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U.S. Agency for International Development Inspector General Ann Calvaresi Barr Retires from Federal Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Honorable Ann Calvaresi Barr, Inspector General for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), retired from Federal service on December 31, 2020.

Ms. Calvaresi Barr's retirement comes after nearly 37 years of public service spanning seven presidential administrations. In addition to serving for 5 years as Inspector General, she served for 6 years as Deputy Inspector General and Principal Assistant Inspector General for Auditing and Evaluation at the U.S. Department of Transportation Office of Inspector General, and 25 years at the Government Accountability Office, from which she departed as a member of the Senior Executive Service.

In announcing her retirement, Ms. Calvaresi Barr said, "it has been my life's honor to serve the American people and to have done so for the full length of my federal career as a member of the accountability community."

Sworn in as Inspector General on November 30, 2015, Ms. Calvaresi Barr was just the fifth Inspector General in the Office's 40-year history. As USAID's Inspector General, Ms. Calvaresi Barr directed a staff of more than 300 across 13 offices around the world responsible for oversight of USAID, the Millennium Challenge Corporation, U.S. African Development Foundation, and Inter-American Foundation, as well as the Overseas Private Investment Corporation and U.S. International Development Finance Corporation for a time, while also working with the Inspectors General for the Departments of State and Defense to coordinate oversight of and reporting on six overseas contingency operations. Ms. Calvaresi Barr has been regularly sought out for her testimony and briefings before Congress and high-level representation with international accountability officials and foreign dignitaries. She has been recognized as a leader within the Federal accountability community, and often called upon for her leadership insights and guidance on evidence-based oversight and institutional stewardship. She served as Vice Chair for the Council of Inspectors General for Integrity and Efficiency's (CIGIE) Audit Committee and co-chair of its annual conference, and frequently addressed accountability community forums and events.

Ms. Calvaresi Barr led a series of transformational reforms during her time with USAID Office of Inspector General (OIG), driving a more strategic focus in the Office's oversight efforts as well as improvements in its organizational alignment, quality assurance, and process improvement efforts, while strengthening its commitment to employee leadership and professional development, and performance management and recognition. These initiatives, in turn, enabled the OIG to make strides in safeguarding and strengthening U.S. foreign assistance, addressing the leading challenges and risks to lifesaving assistance across the globe. By applying a strategic, risk-based approach to audit and investigative efforts, enhancing collaboration across those units, and expanding outreach and education, she worked to forge a stronger foreign assistance oversight safety net. USAID OIG's groundbreaking oversight prompted action to shore up protections for humanitarian assistance and global health supply chains, while driving enhancements to agency awards management practices, oversight of public international organizations, the stand-up of the U.S. Development Finance Corporation, and management of emergency responses. The impact of this work was recognized by agency officials, congressional stakeholders, and the media, resulting in top honors within the Inspector General community. OIG closed more than 650 investigations and issued more than 3,000 reports during Ms. Calvaresi Barr's tenure, resulting in over 650 criminal, civil, and administrative actions, \$1.8 billion in audit and investigative returns to the federal government, and an annual return on investment of as high as \$8 for every \$1 appropriated to OIG.

In addressing USAID OIG personnel on her plans, Ms. Calvaresi Barr said that, "These past 5 years as your Inspector General have been both an honor and a privilege and among the most rewarding of my career. I have met and worked with some of the most talented, dedicated, and compassionate colleagues at every stop in my career. But here at USAID OIG, there was something extraordinarily and uniquely special. Our mission is like no other. I will always be proud that I was a part of it and will never forget you and your commitment to it."

Ms. Calvaresi Barr's first assistant, Thomas J. Ullom, who served for more than 2 years as Deputy Inspector General, became USAID's Acting Inspector General effective January 1, 2021. Mr. Ullom has more than 25 years of experience leading oversight of federal programs and activities. In her parting message to OIG's executive team, Ms. Calvaresi Barr hailed Mr. Ullom's demonstrated leadership in federal service and at USAID OIG.

USAID OIG provides independent oversight to make U.S. foreign assistance programs more efficient, effective, and accountable. As part of its mandate, OIG investigates allegations of fraud, waste, and abuse; operates complaint hotlines; and audits foreign assistance programs. For more information about Ms. Calvaresi Barr's extensive career and impact, as well as the USAID Office of Inspector General and its work, please contact OIG's Congressional and Public Affairs Division at 202-712-1150, or visit our website at <https://oig.usaid.gov/>.

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