

Asks and Talking Points for CUGH's Global Health Advocacy Efforts

Specific Asks:

- Increase funding for NIH BY \$2B for FY 2018- does not enact the proposed cuts of \$5.8B in President Trump's Budget for FY2018.
- Maintain/increase Fogarty Intl Center's (FIC) budget of \$69.1m and NOT eliminating this Center as proposed in the President's budget. The Fogarty Center is now entering its 50th year. Eliminating this Center will eliminate the life saving work in: fighting infectious diseases, non-communicable diseases (heart disease, cancer, diabetes, stroke, mental health, injury, lung diseases); training scientists (it has trained >5,000 scientists worldwide); building collaborations between US and overseas institutions etc. FIC has trained over 2000 scientists from over 100 nations to treat HIV/AIDS patients alone (HIV Research Training Program); it supports jobs in over 15 US universities (Emory, Tulane, Harvard, Boston U, JHU, U of Georgia etc.); develops countermeasures to pandemics and bioterrorism via its Intl Epidemiology and Population Studies Program
- Maintain or increase the Center for Disease Control's budget. This includes fully supporting the Prevention in Public Health Fund, responsible for preventing infectious and non-communicable diseases. The GOP proposes cutting the CDC's budget by \$1B (20% of its budget) in its defeated American Health Care Act.
- State Dept. (Includes USAID, Peace Corps etc.)- maintain or increase funds for these programs. USAID's budget =1% of Total US budget. DO NOT enact the 37% (\$20B) proposed reduction to the State Dept. in the President's Budget.
- Do not enact the proposed 31% reduction to the Environmental Protection Agency's Budget and the elimination/reduction of cleanup programs, enforcement programs (Chemical Safety Board) and research in renewable energy sources.
- Do not cut NOAA's budget which include satellite programs (GOESAT) that monitors the Earth's climate and solar storms.

Talking Points:

1. Government-funded science does what the private sector will not do: The National Institutes for Health's 27 institutes and centers is the world's leading public funder of biomedical research. They enhance health, life expectancy and reduce illness and disability in the US and around the world. Infectious diseases remain a clear danger. Non-communicable diseases such as cancer, mental health, heart disease, lung disease, diabetes and injury now kill more Americans than infectious diseases. As the population ages this will worsen. NIH funds research to prevent and develop cures for these diseases.
2. The Fogarty Center, with a budget of \$69.1 million is the smallest of all NIH centers. However, it fosters research collaborations between US and overseas institutions to develop cures and

programs that save lives and reduce disability. The Center is working on a variety of challenges important to the American people including: finding a cure for Alzheimer's disease, research in stroke, working to identify an HIV vaccine with South Africa, developing new medications, tackling the pandemic of fake medications which kill millions and are unwittingly being bought by Americans, identifying new cancer drugs in the waters off Panama, and finding ways to address the number one killer of young Americans when they travel abroad, road traffic accidents.

3. The President's proposed cut of \$5.8 billion (20% of the NIH budget) will devastate America's global leadership in research and science. 90% of NIH's budget funds approximately 300,000 researchers who are engaged in lifesaving scientific research.
4. The President's proposed cuts to the State Dept. which include funding for USAID (budget = 1% of the US budget) will weaken the US' ability to engage in the diplomacy and development needed to prevent instability and conflict. Recently, 121 US generals and admirals said investing in the State Department's diplomatic capabilities and USAID's development initiatives are vital tools to reduce instability and prevent conflict. The President's proposal to cut State's budget by 37% or \$20B will significantly harm the United States' ability to keep itself safe. This includes cuts of 50% to UN agencies that fund peacekeeping operations and international development.
5. In the defeated American Health Care Plan the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), which protects Americans from an array of communicable and non-communicable threats, faced a 20% cut. This may come back so it is worth mentioning the following points.
 - a. The CDC saves lives and prevents harm. The CDC's Prevention and Public Health Fund budget of \$1 billion (12% of the CDC's total budget) **was slated to be eliminated**. This will be very damaging to the health of US citizens since investing in public health prevention and is far less expensive than treating a problem after it has arisen. The Ebola and Zika virus outbreaks clearly show that diseases know no borders. The CDC works to prevent, detect and respond to lethal infections that can kill millions and cost billions of dollars if they are allowed to spread.
 - b. These cuts will jeopardize the CDC's following programs: Global Health Security Agenda (preventing pandemics); Global HIV and TB prevention and treatment (there are 2 million new HIV cases per year, TB kills, 2 billion people are infected with TB which kills 1.5m per year; global immunization program which protects Americans from a wide range of diseases including polio, measles etc.
6. The Environmental Protection Agency's purpose is to protect human health and the environment. A healthy environment is essential for the health and productivity of the United States. Proposed cuts that will: reduce the agency's ability to clean up polluted areas such as Chesapeake Bay; eliminate the agency's ability to enforce regulations that protect Americans from environmental hazards and pollution; eliminate \$900m in research into energy efficiency and renewable energy sources, will harm communities' abilities to create a safer environment for people to live in and businesses to operate within.

The US government agencies and departments stated here help keep Americans safer and healthier. However, they are slated to endure devastating cuts. These agencies are also the largest employers of scientists in the United States, a major generator of jobs and have kept the US **the** global leader in scientific research and innovation. They underpin research used by the private and public sectors.

Cutting the budgets of these organizations will make Americans sicker, poorer and less safe. It will enable other nations to overtake the US as the global leader in scientific innovation.

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