

RELEASE IN PART B5

From: Mills, Cheryl D <MillsCD@state.gov>
Sent: Friday, December 11, 2009 1:16 PM
To: H
Subject: Fw: We ought to do outreach

Fyi - background for call sheet you will get

----- Original Message -----

From: Carson, Johnnie
To: Mills, Cheryl D
Cc: Yamamoto, Donald Y; Posner, Michael H; Sullivan, Jacob J; Cook, Akunna E
Sent: Fri Dec 11 12:38:27 2009
Subject: We ought to do outreach

Cheryl: Yes, the Secretary should make the call



B5

I remain ready to participate in any meetings with any domestic or international gay rights groups to brief them on what we are doing, and on my conversations with Museveni on this issue. I plan to meet with Cheryl Benton and others today this afternoon to work on an outreach strategy.

Regards, Johnnie

-----Original Message-----

From: Mills, Cheryl D
Sent: Thursday, December 10, 2009 10:19 PM
To: Carson, Johnnie; Posner, Michael H
Cc: Yamamoto, Donald Y; Sullivan, Jacob J
Subject: Re: We ought to do outreach

Thx

Should we have S also call pres?

----- Original Message -----

From: Carson, Johnnie
To: Mills, Cheryl D; Posner, Michael H; Crowley, Philip J
Cc: Benton, Cheryl A (PACE); Yamamoto, Donald Y; Cook, Akunna E; Sullivan, Jacob J
Sent: Thu Dec 10 15:07:49 2009
Subject: FW: We ought to do outreach

Cheryl: I am happy to participate in any outreach meetings on this issue and would be pleased to share contents of my conversations with President Museveni and his reassurances to me. (We continue to monitor this issue and I am prepared to go back to Museveni at any time to express our deep concerns and to press him to deep six this legislation.)

Let me know if you want us to participate in any meetings. Regards, Johnnie

-----Original Message-----

From: Mills, Cheryl D [mailto:MillsCD@state.gov]
Sent: Thursday, December 10, 2009 11:00 AM
To: Carson, Johnnie; Yamamoto, Donald Y; Posner, Michael H
Cc: Sullivan, Jacob J; Crowley, Philip J; Benton, Cheryl A (PACE); Mills, Cheryl D
Subject: We ought to do outreach

See below.

I am looking at the article and don't know where this stands in terms of what will really happen (welcome an update) but we should do some sort of meeting now with international gay groups to lay out what we have done.

The process will focus not only our public and quiet diplomacy (calls to pres, etc) efforts but also it will give chance for feedback on more we should do.

I am worried this will not turn out well. We need some outreach unless I am missing what is being done in dept.

Can we do this in next several days?

Cdm

Uganda to Drop Death Penalty, Life in Jail for Gays (Update1) Last Updated: December 9, 2009 10:44 EST By Fred Ojambo Dec. 9 (Bloomberg) -- Uganda will drop the death penalty and life imprisonment for gays in a refined version of an anti-gay bill expected to be ready for presentation to Parliament in two weeks, James Nsaba Buturo, the minister of ethics and integrity, said. The draft bill, which is under consideration by a parliamentary committee, will drop the two punishments to attract the support of religious leaders who are opposed to these penalties, Buturo said today in a phone interview from the capital, Kampala. Ugandan lawmaker David Bahati presented a private member's bill on Oct. 14 which sought the death penalty and life imprisonment for gay people in the country. The Ugandan government supports the bill because homosexuality and lesbianism are "repugnant to the Ugandan culture," Buturo said. Still, it favors a more refined set of punishments, he said. In addition to formulating punishments for the gay people, the bill will also promote counseling to help "attract errant people to acceptable sexual orientation," said Buturo. The proposed legislation has attracted criticism from gay rights activists, both locally and internationally, who argue that the law would promote discrimination and hatred toward the gay community.