



IGA quarterly news
Intergovernmental Affairs

Message from the Director

In this quarter, we focus on some of the many ways in which States, cities, and local communities across the United States are connected to international developments. Our feature article highlights an untold story about the new Iraq that will be of special interest to U.S. State and local officials: how the Coalition Provisional Authority is helping Iraqis to establish the structures of local government. We also discuss how American mayors are addressing global issues in their activities, present a new publication assessing the U.S. record on promoting human rights overseas, and outline some of the Department of State-sponsored events in your community.

Finally, we would like to congratulate Mayor James A. Garner of Hempstead, New York, on his inauguration as President of the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM). As many of you know, Mayor Garner has demonstrated a personal commitment to global issues associated with sustainable development, such as HIV/AIDS, and we look forward to continued cooperation with him and the USCM.

Nilda R. Pedrosa, Director, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

The following publications are available upon request:

- IGA: Working with State and Local Governments
- Diplomatic List
- Key Officers of Foreign Service Posts
- U.S. Department of State: A Guide to Doing Business
- Country Background Notes
- Travel Warnings
- Tips for Travelers

Strengthening Local Government in Iraq

With assistance and support from the United States and the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA), Iraqis are creating transparent democratic institutions of local government in the new Iraq where none existed previously.

Recognizing the critically important role played by local governments in connecting citizens to democracy, the U.S. Government is working with Iraqis who are building local representative councils and strengthening civil society.

Responsive municipal and provincial government is key to Iraqi political and social stability, and it is the foundation for a stable national government.



U.S. Civil Administrator to Iraq L. Paul Bremer speaks to members of the new Baghdad Interim City Advisory at the start of their first meeting, Monday, July 7, 2003, in Baghdad, Iraq.

Creating Local Representative Government

Despite considerable challenges to the establishment of a transparent, representative local government in a society that has known only dictatorship for the past 30 years, significant progress has been made in the first 3 months since the end of Saddam Hussein's regime.

In Baghdad alone, the U.S. Government has been working alongside Iraqis to create

88 neighborhood advisory councils. The councils provide a forum in which residents can interact with the CPA, the ministries, and municipal government in order to maintain stability, ensure the delivery of essential services, and facilitate economic recovery for the Iraqi people. These efforts culminated in the official creation and first meeting of the Interim Baghdad City Advisory Council on July 7,



Summer 2003

2003. Similar programs are beginning in Kirkuk, Mosul, Basrah, and smaller cities throughout the south.

Civic Education and Community-Based Groups

With U.S. help, Iraqis are building the capacities of civic institutions to participate in the political process. Civic education campaigns at the local level focus on informing citizens of their rights and responsibilities and of the authority and responsibilities of local government institu-

tions such as the governor/mayor, municipal councils, and service department heads.

The U.S. Government also is assisting local authorities with planning elections, opening public information cen-

ters, informing the public about local government activities, and holding public meetings to report on performance.

CPA Administrator Ambassador L. Paul Bremer III recently said, "The end-goal is full, free and fair elections: real

democracy and real accountability for the first time in Iraq's political history. That will mark a truly momentous moment for Iraq, when this country can once again lead this region by example, and by its modernity." ■

How You Can Become Involved

North Carolina-based Research Triangle Institute (RTI), a nonprofit organization, is implementing U.S. efforts to strengthen local governance in Iraq through a contract awarded by the U.S. Agency for International Development. Opportunities exist for U.S. professionals with expertise in local government and an interest in supporting democracy in Iraq. Further information can be obtained by contacting the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs at (202) 647-5358 or by visiting RTI's Web site at: www.rti.org.

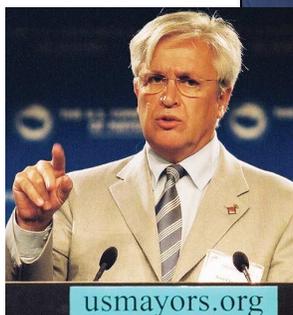
U.S. Mayors Are Thinking Globally

The 71st Annual Conference of the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) in Denver, Colorado, on June 5-10, showed how State and local officials are engaged in international affairs.

Twenty-five foreign mayors and more than 200 U.S. mayors exchanged best practices and discussed case studies on common challenges facing municipal leaders. For example, Mayor Joan Clos i Matheu of Barcelona, Spain, discussed during a plenary session speech his city's 1992 planning for the Olympic Games and the strong economic revitalization that followed.

Mayor David Wakadumura of Jinja, Uganda, discussed the HIV/AIDS pandemic in Africa as well as how he and other African mayors established an alliance to fight the disease at the local level. During the annual meeting, the USCM adopted unanimously a resolution that commended the Bush Administration and the U.S. Congress for authorizing new funding to HIV/AIDS overseas several weeks earlier.

Mayor James A. Garner of Hempstead, NY, currently serves as President of the U.S. Conference of Mayors



Mayor Joan Clos i Matheu of Barcelona, Spain, addresses a plenary session at the USCM Annual Meeting

On May 27, 2003, President Bush came to the Department of State to sign into law the United States Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Act of 2003, which commits \$15 billion to fight AIDS abroad. As Secretary of State Powell has said, "The HIV virus, like terrorism, kills indiscriminately and without mercy. As cruel as any tyrant, the virus can crush the human spirit. It is an insidious and relentless foe – more destructive than any army, any conflict, any weapon of mass destruction."

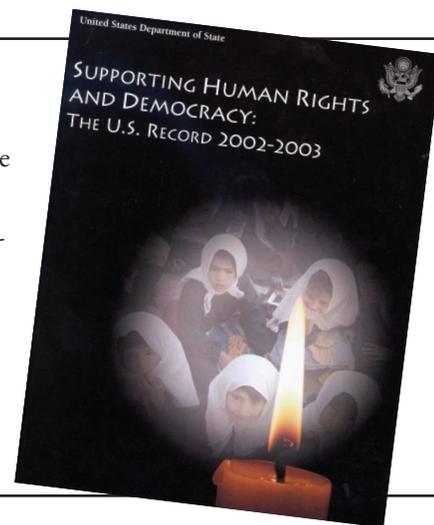
At press time, the Department of State is assisting Mayor James A. Garner and the USCM with a major delegation of U.S. mayors traveling to South Africa, Namibia, Uganda, and Swaziland to assess how American mayors and their counterparts in

Africa can work together to combat AIDS at the local level. Building on relationships with African mayors who attended the Denver meeting, this "Mission to Africa" is another example of how State and local officials in the U.S. are increasingly active in international affairs. ■

New Publication on U.S. Human Rights Policy

On June 24, the Department of State released a new annual report on U.S. efforts to encourage respect for human rights and democracy in the 92 countries and entities with the most human rights abuses. This report, *Supporting Human Rights and Democracy: The U.S. Record 2002-2003*, was submitted to Congress for the first time and complements the annual *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices* for 2002.

The report can be accessed on the internet by visiting <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/shrd/2002/>. To receive a free CD-ROM version or bound hard copy by mail, please contact the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs at paiga@state.gov or (202) 647-5358. ■



Outreach

APRIL 2003

- Arranged for trade policy specialist Patricia Scroggs to participate as a speaker and resource person during the **National Conference of State Legislatures'** spring forum in Boston, MA
- Arranged for Oklahoma Secretary of State Susan Savage and Tulsa County District Attorney Tim Harris to give remarks at a Department of State-hosted Town Hall meeting on foreign policy in **Tulsa, OK**, at the University of Oklahoma
- Organized a courtesy meeting in **Wilmington, DE**, between Public Affairs Officer for Western Hemisphere Affairs Chip Barclay and Mayor James M. Baker
- Arranged for Maryland Secretary of State R. Karl Aumann to deliver welcoming remarks at a conference in **Baltimore, MD**, on American foreign policy hosted by the Baltimore Council on Foreign Affairs
- Coordinated a courtesy meeting in **Lincoln, NE**, between Hometown Diplomat Nathaniel Lane and Mayor Don Wesley
- Arranged a courtesy visit in **Boulder, CO**, between Foreign Service officer Charles Jess and Boulder County Commissioner Paul Danish
- Facilitated a meeting in **Azusa, CA**, between Hometown Diplomat Shane Christiansen and Mayor Cristina Cruz-Madrid and for Christiansen to address volun-

teers at the **Senior Center Recognition Dinner** in Azusa

- Coordinated a meeting in **Jamestown, NY**, between Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Intelligence and Research Thomas Fingar and Mayor Sam Teresi
- Organized a courtesy visit in **State College, PA**, between Intelligence Research Analyst Thomas Zarzecki and Mayor Bill Welch
- Arranged a courtesy visit in **Chattanooga, TN**, between Consular Officer Abdelnour Zaiback and Hamilton County Commissioner William Cotton, Jr.
- Coordinated a courtesy visit in **Lexington, VA**, between Hometown Diplomat Brennen Gilmore and Commissioner of the Revenue Karen Roundy
- Facilitated a meeting in **San Diego, CA**, between Executive Secretariat staffer Dana Brown and Ana Molina-Rodriguez, Chief of Protocol in the Office of Deputy Mayor Ralph Inzunza
- Arranged for trade policy specialist Patricia Scroggs to lead a roundtable discussion in **Boston, MA**, with Massachusetts Trade Office staff and guests

MAY 2003

- Coordinated a courtesy meeting in **Miami, FL**, between Caribbean Affairs Office Director Mary Ellen T. Gilroy and Mayor Manuel A. Diaz
- Organized a courtesy meet-

ing in **Salisbury, MD**, between Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor Michael Southwick and Mayor Barrie Tilghman

- Arranged a courtesy visit in **Plano, TX**, between Hometown Diplomat Cari Eggspuehler and Mayor Pro Tempore Steve Stovall
- Facilitated a meeting in **San Diego, CA**, between Israel and Palestinian Affairs Deputy Office Director Stuart M. Seldowitz and Rudy Fernandez, Director of Binational Affairs in the Office of Mayor Dick Murphy
- Coordinated a courtesy visit in **Albany, NY**, between Hometown Diplomat Matthew Smith, New York State Senate Majority Leader Hugh Farley, and NY State Assemblyman James Tedisco
- Arranged for Matthew Smith to lead a luncheon roundtable discussion hosted by the Municipal Housing Authority of **Schenectady, NY**, about career opportunities with the U.S. Department of State
- Coordinated a courtesy visit in **San Luis Obispo, CA**, between Hometown Diplomat Gregory Groth and Mayor Dave F. Romero
- Facilitated a courtesy visit in **Schenectady, NY**, between Matthew Smith and Mayor Al Juczynski
- Arranged for Hometown Diplomat Michelle Ulrich to address the Town Board Meeting in **Pembroke, NY**, about U.S. foreign policy

- Organized a courtesy visit in **Jackson, MO**, between Hometown Diplomat Robert Waller and Mayor Paul Sander
- Arranged a courtesy meeting in **Reno, NV**, between Deputy State Department Spokesman Philip Reeker and Nevada Homeland Security Adviser Col. Jerry Bussell
- Coordinated a courtesy visit in **Elkhart, IN**, between Hometown Diplomat Eric V. Gaudiosi and Mayor David Miller
- Arranged courtesy visits in **Wilmington, DE**, between European Union Affairs Office Director Chuck English, Delaware State Senate Majority Leader Harris McDowell, Wilmington City Council President Ted Blunt, and Delaware International Manager John Pastor
- Arranged a courtesy meeting in **Gainesville, FL**, between Hometown Diplomat Bernadette Allen and Mayor Thomas D. Bussing
- Coordinated a courtesy call in **Dallas, TX**, between Hometown Diplomat Cari Eggspuehler and Dallas County Commissioner Jimmy Jackson
- Arranged a meeting in **Portland, OR**, between Hometown Diplomat David Osgood and Phyllis Oster, Director of International Relations and Cultural Affairs in the Office of Mayor Vera Katz
- Coordinated a visit to State Department headquarters for

(Continued on the back)

Mayor Al Jurczynski of **Schenectady, NY**, including briefings from Commercial and Business Affairs Deputy Office Director Robert Goldberg, Guyana Desk Officer Martin Tatuch, and U.S. Agency for International Development Guyana Desk Officer Sonya Heller

- Organized a courtesy visit in **Rome, GA**, between Hometown Diplomat Angela Renee Dickey, Mayor Ronnie J. Wallace, City Manager John Bennet, and Chairman Pro Tempore Jamie Doss

JUNE 2003

- Participated in and hosted a Department of State exhibit at the 71st annual meeting of the **U.S. Conference of Mayors** in Denver, CO



Left to right: Kingsville, TX, Mayor Phil Esquivel, Miami, FL, Mayor Manny Diaz, and IGA Office Director Nilda R. Pedrosa at the meeting of the International Affairs Committee during the U.S. Conference of Mayors annual conference in Denver, CO.

- Arranged courtesy meetings in **Canton, MA**, between Hometown Diplomat Heidi Panetta, Massachusetts State Senator Brian Joyce, and Massachusetts State Representative William Galvin

- Arranged for Intergovernmental Affairs Officer David Freudenwald to address the

County Executives of America board meeting in Washington, DC, regarding State Department services available to county elected officials

- Arranged courtesy visit in **Dallas, TX**, between Hometown Diplomat John Win Dayton, Dallas County Commissioner John Wiley Price, and Dallas County Judge Margaret Keliher

- Coordinated a courtesy meeting in **Marysville, MI**, between Hometown Diplomat Michelle L. Jones and Mayor Garry Orr

- Arranged a courtesy visit in **Jackson, MI**, between Robert Waller and Mayor Martin Griffin

- Organized a courtesy call in **East Grand Rapids, MI**, between Hometown Diplomat Bridget A. Brink and Mayor John Logie

- Coordinated a visit to Department of State headquarters for **Pennsylvania** Senator Stewart Greenleaf, including meetings with Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Public Affairs Robert Tappan, Korean Affairs Deputy Office Director Ferial Saeed, and U.S. Agency for International Development Senior Policy Adviser Jon Brause

- Arranged a courtesy call in **Englewood, NJ**, between Hometown Diplomat Abigail Aronson, NJ State Representative Loretta Weinberg, and NJ State Representative Gordon Johnson ■

IGA on the Horizon

Be sure to check this section each quarter for updates...

SEPTEMBER 2003

National Association of Towns and Townships
Annual Meeting, Washington, DC

OCTOBER 2003

Council of State Governments Annual State Trends and
Leadership Forum, Pittsburgh, PA

U.S. Conference of Mayors
Fall Leadership Meeting, Miami, FL

About the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs How the IGA Office can help

Access:

- Coordinate meetings with Department experts in Washington or your community;
- Arrange special-issue briefings; and
- Create a forum in which your foreign policy views can be heard by senior Department officials.

Assistance:

- Provide information on foreign policy, international trade, education, exchanges, and protocol issues;
- Engage the support of U.S. Embassies and Missions for official delegations' travel abroad; and
- Direct State and local officials to the appropriate Department office for international, travel, or foreign policy concerns.

Information Requests

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