



# OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

## U.S. Agency for International Development

December 4, 2025

The Honorable Gregory Meeks  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Foreign Affairs  
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Gabe Amo  
Vice Ranking Member  
Committee on Foreign Affairs  
U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Ranking Member Meeks and Vice Ranking Member Amo,

Thank you for your November 21 letter seeking information related to the disposition of taxpayer-funded food commodities. The U.S. Agency for International Development Office of Inspector General (USAID OIG) shares the Committee's commitment to ensuring that U.S. aid programs operate with transparency, efficiency, and accountability.

As noted in your letter, this May, USAID OIG announced a series of inspections covering USAID Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance (BHA) warehouses storing emergency food aid. The warehouses included:

- Djibouti, storing 40,000 metric tons of food aid valued at nearly \$40 million.
- South Africa, storing 10,000 metric tons valued at \$10 million.
- Texas, storing 29,000 metric tons valued at nearly \$39 million.

The objectives of those inspections, conducted by our experienced auditors, evaluators, and inspectors, are to (1) determine the status of food stored in what were, as of June 2025, BHA administered warehouses and (2) identify plans for the continued storage, transfer, and/or disposal of these goods. Our team conducted in-person site visits in June and we anticipate final publication on a rolling basis in early 2026, with the first report issuance expected in late January. In line with established Council of Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE) standards for inspections and evaluations, those products are going through the formal review process and USAID will have the opportunity to comment on the findings. We look forward to briefing on our concrete findings as soon as each report is finalized.

Relatedly, we are also conducting a series of ongoing audits regarding the disposition of assets for terminated USAID awards. This work, conducted by our oversight professionals in our regional offices—Pretoria, South Africa; Bangkok, Thailand; Kyiv, Ukraine; and San Salvador, El Salvador—will determine the status of USAID-funded physical assets under select awards, including real property, vehicles, equipment, and warehoused inventory like food and medicine. As part of this audit series, we intend to produce a listing of assets that require attention for proper disposition. We also look forward to briefing on these findings and recommendations as soon as each report is finalized.

Our responses to your additional questions are below.

1. The status of commodities previously managed by USAID stored in the Texas, Djibouti, and South Africa BHA warehouses and the plans for the continued storage, transfer, and/or disposal of those goods will be published as part of our formal inspections of those warehouses. USAID OIG is unable to directly access information pertaining to incidents occurring after July 1, 2025, given that management of any continuing USAID programming transferred to the Department of State.
2. USAID followed an internal policy on proper commodity management and was subject to established federal regulations regarding the disposition of commodities unfit for use. To the extent that commodities stored at the Texas, Djibouti, and South Africa BHA warehouses were destroyed, the justification for and/or surrounding circumstances of their destruction will be included as part of our formal inspections of those warehouses. Regarding any contributing factors to and/or justifications for the destruction of USAID food commodities following July 1, USAID OIG defers to State OIG. It is our understanding that following that date, decisions on awards previously managed by USAID were made at the direction of the Department of State.
3. USAID OIG defers to State OIG to opine on the Department's decision-making processes regarding any destruction of food aid.
4. USAID OIG defers to State OIG to comment on the adequacy of the State Department's internal controls, monitoring and evaluation systems, and partner oversight mechanisms with respect to the expenditure of humanitarian and development assistance. However, we have noted that as the Department of State takes over management of awards previously managed by USAID, it will be beneficial to establish robust grant, contractual, and other pre-and-post-award policies and regulations to ensure accountability and oversight of taxpayer-funded overseas programs. Our views on these clauses and other efforts to expand accountability in foreign assistance are addressed in this [memorandum](#).

USAID OIG is committed to working with USAID, the Department of State, Congress, and other stakeholders to ensure that risks, challenges, and vulnerabilities are brought to the forefront to preserve the integrity of hard-earned American taxpayer dollars. For a complete review of our substantial ongoing and planned work, please see our [Fiscal Year 2026 Oversight Plan](#). For regular updates on our active and ongoing investigative activity—to include recently unsealed [indictments](#) of foreign nationals that diverted U.S.-funded global health commodities intended for civilians in need—please see our [website](#).

Thank you again for your interest in our independent oversight work and we look forward to further engagement on the issues above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Van Nguyen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Van Nguyen  
Acting Deputy Inspector General,  
Performing the duties of the Inspector General