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### **U.S. Delegation to Nigeria on Subject of Oil Theft**

A U.S. delegation traveled to Nigeria December 7-11 on a fact-finding mission on the subject of oil theft and related revenue loss, at the request of the Government of Nigeria.

The delegation, led by Ambassador Carlos Pascual, Special Envoy for Energy at the Department of State, and the Honorable Sharon Burke, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Operational Energy, met with a range of local, state, and federal officials, as well as with members of Nigerian society.

"Our interlocutors in civil society, the private sector, and many parts of government affirmed that key steps to address oil theft and revenue loss have been well established, particularly by Nigerian experts," said Ambassador Pascual. "We heard consistently that now the challenge is implementation."

"In all of our meetings, we heard that oil theft and revenue loss is a serious challenge for all Nigerians," said Assistant Secretary Burke.

"This energy-related mission is another indicator of how much the United States values its relationship with Nigeria," said U.S. Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Nigeria James F. Entwistle.

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*The Ambassador's speech and other relevant information about U.S. policies and programs in Nigeria can be found on our website: <http://nigeria.usembassy.gov>.*

