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Sent: Wednesday, October 5, 2011 5:36 PM
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Subject: Clinton's next task: The jobs panel

Politico

Advice from Hillary

Clinton's next task: The jobs panel

By MATT NEGRIN | 10/05/11 11:48 AM Updated: 10/05/11 11:49 AM

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The talk about jobs is a marked shift for Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. *AP Photo* Close

The White House is sending Secretary of State Hillary Clinton on an assignment — and this one's domestic.

Clinton will be joining President Obama's jobs council at the State Department on Friday for a talk that the administration says is centered on "foreign direct investment in the United States."

The foreign angle is what hooks Clinton in to the discussion, which will include acting Commerce Secretary Rebecca Blank and three members of the jobs panel: GE CEO Jeff Immelt, Kodak chief Antonio Perez and UBS President Robert Wolf. But the talk about jobs is a marked shift for Clinton, who has spent the majority of her time as secretary of state globetrotting and building up relationships with other countries.

Clinton's appearance with three members of a committee that advises Obama on the economy could renew talk of her political ambitions. Clinton's future has been a subject of great speculation since losing the Democratic primary to Obama and becoming his top diplomat. But she has claimed that she doesn't want to return to politics, and she has denied a report that she wants to be the president of the World Bank.

On Friday, Clinton and the jobs council members will talk to "business leaders" at the State Department, the White House says.

“Investments by foreign-based companies as well as increasing domestic investment create well-paid jobs, contribute to economic growth, boost productivity, and support American communities,” the White House said in the statement announcing Clinton’s participation.