



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

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AUG 13 2009

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Dear Mr. Chairman:

Pursuant to sections 7045(e)(3) and 7045(f)(3) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2009, the Department hereby submits its spending plan for Foreign Operations funding appropriated in the Act for Mexico and the countries of Central America. Programming for Haiti and the Dominican Republic is also included.

This letter, including the enclosed spending plan, fulfills the requirement to provide a spending plan prior to the obligation of International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement funds, Foreign Military Financing funds, and Economic Support Funds for Mexico and the countries of Central America. It also meets special notification requirements associated with these countries as well as Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

We hope this information is helpful. Please let us know if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard R. Verma".

Richard R. Verma
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs

Enclosure:

As stated.

The Honorable
John F. Kerry, Chairman,
Committee on Foreign Relations,
United States Senate.

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Mexico, Central America, Haiti and the Dominican Republic

Pursuant to sections 7045(e)(3) and 7045(f)(3) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2009 (Div. H, P.L. 111-8) (“the Act”) the Department hereby submits its detailed spending plan for Foreign Operations funding appropriated in the Act for Mexico and the countries of Central America. The spending plan also includes planned programming for Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

This report also serves as any notification that may be required with respect to these funds, including under sections 7015(c), 7015(f), and sub-section (f) under the heading “Democracy Fund” of the Act. Furthermore, to the extent that funds included in this report can only be made available after complying with specific conditions, such as certification requirements, such funds would only be made available after such conditions are fulfilled.

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RESOURCE SUMMARY UPDATE

(\$ in thousands)

Account	FY 2008 Supplemental	FY 2009 Bridge	FY 09 Omnibus
Economic Support Fund	45,000	0	33,000
Mexico	20,000		15,000
Central America	25,000		18,000
International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement	245,300	48,000	321,000
Dominican Republic	2,500		2,500
Haiti	2,500		2,500
Mexico	215,500	48,000	246,000
Central America	24,800		70,000
Nonproliferation, Anti-Terrorism, Demining & Related Programs	6,200	0	0
Central America	6,200		
Foreign Military Financing	120,500	0	56,000
Mexico	116,500		39,000
Central America	4,000		17,000
Total, Foreign Operations	417,000	48,000	410,000

APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT BY OBJECTIVE

(\$ in thousands)

	Total	Peace and Security (P&S)	Governing Justly and Democratically (GJD)	Investing in People (IIP)	Program Support
TOTAL	410,000	274,565	108,895	-	26,540
Economic Support Fund	33,000		33,000	-	-
Foreign Military Financing	56,000	56,000		-	
Int'l Narcotics Control & Law Enforcement	321,000	218,565	75,895	-	26,540

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MÉRIDA INITIATIVE
(FY 2009 Appropriations)

SUMMARY

The Mérida Initiative represents a cooperative approach to regional security among the United States, Mexico, Central American states, the Dominican Republic and Haiti. We have far-reaching geographic, economic, and demographic links to Mexico and Central America and a compelling national security interest in helping the governments in this region succeed in the battle against organized crime and insecurity. As the principal consumer of the illicit narcotics produced and trafficked by the drug cartels, the United States has a shared responsibility for combating the crime and violence that so gravely affect citizens throughout the region. Roughly ninety percent of all the cocaine consumed in the United States transits through Mexico, via Central American land, sea, or air corridors. Central American officials have identified gangs, drug trafficking, and arms trafficking as the most pressing security concerns in that region. The Mérida Initiative responds to those security threats and builds on existing strategies and programs. As a multi-year proposal, it is designed to build on activities already underway in the region and to complement increased U.S. efforts at home to reduce drug demand, to stop the flow of narcotics, arms, weapons, and bulk cash generated by illicit drug sales, and to confront gangs and criminal organizations.

The first phase of the Mérida Initiative, \$465 million, was funded through the FY 2008 supplemental and FY 2009 bridge supplemental (\$400 million for Mexico and \$65 million for Central America, Haiti and the Dominican Republic). We are continuing the Mérida Initiative in FY 2009 with \$410 million: \$300 million for Mexico; \$105 million for Central America; and \$5 million for Haiti and the Dominican Republic. The overall objectives of the assistance continue to be to break the power and impunity of criminal organizations and enhance law enforcement capacity; strengthen border, air, and maritime controls; improve the capacity of justice systems in the region and curtail gang activity; and reduce the demand for drugs throughout the region.

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RESOURCE SUMMARY – MEXICO

APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT BY OBJECTIVE

(\$ in thousands)

	TOTAL	P&S	GJD	IIP	EG	HA	Program Support
TOTAL	300,000	207,000	73,000	-	-	-	20,000
Economic Support Fund	15,000	-	15,000	-	-	-	-
Foreign Military Financing	39,000	39,000	-	-	-	-	-
Int'l. Narcotics Control & Law Enforcement	246,000	168,000	58,000	-	-	-	20,000

SUMMARY

This is a critical moment in the fight against transnational drug-trafficking and organized crime in the region. The U.S. has an unprecedented opportunity to assist the Government of Mexico (GOM) in confronting powerful criminal elements, to develop a comprehensive and integrated regional effort to disrupt and dismantle organized criminal networks, and to help fortify state institutions to ensure these groups can no longer operate effectively. In Mexico, the Calderón Administration continues to demonstrate through concrete actions a strong commitment to attack the cartels and their illicit trafficking in arms, drugs, precursors and persons. At the same time, the Government of Mexico is also undertaking a fundamental restructuring of the Mexican justice system and its law enforcement agencies to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of these institutions and improve access to justice by the citizens of Mexico. Moreover, Mexican and U.S. law enforcement agencies have established an unprecedented level of cooperation, underscoring the partnership inherent in the Mérida Initiative.

\$15 MILLION ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND (ESF)

Governing Justly and Democratically (\$15 million)

ESF funds will be used to promote rule of law and human rights by supporting Mexico's justice sector reforms and respect for human rights. To assist in implementing the justice sector reforms, ESF funding will support professional peer exchanges between Mexican and U.S. judges at the federal and state levels to provide them an opportunity to share best practices in oral trials. It will support law schools and bar associations to develop curricula to help lawyers adjust to new laws and procedures. It will provide technical assistance to help Mexican prosecutors' offices as they implement justice sector reforms at the state and federal level. Funding will provide training and technical support to justice sector personnel (judges, prosecutors, and public defenders) and human rights groups and other nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) to expand the use of alternative case resolutions such as first offender's programs, mediation and restorative justice. In addition, funding for the Attorney General's Office will provide for witness protection and enhance efforts to counter trafficking in persons.

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Recent Constitutional reforms have codified educational attainment needed for entry and advancement within the local, state and Federal Mexican police forces as well as professional standards for Mexican police in ethics. Continuing education and training for entry level law enforcement and existing forces at the Federal, state and local levels will enable personnel to meet the new standards.

Assistance will provide training to NGOs and civil society organizations on the code of criminal procedure, as well as on international, regional, and national laws protecting human rights in order to build NGO capacity to properly monitor and document human rights violations. Funding will also build the capacity of civil society to effectively monitor, document, report on, and address human rights violations as well as foster constructive relationships between civil society, human rights defenders, and local and regional government authorities. At the same time, funding will provide training to police, prosecutors, and other officials to implement Mexico's legal obligations in regards to human rights.

\$39 MILLION FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING

Peace and Security (\$39 million)

FMF funds will be used to purchase up to three Bell Helicopter BH- 412 medium-lift utility helicopters to support Mexican Army/Air Force (SEDENA) efforts to control their national territory and the southern approaches to the United States.

The BH-412 helicopters will provide mobility support to SEDENA for a variety of missions, including counternarcotics and interdiction operations. The helicopters will be equipped for day and night flight operations, and will improve SEDENA's ability to quickly deploy forces to establish security needed for successful interdiction of arms, drugs, and persons. In addition to providing three helicopters, funds will also be used to provide a logistics support package (primarily spare parts and limited technical support) for two years for the new aircraft. Funding will also support transition training (training for experienced pilots to fly a different type of airframe) for Mexican pilots.

\$246 MILLION INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT (INCLE)

Peace and Security (\$168 million)

INCLE funds will support the development of the Government of Mexico's institutional capacity to detect and interdict illicit drugs, explosives and weapons, trafficked/smuggled persons and individuals seeking to enter the United States to conduct criminal activities.

The Mérida Initiative will build on existing programs and previous funding under Mérida, such as those that provide support to the National Migration Institute (INAMI) to expand and modernize its immigration databases, document verification systems, and equip and train its border rescue/safety personnel. In addition, funding will be used to improve inspection and security systems for key mail facilities, provide secure communications for law enforcement agencies, and enhance data management and analysis capabilities of the Mexican intelligence service (CISEN). Mérida will also enhance support to the Attorney General's Office (PGR)

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Operation Against Smugglers (and Traffickers) Initiative on Safety and Security (OASISS), a project that prioritizes prosecutorial resources against violent human smugglers operating along the U.S./Mexico border.

Mérida will assist the Government of Mexico's effort to disrupt international crime and narcotics trafficking by improving its overall law enforcement infrastructure. Mobile non-intrusive inspection equipment will be provided to the Secretariat of Public Security (SSP), Mexican Army/Air Force (SEDENA), and Mexican Customs (SAT). Interdiction efforts will be furthered through security improvements for staff investigating criminal organizations, such as armored vehicles and bullet-proof vests, as well as technical assistance to anti-gang, anti-organized crime, and anti-money laundering vetted units. Funding will also be provided to continue to support the development and implementation of a National Police Registry to track public security personnel and provide technical support to modernize and sustain the capabilities of the PGR Forensic Laboratory as well as support a forensic laboratory within the Secretariat for Public Security (SSP).

Additional funding will continue to be provided to the Secretariat of Health to expand its prevention and treatment activities nationwide through a national computer network of state governments, NGOs and other non-state actors, which includes a distance learning platform for the entire country to facilitate training and technical assistance on drug prevention and treatment. This project will also include a certification and training program for drug treatment counselors, support for drug free community coalitions, and a metrics system to independently evaluate the effectiveness of drug treatment/certification training.

Mérida will help the Government of Mexico to disrupt money laundering by facilitating the bilateral sharing of strategic and tactical information relating to ongoing investigations. Support will include technical experts, specialized equipment such as money counting and x-ray machinery, hardware/software packages and specialized training.

Governing Justly and Democratically (\$58 million)

The Calderón Administration is reforming and restructuring Mexico's justice system and its law enforcement capabilities. Mérida will support these initiatives by continuing to provide information technology equipment and software support for the *Constanza* project, an effort to make the PGR more transparent and accountable, more responsive, and less susceptible to corruption. Funds will help expand an existing case-tracking system used by PGR officials and provide information technology equipment and software, systems design and programming support for the Center for Analysis, Planning, and Intelligence Against Organized Crimes (CENAPI). In addition, Mérida will enhance judicial and police capacity through a variety of training programs, including prosecutorial capacity building, asset forfeiture, extradition procedures, police professionalization, evidence preservation and chain of custody, and technical assistance in prison management.

Mérida will augment the Government of Mexico's efforts to root out corruption in the federal bureaucracy with a special focus on law enforcement agencies. Support will include computer and polygraph equipment, and training in such areas as ethics, anti-corruption and internal affairs. The Culture of Lawfulness Project, which creates partnerships with governmental and

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nongovernmental leaders to develop, evaluate and institutionalize sustainable rule of law education programs, will be expanded under Mérida. Funding will also maintain support for the PGR Citizen Participation Councils and other mechanisms for citizens to report corruption, crime, or police abuse. The goal is to implement a watchdog function against abuse by authorities and promote citizen involvement.

Program Development and Support (\$20 million)

Program Development and Support funds will be used for administrative and operating expenses related to program planning, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

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RESOURCE SUMMARY – CENTRAL AMERICA

APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT BY OBJECTIVE

(\$ in thousands)

	TOTAL	P&S	GJD	IIP	EG	HA	Prog Support
TOTAL	105,000	62,990	35,470	-	-	-	6,540
Economic Support Fund	18,000		18,000	-	-	-	
Foreign Military Financing	17,000	17,000		-	-	-	
Int'l.Narcotics Control & Law Enforcement	70,000	45,990	17,470	-	-	-	6,540

Int'l Narcotics & Law Enforcement (INCLE)	TOTAL	P&S	GJD	IIP	EG	HA	Prog Support
Mérida Central America Regional Programs	64,680	41,960	17,220				5,500
Guatemala Bilateral Programs	5,320	4,030	250				1,040
Total INCLE	70,000	45,990	17,470	-	-	-	6,540

SUMMARY

The nations of Central America continue to face daunting challenges to the security of their citizens and the maintenance of the rule of law. The region continues to witness the emergence of gangs and organized crime as major social actors, increased infiltration by drug trafficking organizations, the corruption of the police, judiciary, and prison systems, and a growing popular demand for governments to respond to the threat posed by criminal organizations. Our allies throughout Central America have already begun to act to address these issues, both nationally and regionally, but continue to seek United States assistance in their efforts. The urgency of their appeal is palpable. The continuation of the Mérida Initiative will enable us to forge a stronger alliance with willing partners.

Throughout Central America, the Mérida Initiative will address the rise in the presence of narcotics traffickers and their related infrastructure. The successful efforts of the Governments of Mexico and Colombia in attacking their narcotics problems are squeezing traffickers into Central America. In the case of Guatemala, well armed and funded members of the Mexican Zetas drug trafficking and paramilitary enforcement group, have encroached into Guatemala, causing frequent clashes with Guatemalan traffickers and severely challenging Guatemalan law enforcement capabilities. Honduras, with remote stretches of isolated, unpopulated coastline, serves as a transit point for northbound shipments of narcotics to the U.S. via the Caribbean and Mexico. To confront the challenges of narcotics trafficking and its related infrastructure, the

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Mérida Initiative will continue to complement host nation efforts by providing Special Vetted Units, supported by the Drug Enforcement Administration and Immigration and Customs Enforcement. These units will pursue high-value narcotics traffickers and attempt to dismantle complex national and transnational narcotics syndicates in the region. Additionally, we are supporting maritime interdiction efforts by providing interceptor craft and enhanced communications equipment and training for Coast Guard and naval forces charged with pursuing offshore traffickers.

The emergence of organized gangs throughout the region represents a significant risk to host nations and citizen safety. Many of the gangs, particularly those in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador, have developed transnational capabilities, with direct ties to gangs operating in the U.S. Gangs have increased their level of sophistication in the region, rising from small scale extortion schemes to providing protection and support to narcotics traffickers. To help counter the activities of gangs, FBI-led Transnational Anti Gang Units (or TAGs) will continue to provide local law enforcement personnel with investigative assistance and tools to target and dismantle both national, regional, and transnational gangs and their related activities. The Department of State's Regional Gangs Program, headquartered in El Salvador, but with activities throughout the region, will continue to complement the Mérida Initiative's anti-gang components by supporting prevention, legal training, community policing, prison reform, and information sharing initiatives.

The Mérida Initiative will also address the increasing availability of weapons throughout Central America, including high powered automatic assault rifles, hand grenades, light anti-tank weapons and sniper rifles. These weapons pose a critical threat to law enforcement personnel in the region, who are increasingly outgunned by both traffickers and gangs. While many of the weapons originate outside of Central America, some of the weapons have been acquired from host nation stockpiles, which are sold by unscrupulous officials. To reduce the flow of weapons into and through the region, we will deploy an ATF Firearms Advisor to San Salvador, where he/she will work across the region to trace the origin of firearms for U.S.-based law enforcement investigations. The advisor will provide firearms interdiction training to host nations in the region. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Vetted Units will also work with host nation personnel to initiate local and international investigations of weapons trafficking rings.

We also address the movement of bulk cash, specifically the illicit proceeds of organized crime and traffickers, which threatens the region's stability and safety. Illegal proceeds enable criminals to acquire the weapons and infrastructure to further their operations, while the cash also provides funds which are used to corrupt host nation officials across the region. As corruption of the police and judiciary directly result in the impunity of criminals and their operations, the inability to staunch the flow of bulk cash undermines advances in other areas. To support host nations in disrupting criminals and traffickers, the Mérida Initiative will be investing significant funds in providing training to Central American governments in the development of effective asset seizure and forfeiture laws. The Mérida Initiative will also provide dedicated funding to permit host government agents and vetted units to pursue bulk cash smuggling investigations in cooperation with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement in each country and across the region.

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\$18 MILLION ECONOMIC SUPPORT FUND (ESF)

Governing Justly and Democratically (\$18 million)

The Economic and Social Development Fund (ESDF) is designed to address underlying economic and social conditions that lead to community vulnerability and to crime and insecurity. ESDF activities directly contribute to the end state objective of the Mérida Initiative: breaking the power and impunity of criminal organizations; strengthening border controls; improving the capacity of justice systems and curtailing gang activity; and reducing the demand for drugs.

- USAID (\$12 million): USAID will utilize funds to strengthen programs that began with FY 2008 Supplemental funding. These programs will emphasize education and job services to at-risk youth, and greater engagement of local actors – mayors, municipal governments, community and church leaders, and the private sector – to work with national government agencies to make their communities “harder targets” for criminal organizations, drug trafficking, and violence. Three parallel and complementary initiatives will be supported: (1) a Community Action Fund, focused on targeted geographic areas in each of the Central American countries receiving ESDF where geography and the lack of economic and social opportunities make communities especially vulnerable to criminal activity, gangs and drugs; (2) a significant expansion of Community Crime and Gang Prevention programs in communities with serious existing gang or crime problems, but with greater emphasis on strengthening the role of local government officials in leading, organizing, and mobilizing resources to improve security; and, (3) a Community Policing initiative focused on strengthening the role of local officials and community leaders in the oversight, interaction and engagement with national police partners.

Invigorating local government ownership and capacity to play a larger role in community security, helping towns and communities to mobilize both private and public funding, and supporting local leaders as they design and develop their own anti-gang and community development programs will be key to the sustainability of this effort. While individual country programs will vary, each will work towards the following end result: a network of 50 municipalities actively engaged in community-driven crime and gang prevention programs; establishment of processes and the legal framework in each country for national level resource transfers to municipalities for gang and crime prevention activities; improvements in infrastructure in low-income communities that increase accessibility and foster job creation; greater engagement of business leaders in the funding and operation of youth centers, job opportunity and scholarship programs; an increase in the number, types, and reach of education and job-training programs for youth, both out-of-school and after-school; and establishment of citizen boards/committees actively working with police and other government actors to improve security in their towns/cities. USAID Missions have been working with host country counterparts to develop ideas and strategies for best approaching the unique situations faced in each country. Additionally, FY 2009 funding will be used to support regional initiatives begun with FY 2008 funds, including: municipal best practices networking (regionally and with the United States); a regional plan to measure program impact; and support to the Organization of American States for regional youth outreach activities.

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- State – Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs ESF Fund (\$6 million): In addition to the \$12 million in ESDF resources that will be implemented by USAID, the Department’s Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs will manage the disbursement of \$6 million in Regional ESDF. These funds will be allocated to support regional capacity enhancement and rule of law initiatives, such as court management, crime victim assistance and witness protection programs, judicial training, hardened and 24-hour courts, etc. The disbursement of these funds will complement existing Mérida Initiative activities and will also be used to address gaps in our planned programming and respond to emerging threats in the region, as identified by our Embassies and based upon requests from host nations.

\$17 MILLION FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING (FMF)

Peace and Security (\$17 million)

FMF funds will be used to support the on-going regional maritime security program by providing new interceptor boats and related support packages, equipment and training; refurbishing existing patrol and interdiction boats; providing radios, radio spares packages, communications equipment, and related training; and providing maritime operations and maintenance training to Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama. In light of recent events, this assistance has been paused, as a policy matter, with respect to Honduras.

- Belize: Funding for Belize will be used to acquire up to two new interceptor boats and related support packages, equipment and training; radios and other communications equipment; small arms; and maritime operations and maintenance training.
- Costa Rica: Funding for Costa Rica will be used for training, both maritime operations and maintenance; radios and other communications equipment; prime mover truck; and boat spares.
- El Salvador: Funding for El Salvador will be used to provide up to four interceptor boats and related support packages, equipment and training; patrol boat refurbishment; radios and other communications equipment; aircraft spare parts and maintenance support; vehicles and spares; maritime operations and maintenance training; aircraft spare parts and maintenance support.
- Honduras: Funding for Honduras will be used to provide radios and other communications equipment; boat spares; interdiction and patrol boats refurbishment; aircraft spare parts and maintenance support; maritime operations and maintenance training; and vehicles and spares.
- Nicaragua: Funding for Nicaragua will be used to provide radios and other communications equipment; boat spares; interdiction and patrol boats refurbishment; and maritime operations and maintenance training.
- Panama: Funding for Panama will be used to provide radios and other communications equipment; boat spares and maintenance support; patrol boats refurbishment; vehicles and

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spares; and individual personnel equipment. The communications equipment provided to the countries will allow for better communications among each country's maritime security entities, and will also facilitate combined operations with the U.S. and regional forces. This communications capability, along with refurbished and new boats will greatly enhance partner nations' patrol, surveillance, and interdiction capabilities strengthening both individual nations' security as well as regional security.

\$70 MILLION INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT (INCLE)

Mérida Central American Regional Programs (64.68 million)

Peace and Security (\$41,960 million)

Law Enforcement Security (\$26.635 million)

- *Central America Fingerprint System (CAFÉ) (\$1,500,000):* Building on the basic systems installed with FY 2008 funding, FY 2009 CAFÉ will provide multiple remote entry stations for each country and maintenance contracts for all seven systems of the regional fingerprint identification program. CAFÉ assesses existing fingerprint programs within a country and provides automated fingerprint technology, basic and advanced fingerprint training, and technology, procedure, and policy support. These records are searched in the FBI's Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System with resulting matches shared with the contributing country for investigative lead purposes, with an eventual capacity for partner governments to share the information with each other.
- *Secure Communications with INTERPOL (\$2,500,000):* FY 2009 funds will enable the existing secure INTERPOL Network architecture to be used as the platform to connect multiple databases currently operated by Central American countries. Support will help implement an upgraded IT infrastructure required to make that connection, including the purchase and installation of hardware and software, extending existing local area networks, and connecting local infrastructures to INTERPOL's network. Funding will also be used to support system maintenance and training.
- *Regional Training ILEA (\$5,200,000):*
 - ILEA Infrastructure - ILEA San Salvador currently operates from two temporary facilities owned by the Public Security Ministry and the Public Security National Academy. The FY 2009 funding includes \$4M for the construction of dormitories to offset students' hotel costs. The completed facility would permit ILEA to significantly increase the number of students that can be trained each year and will also be utilized as a venue for other anti-crime and related training initiatives.
 - Training: The FY 2009 funding will support additional courses to the core training funded under ILEA's regular allotment, such as: Anti-gang programs; Trafficking in Persons courses; Culture of Lawfulness program; International Post Blast Investigations; Small Arms Trafficking course; Incident Command system course;

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Advance Forensics course; Tactical Safety course; Chemical Precursors course; and Combating Economic Fraud course.

- *Firearms Interdiction Training (\$500,000)*: ATF will provide law enforcement training in Central America in three areas: serial number restoration, Spanish language eTrace training, and firearms investigations.
- *Regional Firearms Advisor (\$750,000)*: FY 2009 funds will extend support for a regional advisor for an additional year to enhance the capacity of the seven governments in the Central American region to combat arms trafficking and encourage marking and tracing of all firearms manufactured, imported or confiscated or seized in the region. The advisor will continue to manage a program of assistance to police, and other justice sector entities involved in reducing firearms crime and violence, based on the comprehensive assessments of the national threat conducted in FY 2008.
- *OAS Stockpile Management and Destruction (\$500,000)*: FY 2009 funding will continue support for Central American countries to conduct small arms collection and destruction through multi-year stockpile destruction programs already underway, and participate in OAS-sponsored training programs. Support will enable member states to reach full compliance with the Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials (CIFTA). The OAS will provide legislative assistance as well as training of national authorities in arms trafficking prevention.
- *Borders and Ports (\$3,700,000)*: Panama and Guatemala are key transit points at the northern and southern ends of Central America and have significant traffic in narcotics, improperly documented individuals, bulk cash and other contraband. FY 2009 funds will support a pilot program to provide mobile inspection x-ray units in vans equipped with disassembly tools and other inspectional equipment to both Panama and Guatemala. The port and airport security program will support on-site training and technical support by DHS officers, on a recurring basis at checkpoints and mobile units, including formal presentations on the identification of hidden compartments, fraudulent document interdiction, techniques for intercepting smuggled narcotics, weapons, bulk cash and other contraband. Assistance will be provided to all countries in the region.
- *Regional Equipment for Law Enforcement (\$11,485,000)*: This program will provide equipment, technical assistance and training to law enforcement officials in the seven Central American countries. Equipment purchases will be determined in conjunction with host country governments. Examples include improved communications; law enforcement tools including contraband inspection kits, narcotics identification kits, and metal detectors; personal protection kits (ballistic vests and eye protection); and support for maritime interdiction not covered by Enduring Friendship, such as spare parts, repairs and repurposing of seized vessels.
- *OAS/CICTE Ports-Airport Security (\$500,000)*: Funding continues the OAS program that strengthens port and airport security, CICTE (Inter-American Committee Against Terrorism).

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FY 2009 Funding will include additional security training and workshops, crisis management exercises, and scholarships for International Civil Aviation Authority courses.

Counternarcotics (\$7.1 million)

- *Vetted Units (\$6,000,000):*
 - \$4.7 million will support operating costs, such as rent, utilities, maintenance and fuel; investigative and office equipment; and training for DEA-sponsored host nation vetted counternarcotics investigative and enforcement units. Funding will continue programs begun with FY 2008 funding in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama, as well as help establish a new unit in Belize.
 - \$1 million will support similar operating costs, investigative equipment, and training for DHS-sponsored host nation vetted investigative and enforcement units in El Salvador, Honduras and Panama, as well as help establish a new unit in Guatemala. These vetted units will conduct complex multinational and multidiscipline investigations in areas such as firearms and narcotics trafficking, bulk cash smuggling, human trafficking and smuggling, child sex tourism, and money laundering.
 - \$300,000 will support ongoing INL programs in Nicaragua and El Salvador. In El Salvador the counternarcotics police (DAN) will be provided with equipment such as tactical radios and bullet proof vests. In Nicaragua, funds will provide equipment such as I2 database and basic PC-compatible workstations with basic Microsoft software packages for the NNP vetted unit that is working on high-profile trafficking and corruption cases. This assistance will enable the unit to develop intelligence on money laundering and on drug trafficking that can be used for interdiction, arrests, and identifying and dismantling criminal organizations and seizing their assets.
- *OAS/CICAD Prevention Program (\$1,000,000):* Drug abuse is growing throughout Central America, in particular among gang members. This project will support training and certification of addiction counselors to better administer treatment programs through OAS-CICAD's regional program, the Central American Institute for Training in Prevention/Treatment of Drug Abuse and Violence. FY 2009 funds will enable OAS to expand its program to Panama, Nicaragua, Belize and Costa Rica, while maintaining training activities in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras.
- *D.A.R.E Prevention Program (\$100,000):* Funding will continue the Nicaragua D.A.R.E. drug abuse prevention program on the Atlantic coast.

Transnational Crime (\$8.225 million)

- *Diplomacy US-SICA Dialog (\$50,000):* Funds will support follow-up and continued coordination with SICA, including support for a combined technical and ministerial meeting.

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- *Capacity Enhancement (\$5,175,000)*: FY 2009 funds will support the following:
 - Expanded FBI training for the TAGs established under FY 2008 funding, including polygraph expenses, and the officer exchange.
 - Anti-gang training at the operational police/prosecutor/community level needed to complement managerial level training offered at ILEA. U.S. personnel managing anti-gang programs and host country counterparts will review current programs and their results to identify additional training needs. The courses will apply lessons learned and best practices for policing programs, including those developed by the Villa Nueva community policing project in Guatemala, the planned program in Honduras, and the TAG program. The training will include street level police and mixed units of police, prosecutors, and prevention workers. While some training may only include one partner country, most will be regional to maximize sharing of information on approaches. Between 14 and 21 courses will be given.
 - In-service training in investigation, operations, officer safety, community policing and other courses provided to operational-level police and other justice sector actors. The training will complement the management-level training provided by ILEA and will introduce or reinforce concepts that are taught to new recruits in the academies.
- *Repatriation-Criminal History Information Program – (CHIP) (\$1,500,000)*: FY 2009 funding will continue programs in Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala to provide more information about deportees who have been convicted of crimes while in the United States, and extend this program to other countries if warranted by the number of deportees with U.S. criminal records. The funds will pay for DOJ-contracted analysts to gather the criminal histories of deportees with a U.S. criminal record, and transmit the records to appropriate law enforcement authorities in Central America.
- *Financial Crimes - Cash Smuggling (\$1,000,000)*: FY 2009 funds will support technical experts who will provide additional training to host government law enforcement, including vetted units, for the identification and targeting of southbound bulk cash smuggling. This program will enable regional intelligence and enforcement coordination between the partner nations.
- *Asset Forfeiture Training (\$500,000)*: FY 2009 funds will support training and technical assistance to build the administrative capacity of Central American governments to manage and distribute seized assets. USG law enforcement agencies will provide advice on developing effective asset management programs to capture asset forfeiture funds. Training will focus on pre-seizure planning, asset inventory, valuation, custody and maintenance, interlocutory sales, restitution and asset sharing. Assistance would also provide guidance on implementation of asset tracking systems, generation of reports, and auditing to ensure accountability.

Governing Justly and Democratically (\$17.220 million)

FY 2009 APPROPRIATIONS SPENDING PLAN
Mexico, Central America, Haiti and the Dominican Republic

Rule of Law and Human Rights (\$17.220 million)

- *Courts Management (\$4,666,000)*: FY 2009 funds will support technical assistance that will address justice sector administration, case management and tracking systems. The project will emphasize anti-corruption, judicial transparency and accountability of justice and security sector institutions.
- *Prosecutorial Capacity Building (\$4,279,000)*: FY 2009 funds will continue support of a Regional Legal Advisor (RLA), based in El Salvador to provide practical training in investigating and prosecuting complex financial crimes, gang-related crime, money laundering, asset forfeiture and corruption. The RLA will provide country specific training to prosecutors as well as investigators and judges and coordinate the training regionally. Funds will support police, prosecutors, and judicial investigators through technical assistance and training, including efforts that address judicial reforms, best practices, and information sharing.
- *Juvenile Justice Systems & Rehabilitation (\$2,000,000)*: FY 2009 funds will support technical assistance to develop strategic regional plans with long term goals for juvenile detention, including the development of coordinated programs outside of detention facilities to help host governments with their planning for:
 - Rehabilitation and Treatment: job skills and vocational training, drug and alcohol treatment and education, development of literacy skills and achievement of minimal education standards;
 - Alternatives to Incarceration: implementing alternative sentencing, establishing juvenile drug courts and intensive probation programs; case management for juvenile offenders; community service, court supervision and/or probation, supervised early-release; and
 - Reintegration Support: workforce development, employment readiness, micro credit and programs of personal development, tattoo removal, follow-on medical and mental health treatment programs.
- *Prison Management (\$3,000,000)*: This program will build on prison management training funded under FY 2007 and FY 2008 INL funding for El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras and FY 2008 Supplemental Mérida funding that expanded the program to Belize, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Panama. FY2009 funds will extend training, train trainers, provide management training for prison directors and policy makers, and work with senior officials on strategic planning for the prison systems. Teams of experienced prison advisors/mentors will oversee vetting of foreign government personnel, procurement and installation of necessary equipment and repairs/modifications and implement training, including training of trainers. Training topics will include: classification of inmates and separation of at risk juveniles, control of prisoners, excluding contraband (especially cell phones), riot control, and other issues as identified. Executive level training will be provided to top administrators

FY 2009 APPROPRIATIONS SPENDING PLAN
Mexico, Central America, Haiti and the Dominican Republic

in subjects to include: strategic planning, appropriately classifying inmates according to level of threat (which determines the cost of incarceration), budget preparation and execution, as well as how to work with news media and community leaders to enhance the corrections process. Advisors will also provide technical assistance in identifying appropriate technologies to conduct prison surveillance, search, and contraband control to improve security.

- *Improved Police Academies & Training (\$3,075,000)*: Police academy curricula across Central America is outdated, inconsistent, and does not adequately prepare recruits to confront today's crime or carry out their law enforcement function effectively. FY 2009 funds will support an academy development expert to work closely with officials from basic recruit academies throughout the region to emphasize the vital role that uniformed police play in the investigative process. The program will support a regional curriculum reform conference to bring curriculum reform experts together with police academy instructors, as well as police investigators from the region, to identify areas for modernization and improvement.
- *Forensics Assessment (\$200,000)*: It is neither practical nor cost effective at this time to support the development of forensic laboratories in each Central American country. Moreover, police and prosecutors sometimes maintain separate forensic laboratories that do not communicate with each other on evidence processing. FY 2009 funds will support an assessment to determine current forensic laboratory capabilities throughout Central American and to develop a plan for sharing existing facilities to avoid expensive duplication. Forensic assessors will carefully examine laboratory facilities, instrumentation, personnel, quality assurance procedures, and the needs of investigators. The assessment results will be used to create a forensic development plan outlining short-and long-term training and equipment needs.

Program Development and Support (\$5.5 million)

Funds will be used for the salaries, benefits, allowances and travel of direct hire and contract U.S. and foreign national personnel, residential leasing, International Cooperative Administrative Support Services (ICASS) costs and other administrative and operating expenses for program planning, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation

Guatemala Bilateral Program (\$5.32 million)

This is a bilateral program, funded through Mérida but separate from the broader Mérida Initiative.

Peace and Security (\$4.03 million)

- *Narcotics Interdiction (\$1,800,000)*: USG support for the Guatemalan Narcotics Police will include training; technical assistance; and equipment, such as field drug test kits, computers,

FY 2009 APPROPRIATIONS SPENDING PLAN
Mexico, Central America, Haiti and the Dominican Republic

radios, several replacement vehicles: and operational support/oversight. FY 2009 funds will support training for police investigators, prosecutors and judges in modern techniques of gathering and analyzing data to increase evidence-based seizures, arrests and convictions. FY 2009 funding will also continue vetting for port police, as well as provide equipment, such as x-ray cargo scanners and computers. Training and technical assistance will be provided in areas such as port security, cargo inspection, electronic manifest review, document analysis, passenger screening, border interdiction operations and related airport, seaport and border operations. Support will also assist the government of Guatemala expand operations on the long border with Mexico by providing logistical support for bilateral and multilateral counternarcotics operations, such as “Mayan Jaguar” and “Central Skies.”

- *Eradication (\$250,000)*: An on-going program of monitoring and eradicating opium poppy is essential to keep cultivation in check. FY 2009 funds will provide logistical support to the Government of Guatemala (GOG) manual eradication program for aerial assessments and approximately four eradication campaigns a year.
- *Law Enforcement Development (Gangs) (\$1,880,000)*: Funding will support operating expenses for the current Villa Nueva Model Precinct program and replication in additional municipalities, beginning in Mixco. Training and technical assistance improve police and prosecutor skills and coordination, involve communities in crime monitoring and reporting, and strengthen police accountability and transparency. Support for expansion of the program will include vetting, training, technical assistance, and police equipment such as computers and office equipment, phones for the tip line, materials for community outreach such as municipal events, and crime mapping to guide patrolling. Equipment and operational support for the GOG’s crime information system (CRADIC) will improve patrolling coverage, improve the quality of investigations, and provide more reliable statistical data for deployment of police personnel and strategic planning. Funds will pay for maintenance and upgrades for equipment, computer hardware and software and training for police who will use the system. CRADIC is also the platform from which information will be disseminated nationally and internationally and is the key to coordinating the investigation of transnational crimes.
- *Demand Reduction (\$100,000)*: The Guatemala Demand Reduction Project will work with a re-vitalized SECCATID (the GOG demand reduction agency) to refocus efforts towards closer cooperation with the police. Support will replicate Police Athletic League programs in at least three additional areas by year-end. This program targets youth at risk for drug use and gang membership. SECCATID will also work more closely with eradication teams to provide anti-cultivation and anti-drug abuse messages along with school and sports supplies to rural communities affected by poppy eradication missions.

Governing Justly & Democratically (250,000)

- *Administration of Justice (\$250,000)*: The Prosecutor Assistance project will continue working with the Public Ministry’s (Attorney General) special prosecutors units (counternarcotics, anti-money laundering and anti-corruption units) to improve capabilities to conduct investigations that would lead to the prosecution of major trafficking organizations.

FY 2009 APPROPRIATIONS SPENDING PLAN
Mexico, Central America, Haiti and the Dominican Republic

The program will provide specialized interagency training to enhance investigative methods and complex case development and processing. This assistance will apply best practices to ensure effective and transparent procedures for special investigators and their assistants, and implementing better interagency coordination.

Program Development and Support (PD&S) (\$1.040 million)

Funds will be used for the salaries, benefits, allowances and travel of direct hire and contract U.S. and foreign national personnel, residential leasing, International Cooperative Administrative Support Services (ICASS) costs and other administrative and operating expenses for program planning, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. It also includes purchase of one lightly armored vehicle due to the worsening security situation.

**FY 2009 APPROPRIATIONS SPENDING PLAN
Mexico, Central America, Haiti and the Dominican Republic**

RESOURCE SUMMARY– DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND HAITI

APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT BY OBJECTIVE

(\$ in thousands)

	Total	Peace and Security (P&S)	Governing Justly and Democratically (GJD)	Investing in People (IIP)	Program Support
TOTAL	5,000	4,575	425	-	-
Economic Support Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Foreign Military Financing	-	-	-	-	-
Int'l Narcotics Control & Law Enforcement	5,000	4,575	425	-	-

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (\$2.5 million)

Summary

The National Police of the Dominican Republic is at a crossroads as they transition to the newly implemented accusatory judicial system. Mérida Initiative funding will be used to support the transformation of the Dominican National Police into a professional civilian law enforcement agency; continue the implementation of the new code of criminal procedures by providing training and technical assistance to prosecutors and police; enhance host country's capability to interdict migrant smuggling and illegal shipments of narcotics, firearms, explosives; and provide cross-border training, technical assistance and improved communications between Dominican Republic and Haitian public security and judicial authorities.

International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement (INCLE)

Peace and Security (\$2.3 million)

To support the development of a modern, efficient and well trained Dominican police organization that has an institutionalized commitment to professionalism and respect for human rights, funds will be used to continue providing technical assistance, capacity building and equipping the National Police as it continues its positive transition in the areas of basic police training reform: strategic planning; internal affairs; and communications systems. Dominican law enforcement agencies will receive training and equipment to improve their capacity to interdict trafficking in narcotics, firearms and illegal migrants. Funds will also support a joint Dominican/Haitian border project designed to promote cooperation between law enforcement and judicial authorities.

Governing Justly and Democratically (\$200 thousand)

FY 2009 APPROPRIATIONS SPENDING PLAN
Mexico, Central America, Haiti and the Dominican Republic

To assist Dominican police, prosecutors and judges with the implementation of the new code of criminal procedure, funding will be used for technical assistance and training in basic criminal investigations, crime scene protection, evidence collection/preservation, interviewing techniques, technical report writing, and courtroom demeanor. Mentoring in the investigation and prosecution of complex money laundering and corruption cases will also be provided.

HAITI (\$2.5 million)

Summary

The Mérida Initiative funding will be used to continue supporting the transformation of the Haitian National Police into a professional civilian law enforcement agency through expanded communications and intelligence capabilities; to increase the number of successful prosecutions of major criminals; to enhance Haiti's capability to monitor, detect, and interdict illegal shipments of narcotics, firearms, and human smuggling in priority areas; and to improve cooperation between Dominican Republic and Haitian public security and judicial authorities.

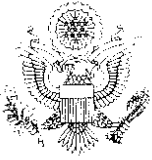
International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement (INCLE)

Peace and Security (\$2.275 million)

Funds will be used to install a secure Ministry of Justice-controlled computer network which will eventually interconnect rule of law activities, specifically law enforcement operations, investigations, prosecution case management, records and case activity of the Judiciary, and inmate/detention management. To enhance the interdiction capabilities of the Haitian Coast Guard and the Haitian National Police Drug Unit, funds will support the expansion of operating locations, including the construction of a pier at Port de Paix to deter trafficking in the northwest region. In support of the MINUSTAH mandate from the UN Security Council to improve border security in Haiti, and to improve cross-border communication and dispel prejudices, joint training for Haitian and Dominican security and judicial officials will be provided.

Governing Justly and Democratically (\$225,000)

Joint training of police, prosecutors and judges, particularly examining magistrates (*juges d'instruction*), on their roles, proper investigative techniques, report and case preparation, and evidence collection and preservation will be undertaken to improve the capacity of the criminal justice system to successfully prosecute cases, especially against drug traffickers. Support will also be provided to the Ministry of Health in acquiring and using narcotics testing kits to ensure admissible evidence is developed in accordance with Haitian law.



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

www.state.gov

AUG 13 2009

09 197

Dear Senator Lugar:

Pursuant to sections 7045(e)(3) and 7045(f)(3) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2009, the Department hereby submits its spending plan for Foreign Operations funding appropriated in the Act for Mexico and the countries of Central America. Programming for Haiti and the Dominican Republic is also included.

This letter, including the enclosed spending plan, fulfills the requirement to provide a spending plan prior to the obligation of International Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement funds, Foreign Military Financing funds, and Economic Support Funds for Mexico and the countries of Central America. It also meets special notification requirements associated with these countries as well as Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

We hope this information is helpful. Please let us know if we can be of further assistance.

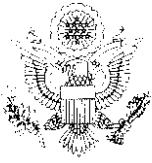
Sincerely,

Richard R. Verma
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs

Enclosure:

As stated.

The Honorable
Richard G. Lugar,
Committee on Foreign Relations,
United States Senate.



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

www.state.gov

AUG 13 2009

09 197

Dear Mr. Chairman:

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We hope this information is helpful. Please let us know if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard R. Verma".

Richard R. Verma
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs

Enclosure:

As stated.

The Honorable
Daniel K. Inouye, Chairman,
Committee on Appropriations,
United States Senate.



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

www.state.gov

AUG 13 2009

09 197

Dear Senator Cochran:

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We hope this information is helpful. Please let us know if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Richard R. Verma
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs

Enclosure:

As stated.

The Honorable
Thad Cochran,
Committee on Appropriations,
United States Senate.



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

09 197

AUG 13 2009

Dear Mr. Chairman:

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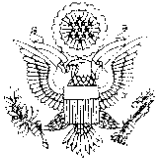
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Sincerely,

Richard R. Verma
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs

Enclosure:
As stated.

The Honorable
Patrick J. Leahy, Chairman,
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations,
and Related Programs,
Committee on Appropriations,
United States Senate.



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

09 197

AUG 13 2009

Dear Senator Gregg:

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We hope this information is helpful. Please let us know if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Richard R. Verma
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs

Enclosure:
As stated.

The Honorable
Judd Gregg,
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations,
and Related Programs,
Committee on Appropriations,
United States Senate.



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

www.state.gov

09 197

AUG 13 2009

Dear Mr. Chairman:

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We hope this information is helpful. Please let us know if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Richard R. Verma
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs

Enclosure:

As stated.

The Honorable
David Obey, Chairman,
Committee on Appropriations,
House of Representatives.



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

09 197

AUG 13 2009

Dear Madam Chairwoman:

Pursuant to sections 7045(e)(3) and 7045(f)(3) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2009, the Department hereby submits its spending plan for Foreign Operations funding appropriated in the Act for Mexico and the countries of Central America. Programming for Haiti and the Dominican Republic is also included.

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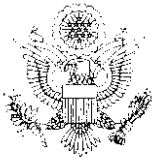
Richard R. Verma
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs

Enclosure:

As stated.

The Honorable

Nita M. Lowey, Chairwoman,
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations,
and Related Programs,
Committee on Appropriations,
House of Representatives.



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

www.state.gov

AUG 13 2009

09 197

Dear Mr. Lewis:

Pursuant to sections 7045(e)(3) and 7045(f)(3) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2009, the Department hereby submits its spending plan for Foreign Operations funding appropriated in the Act for Mexico and the countries of Central America. Programming for Haiti and the Dominican Republic is also included.

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We hope this information is helpful. Please let us know if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Richard R. Verma
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs

Enclosure:

As stated.

The Honorable
Jerry Lewis,
Committee on Appropriations,
House of Representatives.



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

09 197

AUG 13 2009

Dear Ms. Granger:

Pursuant to sections 7045(e)(3) and 7045(f)(3) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2009, the Department hereby submits its spending plan for Foreign Operations funding appropriated in the Act for Mexico and the countries of Central America. Programming for Haiti and the Dominican Republic is also included.

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We hope this information is helpful. Please let us know if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Richard R. Verma
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs

Enclosure:

As stated.

The Honorable

Kay Granger,

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations,
and Related Programs,

Committee on Appropriations,
House of Representatives.



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

www.state.gov

AUG 13 2009

09 197

Dear Mr. Chairman:

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Sincerely,

Richard R. Verma
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs

Enclosure:

As stated.

The Honorable

Howard L. Berman, Chairman,
Committee on Foreign Affairs,
House of Representatives.



United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

09 197

www.state.gov

AUG 13 2009

Dear Ms. Ros-Lehtinen:

Pursuant to sections 7045(e)(3) and 7045(f)(3) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2009, the Department hereby submits its spending plan for Foreign Operations funding appropriated in the Act for Mexico and the countries of Central America. Programming for Haiti and the Dominican Republic is also included.

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We hope this information is helpful. Please let us know if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Richard R. Verma
Assistant Secretary
Legislative Affairs

Enclosure:

As stated.

The Honorable
Ileana Ros-Lehtinen,
Committee on Foreign Affairs,
House of Representatives.