



United States Department of State

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Washington, D.C. 20520

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August 26, 2015

INFORMATION MEMO FOR UNDER SECRETARY SEWALL (J)

FROM: INL – William R. Brownfield 

SUBJECT: (SBU) INL's Support for Combatting Violent Extremism in Morocco

(SBU) In the wake of the Arab Spring, Morocco has demonstrated a commitment to a slow but steady path of democratic reform. In support of Morocco's reform agenda, and in line with NEA's policy to support transitions to democracy in the region, INL's long-term goal in Morocco is to ensure a growing number of Moroccan citizens have access to an increasingly equitable criminal justice system. According to a recent Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization Operations (CSO) literature review, countries that restrict and suppress civil liberties and lack a presence of democratic institutions expose themselves to risks of terrorist attacks and produce transnational terrorists. Therefore, INL is working to achieve its goal by helping criminal justice sector institutions, including the national police, the courts, and the penitentiary administration, to grow increasingly equitable in carrying out their missions in accordance with Moroccan law. INL has approximately a dozen programs across these three sectors focused on reform and modernization in support of this long-term goal.

(SBU) Since the start of the INL program in 2005, Morocco has demonstrated the political will and capacity to absorb assistance in the criminal justice sector. In addition, following the White House Summit to Counter Violent Extremism (CVE) in Washington, DC in February 2015, Morocco has proven to be an engaging partner and regional leader with regard to CVE issues. You agreed to reprogram \$6 million in FY2015 INCLE-OCO from State Africa Regional to support CVE-related activities in Morocco to advance CVE goals and objectives in the region. You will announce this new support during the Leaders' Summit on Countering ISIL and Violent Extremism at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in September.

(SBU) INL will use the \$6 million to support CVE-related activities in the police, corrections, and justice sectors in Morocco. Specific activities include:

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- **(SBU) Morocco Adult Corrections Reform:** INL will continue to work with the Moroccan Prison Administration to consistently provide safe, secure, humane, and transparent correctional environments. Funds will expand current INL programs focused on improving prison management to include rehabilitation and reintegration, and classification of all offenders, particularly those vulnerable to indoctrination by violent extremists, to expedite successes in this area.
- **(SBU) Police Reform:** INL will expand its current work with the National Police to create standardized operating procedures (SOPs). INL will provide technical assistance to the police to develop standard SOPs for criminal investigations, emphasizing the collection and management of evidence as a critical element to putting together a viable case against violent offenders, to include violent extremists, especially in complex and specialized cases.
- **(SBU) Justice Sector Reform:** INL will begin efforts to implement the second phase of its assistance to the Ministry of Justice in implementing reforms approved by the King under the 2013 Judiciary Sector Reform Charter. Currently, INL is preparing to execute two feasibility studies as well as a needs assessment to determine the requirements for creating three entities called for under the charter: an independent Supreme Judicial Council, a National Observatory for Analysis and Statistical Monitoring of Criminal Phenomena, and a National Center for Criminal Records. In an effort to expedite the establishment of these three entities, INL will assist the MOJ in addressing the requirements identified in the feasibility studies and needs assessment.

(SBU) INL developed these projects in coordination with Embassy Rabat and the Moroccan government to further CVE objectives by improving the capacity and transparency of the government's criminal justice institutions and thereby increasing the state's legitimacy. Empirical evidence shows that the lack of legitimacy and injustice increase participation and support for violent extremism, as noted in CSO's research. These funds, which are subject to Congressional notification due to the ten percent increase to Morocco, are not anticipated to be available until next fiscal year due to pending reporting requirements and the high volume of priority notifications required for unrelated expiring funds. In the meantime, INL will further refine the project objectives and activities in coordination with the Moroccans and work with F and your staff on the language for the UNGA announcement.

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RELEASE IN FULL

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION**

PROGRAM: Morocco

APPROPRIATION CATEGORY: International Narcotics Control and
Law Enforcement Overseas
Contingency Operations (INCLE-
OCO)

INTENDED FY 2016 OBLIGATION: \$6,000,000 (FY 2015 INCLE-OCO)

Pursuant to section 634A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and section 7015(c) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2015 (Div. J, P.L. 113--235), this serves to advise that the Department intends to obligate \$6,000,000 in FY 2015 INCLE-OCO funds for rule of law and human rights and security sector reform projects in Morocco.

The Department notified \$3,000,000 for INCLE assistance for Morocco in the FY 2015 Congressional Budget Justification, and the FY 2015 653(a) INCLE allocation for Morocco was \$3,000,000. This notification is for an additional \$6,000,000 in INCLE-OCO assistance for Morocco to support programs that will counter violent extremism. Following the 653(a) allocations, the Department identified a need for increased funding to address the flow of foreign fighters originating in Morocco. Morocco remains a key source country for foreign terrorist fighters in Syria and Iraq. Funds notified herein will address drivers of violent extremism within the Morocco corrections, police, and rule of law sectors.

MOROCCO - \$6,000,000

Stabilization Operations and Security Sector Reform - \$5,000,000

Prison Management: This program will support Morocco's efforts to counter and prevent violent extremism within prisons, a critical need identified by the U.S. Government and Morocco. Building upon previous program successes, funds will be used to support corrections projects focused on strengthening prison management, including through policies and procedures development, enhanced classification tools, and rehabilitation efforts. Through mentoring, training, and technical assistance, INL will help the Moroccan prison administration develop

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and implement prison management policies and procedures, develop and implement an objective classification tool, and develop and expand rehabilitation programs.

Police Development: Funds will be used to support ongoing and new projects to reform Morocco's law enforcement institutions, an area of critical need where INL can make a meaningful and significant impact. These efforts will help provide a counter narrative to violent extremist recruitment and build public trust and confidence in the police. INL will support several police reform projects that focus on police professionalization, including through citizen engagement and communications as well as police accountability. Through training, mentoring, and technical assistance, INL will also work closely with the police to develop and implement a communications strategy that effectively engages citizens and the media.

Rule of Law and Human Rights - \$1,000,000

Rule of Law: Funds will be used for new justice reform programs in Morocco, including programming to implement the recommendations from Morocco's 2012-2013 national dialogue on justice reform. Improving trust in the justice system may reduce grievances that contribute to violent extremism. INL will also provide training, technical assistance, and mentoring to the Ministry of Justice and other justice sector actors, including but not limited to alternative dispute resolution, case management, mediation, electronic exchange of statements of facts, sentence length reduction and negotiation, and court administration. Programs may include work with justice sector actors and institutions to enhance access to justice and the delivery of legal services to ensure that the public can seek timely redress of grievances.

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION**

**RELEASE IN PART
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PROGRAM: State Africa Regional - Other

APPROPRIATION CATEGORY: International Narcotics Control and
Law Enforcement-Overseas
Contingency Operations (INCLE-OCO)

INTENDED FY 2016 OBLIGATION: \$20,500,000 (FY 2015 INCLE-OCO)

Pursuant to section 634A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (FAA), and sections 7015(c) and (f) of the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2015 (Div. J, P.L. 113-235), this is to advise that the Department of State intends to obligate \$20,500,000 in FY 2015 INCLE-OCO for program and support costs to Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) in Africa and to satisfy special notification requirements associated with Somalia, as described herein. This notification is for \$20,500,000 in program assistance for CVE activities.

Stabilization Operations and Security Sector Reform – \$11,600,000

Security Sector Reform and Community Driven Policing (\$11,600,000): INCLE-OCO resources will support efforts to reform the civilian security sector and strengthen the relationships between communities and civilian security forces. The assistance will help improve law enforcement capacities to respond to citizen complaints and public safety concerns, and therefore, will help address a major driver of violent extremism. Intended activities include, but are not limited to:

- Train and mentor local community and law enforcement stakeholders to lead community-driven police reform efforts.
- Facilitate community-driven dialogues on law enforcement reform topics critical to citizen security and develop a mutual respect and trust.
- Conduct regional workshops to share information, exchange best practices, and create networks for future operational needs.
- Provide law enforcement training, mentoring, and material support in people-centered policing activities to meet citizen security expectations.

Intended beneficiaries include Benin, Burkina Faso, Kenya, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Tanzania and Senegal.

Rule of Law and Human Rights - \$8,900,000

Corrections and Accountability (\$8,900,000): INCLE-OCO resources will support efforts to strengthen criminal justice systems by enhancing the capacities of corrections and justice sector systems. This assistance will help impede violent extremist recruitment of others prisoners by improving corrections officials' capacities to recognize and effectively manage high risk offenders. Programming will also help corrections and justice sector actors improve detention procedures, reducing the potential for inmate recruitment and radicalization by violent extremists. In addition, this assistance will help justice sector actors to investigate and prosecute public officials for crimes that erode the public's confidence in government institutions and thereby might lead individuals to violent extremism. These political grievances and perceived injustices can be exploited by violent extremists to recruit or radicalize others. Therefore, activities to develop and improve these institutions are important to countering violent extremism.

Corrections activities include, but are not limited to:

- Training, mentoring, and material support to improve the management, policies, and procedures of corrections systems and to ensure fair and appropriate detention of both pretrial detainees and individuals convicted in the future.
- Training, mentoring, and material support to manage high risk and vulnerable inmate populations, conduct vulnerability and threat assessments, respond to security incidents, transport prisoners, and develop programs to ease inmates' integration into society upon their release.

Justice sector activities include, but are not limited to:

- Provide technical assistance, mentoring, and material support to investigators, forensic accountants, and prosecutors to conduct investigations and prosecutions of complex criminal cases.
- Provide technical assistance and material support to the judiciary to support the administration of justice.
- Establish a vetted unit of investigators and prosecutors to counter high-level corruption.

Intended beneficiaries include Kenya, Mauritania, and Somalia.

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