



Office of the Chief
Records Officer for the
U.S. Government

Sent Via Email. No Hard Copy to Follow.

March 14, 2025

Christopher Colbow
Agency Records Officer
United States Agency for International Development
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Suite 2.07-70
Washington, DC 20523

Dear Mr. Colbow,

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) received an allegation of unauthorized disposition of United States Agency for International Development (USAID) records. On February 5, 2025, NARA received a letter from American Oversight alleging that USAID's website and other agency records may be at risk of being improperly preserved and potentially destroyed.

On March 12, 2025, NARA contacted you by phone to discuss this allegation requesting it be investigated. While on the phone, you stated that you had confirmed with appropriate USAID staff that while USAID removed public access to the website none of its content was deleted and the website remains appropriately preserved internally.

In accordance with 36 CFR § 1230, NARA requests that USAID respond within 30 calendar days to the date of this letter regarding this allegation. The response should include the following information:

- A complete description of the records with volume and dates if known;
- The office maintaining the records;
- A statement of the exact circumstances surrounding the removal, defacing, alteration, or destruction of records;
- A statement of the safeguards established to prevent further loss of documentation; and
- Details of the actions taken to salvage, retrieve, or reconstruct the records.

If no records were improperly destroyed, please provide sufficient documentation to support that finding. I appreciate your attention to this matter. If you have any questions or wish to discuss further, please contact the Records Management Oversight and Reporting Program by email at UnauthorizedDisposition@nara.gov.

Sincerely,

William Fischer

WILLIAM FISCHER
Chief Records Officer
for the U.S. Government (Acting)

Enclosures (1)
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