



## Agency Climate Change Adaptation Policy Statement

Effective June 3, 2011

### **I. Purpose:**

The purpose of this policy is to establish an Agency-wide directive to integrate climate change adaptation planning and actions into Agency programs, policies, and operations.

### **II. Background:**

While the scope, severity and pace of future climate change impacts are difficult to predict, it is clear that potential changes could have important impacts on our Agency's ability to fulfill its mission. Adaptation planning will allow the Agency to minimize negative impacts of climate change on agency operations and consider climate change adaptation and mitigation in developing overseas programs and projects.

Through adaptation planning, the Agency will identify how climate change is likely to impact our ability to achieve our mission, operate our facilities, and meet our program objectives. The Agency will develop, prioritize, implement, and evaluate actions to moderate climate change risks and evaluate new opportunities that climate change may bring.

By integrating climate change adaptation strategies into our programs and operations, the Agency is contributing to the Federal Government's leadership role in sustainability and pursuing the vision of a resilient, healthy, and prosperous Nation.

### **III. Directive:**

This policy establishes an Agency-wide directive to integrate climate change adaptation planning and actions into Agency programs, policies, and operations.

The Agency shall undertake climate change adaptation planning, in consultation with the Office of Management, Office of Global Operations, Office of the Chief Financial Officer, and Office of Safety and Security, and implement the results of that planning using best available science and information. The Agency shall consider potential climate change impacts when undertaking long-term planning, setting priorities for programs, and making decisions affecting Agency resources, policies, and operations.

The Agency shall develop and publish an agency-wide climate adaptation plan by June 2012 and update it regularly. The plan will identify how climate change may impact the Agency's ability to achieve its mission, programs, policies and operations. The plan will identify and prioritize actions and establish a mechanism to evaluate progress and continue to improve the Agency's capacity to effectively adapt to current and future changes in the climate.

The designated Agency Offices shall, in a manner consistent and compatible with its mission:

- i. Analyze how climate change may impact its policies, programs, and operational objectives and (1) identify potential impacts of climate change on its area of responsibility; (2) prioritize and implement actions in response to that analysis; (3)

continuously assess and improve capacity to adapt to current and future changes in the climate.

- ii. Identify to the Office of the Chief Financial Officer, through the Agency's annual planning process, areas where budget adjustments are necessary to carry out the actions identified under this Policy.

The Agency will fully implement the climate change adaptation Implementing Instructions issued by the White House Council on Environmental Quality under Executive Order 13514, Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance, and other applicable authorities.

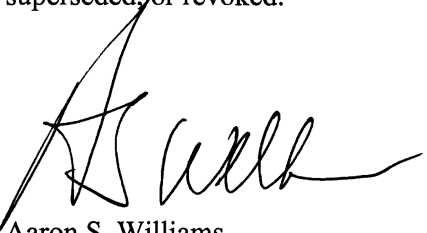
The Agency will apply the guiding principles and planning framework for climate change adaptation found in the October 5, 2010, Progress Report of the Interagency Climate Change Adaptation Task Force: Recommended Actions in Support of a National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy.

The Agency will coordinate with other agencies and interagency efforts, including the Interagency Climate Change Adaptation Task Force, on climate change adaptation issues that cut across agency jurisdictions, including areas where national and global adaptation plans are being or have been developed, and will identify a process for sharing climate change adaptation planning information throughout the Agency and to the public.

#### **IV. Agency Coordination and Implementation**

The Chief of Staff is responsible for ensuring implementation of all aspects of this Policy. This responsibility may be delegated as appropriate.

This Policy Directive is effective immediately and will remain in effect until it is amended, superseded, or revoked.



Aaron S. Williams  
Director, United States Peace Corps