



# Press Release

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B u r m a

**Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Kurt Campbell**  
**November 4, 2009**  
**Rangoon, Burma**

We have just concluded a two-day visit to Burma. We had extensive meetings with the government, with the democratic opposition, with the ethnic groups, and with many others.

This was an exploratory mission designed to explain to key stakeholders inside the country the results of the U.S. policy review towards Burma and the enduring commitments of our country that the review underscored: strong support for human rights, the release of Aung San Suu Kyi and all other political prisoners, and the pursuit of democratic reform.

At every meeting, the United States underscored its strong commitment to see Burma as a place that respects the human rights of its people, promotes democracy, and abides by U.N. resolutions with regards to proliferation.

Today in Rangoon, our team had a two-hour meeting with Aung San Suu Kyi – during which we reaffirmed our commitment to a dialogue among the government, the opposition, and the ethnic groups. The goal of such a dialogue would be national reconciliation and a fully inclusive political process in Burma.

In meetings with the government – including the Prime Minister, the Minister of Information, the Minister of Science and Technology, and others – we stated clearly that the United States is prepared to take steps to improve the relationship. But that process must be based on reciprocal and concrete efforts by the Burmese government.

Even as we continue to call for the release of Aung San Suu Kyi, we call on the Burmese government to allow her more frequent interactions with stakeholders, especially the Central Executive Committee of her own party.

We also underscored our commitment to the welfare of the people of Burma. We have reaffirmed our commitment to continuing our efforts to assist the people in recovering from the effects of Cyclone Nargis and to help combat the spread of infectious disease.

We look forward to continuing to work both with the government and other stakeholders towards tangible progress in Burma.