

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>
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To: H
Subject: Fw: 11/3 0845 Meeting Readout

From: Mull, Stephen D
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Cc: Mills, Cheryl D
Sent: Wed Nov 03 09:53:56 2010
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Elections

With some 20 seats still undecided, Republicans have already picked up 61 seats in House; Democrats likely to keep 51-53 seats in Senate. Spratt and Skelton losses are among more significant; H will prepare an analysis of election's impact on our oversight committees. Murkowski appears to be headed for historic write-in win; her support of Law of Sea and likely sympathy for New START will be good for us. Reid will likely return to Washington energized by win to pursue consequential lame duck session. Manchin and Kirk will take up their seats in the Senate this month; Rich suggests S calls to each to help lock in support for New START.

Other Congressional Issues

Tom Nides' prep going well, and he'll see SFRC members and Sem Gilibrand this week. Rich expects committee will vote him out during lame duck; still unclear if we'll get floor vote. An inter-agency team will brief the Hill this week on the President's Asia trip. Kerry will leave for the Middle East, including Syria, on Sunday.

Guantanamo Closure

DOJ is considering Harold's latest paper on the way forward.

Iran

Kouchner announced after conversation with Iranian FM Mottaki that adultery convict Ashtiani will not be imminently executed, as earlier reported. Jundullah designation being announced this morning.

India

Roemer and Blake making good progress on nuclear liability issue, but we are not yet ready to raise public expectations.

Iraq

Press reports about Inspector General's report on mil-civ transition mistakenly suggest that State had been unaware of associated challenges.

Middle East

Saeb Erekat here today, and will be delivering public remarks. He'll meet George Mitchell tomorrow.