



Talking Points on the FY11 International Affairs Budget Request

Only 1.4% of the Entire Federal Budget and a 2.8% Increase

- The International Affairs Budget is only 1.4% of the total federal budget and the proposed \$6.1 billion increase is only 0.16% of the federal budget.
- The actual increase in the International Affairs in FY 2011 would only be 2.8% (assuming the enactment of the pending FY 2010 supplemental request, which includes \$4.5 billion in International Affairs spending for Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq).

Funds Smart Power Tools of Development & Diplomacy

- The International Affairs Budget funds America's "smart power" tools of diplomacy and development – two of the three pillars of U.S. national security. Secretary of Defense Gates, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Michael Mullen, and dozens of retired military leaders support increased investments in our civilian agencies.
 - "As I have said for the last two years, I believe that the challenges confronting our nation cannot be dealt with by military means alone. They require instead whole-of-government approaches – but that can only be done if the State Department is given resources befitting the scope of its mission across the globe." – **Defense Secretary Robert Gates**
 - "I commend the President for his commitment to these urgently-needed investments in our nation's economic and national security." – **former Secretary of State Colin Powell**

Part of National Security Funding

- Similar to the Bush Administration, the Obama Administration has designated the International Affairs Budget as part of the national security agencies budget, which includes DOD, Homeland Security, and Veterans.
- The International Affairs Budget represents only 6.7% of U.S. national security funding.

Broad Bipartisan Support

- This is one issue Democrats and Republicans can agree on. Last month 247 bipartisan Members of Congress (58 Senators and 189 Representatives) sent a letter to President Obama urging a robust International Affairs Budget.
 - "If the first decade of the twenty-first century taught us anything about national security, it is that we require more than a strong military to meet our global challenges – diplomacy is an essential element of our national power." – **Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman John Kerry (D-MA)**
 - "Whether protecting our nation by combating terrorism, helping American companies find new markets overseas, or assisting American citizens during natural disasters, these men and women help make our country stronger and safer." – **Senator Richard Lugar (R-IN)**

Critical to Meeting Global Challenges

- Whether deterring threats before they reach America's shores, creating markets and American jobs or responding to the humanitarian crisis in Haiti, today's global challenges are extraordinary and these programs provide critical funds necessary to achieve U.S. national security and foreign policy goals.
 - "By building new markets overseas for American products, the International Affairs Budget creates jobs and boosts the economy here at home." – **former Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge**