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**REMARKS FOR HEARING ON**  
**“PEPFAR REAUTHORIZATION: FROM EMERGENCY TO SUSTAINABILITY”**  
**SEPTEMBER 29, 2010**

When the Committee last held a hearing three years ago on the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, PEPFAR, attention largely was focused on the accomplishments to date.

It is appropriate to reflect on those accomplishments again today.

Through PEPFAR, the American people have provided over 2.4 million people with life-saving treatment.

We have provided compassionate care for 11 million people, including 3.6 million orphans and vulnerable children.

We have saved 340,000 newborn children from infection.

And we have supported the development of promising new prevention technologies, including microbicides.

These accomplishments are a testament to the generosity of the American people and the tireless dedication of our implementing partners on the front lines of this pandemic.

Still, we are losing the war.

While an estimated 5 million people worldwide now have access to treatment, more than 33.4 million people are infected with HIV/AIDS.

For every two people who start treatment, five more become infected.

At this rate, the cost of achieving 80% coverage for treatment would require an average of \$21 billion annually for the next 40 years.

For the United States, supporting universal access to treatment in just the original 15 PEPFAR focus countries would absorb more than half of the entire foreign assistance budget by 2016--- just a little over five years from now.

Meanwhile, here at home, domestic funding deficits have forced states, including Florida, to create waiting lists and cut benefits for Americans who rely on AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs).

Obviously, the global economic crisis and our crushing national debt are undermining the ability of the American taxpayer to continue to shoulder over 58% of the entire, global response to the HIV/AIDS crisis.

Nevertheless, we simply cannot turn the tide of this pandemic if we fail to prevent new infections from occurring.

So, we need to do better.

Consistent with Congressional directives, the administration's new five-year strategy reportedly seeks to transition PEPFAR from an emergency program to a sustainable response.

As a result, PEPFAR funds are being used to address [quote] "complementary" [end quote] development challenges.

Many of these goals are commendable.

However, we must not lose the focus that made PEPFAR successful.

The apparent preference to reorient PEPFAR toward the same old ambiguous, inefficient, and ineffective development programs that have failed for the past 20 years, is therefore deeply troubling.

To succeed, PEPFAR must remain focused on its core objectives: providing care and treatment to those affected by HIV/AIDS, while expanding efforts to prevent new infections from occurring.

Funds must not be diverted for other purposes, particularly those which the majority of American people regard as morally repugnant.

I also am concerned by the inclination of some – in the name of sustainability – to shift increasing amounts of United States assistance toward the Global Fund.

While increased burden-sharing to fight HIV/AIDS is desirable, the Global Fund is fraught with structural challenges that must be addressed if we are going to continue our support.

For example, the amount of funds that middle-income countries have drawn from the Fund – at the expense of less developed nations with higher prevalence rates – is shocking.

China, with the world's second largest economy and over \$2.5 trillion in foreign reserves, is the fourth largest recipient of Global Fund grants.

Additionally, massive fraud and the outright theft of Global Fund grants continually rob intended beneficiaries of life-saving support.

The unwillingness of the Global Fund's Secretariat and Board to press for greater accountability from its implementing partners, particularly the UN Development Program, is disgraceful.

As the single largest donor to the Fund, the United States owes a duty of care to the intended beneficiaries.

As we prepare for the Fund's "replenishment" in October, we must remember that success can't be measured by the amount of money raised, but rather by the lives saved.

Mr. Chairman, the PEPFAR program is emblematic of what can be accomplished through a serious, bipartisan commitment to resolve one of the world's most pressing challenges.

But that effort must remain focused, efficient, and accountable.

Success will be measured in human lives. Failure is not an option.