

June 28, 2002

Mr. Andrew Natsios
Administrator
U.S. Agency for International Development
Ronald Reagan Building
Washington, D.C. 20523-1000

Dear Mr. Natsios:

On behalf of the Korean American Sharing Movement, I am writing to express our sincere appreciation for your announcement earlier this month regarding the pledge of an additional 100,000 metric tons of food aid for North Korea.

This extremely timely decision allows the World Food Program to avoid curtailing a broad-based feeding program, thus saving lives and alleviating malnutrition. The decision to provide humanitarian assistance despite current challenges in political negotiations brings to life former President Reagan's maxim that "a hungry child knows no politics."

Your announcement states that USAID may consider providing additional aid at the conclusion of the planned nutritional survey and as USAID is able to confirm improvements in monitoring and access within North Korea. KASM encourages USAID to consider expanding its work to include programs preparing USAID and North Korean partners for development assistance beyond relief aid as well.

The members of KASM would be pleased to assist USAID, especially in the matters that would require cultural sensitivity, linguistic skills, or any humanitarian perspectives. We have recently published an Inter-Korean Dictionary and are planning to hold forums to educate the American public on the history and culture of more than 20 million people in North Korea.

Your leadership and unique experience are crucial in the Agency's goal to address the poverty and end the misery in the unfortunate half of the Korean peninsula, as the Agency has done in its Southern half decades ago. We hope to be effective partners in your work.

Yours sincerely,

Sekyu Chang

President, Korean American Sharing Movement (KASM)
Senior Pastor, The Light Global Mission Church, Vienna, VA

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cc: Mr. Len Rogers, Deputy Assistant Administrator, DCHA; Mr. John Brause, DCHA