If I might just offer a couple of brief comments.

First——

I want to mention that Senator Feingold isn’t

here, but he chairs the Africa Subcommittee, I’m the ranking member,

and I know he has a great interest in both testimony from Mr.

Natsios and in the situation.

There’s no greater manmade humanitarian crisis that I can think

of in the world today. And, Mr. Chairman, I think you’ve outlined,

very effectively, the moral obligation that we have to pursue a—

really, a just outcome here. The slow pace that we’ve seen is absolutely

unacceptable, and we need not just a proper response and an

effective plan, but we need to understand what the reasons are for

such a slow pace.

I was in the room with you when Secretary Powell testified before

our committee and talked about the genocide that was occurring.

That was 21⁄2 years ago. And, to be sure, at that time the expectations

were much, much higher.

So, we need to understand exactly what the reasons are for the

slow pace of progress, and I think we need to be very frank. If

there were disagreements within the State Department or within

the administration about the path we should be pursuing, we need

to know about that, we need to understand that, so that we can,

you know, best decide, as legislators, what might be done to either

help build consensus or pursue a particular path that might reinforce

the goals and objectives of Mr. Natsios and those that have

spent the most time in the region.

So, I hope this hearing might put out some of those, sort of,

frank assessments of what can be done better, what can be done

differently, and where there might be alternatives and options in

order to deal with this incredible humanitarian crisis.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.