

RELEASE IN PART
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From: Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2009 9:39 PM
To: H
Subject: FW: 10/19 Senior Staff and Assistant Secretaries Meetings

FYI

From: Smith, Daniel B
Sent: Monday, October 19, 2009 12:04 PM
To: Mills, Cheryl D; Sullivan, Jacob J; Abedin, Huma
Subject: 10/19 Senior Staff and Assistant Secretaries Meetings

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIEDPEPFAR

- Jack noted that we need to get back to OMB on our PEPFAR numbers for treatment. We will submit numbers that will be higher than some in the NGO community expect, but not as high as others want. We need to do a better job, he noted, of making it clear that this is not a trade-off between saving lives and building health systems; on the contrary, building health systems and focusing on prevention also saves lives. Cheryl and Jack discussed how best to make that point.

Appropriations

- Jack reported that he has a meeting with House and Senate Appropriations Staff today. He anticipates questions on a variety of issues, including Afghanistan/Pakistan.

Legislative Affairs

- Mike noted that the Secretary has a busy week in terms of Congressional outreach with a dinner with women Senators this evening, a lunch with the Democratic Senators Policy Committee on Thursday, and a dinner hosted by Representative Hoyer that same evening.

Public Affairs

- In addition to the Sudan policy rollout, PA noted that COS Emanuel's comment over the weekend on the need for a "legitimate and credible" partner in Afghanistan had attracted intense media attention.

Sri Lanka War Crimes Report

- Harold said that the Sri Lanka War Crimes Report is scheduled for release on Wednesday.

Assistant Secretaries Meeting – HighlightsForeign Assistance Reform

- Jack noted that there is a SFRC mark-up scheduled for Wednesday on the foreign assistance reform bill. He said that there seems to be a willingness to reschedule to coincide with the QDDR rollout.

Afghanistan Elections

- S/SRAP said that the report of the Electoral Complaints Commission was expected any minute. What's not clear is how the Independent Election Commission will respond and how quickly. Meanwhile, Senator Kerry plans to return to Kabul.

Pakistan Energy Initiative

- In response to Jack's question, David Goldwyn said that his office is working with S/SRAP and others on the energy plan that would largely bring old energy plants back on line to address the energy shortages in the near term. This would be a deliverable for the Secretary. Cheryl asked that they get this to the Secretary as soon as possible.

Near Eastern Affairs

- Jeff Feltman thanked Consular Affairs for all their hard work in processing last-minute visa requests in connection with this week's U.S. and Iraq Business and Investment Conference.
- Jeff noted that NEA will circulate a diplomatic strategy for Iran and ask other bureaus for help in identifying "targets of opportunity" to engage with other countries about Iran.

Counter-Terrorism

- Dan Benjamin noted that [REDACTED] a decision to designate the group that has claimed responsibility for the attack in Southeastern Iran a Foreign Terrorist Organization.
- Dan also noted threat reporting related to a post in South Asia, but said appropriate actions had been taken.

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Political/Military Affairs

- Andrew Shapiro noted that we don't yet have a response from Senator Kerry or his staff to the Secretary's letter on the UK and Australia defense trade agreements.
- PM has completed its review of DoD authorities and will submit the package to Jack. Jack said he wanted to have something to the Secretary soon.

H1N1

- Kerri-Ann Jones said that HHS is receiving requests from various countries for vaccine. We are not prepared to help countries bilaterally right now, but will provide vaccine to WHO. Jack noted that we have still not resolved the issue of how to pay for vaccine that is donated.

South Central Asia

- Bob Blake said he had had a good trip to India with Bill Burns helping set the stage for Singh's visit to the U.S. He noted that the Indians had announced some nuclear park reactor sites that sets the stage for American investment. There are some remaining issues, however, including the liability law.
- Bob noted that he had also stopped in Uzbekistan and met with Karimov. The Secretary asked Bob to think about how we could more effectively get our message across about our human rights concerns, especially on issues like child labor.

T Issues

- Ellen Tauscher said she would like to brief the Secretary on where things stand with respect to the arms control negotiations with the Russians.

Honduras

- Tom Shannon reported that the talks in Honduras had hit an impasse on Friday. What's not clear is whether the folks around Micheletti are being tough before folding or if they are really dug in. [REDACTED]

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EAP

- Kurt Campbell made reference to a Pentagon briefing [REDACTED]

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Secretary's Comments

- The Secretary said she was up to speed on our strategic dialogues with a number of countries, but would like an update on others like Egypt. (We will task those.)
- The Secretary indicated she would hold a series of policy reviews with the bureaus in December to take stock of where we are on strategic priorities.