<u>Press Releases: U.S.-Canada High-Level</u> <u>Policy Review Group Meets in Ottawa</u>

Media Note Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC June 1, 2017

Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Thomas Shannon and Assistant Deputy Minister for International Security and Political Affairs Mark Gwozdecky co-chaired the tenth U.S.-Canada High-Level Policy Review Group on June 1 in Ottawa. The Review Group, which last met in December 2016, discussed a broad range of bilateral, regional, and global issues on which the United States and Canada closely cooperate.

The United States welcomes the opportunity to further enhance cooperation and collaboration through the High-Level Policy Review Group. Such meetings advance the United States' and Canada's common objectives around the world. The United States looks forward to continuing to strengthen the relationship between the U.S. and Canadian governments and peoples through global partnership.

For further information, please email WHAPress@state.gov.

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Press Releases: Statement of

Congratulations to New Government in Macedonia

Press Statement Heather Nauert

Department Spokesperson

Washington, DC May 31, 2017

The United States congratulates Prime Minister Zoran Zaev and the parliamentary majority on the formation of a new government in Macedonia.

As a friend and partner of Macedonia, the United States looks forward to working with the new government as it strives to fulfill the country's Euro-Atlantic aspirations by implementing urgent reforms that strengthen rule of law and judicial independence, media freedom, and government accountability.

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<u>Press Releases: On the Terrorist</u> <u>Attack in Kabul, Afghanistan</u>

Press Statement Rex W. Tillerson

Secretary of State

Washington, DC

The United States strongly condemns today's deadly attack in Kabul.

We offer our deepest condolences to the families and friends of those who were killed and injured, including our Afghan partners, members of the diplomatic and international communities, and many innocent Afghan citizens. We pray for a speedy recovery to the American and Afghan members of our mission staff and others who were injured in this attack, and we praise the Afghan Security Forces, police, and medical professionals who were the first responders to the scene.

In the face of this senseless and cowardly act, the U.S. commitment to Afghanistan is unwavering; the United States stands with the government and the people of Afghanistan and will continue to support their efforts to achieve peace, security, and prosperity for their country.

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Press Releases: Secretary Tillerson's Meeting With Canadian Foreign Minister Freeland and Mexican Foreign Secretary Videgaray

Readout Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC May 31, 2017 The below is attributable to Spokesperson Heather Nauert: □

U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson hosted a working breakfast this morning with Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs Chrystia Freeland and Mexico's Secretary of Foreign Relations Luis Videgaray at the Department of State in Washington, D.C. The three leaders discussed today's Organization of American States (OAS) Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs on Venezuela; the OAS General Assembly in Cancun, Mexico, June 19-21, 2017; and other regional issues.

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Press Releases: Samoa National Day

Press Statement Rex W. Tillerson

Secretary of State

Washington, DC May 31, 2017

On behalf of the Government of the United States of America, best wishes to the people of Samoa as you gather to celebrate the 55th anniversary of your nation's independence on June 1.

The United States and Samoa share a strong and enduring friendship, a relationship that has only deepened following the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1971. Strengthened by strong ties with the Samoan people, our cultural and historical links have forged a bond of trust and mutual interest. Our countries share a commitment to work together to combat the

risks of natural disasters, foster economic development in the Pacific, manage fishery resources, and strengthen the principles of democracy and human rights. The United States continues to value our warm relationship with Samoa, and we look forward to further strengthening our ties in the years ahead.

We wish all Samoans around the world a happy Independence Day and success in the coming year.

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