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PRESS RELEASE

U.S. DELEGATION VISIT

DHAKA, SEPTEMBER 11 -- U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton sent a delegation to visit Burma and Bangladesh to learn first-hand about the situation in Burma's Rakhine State and the effects of the unrest on neighboring Bangladesh. The delegation visited Burma from September 7-10 and will visit Bangladesh from Sept. 11-13, 2012 to assess current conditions and to discuss with government officials and key stakeholders what more the international community might do to support their efforts to reduce tensions and improve security, stability and the humanitarian situation over the long-term.

The delegation will spend two days in Dhaka, where they will have meetings with the senior officials at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Prime Minister's Office. They will also consult with United Nations officials, nongovernmental organization representatives, and members of the diplomatic community. On September 12, Ambassador Mozena will escort a partial delegation to Cox's Bazar and Teknaf, where they will meet with the Deputy Commissioner and the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner's offices to learn about governance challenges in the district. They will also visit United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees' camps and neighboring villages which host Rohingya. The United States government stands ready to offer our good offices in facilitating international assistance to improve conditions for affected communities on both sides of the border.

Delegation participants from Washington are: The Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs' Deputy Assistant Secretary Alyssa Ayres; Bureau of East Asia and Pacific Affairs' Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Joseph Yun; Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor's Deputy Assistant Secretary Dan Baer; Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration's Deputy Assistant Secretary Kelly Clements.

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