



**U.S. - Botswana Partnership Framework Signing  
Ambassador Nolan's Remarks  
Tuesday, December 14, 2010**

Thank you. It is an honor to be here today to finalize the Botswana Partnership Framework on HIV and AIDS. By signing this document today, we are formally launching the next phase of PEPFAR support to Botswana's National Response to HIV and AIDS. Over the next five years, the US Government will continue to support the Government of Botswana's efforts and build upon past successes.

The US Government has been proud to work side-by-side with the Government of Botswana to strengthen critical programs, including treatment and prevention of mother-to-child transmission. PEPFAR has also supported efforts to strengthen civil society and local NGOs, helping to extend service delivery to remote villages and communities throughout the country.

During the last five years, the focus has on emergency response and providing effective care, treatment and support. Botswana has shown tremendous leadership in these areas. Now over 93% of people in Botswana who need ART treatment receive it, and they have an opportunity to live healthy, productive lives. Because nearly all HIV positive mothers are now able to access PMTCT, very few babies are being born HIV positive.

While much has been accomplished, much still remains to be done, especially in terms of prevention.

The Partnership Framework is a roadmap for the strategic investment of PEPFAR resources to strengthen and help ensure the long-term sustainability of Botswana's national response. It is not simply a list of programs we will support. It is a strategic vision that prioritizes how US Government funds will be used to support the Second National Strategic Framework on HIV and AIDS. It outlines how the US Government

and Government of Botswana teams will work together to ensure our programs are aligned to achieve results.

The framework will guide us in the best use of PEPFAR resources. Five years from now, we will be able to look back and see how - together - we were able to strengthen the national response in areas such as TB, male circumcision, and behavior change.

On behalf of our US Government PEPFAR Team – the Peace Corps, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, USAID, the Department of Defense and the US State Department – I am proud to sign this Partnership Framework. It represents a commitment by the American people to support a healthy future for the people of Botswana, and the vision of an HIV free generation by 2016.