

Press Releases: Chad Visa Restrictions

Press Statement
Heather Nauert

Department Spokesperson

Washington, DC
October 17, 2017

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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October 16, 2017

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](#)

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Washington, DC
October 16, 2017

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

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: Remarks With Secretary General of the Organization of American States Luis Almagro Before Their Meeting

Remarks
Rex W. Tillerson

Secretary of State

Treaty Room
Washington, DC
October 13, 2017

SECRETARY TILLERSON: Good afternoon, all. I want to welcome Secretary General Luis Almagro to the State Department. A pleasure to have you here, sir, and thank you for coming.

SECRETARY GENERAL ALMAGRO: Thank you.

QUESTION: Secretary Tillerson, are you confident that you can get the Europeans to renegotiate the Iran deal?

SECRETARY TILLERSON: Well, I think – to our friends and allies in Europe, I think we have a real opportunity to address all the threats that are posed by Iran. I think the plan the President's laid out has been quite clear in terms of articulating those threats; that really, it's in all of our interests to work together. And I fully expect that our allies and friends in Europe and in the region are going to be very supportive in efforts undertaken to deal with Iran's threats. Thank you.

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