

May 5, 2025

The Honorable Mario Rubio  
Secretary of State  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Rubio,

I am writing on behalf of the more than 160,000 members of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) to express our support for the Millenium Challenge Corporation (MCC) which provides critical funding for global infrastructure projects, often using US firms and engineers. The MCC's long history of strategic and innovative foreign investment has not only better aligned spending with American policies and interests, but has created jobs and opportunities for American businesses, while simultaneously reinforcing U.S. leadership in infrastructure development across the globe.

Founded in 1852, ASCE is the country's oldest civil engineering organization. Representing civil engineers from private practice, government, industry, and academia, it is ASCE's objective to advance the science and profession of engineering to enhance the welfare of humanity. ASCE represents the profession most responsible for the nation's and the world's-built environment. It is through that stewardship that the nation's and world's economy is built and grows.

Created by the U.S. Congress in January 2004 with strong bipartisan support, MCC partners with the world's poorest countries that are committed to just and democratic governance, economic freedom and investing in their populations. Utilizing American firms and engineering, MCC invests in well-governed countries and is the most effective use of development dollars and incentivizes reform even before a country is selected to partner with MCC. MCC provides time-limited grants promoting economic growth, reducing poverty, and strengthening institutions.

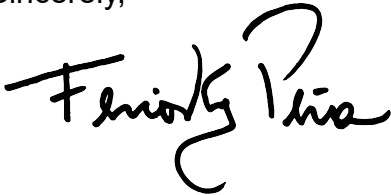
By 2050 population growth in both developed and developing nations will create unprecedented demands for energy, food, land, water, transportation, materials, waste disposal, earth moving, health care, environmental cleanup, telecommunication, and infrastructure. The role of infrastructure is critical in fulfilling those demands. Failure to address this need can result in humanitarian and international crisis.

Infrastructure is the foundation on which our national economy, global competitiveness, and quality of life depend. Maintaining these infrastructure networks is essential to meet economic demands, connect communities and protect public health and safety. What is true for America is true for the world. Supporting the development of emerging democracies benefits America by providing support for our interest abroad, increases U.S. access to markets abroad, and prevents future conflicts.

ASCE supports the continued building of engineering capacity globally, with a focus on developing nations. Programs such as MCC help these nations help themselves while providing US companies and engineers access to foreign markets as well as providing a counter to our international competitors.

Thank you for your consideration of our view, if we can be of further service, please do not hesitate to contact Martin Hight, ASCE Senior Manager for Government Relations at [mhight@asce.org](mailto:mhight@asce.org) or 202-789-7843.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Feniosky Peña-Mora". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Feniosky" being more prominent and the last name "Peña-Mora" following in a similar style.

Feniosky Peña-Mora, Sc.D., P.E., NAS, CCM, F.CIOB, NAC, Dist.M.ASCE  
President  
American Society of Civil Engineers

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Thomas W. Smith III". The signature is cursive and stylized, with the first name "Thomas" and the last name "Smith" being the most legible parts, followed by "III" in a smaller, more decorative script.

Thomas W. Smith III, CAE, ENV SP, NAC, F.ASCE  
Executive Director  
American Society of Civil Engineers

cc: Senator James Risch  
Senator Jeanne Shaheen  
Representative Brian Mast  
Representative Gregory Meeks