



December 21, 2016

Mr. Rex Tillerson
Office of the President-elect
1800 F St NW
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Mr. Tillerson,

I write today on behalf of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the world's largest general scientific society, to offer you any and all assistance in accessing the scientific resources and technological know-how that you may need as Secretary of State to address the country's most pressing challenges.

As Secretary, you will be leading a Department that can benefit tremendously from the outcomes of scientific research and input from scientists and engineers across a range of fields. We encourage you to appoint leading scientists and engineers to key posts on your team to ensure you have timely scientific and technical input on the important policy decisions you will face.

Science as a diplomatic tool is guided by the overarching goal of using science to build bridges between countries and to promote scientific cooperation as an essential element of foreign policy. The AAAS Center for Science Diplomacy works to support these goals through initiating exchanges, visits, and bilateral activities to put science diplomacy into action, and to provide a forum to identify and define key issues in science diplomacy.

The AAAS counts more than 100,000 members across every science and engineering discipline. We have a suite of programs focused on areas where science intersects society – from diplomacy to education to public policy, and more. We publish high-quality research in our *Science* family of journals. The U.S. scientific community and the AAAS, in particular, are American assets at your disposal.

We look forward to working with you and your team at the Department of State to ensure that you are able to draw on high quality scientific evidence to craft policies that best serve the American people.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rush Holt". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Rush D. Holt
Chief Executive Officer, American Association for the Advancement of Science
Executive Publisher, *Science* Family of Journals