STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS BILL, 2008

JUNE 18, 2007.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mrs. Lowey, from the Committee on Appropriations, submitted the following

REPORT

together with

MINORITY VIEWS

[To accompany H.R. 2764]

The Committee on Appropriations submits the following report in explanation of the accompanying bill making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.

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ditional \$10,300,000 in economic assistance for Jordanian communities hosting large refugee populations.

Morocco

The Committee recommendation includes \$16,500,000 for programs in Morocco, which is \$1,000,000 above the request.

West Bank and Gaza

The Committee recommendation includes \$63,500,000 for programs in the West Bank and Gaza territories, which is the same as the request. However, the Committee recommendation does not provide any of the requested amounts under the Child Survival and Health Program Fund account or the Non-proliferation, Anti-terrorism, Demining and Related Programs account. The Committee intends that programs requested under the Child Survival and Health Programs Fund account be supported by funding from the ESF account. The Committee further directs the Secretary of State to submit a report to the Committee on Appropriations, no later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, outlining a short and long term strategy for providing visible social service projects to the Palestinians by moderate and effective forces in the West Bank and Gaza to counter the forces of radicalism.

Iraq programs

The Committee recommendation includes no funding in this account for programs in Iraq, which is \$298,000,000 below the request. The Committee feels that the Government of Iraq should be assuming increasing responsibility for the reconstruction of Iraqi infrastructure and the provision of essential services. Furthermore, the Committee expects funds provided in the fiscal year 2007 Supplemental Appropriations Act (Public Law 110–28), to be fully obligated before considering requests for additional funds. The Committee is concerned about the plight of religious minorities in Iraq and intends that from within the unobligated amounts provided in previous years under the heading "Economic Support Fund" for Iraq, not less than \$10,000,000 should be provided to assist religious minorities in the Nineveh Plain region of Iraq, of which \$8,000,000 should be provided for internally-displaced families and \$2,000,000 should be provided for microfinance programs.

Africa programs

The Committee recommendation includes \$201,245,000 for programs in Africa, which is \$173,050,000 below the request. The Committee recommendation includes an additional \$184,200,000, which was requested under the Economic Support Fund for Sudan, Liberia and Congo, in the Development Assistance account. If this transfer is taken into account, the Committee recommendation is \$11,150,000 above the request.

Liberia

The Committee recommendation includes \$43,545,000 for programs in Liberia, which is \$30,000,000 below the request. The Committee recommendation includes an additional \$30,000,000 in the Development Assistance account. The Committee notes that Congress provided an additional \$45,000,000 for security assistance