

# American

## NEWS & VIEWS

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## Message by Secretary Clinton on World Tuberculosis Day

*Clinton encourages global community to renew commitment to combat TB*

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Office of the Spokesman  
March 24, 2010

### STATEMENT BY SECRETARY CLINTON

#### World Tuberculosis Day

Tuberculosis kills more than 1.7 million people every year, making it a leading world-wide cause of infectious disease deaths. TB is both a disease of poverty – with transmission rates higher in over-crowded conditions – and a contributor to poverty. It destroys families, undermines economic opportunity, and holds back progress.

On this World Tuberculosis Day, let us reaffirm our commitment to tackle this deadly disease together.

The U.S. is a leader in the global effort to battle TB. We support the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria. And across the federal government – from PEPFAR, the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to the U.S. Agency for International Development, which assists TB programs in 40 countries – we have made this fight a priority.

President Obama's Global Health Initiative will build on these efforts, forging partnerships to improve outcomes for patients and develop stronger, more sustainable, more accessible health systems around the world.

So I encourage everyone – nations, organizations, institutions, citizens everywhere – to join us in renewing the commitment to combat TB. Together, we can make progress toward ending this global scourge.

Thank you very much.

## Drug Violence Shreds Communities, Secretary Clinton Says

By Merle David Kellerhals Jr.  
Staff Writer

Washington – Drug cartel violence hurts communities on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border, says Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton.

"This violence shreds communities, it holds back

economic development, and it undermines progress," she said during a joint press conference with Mexican Foreign Secretary Patricia Espinosa.

A team of U.S. Cabinet secretaries and senior advisers met with Mexican senior leaders for a full day of talks in Mexico City March 23. They launched an enhanced security strategy, under development for nearly a year, that is designed to help Mexico strengthen its law enforcement and judicial systems in the face of escalating drug-trafficking violence that has killed thousands and spread across the porous borders of both nations.

"We know that the demand for drugs drives much of this illicit trade, that guns purchased in the United States ... are used to facilitate violence here in Mexico," Clinton told reporters. "And the United States must and is doing its part to help you and us meet those challenges."

President Obama has asked Congress for \$5.6 billion in fiscal year 2011 for programs to reduce demand for illicit drugs in the United States.

The enhanced strategy, designed to build on the Mérida Initiative, takes a different approach from the three-year-old plan begun by former President George W. Bush and Mexican President Felipe Calderón, Clinton said. "We are contributing hundreds of millions of dollars to train and equip Mexican law enforcement and strengthening Mexico's judicial system and democratic institutions," she added. The previous plan emphasized military assistance, but the new plan focuses on law enforcement and judicial institutions.

The new plan targets four strategic areas: disrupting the capacity of criminal organizations, reforming and strengthening security and justice institutions, creating a 21st-century border that advances citizen safety and commerce, and building stronger and more resilient communities that can resist the lure of the drug-trafficking cartels.

"We also agreed to launch key initiatives, including pilot programs to combat border violence in Tijuana-San Diego and Juarez-El Paso," she said. The Mexican cities of Tijuana and Juarez, which border California and Texas, respectively, are the largest cities along the U.S.-Mexico border, and both have been affected by increasing drug-related violence.

In addition, the United States and Mexico have enhanced their sharing of financial intelligence and coordination of law enforcement to detect and prevent financial crimes and dry up financing for drug cartels.

Both Presidents Obama and Calderón, in advance of the talks, spoke March 22 by telephone to underscore their

commitment to a stronger bilateral partnership. The actions announced by Clinton and Espinosa in Mexico City are the result of a process launched by Obama and Calderón during a meeting in August 2009. After being elected president but before taking office, Obama met with Calderón in Washington in January 2009.

Clinton then met with Espinosa in September 2009 at the United Nations to set forth the new strategic framework, she said.

Accompanying Clinton on the trip to Mexico City were Defense Secretary Robert Gates; Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano; Director of National Intelligence Dennis Blair; John Brennan, a presidential adviser for homeland security and counterterrorism; Admiral Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; and other senior U.S. advisers from Homeland Security, the Justice Department and the Treasury Department.

The meeting comes just weeks after one American employee of the U.S. Consulate in Ciudad Juarez was killed along with her husband, and the husband of a Mexican employee was also killed as they were returning home from a children's social event. Several of the children traveling with them were wounded in the attack on their vehicles.

"The grim truth is that these murders are part of a much larger cycle of violence and crime that has impacted communities on both sides of the border, taking an especially grievous toll on families here in Mexico," Clinton said. "The narcotics cartels are waging war on civil society."

But Clinton added that while security is of paramount importance to the new strategy, it is not its only component. She said the United States and Mexico must also work on education and health care to help combat the long-term effects of drug cartels.

First lady Michelle Obama is traveling to Mexico in April to discuss educational programs with Mexican officials.

In addition, the United States and Mexico are studying how to use extraditions more effectively as they cooperate on prosecutions of drug criminals in Mexico.

### **Pakistanis Will Prosper Under New Plans with United States**

By Stephen Kaufman  
Staff Writer

Washington — Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, completing the first day of a U.S.-Pakistani strategic dialogue, said the United States is committed to

advancing the Pakistani people's aspirations for greater peace and prosperity. The talks covered a variety of topics, from security to cooperation on agriculture, democracy promotion and energy.

In remarks with Pakistani Foreign Minister Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi in Washington March 24, Clinton said the two delegations discussed the shared goals of protecting their citizens from violent extremism, seeing Pakistan prosper as "a strong democracy in a stable region," and improving the daily lives of Pakistan's people.

"We have listened, and we will continue to listen. And we want to demonstrate by both word and deed our respect for Pakistan's concerns and ideas, and share our own," Clinton said.

The secretary announced that the Obama administration will sign a letter of intent to upgrade significant parts of the road infrastructure in northwest Pakistan. Acknowledging the country's heavy reliance on agriculture, she said the United States is taking "concrete steps" to boost Pakistani agricultural exports and improve its agricultural infrastructure.

Clinton said \$125 million is being devoted to Pakistani energy sector projects and that on March 25 the two countries will sign agreements implementing three thermal power station rehabilitation projects, with the goal of providing Pakistanis with "affordable and reliable power." She added that there are also plans to cooperate on new water projects.

These are the first ministerial-level talks in the strategic dialogue, which was launched in 2006. Qureshi told reporters he was "a happy man and a satisfied man," praising the upgrade in the level of the bilateral engagement and the expansion of the original four separate tracks of the strategic dialogue to 10.

"We have expanded those tracks to make this relationship people-to-people," he said. "I wanted to bring in areas that affect the lives of the ordinary people of Pakistan. ... I'm happy because I feel I've contributed in redirecting this relationship in line with the aspirations of the people of Pakistan."

In a March 22 interview with Pakistan's Express TV Group, Clinton said the strategic dialogue is covering a broad bilateral agenda, and part of its importance will be to develop trust and confidence between the two leaders and the lower-level government employees on both sides who will be charged with implementing the projects that result from the talks.

"We know whatever we do will take time. It's not the

kind of commitment that you easily produce overnight or even within a year. But it is important to get started, to sort it out," Clinton said, saying the next round will be held in Istanbul.

Along with developing the agenda of the dialogue, the talks will "start putting in place the mechanisms that we will be using" between the two government bureaucracies, she said.

Asked about cooperation on civil nuclear energy, similar to an agreement the United States has with India, Clinton said it took "many years of strategic dialogue" between the two countries before they reached that understanding, a process that "did not happen easily or quickly."

"I think on the energy issue, specifically, there are more immediate steps that can be taken that have to help with the grid, have to help with other sources of energy, to upgrade power plants and the like," she said. "And we are certainly looking at those, and we want to help Pakistan with its immediate and its long-term energy needs."

Speaking with Pakistan's *Dunya* TV March 22, Clinton said the United States brings its technology and innovation to the table in its talks with Pakistan, particularly in areas such as agriculture and water projects, and wants to encourage cooperation between U.S. and Pakistani experts.

"What we want to do is to help Pakistan make better use of the water that you do have," she said. "Let's see what we do to protect our aquifers. Let's see what we do to be more efficient in the use of our water. Let's see what we do to capture more rainwater; how do we actually use less of it to produce more crops?"

Despite coming to office in the middle of a global economic recession, the Obama administration is also committed to increasing market access for Pakistani goods, she said.

The deeper relationship that both sides are seeking will not happen overnight, Clinton said, despite a strong interest in and commitment to the U.S.-Pakistan partnership.

"We want to build a very strong foundation because we don't want this to be a year or two of strategic dialoguing. We want this to be ... an enduring part of our relationship and our foreign policy priorities," she said.

## Cultural Sites Reflect U.S. Democracy

*Park Service protects sites that tell both inspiring, painful stories*

By Lauren Monsen, Staff Writer

Washington — What do the Grand Canyon, the Statue of Liberty, and the theater where Abraham Lincoln was shot have in common? They are part of the network of scenic and historic sites safeguarded by the U.S. National Park Service (NPS) so visitors can learn about the people and places that have shaped America.

Some of these landmarks might have been lost without visionaries who believed they should be protected and set aside for everyone's use, said NPS Director Jonathan B. Jarvis. Since 1916, the Park Service has been "the U.S. government's steward of its history, telling the quintessential American story" of a sprawling, diverse nation, he explained in an interview.

The stories behind these sites and landmarks are "extraordinarily inspiring and, sometimes, extraordinarily painful," Jarvis said. "This grand experiment in democracy isn't perfect, but these stories reveal that we're willing to discuss our mistakes — that we're still learning, still growing."

Many places, including Revolutionary War and Civil War battlefields, "played major roles in the formation of American democracy," he said. "In these places, we have a responsibility to keep that story alive."

### A MISSION TO PROTECT, EDUCATE

During the settlement of the American West, there was a growing awareness that unspoiled places ought to be preserved for future generations, Jarvis said. President Ulysses S. Grant established Yellowstone Park in 1872 as the first U.S. national park, and later President Woodrow Wilson created the Park Service to oversee the rapidly growing system of recreational parks, preserves, historic monuments, battlefields and other sites of national significance.

Along with such iconic natural attractions as the Grand Canyon, the Park Service helps conserve historic sites such as Ford's Theatre, where Lincoln was assassinated in 1865, and Ellis Island in New York Harbor, where more than 12 million immigrants entered the United States from 1892 to 1954.

"The democratic principles of this nation are embodied in its historic sites," Jarvis said. "Whether you're interested in the Civil War, Route 66, the U.S. civil rights movement, or Hispanic culture in the United States, we have recommended travel routes and itineraries listed on our Web site."

Some of the richest treasures are much older than the nation itself. Among these are Mesa Verde in Colorado, Canyon de Chelly in Arizona and Chaco Canyon in New Mexico. Mesa Verde is renowned for its Anasazi cliff dwellings that date to about A.D. 1200. Canyon de Chelly, located within Navajo tribal lands, houses ancient ruins while sustaining a living community of Navajo people. Chaco Canyon was a major cultural center for the ancient Pueblos from A.D. 900 to 1150.

Laws forbid the stealing of artifacts from federal lands, Jarvis said; there is a permit process for archeological excavation. One of the jobs of the Park Service is to translate what archeologists learn about the past "into layman's terms, so the general public can understand what these places mean."

The NPS has a small office that handles requests from foreign governments seeking to preserve their own historic sites. In India, for example, the NPS provided site-planning expertise for work on the Taj Mahal, and the agency assisted Qatari officials in developing a management framework for Qatar's first national park. In Cambodia, the NPS provided technical assistance to protect antiquities at Angkor and the Temple of Preah Vihear. The Park Service maintains ties with sister agencies across the globe.

The agency seeks out partnerships with corporate entities so more historic places can be conserved. To create incentives for preservation, Jarvis said, "we provide tax credits for the rehabilitation and re-use of historical structures."

He cited an example in San Francisco, where the Park Service teamed up with developers to restore a 1905 military base called Fort Baker. Located near the Golden Gate Bridge, the fort "has been completely rehabilitated into a destination resort," Jarvis said. "The Park Service owns it, but we entered into a long-term lease with the developers so they can recoup their investment. It's now one of the hottest spots in San Francisco."

#### RECENT HISTORY

The agency is currently reviewing new U.S. sites that examine more recent historic and cultural changes. "We have now been authorized to study [the late Mexican-American labor activist] César Chávez and the national farm workers' movement," Jarvis said. "That's an important story that has not been fully told."

"We are constantly interested in stories that are important to the American experience. We are also constantly re-evaluating the stories we tell and how we interpret them," he said.

The NPS manages nearly 400 national parks, which are visited by 275 million people annually, and more than 3,000 historic and natural landmarks. Part of the U.S. Department of the Interior, the Park Service also helps sustain threatened and endangered plant and animal species throughout the park system.

#### **Indonesian Internet Penetration Expected to Skyrocket**

*Indonesia's online population grows 49 percent annually*

By Stephen Kaufman  
Staff Writer

Washington — Indonesia is "on the brink of a major electronic revolution," says one of the country's first bloggers, Enda Nasution. Boasting the fourth-largest population in the world, the relatively small percentage of Indonesian Internet users are seeing their numbers grow thanks to improved access to the Internet, including through affordable cell phone technology.

According to data collected in September 2009 by Internet World Stats, "only" 30 million Indonesians are online. The figure represents 12.5 percent of the country's estimated population of 241 million. But it is already enough to make Indonesia the country with the 13th highest online presence. Combined with the country's relative tolerance for a free media, it is expected that Indonesia's growing online presence will be strongly felt in the coming years.

Nasution told America.gov that the relatively small penetration of Internet use in his country "bothers me a lot," but according to his analysis, Indonesia's online population grows 49 percent annually, and has grown more than "1,000 percent in the last nine years."

"The changes are already happening," he said, with greater distribution of computer hardware, software and Internet access. In addition, almost all new cell phones, even those costing less than \$100, boast online connection capability. "So I believe we are on the brink of major electronic revolution," he said.

Nasution has been described as the "father of the Indonesian blogosphere," because his online presence since 2001 not only places him in the first generation of Indonesian bloggers, but he has dedicated much of his activity to explaining the art of blogging to his countrymen and encouraging newcomers.

"Indonesian bloggers are mostly community driven," he said. "There are some exceptions but mostly that's the common norm." Smaller blogging communities exist in the cities and in provinces, and they are "essential" for newcomers who seek both technical and moral support.

"Most Indonesians are shy to come to a meet-up alone,

and the younger ones still need encouraging and fostering their self confidence," he said. And there is the question of audience. That's the "number one question new bloggers usually ask," he said. "Who's going to read my blog?"

The community-centered style of Indonesian blogging manifests itself in annual national gatherings such as Pesta Blogger, and its less formal alternative Muktamar Blogger. Both build relationships among bloggers as they share knowledge and tips, and encourage greater unity in the developing media.

According to academic research published in 2009 by Nadine Freischlad (PDF, 1.9MB), Indonesia's blogosphere is also partly characterized by memories of censorship and media manipulation that occurred during the Soeharto era, which lasted nearly three decades before the former president's rule was ended in 1998.

Internet technology arrived in the mid- to late 1990s, precisely when opposition to Soeharto was growing, and cyberspace became a rare platform for free expression and interaction, as well as a major source of news and information that was free from state control or censorship.

"The Internet was used by the students' movement to coordinate itself and to mobilize the masses," Freischlad writes. "Activists transformed information obtained from the Internet into printed flyers and distributed them on the streets."

In the post-Soeharto era, Indonesia's government has ended censorship and encouraged Internet use among its citizens. Freischlad points out that many Indonesians continue to regard the World Wide Web as a "free space" outside the control of the state, and public facilities like Internet cafes and Warnet (Warung Internet) kiosks remain popular and have developed their own unique culture among Indonesian youth in the absence of widespread personal ownership of computers.

"The role of the Warnet as a 'free space' outside the regulative power of state, economy and social/moral repression can only be fully grasped when looking back at the circumstances that made it so important for Indonesian youngsters and Indonesian society in general to have such a space," Freischlad writes.

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