



April 28, 2021

The Honorable Barbara Lee
Chairwoman
House Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on State, Foreign
Operations and Related Programs
HT-2 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hal Rogers
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on State, Foreign
Operations and Related Programs
1016 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Lee and Ranking Member Rogers:

Thank you for your leadership in supporting life-saving programs to remove ordnance, mines, and other explosive remnants of war left on battle fields around the world. We write to respectfully request that the Committee support \$262,850,000 for Conventional Weapons Destruction (CWD) programs within the Nonproliferation, Antiterrorism, Demining and Related (NADR) account at the U.S. Department of State. Over the past several years, we have been pleased to see strong overall support for CWD programs. However, additional resources are needed for valuable global humanitarian demining and weapons security programs. Underfunding these life-saving programs could jeopardize the goal of eliminating U.S. legacy ordnance in Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia and slow progress toward creating a mine-free Sri Lanka, Angola, and Zimbabwe. Further, additional demining funds are needed to advance stability in Afghanistan and remove threats to civilians and any remaining U.S. and coalition forces.

Since the end of Sri Lanka's decades-long civil war in 2009, U.S. demining assistance has been critical to allowing thousands of displaced families to return to their homes and develop their land. U.S. demining efforts have also enabled the reopening of schools and hospitals, the reconstruction of thousands of homes, and the reconstruction of the Jaffna railway enabling access to Sri Lanka's northern ports. More than 254,000 mines have already been destroyed, and increased funding will keep Sri Lanka on track to be mine-impact free in the near future.

Landmines in Angolan TJKt mi

hazards since 1964.



/s/
Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.
Member of Congress

 /s/
Colin Z. Allred
Member of Congress

 /s/
Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress

 /s/
Lisa Blunt Rochester
Member of Congress

 /s/
Donald S. Beyer, Jr.
Member of Congress

 /s/
Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress

 /s/
Anthony G. Brown.
Member of Congress

 /s/
Julia Brownley
Member of Congress

 /s/
Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress

 /s/
Tony Cárdenas
Member of Congress

 /s/
Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress

 /s/
André Carson
Member of Congress

 /s/
Joaquín Castro
Member of Congress

 /s/
Judy Chu
Member of Congress

 /s/
David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress

_____/s/
Bill Foster
Member of Congress

_____/s/
Ruben Gallego
Member of Congress

_____/s/
John Garamendi
Member of Congress

_____/s/
Jesús G. "Chuy" Garcíaber of Congress

_____/s/

_____ /s/

