

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIEDRELEASE IN PART
B1,B5,1.4(D)

The Secretary's Phone Call with
Argentine Minister of Foreign Relations Jorge Taiana ["tie-YAH-nah"]
TBD

Purpose of Call: To obtain the Government of Argentina's recognition of Honduras' November 29 elections and to request that Argentina support a "politically binding" agreement in Copenhagen.

- **Iran:** We appreciate your principled support on the IAEA Board of Governors resolution on Iran. A strong, unified signal to Iran is vital as we continue to move forward. We hope Argentina will also join us in combating the shared global threat of nuclear terrorism and help advance nuclear security-related efforts, such as the planning underway for President Obama's upcoming Global Nuclear Security Summit and the longstanding nuclear security related work in the IAEA.
- **Honduras:** We believe strongly in the need to send a decisive signal about the return of democratic and constitutional order in the wake of the June 28 coup d'etat.
- We all agree that military coups must remain part of our past. We have remained firm on that principle and have acted upon our convictions through aid cutoffs and visa revocations.
- We also believe that we must work to help Honduras move forward to restore democratic and constitutional order. That is why we got involved to help broker the Tegucigalpa-San Jose Agreement. We are working hard to help the parties implement that agreement, including the December 2 congressional deliberations on the matter of President Zelaya's restitution.
- Elections are a vital part of the overall solution. The Honduran elections follow the normal calendar established by the constitution. They got underway long before the coup and involve candidates from a wide array of parties and ideologies. The elections are being run not by the de facto regime, but by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal, which was itself chosen before the coup.
- We see the elections and the implementation of the Accord as part of a package. I encourage you to also view the elections as a vital part of the democratic way forward and to support the people of Honduras and their newly elected

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government as they move forward to restore Honduras to a functioning democracy as quickly as possible.

- **[If Raised: Zelaya must be returned to office for elections to be legitimate]:** The Accord called for the Congress to vote on his restitution expeditiously, and we urge them to do that. It is critical that Honduras forge a government of national unity before transferring power to the next president.
- **[If Raised: November 26 Supreme Court opinion on President Zelaya's restitution]:** The Supreme Court's opinion on President Zelaya's restitution is a separate matter and has no relationship to the holding of elections. Elections are a vital part of the solution and completely separate from the issue of President Zelaya's restitution, as laid out in the Tegucigalpa-San Jose Accord which President Zelaya signed.
- **Copenhagen Accord on Climate Change:** The White House just announced that, in the context of an overall deal in Copenhagen, the President is prepared to put forward a U.S. emissions reduction target in the range of 17 percent below 2005 levels in 2020. These targets represent levels 18 percent below 1990 by 2025 and 33 percent below 1990 by 2030, in line with final U.S. legislation.
- A successful outcome in Copenhagen is critical. Danish Prime Minister Lars Rasmussen has proposed a "politically binding" operational agreement that would cover all the main issues. We support this proposal, and hope you will, too. It is *not* a substitute for a legal agreement, but will advance such an agreement.
- All countries, from the most vulnerable to those with greater capacity, would benefit from getting started with a good deal that sets us on a path to avoid the worst dangers of climate change, and provides new financing opportunities.
- Success will require positive engagement by all. Argentina can make a real difference exercising positive leadership and supporting the Danish proposal.
- I understand Argentina has concerns about potential trade impacts. We are working to ensure our climate policy will be consistent with our international trade obligations under the World Trade Organization. Also, any border tax

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would likely not be focused on agricultural exports, but rather energy intensive exports.

Background: Honduras -- Argentina has been a strong supporter of President Zelaya since his ouster on June 28. In the OAS and elsewhere, the Argentine government has maintained that Zelaya must be restored to office for the November 29 elections to be legitimate and the victor to be recognized by the international community as the duly elected President.

The Honduran Supreme Court issued an opinion November 26 on President Zelaya's restoration to office, as requested by the Honduran Congress in accordance with the Tegucigalpa-San Jose Accord. The opinion recommends against Zelaya's restoration because he has criminal charges pending against him.

[redacted] told Embassy Buenos Aires that Argentines believe they and other Latins have invested much in restoring democracy to Honduras but have gotten nowhere due to Micheletti's duplicity. [redacted] close to Taiana and President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner, said the Argentine government will stick to the joint communiqué CFK and Lula signed November 18 in Brasilia, i.e., that Argentina and Brazil will not recognize the results of elections held by a de facto government. In the communiqué, CFK and Lula said Zelaya's restitution was "indispensable for the re-establishment of constitutional order, rule of law, and democratic life in Honduras." [redacted] comments track closely with what CFK said to the Ambassador November 13.

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B1

Climate -- On climate control, Argentina was [redacted]

B5

Call Notes:

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