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Overview

The international agenda today is unforgiving – two wars, conflict in the Middle East, terrorism, nuclear proliferation, economic recession, climate change, hunger, pandemic disease, and transnational criminal networks. All of these challenges threaten global stability and progress – all affect America’s national security and prosperity. To meet these challenges, the United States must have a full range of foreign policy tools, particularly the indispensable instrument of diplomacy.

The FY 2011 budget request strengthens American diplomacy to defeat the threats, manage the dangers, and seize the opportunities of the 21st century. The request will enable the Department of State to operate in tandem with the Department of Defense across the spectrum of national security activities and advance America’s vital interests worldwide.

The request builds capacity with additional hiring to increase the Foreign Service by 25 percent over FY 2008 levels by the end of FY 2014. It also includes the resources to ensure that these personnel are trained for their assignments and that their posts have the operational resources to support them in their mission.

The request extends the successful overseas building program to construct safe and secure diplomatic facilities in the most vulnerable locations, while funding investments in maintenance and rehabilitation of the Department’s overseas properties valued at more than $55 billion. The request further develops a coordinated civilian capacity across the U.S. Government to respond rapidly to reconstruction and stabilization crises, with or without the military.

The request increases America’s ability to convene and connect, promoting a new era of global engagement based on common interests, shared values, and mutual respect. The requested resources will enhance public diplomacy programs, promote exchanges between U.S. and foreign citizens, and fulfill U.S. membership obligations to international organizations, including support for peacekeeping.

The request reflects the Department’s increased level of operations in frontline states, including support for the Administration’s regional stabilization strategy in Afghanistan and Pakistan, as well as the transition of Iraq operations. It also funds other policy and management priorities, such as the President’s Global Muslim Engagement initiative, major international conferences hosted by the United States, the final phase of implementing Foreign Service Overseas Pay Comparability, and competitive salaries for locally engaged staff supporting U.S. diplomatic and development efforts overseas.
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The FY 2011 budget request for all Department of State appropriations totals $16.419 billion. This represents an increase of $819 million over the FY 2010 enacted estimate of $15.600 billion, which includes FY 2009 supplemental funding of $465 million provided for FY 2010 requirements. The request will enable the Department to:

Expand American Diplomatic Capacity

The request will add a total of 599 positions funded from annual appropriations. The total includes 410 Foreign Service officers, nearly 75 percent of whom will fill positions overseas, as well as 189 Civil Service personnel required in key domestic foreign policy and intelligence positions. The total includes 28 positions dedicated to public diplomacy and 48 security positions, including positions for Afghanistan and Pakistan. An additional 20 positions, all overseas, will be created through fee-generated revenue to support the U.S. Border Security Program.

The request includes $1.682 billion to support construction and necessary maintenance of safe and secure overseas facilities, including Capital Security Cost Sharing Program. These funds will allow the Department to replace diplomatic facilities at the most vulnerable locations and establish a more effective long-range plan to maintain, prevent deterioration, and lengthen the life of U.S. overseas assets.

Develop Civilian Capacity to Respond to Crises

The request provides $184 million to continue to build interagency readiness and surge capability through the Civilian Stabilization Initiative (CSI). CSI offers the U.S. Government the means to coordinate a civilian-led interagency response to assist and deal with failed and failing states and other stabilization and reconstruction crises. It pulls together resources and planning expertise from across the government, while increasing the ability to recruit and train highly qualified civilians who can deploy on short notice to address threats to national security before they become full-blown crises.

Support Critical Missions in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan

The request provides a total of $1.854 billion to sustain operations of the U.S. Mission in Iraq and support transition of Department of Defense activities to civilian agencies. Of these funds $1.787 billion will support Mission operations, logistic support, information technology, operations of the Provincial Reconstruction Teams, and overall security requirements. The remaining funds provide for exchange programs, lease costs in Baghdad, and the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction. Funding of $754 million is requested for operations in Afghanistan (not including security), supporting approximately 1,500 civilian staff in Kabul and the provinces and public diplomacy programs. An additional $102 million is required for similar operational support for diplomatic activities in Pakistan. Funding for Afghanistan and Pakistan includes the second-year costs for staff initially funded through the proposed FY 2010 supplemental.

Engage through Public Diplomacy

The request provides $568 million for the Department’s worldwide public diplomacy activities and $633 million for educational and cultural exchange programs. The funding will support efforts to reach foreign audiences, advocate U.S. policy, and win understanding for American positions. Resources will
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provide for enhanced technology and the timely evaluation of results achieved through public diplomacy. Exchanges – the Department’s most effective public diplomacy activity – will continue to create opportunities to engage, educate, and empower. Exchange programs will support the President’s Global Muslim Engagement initiative, focusing on high-priority countries such as Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq, and Indonesia.

Build International Partnerships

The request provides $3.778 billion to support U.S. participation in international organizations and international peacekeeping. Funding of $1.595 billion is required to pay U.S. membership obligations to international organizations, including the projected assessment for the newly-created International Renewable Energy Agency. Working through these organizations the United States will be able to build partnerships and solve problems that no nation can solve on its own. Funding of $2.182 billion is required to pay the U.S. share of expenses for UN peacekeeping missions around the world. These missions reduce the pressure and personnel commitment on U.S. military forces and assist in ending conflicts, restoring peace, and strengthening regional stability.

Budget Request Details

The following sections of this volume detail the FY 2011 budget request for all Department of State appropriations. The sections include specific resource requirements for the programs, activities, and management initiatives highlighted above.