

**From:** Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>  
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**EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT**  
*Operations Center*

***Overnight Brief***  
 Sunday, August 26, 2012  
 0530 EDT

**GHANA MAY EXTRADITE FORMER OFFICIAL TO COTE D'IVOIRE**

(SBU) Ghanaian authorities executed an international arrest warrant for former Ivoirian budget minister Justin Kone Katinan on charges of economic crimes committed during Cote D'Ivoire's post-election violence in 2010 and early 2011, media report. Embassy Accra comments the Ghanaian government currently is reviewing Katinan's granted refugee status, which it may revoke prior to transferring him to Ivoirian authorities. Embassy Abidjan comments this Ivoirian-Ghanaian bilateral issue must be resolved transparently as it could create precedent for future cases. *(Ops/Embassy Accra telcon, Ops/Embassy Abidjan telcon, Reuters)*

**NAM SUMMIT COMMENCES IN IRAN**

(SBU) Iranian Foreign Minister Salehi stated Iran will present a comprehensive Syria proposal on the sidelines of the Non-aligned Movement summit in Tehran, media report. Iran Regional Presence Office Dubai comments this is an example of Iran's use of the forum to advance its foreign policy priorities to distract from its own violations of international obligations.

*(Ops/Iran Regional Presence Office Dubai e-mail, Xinhua News)*

**VENEZUELA REFINERY ACCIDENT SPURS ALLEGATIONS OF LAPSES**

(SBU) The gas explosion at the Amuay facility, the country's largest refinery, follows repeated mishaps during the last decade across installations run by state oil companies, media report. The Venezuela desk comments the accident may highlight the Chavez administration used profits to fund ambitious domestic programs instead of reinvesting in oil production facility maintenance. *(Ops/Venezuela desk telcon, Reuters)*

**SYRIA UPDATE**

(U) Opposition activists accused President Asad's forces of killing 440 people across Syria on August 25. Activists claim 200 of the dead were in Daraya, where many were executed by gunshots at close range. *(Reuters)*

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