

**SECRETARY OF STATE HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY
SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
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Chairman Inouye, Vice Chairman Cochran, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to be here. As always, it is a pleasure to testify alongside Secretary Gates, a good friend as well as a true champion of diplomacy and development.

We are here *together* because our civilian and military efforts in front-line states cannot be separated. The challenges we face demand that we draw on all the tools of American leadership and American power. And the strategies we now have in place in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq do exactly that.

This whole-of-government approach has shown results. It has also enabled us to assess more clearly the challenges we face. That is why we are coming to you with a \$4.5 billion supplemental request for Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq. Without this new funding in 2010, we will fall short in all three of these front-line states.

I am well aware that, at a time of economic strain at home, every dollar must deliver clear results. Our request addresses urgent demands that will immediately advance our efforts to bring stability to Afghanistan and Pakistan and ensure a smooth transition to a civilian-led effort in Iraq.

Afghanistan

In Afghanistan, we are working to implement the new strategy President Obama announced in December. Success requires a fully integrated civilian-military effort, one in which security gains are followed immediately by economic and political gains. As new troops arrive, our civilian surge has already tripled the number of civilians on the ground and will continue in the months ahead. It is up to these civilian-led efforts to translate the bravery of our troops into stability for Afghanistan and security for Americans.

The challenges are still great, the enemy is still determined, but we are recapturing the momentum in Afghanistan. New funds in 2010 will give us the capacity to move forward at a time when every day is crucial.

Let me briefly describe what we are currently doing in Marjah and the surrounding areas – for Marjah is a proving ground for our strategy, and the story there is an encouraging one so far. Our civilians were on the ground within days of the military operation, and they quickly stood up a District Support Team that has helped open two schools and a prosecutor’s office; registered more than 7,000 farmers to receive supplies; and employed more than a thousand residents a day through cash-for-work projects. A nearby USAID-

built airstrip has allowed Ministry of Agriculture officials to reach Marjah's farmers, and a USAID contract is paying a women-owned Afghan firm to rebuild the highway.

The military offensive may get the headlines, but what happens behind the scenes is equally important. As our military leaders put it, after clearing, we must hold, build, and transition. And Marjah's residents have made clear that they will judge the Afghan government and us on our ability to build enduring security and credible governance.

Our \$2 billion request for Afghanistan will support efforts like those in Marjah, which we are ramping up quickly and which need additional assistance and operations funding in 2010 to continue. New assistance will help Afghans provide for their families and revitalize the agricultural sector, which is crucial to reducing poppy cultivation and drawing insurgents back into society. New funding for governance and rule-of-law programs, as well as for the Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund, will help build capable institutions free from corruption. These will work in conjunction with U.S. support for the Afghan National Security Forces – which I would also urge you to fully fund. And through all of this, we have maintained our focus on expanding women's opportunity, one of our best tools for combating extremism and spurring progress.

Pakistan

In Pakistan, our efforts are vital to success in Afghanistan, and also to American security in their own right. We have made it a strategic priority to strengthen our partnership with the Pakistani people and to bolster the Pakistani state's ability to counter extremism and provide for its citizens.

I am under no illusion that success will come quickly or easily. But think where we were a year ago. The extremists were 100 miles from Islamabad and met little resistance in launching attacks on American troops from border areas. Since then, the Pakistani government has launched important offensives in Swat, in South Waziristan, and throughout the country.

We are moving in the right direction, and this progress has been possible because of our commitment to Pakistan's people and government. I have had many opportunities to personally stress this commitment, and yesterday, at the U.S.-Pakistan Strategic Dialogue, I once again saw the Pakistani leadership's resolve to advance shared interests.

The \$370 million for assistance and operations in this supplemental will allow us to expand civilian cooperation at a critical moment, as a down payment on our long-term partnership. The military offensives have created new humanitarian needs that, if not addressed immediately, could make these areas ripe for extremism. And in much of the country, water, energy, and economic problems have created new challenges.

Our success depends on rapidly and sustainably scaling up our efforts, especially high-impact projects that visibly demonstrate our long-term commitment, and on bolstering the

capacity of the Pakistanis while ensuring accountability. That simply cannot happen without more funds in the pipeline.

Iraq

In Iraq, we also face continued challenges. But in the wake of the election, we are at a moment of great opportunity – to consolidate stability and forge an enduring partnership sustained by a strong diplomatic presence.

Our \$2.1 billion supplemental request is a reasonable price to pay to help finish the job. And it comes amid a more than \$15 billion decrease in Defense funding

As we prepare to move from a Defense-led to a State-led mission in Iraq at the end of August, new funding will allow us to make sure our civilians can work safely in a still-dangerous place. And it will allow us to move from an intensive Defense-led police-training program to a smaller State-administered program for police leadership. Our support of Iraqi civilian law enforcement – like support for the Iraqi Security Forces – is critical to the success of Iraqi democracy.

We see on the horizon a self-sustaining Iraq that can meet the needs of its people and play a positive regional role. But we are not there yet. Even as we turn our attention to other conflicts, we must remain patient and committed. This supplemental is a timely investment in a strong partnership with a sovereign, democratic, and increasingly capable Iraq.

A Strategy of Results

In putting this supplemental together, I've had some tough conversations about priorities. And we've made some tough decisions. The result is a request that addresses only urgent needs directly related to our security interests.

I also want to emphasize that all of these programs have been designed with careful attention to accountability and a determination to learn from past mistakes. Waste and corruption are fundamental threats to our success, and we are serious about combating them. Our request includes funding for strengthened oversight by the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction and takes into account problems highlighted by the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction. We will also be working with you on updated benchmarks and reporting back to you on how we're meeting them.

Haiti

Let me also mention the Haiti supplemental released yesterday. Despite the work the United States has done to respond to the disaster and start the recovery process, there is still too much suffering in Haiti, and rebuilding will require billions of dollars in international support. Of our \$1.6 billion Haiti supplemental request, about \$500 million will reimburse relief efforts by State and USAID, while the rest will go to strategic

investments that, coordinated with our partners, will help drive recovery by building local capacity and catalyzing development.

The ongoing bipartisan support of these efforts has made clear to me that this Committee, Congress, and the American people understand the importance of our challenges and the urgency of our task, in Haiti and in frontline states. Thanks to the bravery and sacrifice of our diplomats, our development experts, and our men and women in uniform, we have reached a moment of opportunity. I thank you for your commitment, and look forward to working with you closely as we move forward.