

**RELEASE
IN PART
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From: Fuchs, Michael H <FuchsMH@state.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, June 1, 2010 3:48 PM
To: H
Cc: Sullivan, Jacob J
Subject: American University of Central Asia

Madam Secretary,

In advance of your meeting tomorrow with George Soros, below is some information in response to the letter you received from Soros proposing increased USG support for the American University of Central Asia (AUCA). SCA favors providing more USG support for AUCA [REDACTED]

Since 9/11 the United States has provided more than \$15 million to AUCA in support of its endowment and various other initiatives. For a majority of these contributions the Soros Foundation matched one dollar for every two dollars provided by the USG. The major USG contributions to AUCA were two grants to the university endowment, the first in 2003 for \$10 million, the second in 2008 for \$3 million. Other USG support for AUCA included funding for two advisors to the AUCA president on accreditation and development, support for the journalism faculty, and scholarship funds for students from Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Afghanistan to attend the university.

Soros has proposed that the USG increase this support, offering a 1-1 match of \$10 million each from State and his foundation, totaling \$20 million over the next five years. Last fall SCA received the same proposal from Soros, and they have been discussing the issue with Soros' staff. [REDACTED]

A little bit of additional information from SCA on AUCA: The university has made significant progress this year on a number of its key objectives and remains a unique institution in Central Asia, a place where students are judged solely on merit and a forum for free expression and critical thinking. The university achieved an important milestone this year related to its U.S. accreditation, signing an agreement with Bard College under which AUCA graduates starting next May will receive full diplomas from Bard College, an institution accredited in the United States. In addition, AUCA recently established a new partnership with the American University in Kabul facilitated through state of the art video classroom technology and recently announced the appointment of Andrew Wachtel, from Northwestern University, as the new AUCA president who will take office this summer.

I will include this note (in addition to Soros' letter) in your materials for your meeting with Soros tomorrow. Please let me know if you would like any further information.

Thanks,
Mike

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[REDACTED]