

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

May 17, 2018

Raffi Hamparian
Chairman
Armenian National Committee of America
1711 N Street NW
Washington, DC 20036

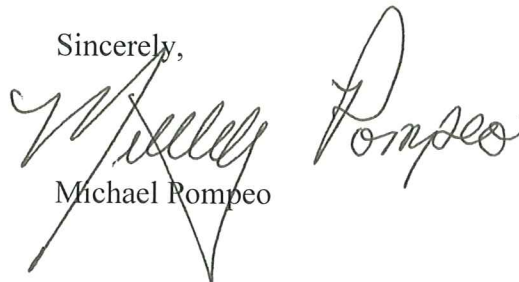
Dear Mr. Hamparian:

Thank you for your May 8 letter recommending expedited consideration of a new Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) compact for Armenia. I share your enthusiasm about the peaceful, constitutional political transition that transpired in Armenia. We, too, value the enduring friendship between the American and Armenian people and look forward to working with Prime Minister Pashinyan and the new government to advance the many shared interests between our countries.

We appreciate your idea of a new MCC compact focused on STEAM education for Armenia. Although the MCC does not have a process for accelerated consideration of a compact, we hope to see the Armenian government make progress on MCC's eligibility criteria ("scorecard") this year so that the MCC Board of Directors may consider Armenia for a compact during the annual selection process. As you know, in determining a country's eligibility, the MCC Board considers: a country's performance on the scorecard indicators, the opportunity to reduce poverty and generate economic growth within a country, and availability of funds. Additionally, when considering a country for a subsequent compact, the Board also takes into consideration evidence of improved scorecard policy performance and a commitment to sectoral reform. We stand ready to assist the Armenian government should they have questions about the MCC process or how to improve their scorecard indicators.

We look forward to working together to advance U.S.-Armenian friendship.

Sincerely,



Michael Pompeo