

SLP 03 2009

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

September 2, 2009

The Honorable James P. McGovern
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. McGovern:

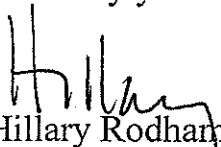
Thank you for your letter of July 30 regarding global food security. The President has asked me to lead a whole-of-government effort to develop the Administration's food security strategy, drawing on the best insights available. As always, I greatly appreciate your thoughts on how best to confront the challenge of global hunger and poverty.

The United States must take a comprehensive approach to food security. Our investment in agricultural development will seek to catalyze agricultural growth from the lab to the farm to the market to the table. In doing so, we will increase the availability of food as well as access to it by raising incomes, creating new jobs, and reducing the cost of food to rural and urban consumers.

In addition to increasing investment in agricultural development, we must also maintain our robust support for addressing emergency humanitarian needs. To increase the impact of this assistance, share your belief that added flexibility and expansion of local and regional purchase is needed. We also fully embrace your recommendations to incorporate and emphasize both increasing nutrition across all food aid and food security programs, and helping countries to establish their own emergency preparedness and risk reduction programs to ensure predictable access to food.

We look forward to continuing to partner with you to develop our comprehensive food security strategy. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of further assistance on this or any other matter.

Sincerely yours,


Hillary Rodham Clinton