Resolution Honoring Robert A. Archer

WHEREAS, Mr. Robert A. Archer served as Senior Energy Advisor from 2008 - 2013 and Team Leader from 1994 - 2008, Energy and Infrastructure in the Bureau for Europe and Eurasia, U.S. Agency for International Development; and

WHEREAS, During that time Bob worked on power sector reforms including legal and regulatory development, regional and competitive market development, restructuring, privatization, market monitoring and the social impacts of reform; and

WHEREAS, From 1998 to 2013 Bob managed the Europe and Eurasia Bureau’s regulatory development efforts which included two cooperative agreements with the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, highlighting the importance of sharing U.S. regulatory best practices between the “E&E region” and U.S. as part of overall energy reform efforts in the region; and

WHEREAS, Bob provided vision and leadership in working with energy regulators in the region and NARUC members to establish the Energy Regulators Regional Association (ERRA), obtained co-financing from a record 14 USAID Missions and ensured ERRA’s programmatic, institutional and financial self-sufficiency; and

WHEREAS, Bob, notwithstanding his affectionately being known as one of “the Bobs” within the Bureau for Europe and Eurasia, has an excellent understanding of the challenges and requirements of energy regulation and actively promoted the value of NARUC’s peer-to-peer regulatory exchanges within ERRA, the sub-regions of Southeast Europe and the Black Sea and through numerous bilateral regulatory partnerships; and

WHEREAS, NARUC members and staff still quote from “Bob’s AAAAs,” a document he prepared in 2007 that outlined Key Characteristics for Regulatory Commissions: Autonomy, Authority, Accountability and Ability; and

WHEREAS, U.S. Commissioners, State commission staff and NARUC staff have enjoyed lively and technical discussions with Bob on energy, tennis and Peace Corps adventures while sampling local desserts throughout the Europe and Eurasia region; and

WHEREAS, Bob showed his dedication to NARUC by giving up many Sundays (and disrupting a few holiday weekends) over the years to meet with our Executive Committee and speak to our Committee on International Relations; and

WHEREAS, Bob previously served as Senior Energy Officer in the USAID Asia and Near East and the Latin America and Caribbean Bureaus; and

WHEREAS, Prior to joining USAID, he was formerly with the Department of Energy, Economic Regulatory Administration; and
WHEREAS, He holds a B.A. in Economics from Yale University; a Masters in Public and International Affairs (Economic Development Concentration) from the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs (GSPIA) at the University of Pittsburgh; and

WHEREAS, Despite having few opportunities to practice in the E&E region, Bob retained his Spanish language skills from his Peace Corps days in Colombia in 1964-1966; now, therefore be it resolved

RESOLVED, That the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, convened at its 2013 Summer Meetings in Denver, Colorado, extends its congratulations to Mr. Archer upon his retirement from USAID; and be it further

RESOLVED, That NARUC members and staff hope to continue informal thought-provoking discussions with Bob on energy reform; and be it further

RESOLVED, That NARUC extends its sincere appreciation to Bob Archer for his dedicated public service and conveys to him its best wishes for all his future endeavors.

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Sponsored by the Committee on International Relations
Adopted by the Board of Directors July 24, 2013