

RELEASE IN PART B6

**From:** Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 9, 2012 8:03 PM  
**To:** H  
**Cc:** Mills, Cheryl D  
**Subject:** FW: MEMO TO ALL ECONOMIC AND ECONOMIC-CONED OFFICERS

This is pretty cool

**From:** Nides, Thomas R  
**Sent:** Monday, January 09, 2012 5:30 PM  
**To:** Hormats, Robert D; Fernandez, Jose W; McCarthy, Deborah A  
**Subject:** MEMO TO ALL ECONOMIC AND ECONOMIC-CONED OFFICERS

**United States Department of State**

*Washington, D.C. 20520*



SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

January 9, 2012

**MEMO TO ALL ECONOMIC AND ECONOMIC-CONED OFFICERS**

**FROM:** D(N) – Thomas Nides

**SUBJECT:** Launch of Economic Statecraft Task Force

I am constantly impressed by the employees of the State Department. Our foreign and civil service officers and locally engaged staff are the strength behind the Department. Thank you for all that you do.

As you know, the Secretary has made economic statecraft a key priority for the coming year. Following up on her speeches on the topic, on December 2 we launched a Department-wide Economic Statecraft Task Force that includes Under Secretary Kennedy (M), Under Secretary Hormats (E), Assistant Secretary Fernandez (EB), Jake Sullivan (S/P), Kris Balderston (S/GPI), Susan Swart (CIO), and a DAS from each regional bureau.

The main objective of the task force is to elevate economic and commercial diplomacy goals and to ensure that we have the right people, support tools, engagement platform to maintain our leadership on these critical 21<sup>st</sup> century issues. Given this focus, the task force covers four principal areas of work: human capital, internal tools, external engagement, and policy targets of opportunity.

- (1) The **Human Capital** working group will conduct analysis and develop recommendations to ensure the Department is hiring, training, deploying, and incentivizing staff in a manner consistent with the requirements of effective economic statecraft. (Chaired by Under Secretary Kennedy, managed by Kathleen Austin-Ferguson.)
- (2) The **Internal Tools** working group will develop effective tools and resources (e.g. a Commercial Diplomacy Toolkit) for economic officers, other FSOs, and other Department staff to support execution of economic statecraft objectives. (Chaired by Assistant Secretary Fernandez, managed by Whitney Baird.)
- (3) The **External Engagement** working group will develop and implement a strategy to improve and elevate our engagement with the private sector and the public at large, using the State Department's online resources, convening power, and global personnel network to increase our impact. (Chaired by Assistant Secretary Fernandez, managed by Whitney Baird.)
- (4) The **Policy Targets of Opportunity** working group will identify priority opportunities for USG engagement on key policy issues, such as accession to the WTO Government Procurement Agreement, increasing inward investment, and regulatory barriers to trade. (Chaired by Under Secretary Hormats, managed by Joel Wiegert.)

## HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE

We need your help to make this task force and agenda a success.

On January 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. EST, Assistant Secretary Fernandez and I will host a live webinar to discuss this effort with all economic officers and economic-coned officers around the world. EB PDAS Deborah McCarthy will moderate the discussion. This will be an opportunity for you to raise questions, ideas, or concerns. You can participate in the interactive webinar by going to <http://usdeptofstate.adobeconnect.com/econstrategy> (passcode:

). Because only 200 computers can connect to this site, we encourage officers to gather at common terminals to participate. In the event that the chatroom reaches capacity, the webinar will be streamed at <http://conx.state.gov/econstrategy/> (passcode: ). The webinar will also be recorded and available for viewing at a later date.

The working groups will utilize surveys and focus groups to ensure our end products include the input of economic officers around the world. If you would like to participate or have any other questions or suggestions, please send an email to [economicstatecraft@state.gov](mailto:economicstatecraft@state.gov).

Thank you again for the outstanding work you do every day on behalf of the American people.

Deputy Secretary Tom Nides

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