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**REMARKS BY
U.S. AMBASSADOR TO BANGLADESH DAN MOZENA
FINANCIAL CRIME WORKSHOP
CLOSING CEREMONY**

HOTEL SARINA, DHAKA

APRIL 25, 2013

Asalaamu alaikum and good afternoon.

I extend my deepest condolences to the victims of the tragedy yesterday in Savar and to their families. This is a tremendous loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with those who lost their lives, with those who were injured, and with the families of all of the victims. This is a sad moment for Bangladesh and for all of us who love this country and its people.

Meanwhile, turning to this workshop ...

Bangladesh is under attack, an attack that sometimes is hard to see.

Forces, evil forces, seek to destroy the Bangladesh that each of us, including myself, loves so deeply.

These forces, evil forces, seek to destroy the international order that has brought Bangladesh unprecedented prospects for peace and prosperity, for a future without poverty, for Sonar Bangla.

These forces, evil forces, have powerful weapons.

I speak not of nuclear bombs, destroyers, fighter aircraft.

I speak not of massive armies of men in uniform, of huge fleets of ships.

I speak of something much more powerful.

I speak of money ... vast flows of illicit money.

Money that knows no boundaries ... money that finances unspeakable crimes ... money that seeks to gut the soul of Bangladesh and turn the wondrous people of Bangladesh into vassals of overlords who seek to enrich themselves while imposing their ideologies of hatred, intolerance, slavery.

These forces, evil forces, seek to use Bangladesh to launder their filthy money, to finance their campaigns of terrorism and violent extremism, to commit their heinous crimes within Bangladesh, throughout the region and beyond.

Bangladesh is indeed under attack. ...

... and Bangladesh is fighting back.

Seated before me are the defenders of Bangladesh ...

... police, investigators, prosecutors, others ...

... you are the defenders of Bangladesh.

Your weapons are laws, effective implementation of laws to combat money laundering, to combat financing of terrorism, to combat horrid transnational crimes.

Your tools are brainpower, your brainpower, your teamwork, your cooperation, your coordination among the police, National Board of Revenue, Anti-Corruption Commission, Attorney General's Office, and others ...

When you work together as a team, when you use the tools, techniques, tricks of the trade that you have been studying and learning in this workshop, then you become a most potent force ... then you are able to effectively pursue the most complex cases of criminal activity ... then you are able to detect, disrupt, destroy and prevent terrorism, fraud, corruption, transnational crime ... then you are able to protect the Bangladeshi people so they can build Sonar Bangla.

Of course, criminals are smart, too, so your learning new tricks, new means to defeat the criminals is a never-ending undertaking.

I am proud that America is Bangladesh's partner in so many ways in helping you defeat these dreaded criminals. I commit myself to continue to support in every way possible Bangladesh's battle against these criminals.

I am pleased, too, that in this workshop, America was able to partner with our friends from the United Kingdom to bring to you the latest and best know-how we have.

I wish you all the best as you engage and do battle with the enemies of Bangladesh.

Thank you.

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**As prepared for delivery*