

# Press Releases: Acting Secretary Sullivan's Meeting With Haitian President Jovenel Moise

Readout  
Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
April 14, 2018

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The below is attributable to Spokesperson Heather Nauert:

Acting Secretary of State John J. Sullivan met with Haitian President Jovenel Moise on April 13, 2018 on the margins of the Summit of the Americas in Lima, Peru to discuss security and economic growth in Haiti, as well as democracy in the region.

Acting Secretary Sullivan thanked President Moise for his leadership as Chairman of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and urged consensus within the organization to promote and defend democracy. The Acting Secretary and President Moise also discussed the importance of continued support for the Haitian National Police.

The two leaders agreed that Haiti and its partners should increase efforts to improve the investment climate in Haiti to create jobs for Haitians and increase economic prosperity.

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# Press Releases: Remarks on Venezuela Humanitarian Aid

Remarks

Acting Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs  
Francisco Palmieri  
Chief of Mission Residence  
Lima, Peru  
April 13, 2018

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Thank you, Mr. Vice President, and good afternoon to everyone. The Department of State is excited to be a part of the international support for Venezuelans who have fled to neighboring countries in search of safety, food, and the opportunity to live their lives in freedom. As Vice President Pence stated, the United States is providing nearly \$16 million in additional humanitarian assistance to help meet the basic needs of these men and women who have lost everything to escape the Maduro regime.

This funding supports the regional response by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, international organizations, and NGOs responding to the crisis. This funding will provide support for the most vulnerable, security from violence and exploitation, and work and education opportunities for Venezuelan people.

We have been committed since the early stages of the crisis. Last year, UNHCR allocated more than \$3 million provided by the United States to provide immediate humanitarian assistance. Recently, UNHCR issued a \$46 million emergency appeal for Venezuela, covering nine countries across the region. For example, with this U.S. funding, UNHCR will work with local governments to increase registration of Venezuelans and support their access to local services such as healthcare, education, food, and shelter.

The United States is impressed by the generosity and compassion of those countries throughout the hemisphere who lead by example, hosting and providing humanitarian assistance to hundreds of thousands of Venezuelans. We also commend the humanitarian contributions from our partners in Asia and Europe, and encourage additional contributions to meet growing humanitarian needs. Unfortunately, the Maduro regime continues to reject offers of international assistance. President Maduro should welcome this international aid, including food and medicine, and we call on him to do so immediately.

The United States will continue to stand with the international community in support of the Venezuelan people and their right to have a voice in their government. Thank you.

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## **Press Releases: Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom Sam Brownback's Travel to Turkey and Bangladesh**

Media Note  
Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
April 13, 2018

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Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom Sam Brownback will travel to Turkey and Bangladesh April 13-20 to discuss religious freedom with government officials, civil society representatives, and a range of leaders representing both majority and minority religious communities. His travel will include a visit to the Rohingya refugee camps in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.

Follow Ambassador Brownback on Twitter: @State\_IRF. For updates on the U.S. government's human rights work, visit <https://www.state.gov/j/drl/> or the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL) Twitter account, @State\_DRL. For press inquiries, please contact DRL at 202-647-4043.

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# Press Releases: United States Assisting Venezuelans in Need

Media Note  
Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
April 13, 2018

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Today, the United States announced nearly \$16 million in humanitarian assistance for Venezuelans who have fled their country due to the crisis there.

This funding from the State Department and the U.S. Agency for International Development includes a contribution to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)'s regional response to the Venezuela crisis and humanitarian aid to Venezuelans and host communities in Colombia and Brazil. This assistance will help provide the people of Venezuela safe drinking water, hygiene supplies, shelter, protection from violence and exploitation, and work and education opportunities, in coordination with other humanitarian organizations and government partners.

This funding is in addition to the \$2.5 million for emergency food and health assistance the United States provided last month and the more than \$3 million we provided to UNHCR that assisted Venezuelans in FY 2017.

In total, the U.S. humanitarian response to the Venezuela crisis comes to more than \$21 million since FY 2017.

The United States remains very concerned about the struggle Venezuelan citizens face every day to meet their families' basic needs. As a hemisphere we must increase our support for the well-being of the Venezuelan people and the restoration of their democracy.

We greatly appreciate the generosity and compassion of countries throughout the hemisphere who are hosting hundreds of thousands of Venezuelans fleeing the crisis in their country. These include Colombia, Brazil, Peru, Ecuador, Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, Guyana, Suriname, Panama, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Guatemala, Trinidad and Tobago, Aruba, and Curacao. We commend the humanitarian contributions made by all donors, and encourage additional contributions to meet growing humanitarian needs.

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## **Press Releases: Acting Secretary Sullivan Meets With the Governments of Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras**

Readout  
Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
April 13, 2018

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The below is attributable to Spokesperson Heather Nauert:

Today, Acting Secretary of State John J. Sullivan and Mexican Foreign Secretary Luis Videgaray co-hosted a meeting with President Juan Orlando Hernandez of Honduras, Vice President Jafeth Cabrera of Guatemala, and Foreign Minister Hugo Martinez of El Salvador on the margins of the Summit of the Americas in Lima, Peru.

The leaders discussed ways to enhance cooperation to promote security and prosperity in Central America. The Acting Secretary underscored the U.S. commitment to work together to address common challenges, including transnational criminal organizations, drug trafficking, and economic development.

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