

Ambassador Nagy, as you know the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo is increasingly worrisome. President Joseph Kabila is still in office almost eighteen months to the day after his second and final term of office expired. Violence and conflict have displaced more than five million people and many more face severe food insecurity. Elections have been announced for December, but notwithstanding an agreement brokered by the Congo's Roman Catholic bishops, several leading opposition figures, including former Governor Moise Katumbi, have thus far been unable to return to the country because of trumped-up legal proceedings. What will you do to ensure that the Congolese people have a chance to determine their own future in a free and fair election?

In follow up, will you commit to expeditiously appointing a special envoy for the Great Lakes Region -- a post that has been vacant since December 2016 -- and empowering him/her to ensure that the process moves forward and conflict avoided?

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