Following media reports of serious gaps in global staffing at CDC, Chairman Waxman writes HHS Secretary Michael Leavitt to request detailed information, as well as an assurance that barriers to global staffing will be swiftly and fully addressed. CDC experts overseas share crucial expertise on issues like HIV, maternal health, vaccination, and laboratory infrastructure. They also observe and seek to understand global health threats that may affect Americans. But nearly half of these crucial overseas posts are vacant, and review of each position by a political office at HHS appears to contribute to significant delays.

**Documents and Links**

- Letter to Secretary Leavitt