

Growing Consensus for Cabinet-Level Coordination on Global Development: A Brief Timeline

2008

Congresswoman Betty McCollum (D-MN), member of House State, Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee and CSIS Smart Power commissioner, [calls for](#) the creation of a cabinet-level agency for international development (January 2008).

George Rupp, CEO of the International Rescue Committee, [calls for](#) a cabinet-level agency in his testimony before the House State, Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee (January 2008).

2007

The HELP Commission [releases](#) its report, *Beyond Assistance*, which includes the cabinet-level agency as a viable (but not majority-recommended) option. In the report's appendices, commissioners Leo Hindery, Gayle Smith, and Jeffrey Sachs [call for](#) a cabinet-level agency. Bill Lane, a Republican commissioner, makes a similar recommendation in a separate appendix. Fourteen prominent CFR members [endorse](#) the minority report by Hindery, Smith, and Sachs (December 2007).

Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton [agrees to](#) "consider consolidating program authority under a single cabinet-level poverty and international development agency" (November 2007).

The CSIS Smart Power Commission releases its [final report](#), which recommends creating a "cabinet-level voice for global development" coordinated by an appointed "smart power deputy" (November 2007).

Senators Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama sign the Global AIDS Alliance Fund [Presidential Pledge for Leadership on Global AIDS and Poverty](#), wherein they commit to "exploring the creation of a cabinet-level poverty-focused development agency" if elected President (October 2007).

The Center for U.S. Global Engagement [calls for](#) the establishment of "a new, independent cabinet department for international development" (July 2007).

Sam Worthington, Steve Radelet, and Lael Brainard each [call for](#) a cabinet-level agency in congressional testimony on foreign assistance reform (June 2007).

The ONE Campaign launches its presidential campaign initiative, ONE Vote '08, and lists the cabinet-level agency in its platform as an avenue for the next US president to demonstrate U.S. commitment to providing "high-quality assistance, consistent with its global leadership role" (June 2007). Grassroots campaign activists and organizations launched the 08.STOP.AIDS campaign, which included urging presidential candidates to commit to the creation of a cabinet-level agency (May 2007).

CGD Fellow Stewart Patrick strongly [endorses](#) the cabinet-level agency in an article in *The American Interest*, a magazine about U.S. politics and policy (May 2007).

Senator John Edwards [calls for](#) a cabinet-level global poverty post in his presidential platform (March 2007).

Lael Brainard's *Security By Other Means* strongly recommends installing a cabinet-level agency (early 2007).

InterAction's board of directors endorses the elevation of development through the creation of a cabinet-level agency as one of its strategic goals (January 2007).

2004

CGD's Commission on Weak States and U.S. National Security [calls for](#) the creation of a cabinet-level agency (June 2004).