (Overseas contingency operations)

FY 2017 Budget
Appendix Page: 345

FY 2017
Pending Request: $54,900,000

Proposed Amendment: $2,500,000

Revised Request: $57,400,000

(In the appropriations language under the above subheading, delete "$54,900,000" and substitute $57,400,000.)

This amendment would provide an additional $2.5 million to support the audits, inspections, and investigations of the Inspector General covering activities, programs, and missions of the Department of State related to funding provided for counter-ISIL and other OCO activities.
This amendment would provide an additional $1.0 billion to support embassy security. Given the additional threats to U.S. diplomatic facilities overseas due to the spread of ISIL and other threats, this funding will enable the Department of State to speed up planned construction and security enhancements including, but not limited to, projects in Kabul, Afghanistan; Mogadishu, Somalia; Nouakchott, Mauritania; N'Djamena, Chad; Erbil, Iraq; Gaziantep, Turkey; and Adana, Turkey.
Agency: DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

Bureau: OTHER

Heading: Migration and Refugee Assistance

Subheading: (Overseas contingency operations)

FY 2017 Budget
Appendix Page: 347

FY 2017
Pending Request: $1,876,003,000

Proposed Amendment: $260,400,000

Revised Request: $2,136,403,000

(In the appropriations language under the above subheading, delete "$1,876,003,000" and substitute $2,136,403,000.)

This amendment would provide an additional $260.4 million to meet emergency needs including shelter, clean water, and other assistance as necessary for those requiring humanitarian assistance as a consequence of ISIL and other unforeseen humanitarian needs.
This amendment would provide an additional $19.3 million for anti-crime and counter-narcotics activities in support of stabilization efforts in Libya and West Africa, including related civilian security assistance.
This amendment would provide an additional $2.5 billion to support activities to further stabilize the regions and countries affected by ISIL or other violent extremists. Illustrative activities would include but not be limited to providing support to UN stabilization funds, supporting political negotiations and peace processes, countering violent extremism, and returning basic services in newly liberated territories through entities, such as the U.S. Agency for International Development's Office of Transition Initiatives. Funding would also support counterterrorism activities, efforts to counter violent extremism, and democracy, human rights, and governance programming in global crisis areas. Of this funding, $1 billion would also support a Relief and Recovery Fund that would provide flexible funding to support a range of additional needs in areas liberated from ISIL control as the counter-ISIL campaign progresses.
Agency: DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

Bureau: INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE

Heading: Peacekeeping Operations

Subheading: (Overseas contingency operations)

FY 2017 Budget
Appendix Page: 350

FY 2017
Pending Request: $349,100,000

Proposed Amendment: $90,000,000

Revised Request: $439,100,000

(In the appropriations language under the above subheading, delete "$349,100,000" and substitute $439,100,000 and after "Provided, That", insert such amount may be made available, notwithstanding any other provision of law, for assistance to support peace processes in Sudan, including the negotiation, monitoring, and verification of such peace processes: Provided further, That.)

This amendment would provide an additional $90.0 million for equipment, training, logistics, and/or advisory support for the Lake Chad Basin countries (primarily Cameroon, Chad, and Niger) to continue conducting counter-Boko Haram/ISIL West Africa Province efforts. Funding would also support peace processes in Sudan, including peace monitoring and verification efforts, and peacekeeping efforts in Africa.
Agency: DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS
Bureau: INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE
Heading: Nonproliferation, Anti-Terrorism, Demining and Related Programs
Subheading: (Overseas contingency operations)

FY 2017 Budget
Appendix Page: 350

FY 2017
Pending Request: $214,254,000
Proposed Amendment: $128,000,000
Revised Request: $342,254,000

(In the appropriations language under the above subheading, delete "$214,254,000" and substitute $342,254,000.)

This amendment would provide an additional $128.0 million to support unexploded ordinance and explosive remnants of war cleanup in areas liberated from ISIL control, border and perimeter security and other activities to counter the proliferation of conventional weapons and weapons of mass destruction, and counterterrorism capacity building for civilian law enforcement.
This request would provide $953.2 million in international disaster assistance funds to carry out assistance activities, to meet emergency needs including shelter, clean water, food, and other supplies necessary for those requiring humanitarian assistance in the region as a consequence of ISIL and other unforeseen humanitarian needs. Of this amount, up to $600 million may be transferred to the Migration and Refugee Assistance account. This transfer authority would allow the Administration to allocate funds for affected populations based on real-time information, depending on the needs of the affected populations.
Agency: DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

Bureau: AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Heading: Operating Expenses

Subheading: (Overseas contingency operations)

FY 2017 Budget
Appendix Page: 352

FY 2017
Pending Request: $98,460,000

Proposed Amendment: $15,000,000

Revised Request: $113,460,000

(In the appropriations language under the above subheading, delete "$98,460,000" and substitute $113,460,000.)

This amendment would provide an additional $15.0 million to assist the U.S. Agency for International Development with the increased operating expenses of implementing counter-ISIL activities and countering violent extremism. This includes increased staff in the Middle East, Africa, Asia, and Washington, D.C., as well as additional security to operate in post-conflict environments.
This amendment would provide an additional $73.5 million for new initiatives or (non-humanitarian) crisis response activities to supplement the Office of Transition Initiatives (OTI) programming. In addition to helping stabilize regions liberated from ISIL, OTI will also support other U.S. foreign policy objectives such as helping local partners in countries in transition to stem the growth of violent extremism. OTI provides fast, flexible, short-term assistance targeted at key political transition and stabilization needs by promoting reconciliation, jumpstarting local economies, supporting emerging independent media, and fostering peace and democracy through innovative programming.
For an additional amount for "Office of Inspector General", $2,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2018: Provided, That such amount is designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended: Provided further, That such amount shall be available only if the President designates such amount for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(ii).

This amendment would provide $2.5 million to cover the costs of operations of the Office of the Inspector General, U.S. Agency for International Development to include salaries, expenses, and support costs of the Inspector General's personnel for oversight of counter-ISIL operations and foreign assistance programs.
PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACTORS

Sec. 8005. Funds available in this Act to support counterterrorism and countering violent extremism activities, including counter-ISIL activities may be used to enter into contracts with individuals for the provision of personal services (as described in section 104 of part 37 of title 48, Code of Federal Regulations (48 CFR 37.104)) in the United States or abroad. Provided, That such individuals may not be deemed employees of the United States for the purpose of any law administered by the Office of Personnel Management.

This amendment would allow the Department of State and the U.S. Agency for International Development to quickly hire additional experts, such as personal security specialists, subject matter experts, and highly skilled technical experts, and other support staff to support Diplomatic Engagement and Foreign Assistance programs.

DIRECT HIRE AUTHORITY

Sec. 8006. Funds available in this Act to support counterterrorism and countering violent extremism activities, including counter-ISIL activities, may be used by the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and Secretary of State to appoint candidates to any time limited position in the competitive service if such an appointment is necessary for such purposes. Provided, That such an appointment may be made, notwithstanding any statutes, rules, and regulations governing appointments in the competitive service. Provided further, That an appointment under this section shall be in accordance with the statutes, rules, and regulations governing appointments in the excepted service.

This amendment would provide the authority for the Department of State and the U.S. Agency for International Development to quickly and temporarily appoint a limited number of experts, as funded in this Act, to implement counter-ISIL activities.