

DEBBIE DINGELL  
12TH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

116 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-4071

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEES ON  
COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY  
DIGITAL COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION  
ENVIRONMENT

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

DISTRICT OFFICES:  
19855 WEST OUTER DRIVE  
SUITE 103-E  
DEARBORN, MI 48124  
(313) 278-2936

301 WEST MICHIGAN AVENUE  
SUITE 400  
YPSILANTI, MI 48197  
(734) 481-1100

WEBSITE: DEBBIEDINGELL.HOUSE.GOV

October 16, 2019

The Honorable Mike Pompeo  
Secretary of State  
United States Department of State  
2201 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20520

The Honorable Mike Green  
Administrator  
U.S. Agency for International Development  
1300 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20523

Dear Secretary Pompeo and Administrator Green:

This letter is in regards to an issue of urgent concern in Lebanon with the spreading of forest fires in the country which is endangering their national security and natural resources. The wildfires started in Lebanon's western mountains and have reached regions south of Beirut. The destruction is causing irreparable damage to Lebanon's nature and assets, as well threatening the well-being of its residents, including American citizens who reside in Lebanon. Lebanon is famous for its natural attractions and the damage caused by the wildfires will have an impact for years to come. The first human casualty was a volunteer firefighter in Al-Shouf Cedar Nature Reserve. Many residents are being forced to flee their homes, while others are unable to flee.

The people of Lebanon and the people of the United States share strong bonds and, their security relationship with the United States is critical. These bonds are strong because we share the same values – an emphasis on peace, tolerance, and building a better future for our children.

As a Member of Congress with a large Lebanese-American constituency, this letter is to request you take urgent action to address this situation and that any assistance, resources and aid available be provided to the fullest extent possible. I would ask that you keep me apprised of actions the State Department and the U.S. Agency for International Development is taking to address this serious situation. Your attention to these concerns is critical and I stand by ready to assist you in any way.

Sincerely,



Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress

CC: The Honorable Elliot Engel, Chairman, House Committee on Foreign Affairs