

**STATEMENT OF
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RANKING MEMBER
SUBCOMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND SCIENCE EDUCATION
COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

***The Role of Non-Governmental Organizations and Universities in
International Science and Technology Cooperation.***

July 15, 2008
10:00am
2318 Rayburn House Office Building

Today's hearing is an opportunity to learn about efforts by non-governmental organizations and universities in science diplomacy around the world. The federal agencies have a responsibility in this area, as we learned in a previous hearing, but many of the organizations before us today are uniquely positioned to leverage their own strengths at building relationships in science and technology cooperation that transcend literal and figurative borders. Even in times of governmental conflict, relationships built on trust and mutual respect will outlast current frictions.

This Committee knows that the U.S. will not remain globally competitive in science and technology unless we are able to work with international partners. Utilizing all avenues to strengthen these relationships – public and private, official and non-official – will be critical to our success as a nation. Raising the profile of science and technology is a consistent goal of this Committee as well.

I look forward to hearing from our witnesses today about both their successes and challenges. Thank you for your attendance.