

RELEASE IN PART
B6

From: Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>
Sent: Thursday, April 16, 2009 6:13 AM
To: H
Subject: FW: For the Secretary of State visit to Haiti [PAUL COLLIER]

See below.

From: Paul Collier
To: Sullivan, Jacob J
Sent: Wed Apr 15 20:44:55 2009
Subject: Fwd: For the Secretary of State visit to Haiti

Jake this is for cheryl but I don't have her email. It is urgent - a suggestion to add ports to the secretary's agenda for her meeting with Preval tomorrow. Vital that he does not slide off fixing the port. More below. Paul

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Jean-Louis Warnholz" [redacted]
Date: 16 April 2009 01:31:16 BST
To: "Paul Collier" [redacted]
Subject: For the Secretary of State visit to Haiti

B6

I enjoyed the opportunity to discuss the emerging potential that Haiti presents with the Secretary of State and former President Clinton last night. I would like to take this opportunity to make a brief suggestion for Thursday's trip to Haiti:

We discussed the catalytic role the United States could play in leveraging much needed private investment in large scale job creation, for example through direct involvement of OPIC. In my report I pointed out that the port in Port-au-Prince is the most expensive port in the Caribbean and recommended the opening of new private ports. Ports remain a critical bottleneck to a job creation strategy both in garment manufacturing and agriculture. They also play a pivotal role in ensuring that some of the complementary imports necessary for the proposed road construction projects can enter the country both in the required quantities and in a cost-effective and timely manner. Elsewhere I have argued that spiraling prices in construction booms often mean that available funds only go half way to the finishing line.

The Haitian authorities have already made inroads in addressing some of these inefficiencies and stand ready to do more. In fact, Prime Minister Pierre-Louis noted in the letter to investors which was presented at the meeting with Charles Rangel and garment-entrepreneurs on Monday, that "ISPS certification of port facilities and alleviation of customs procedures" are in progress. The meetings tomorrow may present an opportunity to emphasize once again how central well-functioning, competitive ports are to attract foreign investors as part of the HOPEII window and to put the right transport infrastructure in place.