

# **Press Releases: Chad Visa Restrictions**

Press Statement  
Heather Nauert

Department Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
October 17, 2017

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On October 13, National Security Advisor Lieutenant General H. R. McMaster spoke to Chad President Idriss Deby Itno to underscore the importance of the bilateral relationship and Chad's effort as a key partner in countering terrorism. In a recent Presidential Proclamation, the United States identified the need for Chad to enhance identity management practices and information sharing requirements. In response, the Government of Chad has shown a clear willingness to work closely with us on these issues. The United States is committed to working with Chad to address the deficiencies, toward the goal of improving vetting capabilities and lifting visa restrictions. Our assistance to Chad continues in all areas including security and humanitarian assistance.

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# **Press Releases: Amendments to Cambodia's Election Law**

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Heather Nauert

Department Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
October 16, 2017

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We are deeply concerned by the National Assembly's passage of amendments to Cambodia's Election Law today. If ratified, these amendments, in conjunction with the lawsuit by the Cambodian Ministry of Interior to dissolve the Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP), would effectively disenfranchise the millions of people who voted for the CNRP in the 2013 and 2017 elections.

Genuine competition is essential to democracy and to the legitimacy of the 2018 national elections. History proves that suppressing legitimate political activity leads to more long-term instability, rather than less. We urge government officials to consider the serious implications of their recent actions.

We renew our call that the leader of the CNRP—Kem Sokha—be released from prison.

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## [Press Releases: Situation Near Kirkuk, Iraq](#)

Press Statement  
Heather Nauert

Department Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
October 16, 2017

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The United States is very concerned by reports of violence around Kirkuk, Iraq. We are monitoring the situation closely and call on all parties to coordinate military activities and restore calm.

We support the peaceful exercise of joint administration by the central and regional governments, consistent with the Iraqi Constitution, in all disputed areas. We are working with officials from the central and regional governments to reduce tensions, avoid further clashes, and encourage dialogue.

We strongly urge all parties to avoid provocations that can be exploited by Iraq's enemies who are interested in fueling ethnic and sectarian conflict. In particular, we note that there is still much work to be done to defeat ISIS in Iraq, and continued tensions between Iraqi and Kurdish forces distract from this vital mission. The United States will continue to stand with our Iraqi partners to ensure ISIS's defeat.

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## **[Press Releases: U.S. Condemns Attacks in Mogadishu](#)**

Press Statement  
Heather Nauert

Department Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
October 15, 2017

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The United States condemns in the strongest terms the terrorist attacks that killed and injured hundreds in Mogadishu on October 14.

We extend our deepest condolences to all Somalis, especially those who lost friends and family in the attacks. We further wish for a quick recovery for all those injured.

In the face of this senseless and cowardly act, the United States will continue to stand with the Somali government, its people, and our international allies to combat terrorism and support their efforts to achieve peace, security, and prosperity.

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## [Press Releases: U.S.-China EcoPartnerships Program](#)

Media Note  
Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC  
October 13, 2017

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The United States and China welcome three new EcoPartnerships for 2017. Over the past nine years, the State Department-sponsored EcoPartnerships program has facilitated 42 partnerships among experts and innovators from U.S. and Chinese cities, companies, universities, and NGOs. Those partnerships have produced tangible results in addressing the challenges facing the energy and environmental technology sectors.

The three new EcoPartnerships for 2017 are:

**Capstone Turbine and BROAD Air Conditioning** will develop combined cooling-heating power (CCHP) systems to improve energy efficiency in buildings.

**National Resource Defense Council and Shenzhen Power Supply Bureau** will focus on the establishment of market mechanisms for energy demand response, the integration of renewable energy into power grids, and best practices for the design of electricity pricing and grid planning policies.

**Louisiana State University and the Chinese Academy of Sciences** will work together on conservation and management of wetlands through joint data collection and analysis that will develop research capabilities in both countries.

EcoPartnerships mobilize private sector investment and leverage capital to move forward new and innovative solutions to global energy and environmental challenges, creating new opportunities for U.S. companies. EcoPartners invaluable peer-to-peer collaborations have led to the piloting of new technologies and systems and the sharing of best practices in these fast moving fields.

For more information visit <http://ecopartnerships.lbl.gov>. For media inquiries, please contact Georgia Mu at [MuGK@state.gov](mailto:MuGK@state.gov).

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