

CN #173
May 18, 2020

**UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION**

PROGRAMS: Bureau for Global Health

APPROPRIATIONS ACCOUNT: Economic Support Fund (ESF) COVID

PROGRAM AREA: Global Health Security

**INTENDED FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2020 OBLIGATION
THROUGH THIS CONGRESSIONAL
NOTIFICATION:**

\$5,600,000 (FY 2020 ESF-COVID
Supplemental)

This notification advises that the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) has obligated \$5,600,000 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 resources from the Economic Support Fund (ESF) provided in the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriation Act, 2020 (Public Law [P.L.] 116-123) (COVID-19 Supplemental), to support emergency-response activities in the Russian Federation related to the epidemic of COVID-19, the disease caused by the novel coronavirus now called SARS-CoV-2.

USAID submits this notification pursuant to Section 634A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961; Sections 7015(c), 7015(f) and 7015(e) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2020 (Division G of P.L. 116-94) (SFOAA for FY 2020); and Section 401 of the COVID Supplemental. Section 7015(e) of the SFOAA for FY 2020 gives USAID the authority to waive the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations if failure to do so would pose a substantial risk to human health or welfare. In addition, USAID plans to rely on notwithstanding authority available under Section 7058(a) of the SFOAA for FY 2020 or other similar authorities, as appropriate to conclude this transaction.

Background and Explanation of Emergency Circumstances

The COVID-19 pandemic is worldwide: Nearly all countries are either experiencing the effects of the virus or are at risk of shortly experiencing transmission, morbidity and mortality. Up to 20 percent of all COVID-19 patients are expected to require at least supplemental oxygen;

the most-critical patients require intensive care and assisted ventilation. The U.S. Government is responding to requests from national governments to support the highest-level care, as they are currently underprepared to save the lives of these patients.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been particularly acute in the Russian Federation. As of May 12, 2020, cases and deaths from the disease are rising every day. The Russian Government reported more than 11,600 new coronavirus cases on May 12, 2020, which marked a new one-day record and brought the country's total to more than 221,000, the second-highest number in the world. In light of the urgent need for this assistance to address the pandemic in Russia, notifying these funds to Congress in accordance with the regular procedures would pose a substantial risk to human health and welfare.

Global Health Security (\$5,600,000 FY 2020 ESF-COVID Supplemental). With these funds, the U.S. Government will support global health security in the Russian Federation and save lives. In alignment with Pillar IV of the U.S. Government Action Plan to Support the International Response to COVID-19, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) plans to use ESF resources to support the Russian Government to implement an immediate, critical, life-saving response to COVID-19 by providing ventilators and related commodities and consumables. The recipient of the equipment is expected to be a Federal State Budgetary Institution, “National Medical and Surgical Center named after N.I. Pirogov” of the Ministry of Healthcare of the Russian Federation. In light of the urgent need for this assistance to address the pandemic in Russia, notifying these funds in accordance with the regular notification procedures would pose a substantial risk to human health and welfare.

Activities undertaken with the funding will include, but will not be limited to, the following:

- Bolstering global health security through managing critical cases of COVID-19; and
- The procurement and distribution of ventilators (some also usable for the provision of non-invasive oxygen) and associated commodities and consumables, including tubing and other items, and related support.

Implementing partners could include Chemonics, Inc., as well as others to be determined.