Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

And, Doctor, I want to thank you for your service, as both a soldier

and a peacekeeper, under terribly difficult circumstances.

I wanted to ask you a couple of questions, some of which may

be redundant, but I think it’s important to repeat ourselves a little

bit in order to establish certain facts.

I’m thinking about this issue from the context of my responsibility

as a U.S. Senator, as well as in the context of people listening

to this hearing. You know the frustration. We share it; there’s a lot

of frustration in this room, which is a dramatic understatement.

But, I want to give people who are watching this hearing, who will

report on it, and have the record reflect some of the basics.

When anyone looks at this continuing failure to have enough

troops deployed on the ground to be able to effectuate what we’re

trying to get done—in terms of providing the apparatus or the conditions

to provide help—it’s very hard for me or anyone—and I

know it’s hard for people in this room—to understand why we can’t

get 25 or however number of helicopters we need on the ground.

It’s very hard for people to understand why years have gone by, or

at least many months have gone by in this specific case, when

troop level commitments have been made, yet they’re not on the

ground. Can you just speak to—in terms of the mechanics—why

this isn’t happening?

But, I guess I still don’t understand the disconnect

there. Commitments are made, but——

It doesn’t make much sense to me. It really

doesn’t. But, let me move on.

With regard to the armed groups and the militias, can you describe

those groups to us? That’s part one—and part two is: Are

U.N. peacekeepers allowed to, and have they, recently engaged

those armed groups or militias in any way that’s been productive?

Sure.

But, has there been any recent engagement between

peacekeeping forces and militias or similar groups?

OK. Let me ask you—I know I’m out of time,

but—we have a responsibility here to do everything we can. If you

could mandate or have a magic wand, so to speak, to direct the

U.S. Senate to do something, what would you want us to do to

help?

Thank you.