



Press Release

U.S. EMBASSY RANGOON

110 University Avenue, Kamayut Township, Rangoon, Burma



**Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs Kurt Campbell
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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 strategic goals 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 met with ethnic representatives and 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. Towards that end, we urge the Burmese government to allow Aung San Suu Kyi more frequent interactions with stakeholders, especially the Central Executive Committee of her own party.

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.

We underscored our support for the people of Burma and reaffirmed our continuing commitment to assist them in recovering from the effects of Cyclone Nargis and combating the spread of infectious disease.

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