

# American

## NEWS & VIEWS

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Secretary Clinton: Security Crucial to United States, India.....	1
Statement on Adoption of U.S.-EU Declaration on Counterterrorism.....	2
Soccer More than Just a Sport, Groups Say .....	2
Young Americans Learn About Africa at State Department Summit.....	3

## Secretary Clinton: Security Crucial to United States, India

By Merle David Kellerhals Jr.  
Staff Writer

Washington — Both India and the United States have seen their cities and their people targeted by violent extremists, which makes security more than a priority, it is an imperative, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton says.

Security was a prime topic during talks between Clinton and Indian External Affairs Minister S.M. Krishna June 3 as part of the four-day U.S.-India Strategic Dialogue.

The dialogue, which brings together senior officials from the two governments, is covering a range of subjects from security and counterterrorism to education and health care. Under Secretary of State William Burns said that during these meetings there will be 18 dialogues among officials.

“Minister Krishna and I discussed the importance of India’s leadership to promoting security, stability and prosperity across Asia and beyond,” Clinton said in a joint press conference at the State Department. “We are collaborating on a counterterrorism cooperation initiative to improve information-sharing and capacity-building, and we agreed to expand cooperation on cybersecurity.”

“We are deepening our already extensive military-to-military partnership,” she said.

Terrorists struck the United States on September 11, 2001, killing nearly 3,000 people in New York City, at the Pentagon outside Washington, and in a plane crash in southeastern Pennsylvania. Terrorists struck India’s largest city, Mumbai, November 26–29, 2008, in 10 coordinated shooting and bombing attacks killing at least 164 people and injuring another 308.

“We have a common interest in advancing security and stability across Asia,” Krishna told reporters. “We share our perspectives on South and Central Asia, East and Southeast Asia, the Middle East and the Indian Ocean region.”

“Our dialogue has further increased our understanding on the nature and source of terrorism that threatens both of our societies,” Krishna added. He said they also discussed efforts to deepen defense and security cooperation, including defense trade and collaboration.

Krishna said India and the United States have a convergent goal of a stable, peaceful, pluralistic and democratic Afghanistan, which protects its people and

threatens no others in the region.

Clinton thanked Krishna for India’s contributions to security efforts in Afghanistan through numerous development projects.

The U.S.-India Strategic Dialogue provides participation among senior officials; briefings by the co-chairmen to members of both administrations; and an opportunity for direct talks between U.S. and Indian officials. The dialogue is not limited to the two governments; it includes the private sector and academia. The Obama administration increasingly has begun using “strategic dialogues” to show its commitment to broader relations with key nations.

“We meet at a pivotal moment,” Clinton said at the start of the talks. “For nearly two decades, India and the United States have worked intensively to build a strong, positive relationship, one that has delivered benefits to Indians, Americans and people worldwide.”

Clinton told reporters that she discussed with Krishna how best to take advantage of the doubling of trade between the two countries over the last five years. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports from India in 2009 totaled \$21.2 billion and exports totaled \$16.5 billion.

“U.S. and Indian Cabinet secretaries and ministers will meet on June 22 in Washington with members of the U.S.-India CEO Forum to hear recommendations on specific steps our two governments can take to expand trade and investment,” Clinton said. Coupled with that are efforts to examine broad bilateral economic policies, financial-sector reforms, and infrastructure financing, she said.

The United States and India, both members of the Group of 20 advanced economies, have been leading efforts to create a more balanced global economy that lessens the sharp swings that culminated in the most recent global recession, the worst since the Great Depression of the 1930s.

Krishna said he and his delegation had discussed at length bilateral economic cooperation, high technology exports, cooperation in higher education, health care, science and technology, empowerment, agriculture, and climate change and energy.

Clinton said it is a crucial challenge for India and the United States to develop a secure and sustainable energy future. “I’m pleased that we have completed a nuclear reprocessing agreement nearly six months ahead of schedule, underlying our commitment to the civil nuclear accord of 2008,” she said.

India and the United States are at work on a plan for shale-gas cooperation that will be part of the talks President Obama holds with Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh when the president goes to India later this year. And new talks have begun on climate change issues in an effort to continue progress achieved during international climate talks in Copenhagen in December 2009, Clinton said.

### **Statement on Adoption of U.S.-EU Declaration on Counterterrorism**

*Framework seen as deepening counterterrorism relations, commitment*

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Office of the Spokesman  
June 3, 2010

STATEMENT BY PHILIP J. CROWLEY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

EU Council of Ministers' Adoption of U.S.-EU Joint Declaration on Counterterrorism Cooperation

We welcome the European Union Council of Ministers' adoption of the joint U.S.-EU Statement on Counterterrorism. We and our partners in the EU are committed to working together to combat the threat of terrorism, bringing to that effort our common values of freedom and democracy, and our respect for international law, the rule of law, and human rights. The joint statement highlights that commitment and those shared values and provides a framework deepening our already close and productive counterterrorism relationship. We thank our European colleagues, particularly the Spanish Presidency, for their willingness to join with us in issuing this statement and, more broadly, for deepening transatlantic cooperation in counterterrorism. We look forward to the EU's continuing partnership on this challenging issue.

### **Soccer More than Just a Sport, Groups Say**

*Game can teach lessons, improve lives*

By Eric Green  
Special Correspondent

Washington — Hip-hop artist K'Naan, in his song "Waving Flag," one of the anthems for the 2010 FIFA World Cup, sings: "Give you freedom, give you fire, give you reason, take you higher." In interviews, K'Naan said the song isn't just about soccer, but about human emotions like hope, freedom and working to overcoming obstacles.

As the 2010 FIFA World Cup begins June 11 in South Africa, the idea of soccer (called football in most of the world) as not just a sport, but as a representation of

human ability on and off the field, is a recurring theme evident in the music and programs leading up to the world's most popular sporting event.

On the ground, several global youth programs already have shown how soccer can be used to teach important values like sportsmanship, but also equality, tolerance and opportunity.

### GOAL: TEAMWORK

"Soccer is our teacher," but helping young people improve their life is "our desired outcome," said Paul Teeple, international sport-for-development director for the Washington-based nongovernment organization Partners of the Americas. Participants aged 18-24, who play in a Latin America/Caribbean program called in Spanish A Ganar, and in a girl-oriented soccer program in Brazil known in Portuguese as Vencedoras, learn that they need to "work as a member of a team, communicate effectively, be respectful of others and of soccer's rules," and focus on a common objective, Teeple said. (You can chat with Paul Teeple about his programs on June 10.)

Young people in A Ganar and Vencedoras (both names signifying winning) are often from society's marginalized population because of race, income or other factors. The program's activities, Teeple said, include a game where everyone has to touch the soccer ball before a team can score. In that game, he said, young people learn that when all players are involved, "the team improves and everyone feels part of the team's accomplishments."

More than seven of every 10 participants in A Ganar have graduated from the program, and the majority of those graduates have found formal employment, returned to school, or started their own business.

A Ganar, which has trained more than 3,000 young people, receives funding from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the Inter-American Development Bank, nongovernment groups, and private companies. Vencedoras also receives funding from USAID.

### GOAL: BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS

A California-based youth soccer program called Soccer Without Borders focuses on newly arrived refugees and immigrant youth who come from 16 countries. Ben Gucciardi, the program's founding director, said the participants have a wide range of English-language ability, soccer competence, and levels of self-confidence.

To make the program "feel safe for all players," Gucciardi said, "we stress that every young person has an equal right to participate, and that every person has the

responsibility to listen to and support others, regardless of language or cultural barriers. The ideas of equal participation and mutual respect are fundamental to democracy, and this is one of the ways these values play out in our program.”

Gucciardi said four predominant groups enlist in his program: Asians from Burma and Thailand, ethnic Nepalese from Bhutan, Mexicans and Central Americans, and North Africans.

During the first soccer practices, he said, “very little communication existed between these groups and in certain cases there was active hostility and a lack of understanding. Now, you see the players laughing together and finding ways to communicate.”

#### GOAL: MUTUAL RESPECT

Jill Robbins, executive director of Atlanta, Georgia-based Soccer in the Streets, says her program is based on respect — learning to respect yourself, respecting one another (teammates, opponents and coaches), and respecting the game of soccer.

“Kids we try to reach have many obstacles in their path to success,” Robbins said. They are “burdened with adult-sized problems in their young lives and feel the stress that doesn’t allow them to experience the carefree times of youth.”

Robbins cited several of her program’s graduates who have turned their lives around, such as 19-year-old DeAndré who was “rebellious” when he joined Soccer in the Streets but “grew to love [soccer] and to appreciate the support and guidance that he received.” Income he earns from a job refereeing sports has allowed DeAndré to help his mother, Robbins said.

#### GOAL: A BETTER FUTURE

While soccer is the world’s most popular game, it’s more than a game, said Ed Foster-Simeon, president of the Washington-based U.S. Soccer Foundation. “It’s a vehicle to get kids connected to positive outcomes in their life.”

The foundation focuses on programs that improve the health and well-being of children in urban, economically disadvantaged communities in the United States. One foundation program, called Soccer for Success, provides free after-school soccer activities to thousands of children from pre-school to the eighth grade, offering a safe environment for the children to exercise and work with mentors.

“We give children the game of soccer. Soccer gives them the motivation to finish a homework assignment, study

for a test, the physical activity they need to stay healthy and fit, and trained and caring coaches who are committed to helping them develop both soccer skills and life skills they will need to secure a better future,” Foster-Simeon said.

#### Young Americans Learn About Africa at State Department Summit

*Asst. Sec. Carson welcomes students to “Teach Africa” Leadership Summit*

By Charles W. Corey  
Staff Writer

Washington — While news accounts often portray Africa in negative terms, “there is in fact another Africa, an Africa that is an integral part of the global community — politically, culturally, economically and socially” — and one that is of major importance to the United States, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Johnnie Carson told the opening session of the “Teach Africa” Leadership Summit.

Speaking June 3 at the U.S. Department of State, Carson welcomed some 300 young student leaders who were interested in learning more about Africa. Ten of those students were chosen from across the United States after writing essays expressing their interest in Africa.

“Africa is important, and I hope that all of you today — throughout the day — will have the opportunity to realize how important the continent is,” Carson told the students. “It does indeed have its challenges ... but I think Africa’s future remains bright and in front of it. Its future will be far more important than its history and its past.”

Carson told the students that Africa has “enormous relevance” for the United States.

“It is important that we here in the United States continue to work alongside Africa and African nations to help them to realize the enormous potential that exists across the continent. That potential,” he said, “is reflected in its human capital, in its people, who are resilient, strong and surging forth. Africa has today some 800 million people across the continent, with its numbers increasing.

“With those numbers we are seeing important things happen. We are seeing more education, both at the primary and university level. We are seeing more engagement, more business and more activities,” which signal the continent’s potential and promise. He reminded the students that 18 percent of America’s oil comes from Africa.

Taking questions following his welcoming remarks, Carson was asked about foreign assistance. “I think the United States should [continue granting foreign aid],” he

said, "because we remain one of the wealthiest countries in the world. ... The peace, prosperity and continued growth in the United States continues in large measure because of the peace, prosperity and continued growth of countries around the world. Those countries that are in crisis and afflicted by poverty cause us concern, and the international community.

"We have to respond to those things. But if, in fact, countries are growing economically, socially and educationally, if they are growing stronger and are more vibrant and more democratic, they are in fact going to be good contributors and good friends in the international community. Our aid helps to do that. Our aid helps countries improve the lives and livelihoods of people ... so I think we should be strong contributors."

He cautioned, however, that aid alone will not develop a country. "Countries must have strong private sectors in which there is both domestic and international investment in which jobs are being generated, products are being produced, items are being sold, domestically and internationally, money is being earned and taxes collected."

Aid, he said, can be a "contributing factor," but the private sector will be the engine of economic growth and development.

Asked about sanctions, Carson said, "Sanctions on countries do in fact help alter and change their behavior. Some of those sanctions are economic; some of those sanctions are political.

"I think the sanctions regime that has been placed on Zimbabwe has in fact produced some concessions by the Zimbabwean government," he told the students. "I think without the sanctions, there would not be a transitional government there today ... or a government of national unity."

Asked about Sudan, Carson told the students that the United States is "intensely concerned" about developments there. "One of the first things President Obama did a year and a half ago when he took office was to name a special envoy ... on Sudan" who has been working over the past 18 months to help implement the Comprehensive Peace Agreement between North and South Sudan and to resolve the problems in the Darfur region.

"We have been strong supporters of the mission of the African peacekeeping force in Darfur, which is now a U.N. peacekeeping force there. We support a U.N. presence there and we continue to press very, very hard for political reconciliation between the government of Sudan and the Justice for Equality Movement [JEM]."

Following Carson's remarks, Bernadette B. Paolo, president and chief executive officer of the Africa Society, which helped organize the summit, told the students they were "change makers" and implored them to take action to help Africa. She singled out several students in the room who are already effecting change: one who has started her own nonprofit organization and raised \$6,000 to help educate conflict-scarred youth in Uganda, another who is helping to set up libraries in Africa, and another, of Nigerian ancestry, who believes he can change the way policymakers from the United States and Africa interact. "The future belongs to all those who act on their dreams," she told the students.

Echoing those remarks, Senegal's envoy to the United States, Ambassador Fatou Danielle Diagne, called on the students to develop their own vision of what must be done and have the courage to act on those convictions.

Besides student meetings with policymakers, the one-day summit also included an interactive videoconference with students in South Africa, Cameroon and Liberia and workshops on leadership, U.S. Africa policy, women leaders and the media.

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