



Office of Global Policy and Strategy

OGPS STATEMENT: Celebrating Locally Employed Staff Recognition Day

November 16, 2022

Dear Colleagues,

Today, we celebrate the 2022 Foreign Service National (FSN) and Locally Employed (LE Staff) Recognition Day. The words of an experienced overseas OGPS leader put it best: "Our locally employed staff are the folks who really know how work gets done in their countries and cultures. They really make the world turn out here!"

On my recent visits to the Latin America, India, and Europe offices, I saw firsthand how vital our local staff are to the OGPS mission. It was apparent to me, as it is to all of OGPS leadership, that the local staff have a keen knowledge of FDA relations in-country with host government officials; that they provide the technical knowledge of local systems, maintain valuable contacts with in-country stakeholders, and provide critical administrative support that helps our foreign offices function efficiently and effectively.

I hope you all will take a moment today and consider the valuable contributions of our locally employed staff serving all over the world.

With sincerest appreciation,

Mark Abdo
Associate Commissioner for Global Policy & Strategy