Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Ranking Member

Ros-Lehtinen. Mr. Secretary, welcome.

Finding solutions to the crisis in Iran is going to require robust

diplomatic relations that can be used to design and implement a

sustainable strong regional solution.

I am worried that the go-it-alone foreign policy of this administration

has tarnished our image around the world and in turn diminished

our bargaining power at a time when we need it most.

As we have seen over the past several years in Iraq, as well as

during the conflict in Lebanon this past summer, Iran is actively

looking to expand its influence throughout the Middle East. I believe

we must look at every possible diplomatic solution available

in order to contain the spread of extremist elements within Iraq.

I am also very interested in hearing your thoughts about the

United States attending the upcoming Iraqi conference with Iran

and especially with regard to reaching out to moderate elements

within Iran and how we can take advantage of that to our national

interest.

Thank you for being with us.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will be brief as we

try to get over for votes.

You mentioned trying to reach out to other elements in Iranian

society and leadership and that there are opportunities there. In

particular I wanted to ask you about opportunities to reach out to

the younger generation of Iranians with technology on the worldwide

Web, satellite television, things that they are viewing from

other parts of the world and particularly from the U.S. and what

kind of opportunities we have there to take advantage of that, what

we are doing.

Secondly, I want to get your comment about the poppy crop production

in Afghanistan. Are there some common ground areas

there in terms of that really flooding into Iran, into Europe and I

know into the streets of the United States? We have had some very

high profile cases in the Midwest where I am from of deaths from

those high potency drugs, and if there is some common ground

areas there that we can work on.