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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON

HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

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January 26, 2010

Mr. Asif M. Shaikh
President
International Resources Group
1211 Connecticut Ave NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036-2704

Dear Mr. Shaikh:

We are writing to invite you or your designee to participate in a roundtable discussion entitled, "Business Perspectives on United States Agency for International Development Reconstruction and Development Contracts in Afghanistan." The roundtable will be held on Tuesday, February 2, 2010 at 2:00 P.M. in Room SD-342 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. A working session with Subcommittee staff will follow the roundtable.

The purpose of the roundtable is to hear from companies involved in development and reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan through contracts with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The roundtable will provide an opportunity to discuss the experience and challenges of operating in Afghanistan, including travel, logistics, security, compliance with the Synchronized Predeployment and Operational Tracker (SPOT) database, and planning for the increase in Armed Forces, civilian, and contractor personnel expected in the coming months. The roundtable will also build on questions raised by the Subcommittee's December 17, 2009 hearing entitled, "Afghanistan Reconstruction and Development Contracts: An Overview."

Your participation in the roundtable could include discussion of IRG's contracts with USAID in Afghanistan, including its capacity building and support services contracts. We also invite you to address USAID management and oversight. In addition, we welcome your suggestions for improving the coordination between the U.S. government and contractors on projects in Afghanistan.

The roundtable will be transcribed for the record. If you would like to submit a written statement in addition to your participation in the roundtable, please submit your written statement no later than **2:30 P.M. on Friday, January 29, 2010** to Subcommittee Clerk, Kelsey Stroud, at Kelsey_Stroud@hsgac.senate.gov.

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We look forward to your participation. Please contact Alan Kahn with Senator McCaskill's Subcommittee staff at (202) 224-3230 or Molly Wilkinson with Senator Bennett's Subcommittee staff at (202) 228-3141 with any questions.

Sincerely,



Claire McCaskill
Chairman
Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight



Robert Bennett
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight