

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 12, 2026

The Honorable Marco Rubio
Secretary
U.S. Department of State
2201 C St NW
Washington, DC 20541

Dear Secretary Rubio:

President Trump's unauthorized war with Iran has destabilized one of the world's most strategic waterways and created a growing threat to global food security. Disruptions to commercial traffic through the Strait of Hormuz have sharply curtailed the flow of fertilizer exports, jeopardizing agricultural production and driving up costs for farmers around the world. The consequences will be felt most acutely in import-dependent countries across Africa, South Asia, and Latin America, where reduced access to fertilizer could deepen hunger, fuel instability, and place additional strain on already vulnerable governments. As planting seasons are missed and input costs rise, the risk of acute food insecurity and political instability is increasing.

The Administration has a responsibility to address the humanitarian and economic consequences of the conflict it chose to initiate. Preventing a broader food security crisis should be an immediate priority. The United States should lead a coordinated diplomatic effort with allies, regional partners, and international organizations to establish a humanitarian maritime corridor for fertilizer, other essential agricultural inputs, and emergency nutrition and food commodities through the Strait of Hormuz. Such a corridor would help stabilize global markets, protect vulnerable populations, and demonstrate that even amid heightened tensions, diplomacy remains capable of delivering tangible results.

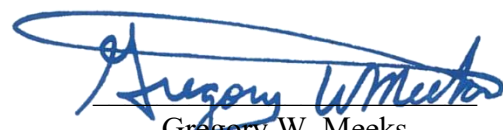
Failure to act will carry consequences far beyond the region. Food insecurity is a catalyst for political instability, displacement, and conflict, all of which ultimately undermine U.S. national security interests. The United States cannot afford to allow a preventable disruption in fertilizer supplies to trigger a wider humanitarian crisis. Swift diplomatic engagement is necessary to avert further harm and restore confidence in the free flow of essential goods through one of the world's most strategically important waterways.

The United States must act in coordination with international partners to establish a humanitarian corridor for the transit of fertilizer shipments to prevent this unnecessary conflict from triggering a broader humanitarian catastrophe.

Sincerely,



Jim Himes
Ranking Member
House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence



Gregory W. Meeks
Ranking Member
House Foreign Affairs Committee