



Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission Hearing

The Humanitarian and Human Rights Crisis in Iraq

Panel I Bios

Ms. Kelly Clements, Deputy Assistant Secretary, State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration



Kelly Clements has served as Deputy Assistant Secretary since March 2010 with responsibility for humanitarian issues in Asia and the Near East, the Office of Policy and Resource Planning, and the Comptroller's Office in the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration. Her previous assignment was Director for the Office of Policy and Resource Planning, where she was responsible for the Bureau's strategic planning, policy development, budget, and performance activities. She guides the Bureau's substantial humanitarian policy portfolio and articulates to the Department and interagency community sound stewardship of financial resources of nearly \$2 billion provided annually to major international and non-governmental organizations to protect and assist refugees, conflict victims, and vulnerable migrants worldwide.

Clements' career with the State Department began as a Presidential Management Intern in 1990. Early in her tenure, she was detailed to the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Bangladesh to assist and protect over 200,000 refugees fleeing Burma in 1992. She was also a member of the State Department's Iraq Task Force on Kurdish Refugees and Displaced Persons in 1991, which coordinated the U.S. Government's emergency response to the flight of 1.8 million Kurdish refugees to Turkey and Iran.

From 1993-1996, Clements served at the U.S. Mission to the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland on a foreign service appointment. Shortly thereafter, she became Special Assistant to the Under Secretary of State for Global Affairs where she was responsible for communicating humanitarian policy issues to Department leadership. She returned to PRM in late 1998 to become the Bureau's Congressional and Non-Governmental Organization Liaison. Clements was deployed to Albania in 1999 to respond to the outflow of one million refugees from Kosovo and in early 2000, she was appointed Senior Emergency Officer for Europe, the NIS, and the Americas and later served as Balkans Assistance Coordinator.

Ms. Clements has a B.A. in International Studies, and earned an M.A. in Urban Affairs from Virginia Tech. Clements is a career member of the Senior Executive Service.

Mr. Thomas Staal, Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator, USAID Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance



Thomas Staal has spent most of his career working overseas in international development. He has worked for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) since 1988, beginning in Sudan as an Emergency Program Officer. In the early 1990s he worked in the USAID regional office in Kenya, managing food aid and doing project development throughout eastern and southern Africa. From 1996 to 2002 he worked in the USAID West Bank and Gaza program, providing assistance to the Palestinians, focusing on water supply projects, as well as local community development. Between 2003 and 2004, he served as the USAID Regional Representative for Southern Iraq, overseeing all USAID projects in that part of the country. He also served as the Deputy Director of the Food For Peace

Office in Washington, and he was the Director of the Iraq Reconstruction Office in Washington and USAID Mission Director in Lebanon. Mr. Staal served as the USAID Mission Director in Ethiopia from 2009 to 2012, and Mission Director in Iraq from 2012 to 2013. He is currently Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator in the Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance.

Before joining USAID, Mr. Staal worked for World Vision International as their Country Representative in Sudan in the mid-1980s. He also worked for ARAMCO in Saudi Arabia in the late 1970s and the early 80s in the company's government relations department. Mr. Staal has a Master's Degree in Comparative Politics (Middle East focus) from Columbia University and a M.Sc. in National Strategic Security Studies from the National Defense University. As the son of missionaries, he grew up in Iraq and Kuwait, and attended boarding school in India.

Panel II Bios

Dr. Mazin Faisal Farhan Al-Jadiry, Assistant Professor, Department of Pediatrics, College of Medicine, University of Baghdad



Dr. Mazin Al-Jadiry was born, raised and educated in Baghdad, Iraq. He attended Al-Mustansyria University College of Medicine, graduating in 1989. He is certified by the Fellowship of Iraqi Commission for Pediatrics (1998) and the Council of the Arab Board in Pediatrics (1999). He was awarded the Pediatric Hematology Oncology Fellowship by the Iraqi Commission for Medical Sub-specialization in 2006. Since 2009, Dr. Mazin has been an Assistant Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the College of Medicine, University of Baghdad and since 2009, a Consultant Pediatric Hemato-Oncologist working alongside the lead clinician in oncology, Dr. Salma Al-Hadad at Children's Welfare Teaching Hospital in Baghdad Medical City, the primary treatment center for childhood cancer in Iraq. The unit averages 300 new cases of childhood cancer per year; the hospital clinic sees roughly 10,000 patients per year.

Despite very challenging circumstances throughout his career in Iraq, Dr. Mazin has attended trainings, workshops and conferences throughout the Middle East and in Europe and the United States. He and his colleague Dr. Salma al-Hadad have initiated, nourished and sustained partnerships and projects with La Sapienza University in Rome, with JIMNet (Japanese Iraqi Medical Network), with St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and with Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School. Their project, *Baghdad Resolve: An International Project to Improve Cancer Care in Iraq* brought a team of seven pediatric hematologist/oncologists, a Nurse Director and a child specialist to Baghdad Medical City for a week of lectures, training and observation in March, 2013, the first medical team to visit in twenty years. Dr. Mazin is coauthor of more than fifteen published articles on Iraq. He recently wrote a chapter in *Palliative Care in the Cancer Patient: The Middle East as a Model for Emerging Countries* edited by Michael Silberman, published by Nova Publications (2014). Dr. Mazin has served as a member of the Clinical Hematology Consultation Committee at the Ministry of Health since 2009.

Dr. Leslie Lehmann, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School



Dr. Lehmann attended Harvard College and received her MD from Duke University Medical School, where, after finishing a pediatric residency, she spent a year as chief resident. She completed a pediatric hematology-oncology fellowship at Dana Farber/Children's Hospital Cancer Center in 1996 and subsequently joined the faculty. In 1998, she became medical director of the Pediatric Transplant Unit at Children's Hospital and, in 2007, was appointed Clinical Director of the Pediatric Stem Cell Transplant Program.

In 2009 Dr. Lehmann began working on global health initiatives primarily in the Middle East and became part of the core Global Health Faculty at Boston Children's Hospital. Projects have included partnering with Children's Cancer Hospital of Egypt to develop a joint fellowship training program in pediatric oncology and stem cell transplantation and working with the Pediatric Oncology team and Ministry of Health in Baghdad on the creation of a Stem Cell Transplant program at the University Hospital. In 2011 she began a collaboration with Partners in Health supported by Paul Farmer. Partners in Health works with the government in impoverished areas around the world to improve healthcare. Dr. Lehmann has dedicated most of her efforts to developing and supporting a pediatric oncology program in Rwanda as well as being part of the delivery of a national training program in oncology for all Rwandan physicians. Similar efforts are beginning in Haiti as well. She has published extensively on the Rwandan initiative and has provided specialty training for many fellows from resource poor areas.

Ms. Sarah Margon, Washington Director, Human Rights Watch



Sarah Margon is the Washington director at Human Rights Watch. Prior to joining Human Rights Watch, Margon was associate director of sustainable security and peacebuilding at the Center for American Progress, where she researched and wrote on a wide range of issues including human rights, foreign aid, good governance, and global conflicts and crises. She also served as senior foreign policy advisor to Sen. Russ Feingold (D-WI) and as staff director to the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on African Affairs. Margon has also worked as a senior policy advisor for Oxfam America and at George Soros' Open Society Institute. A term member at the Council on

Foreign Relations, she holds a graduate degree from Georgetown University's Walsh School of Foreign Service and an undergraduate degree from Wesleyan University (Connecticut).

Ms. Kristèle Younes, Director for UN Humanitarian Affairs, International Rescue Committee



Kristèle Younes began her role as Director, UN Humanitarian Affairs with the International Rescue Committee in March 2014. Prior to her work with the IRC, Kristèle worked with the Norwegian Rescue Committee in Turkey, and served for two mandates as the Humanitarian Expert on the UN Security Council established Somalia Eritrea Monitoring Group, based in Nairobi, Kenya. Kristele also worked for the Center for Civilians in Conflict as field director, traveling to Afghanistan and Libya just after the conflict erupted to advocate for better civilian protection policies. She previously worked as a Regional External Relations Officer for UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency in Jordan, covering the entire Iraq operation. She

focused on advocacy with donor governments and countries hosting Iraqi refugees, while coordinating the inter-agency response to the Iraqi refugee crisis. Before UNHCR, Kristèle was a senior advocate with Refugees International, where she was the lead on Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Yemen. Kristèle also worked with the Coalition for the International Criminal Court in The Hague, Netherlands, after getting field experience in Afghanistan with Medecins du Monde and the International Rescue Committee, in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Bosnia, and in the Middle East. Kristèle holds a JD in both civil and common law from McGill University in Montreal, Canada, and has a Masters degree in Public International law from the Sorbonne in Paris, France. Kristèle speaks French, Arabic and Spanish.

Ms. Andrea Koppel, Vice President of Global Engagement and Policy, Mercy Corps



Andrea Koppel is Vice President of Global Engagement and Policy at Mercy Corps, a global humanitarian and development NGO, and heads up the agency's Washington, D.C. office.

In her current job Ms. Koppel is a member of Mercy Corps' Executive leadership team and is responsible for overseeing a wide-ranging portfolio including: foreign assistance and food aid policy reform, USAID policy reform, institutionalizing resilience practices, youth and conflict mitigation policy, the securitization of humanitarian aid, as well as country-focused advocacy around the Syrian crisis, Iraq, Afghanistan, Central African Republic, the DPRK (North Korea) and South Sudan.

Ms. Koppel has worked at the intersection of public affairs, advocacy and journalism for over 25 years. Prior to joining Mercy Corps, she was the Director of International Communication at the American Red Cross leading its strategic communications following the massive 2010 Haiti earthquake. Ms. Koppel also led a 10-person communications team at M + R Strategic Services, a cause-oriented public affairs firm supporting NGO clients like the Save Darfur Coalition, Smart Growth America and Refugees International.

Ms. Koppel is veteran broadcast journalist who spent 14 years working for CNN in Japan and China as well as in Washington, D.C, where she covered American foreign and domestic policy. Her reporting won some of journalism's highest honors – the Emmy, Gracie, DuPont and Peabody awards.

She is a member of the Board of Trustees at the Modernizing Foreign Assistance Network (MFAN), US Global Leadership Coalition (USGLC) and the Henry L. Stimson Center.

Ms. Koppel has a B.A. in Political Science and Asian Studies from Middlebury College. She also speaks Mandarin Chinese and French. Ms. Koppel is married and has one son.