

RELEASE IN FULL

From: Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>
Sent: Saturday, February 5, 2011 1:19 PM
To: H
Subject: Fw: US envoy: Mubarak has to lead Egypt to transition (AP)

From: OpsNewsTicker@state.gov <OpsNewsTicker@state.gov>
To: NEWS-Mahogany; NEWS-Egypt; NEWS-R
Cc: SES-O_CMS; SES-O_OS; SES-O_Shift-II
Sent: Sat Feb 05 13:14:00 2011
Subject: US envoy: Mubarak has to lead Egypt to transition (AP)

MUNICH (AP) - A U.S. envoy who met President Hosni Mubarak earlier this week says his continued leadership is "crucial" for now as Egypt heads into a transition to democracy. Frank Wisner was dispatched to Cairo on Monday. He said Saturday that "we're by no means out of the woods but at least a path is opening" toward a peaceful transition. He said by video link from New York to a security conference in Munich: "I believe that President Mubarak's continued leadership is crucial - it's his chance to write his own legacy." Wisner, a former ambassador to Egypt, says Mubarak now faces the "huge responsibility" of leading the country into a transition without resorting to force.

NewsTickers alert senior Department officials to breaking news. This item appears as it did in its original publication and does not contain analysis or commentary by Department sources.