



Ramona Godbole <rgodbole@usaid.gov>

Fwd: Outbreak Response

Nicholas Enrich <nenrich@usaid.gov>

Thu, Feb 20, 2025 at 9:19 AM

To: Mark Lloyd <mlloyd@usaid.gov>

Cc: Carmen Coles <ccoles@usaid.gov>, Julie Wallace <JWallace@usaid.gov>, Han Kang <hkang@usaid.gov>, Ramona Godbole <rgodbole@usaid.gov>, Nida Parks <nparks@usaid.gov>, "Machuca, Natalia" <nmachuca@usaid.gov>

Hi Mark,

I am concerned that Joel's email below will cause confusion, at his/your end, and at ours on the implementation side. I am proposing the send the email (below) to Joel in response, but thought it prudent to run it by you first. Please let me know if I should send, or we can discuss when we meet later this morning.

Many thanks for your steer.

Best,
Nick

proposed email

Hi Joel,

I'm writing to please seek clarification from your email.

It is clear that the Marburg activities do not require further approval. However, it is unclear how your message applies to standing Agency guidance on the lifesaving humanitarian assistance waiver.

I know you are frustrated that critical lifesaving activities have not moved forward (and we share your frustration). I am writing in an attempt to isolate and clarify the cause of confusion.

Within 24 hours of the release of Mark Lloyd's Feb. 13th [info memo](#), which clarified that GH has authority to approve lifesaving humanitarian assistance activities to move forward, that guidance was supplanted by subsequent [Foreign Assistance Pause Blanket Waiver and Exception Guidance](#) from the USAID Executive Secretariat, which was sent to all B/IOs specifying that lifesaving humanitarian assistance "waiver requests" must be submitted for approval by SBO Ken Jackson. Upon inquiry on Feb. 14th, ES clarified that: "The GH memo has been superseded by this new process."

From that point forward, we understand that USAID SBO Jackson's approval is required for any new activities under the waiver, and that USAID bureaus/operating units and AO/COs are NOT empowered to authorize implementing partners to move forward with activities under the waiver without such approval.

Beyond GH's or regional bureaus's interpretation of the Agency guidance, M/OAA, M/CFO and GC also have the same interpretation, meaning that under existing USAID guidance implementing partners cannot be notified to restart lifesaving activities, and corresponding payments cannot be authorized, without documentation of advanced SBO approval.

However, as you noted, in your email that "life saving things like Marburg do not need a waiver (so there should be no pause)" apparently conflicts with the Agency guidance. Therefore, I seek your direct clarification:

Can lifesaving humanitarian assistance activities move forward without further approval from USAID FO (SBO Ken Jackson)?

If the answer is yes, please confirm that we should no longer follow the "Foreign Assistance Pause Blanket Waiver and Exception Guidance" and whether we can forward this message to all relevant B/IOs so that lifesaving activities can be immediately restarted where necessary.

Thanks for your clarification.

Best,

Nick

Nicholas Z. Enrich

Acting Assistant Administrator

Bureau for Global Health

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Nicholas Enrich** <nenrich@usaid.gov>

Date: Wed, Feb 19, 2025 at 10:32 PM

Subject: Fwd: Outbreak Response

To: Nida Parks <nparks@usaid.gov>, Ramona Godbole <rgodbole@usaid.gov>

I didn't have the mental bandwidth for this tonight, but in case you have any questions about the LHA approval process, this will probably clear things up for you...

Nicholas Z. Enrich

Acting Assistant Administrator

Bureau for Global Health

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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From: **Joel Borkert** <jborkert@usaid.gov>

Date: Wed, Feb 19, 2025 at 7:48 PM

Subject: Outbreak Response

To: Nicholas Enrich <nenrich@usaid.gov>, Brian Frantz <bfrantz@usaid.gov>, Mark Lloyd <mlloyd@usaid.gov>

CC: Kenneth Jackson <kensjackson@usaid.gov>, Timothy Meisburger <tmeisburger@usaid.gov>, Aiyong (Paul) Seong <aseong@usaid.gov>, Celia Luling <cluling@usaid.gov>, Julie Wallace <JWallace@usaid.gov>, Pemberton, David D <pembertondd@state.gov>, Thornton, Marcus W <ThorntonMW@state.gov>, Adam Korzeniewski <akorzeniewski@usaid.gov>, Jason Gray <jasgray@usaid.gov>

Hi Teammates,

Mark and Nick are tracking the PPE issues. We are directed to let WHO know we are picking up our items and we need to figure out a way to get them and deliver them to the right people/organizations in need. This will be a priority. Please keep me updated throughout the process. Please leverage the CST for any type of assistance.

Additionally, **life saving things like Marburg do not need a waiver (so there should be no pause)**. They do need to go through the payment approval process. I understand there have been challenges as we have updated the payment process, but let's not have that get in the way of getting things approved. Please use the process in place (emailing me

directly is not the right solution), use the chain of command, prioritize things like infectious diseases, and reflag issues that seem like they are sitting and should not be.

Mark and Brian, you are the leads on this, but please rely on Nick and Julie's expertise.

I really appreciate everyone's hard work.

Thanks,
Joel

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Respectfully,

Joel M. Borkert
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