

Unknown

From: Patrick Disney [PDisney@niacouncil.org]
Sent: Monday, January 05, 2009 9:49 AM
To: 'mamitay@osi-dc.org'; 'new-iran-policy-coordinating-committee@googlegroups.com'
Subject: RE: Draft of Administration recommendations

Mike,

Good point about human rights. One comment though--I don't think the foundation for talks should be mutual respect for human rights because obviously Iran does not yet satisfy that requirement. Human rights should be a subject of the talks, not a precondition. What about:

➤ **End the "Democracy Fund" as we know it**

The State Department's "Democracy Fund" has failed to aid the cause of democracy in Iran. Instead, it has led to campaigns of increased repression and intimidation by government hardliners. The President-elect should work with Congress to end this failed program and replace it with proven alternatives such as people-to-people exchanges and public broadcasting. **American support for human rights and democracy should be a cornerstone of all diplomatic initiatives with Iran, but should be done in a way that does not jeopardize the safety of Iranian civil society activists.** In order to promote democratic ideals such as freedom of the press, US Government broadcasting must improve its credibility in the eyes of Iranian citizens. This requires a new commitment to journalistic integrity and reportorial objectivity, along with enough resources to ensure US broadcasting in Iran promotes and protects American ideals.

-p

-----Original Message-----

From: new-iran-policy-coordinating-committee@googlegroups.com [mailto:new-iran-policy-coordinating-committee@googlegroups.com] On Behalf Of Mike Amitay
 Sent: Monday, January 05, 2009 12:27 PM
 To: PDisney@niacouncil.org; new-iran-policy-coordinating-committee@googlegroups.com
 Subject: RE: Draft of Administration recommendations

Hi Patrick,

We think it is important to include some mention of support for human rights in Iran, especially given escalating crackdown. I think if we fail to address this issue, we leave ourselves open to a range of critics in the US and Iran. It might be included in sentence "The foundation for a new approach to US-Iran relations should be based on good-faith negotiations, dialogue and mutual respect for human rights and civil liberties." It could also be appropriate to suggest that reprogrammed "democracy promotion" funding aim to support human rights and its defenders in Iran.

Mike

 Mike Amitay - Senior Policy Analyst

12/17/2009

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-----Original Message-----

From: new-iran-policy-coordinating-committee@googlegroups.com
 [mailto:new-iran-policy-coordinating-committee@googlegroups.com] On
 Behalf Of pdisney@niacouncil.org
 Sent: Monday, December 29, 2008 2:07 PM
 To: new-iran-policy-coordinating-committee@googlegroups.com
 Subject: Draft of Administration recommendations

Hello all,

I hope you all had a restful holiday. Attached is the first draft of our recommendations to the administration. Please review it very thoroughly and communicate any thoughts or revisions to the whole group.

I am confident this draft includes all of the main recommendations we agreed on at our last meeting.

Recognizing that we are attempting to form a consensus among a disparate group of opinions, I ask that you be somewhat flexible with specific language. Just so long as you agree with the main thrust of the recommendations, that's all I'm asking. We'll communicate as much on the final draft.

Once this publication is completed, we will then get to work on its Congressional counterpart.

Also, I am setting a deadline for NEXT MONDAY for a final draft of our recommendations to the administration. Like John said, the transition team is basically finished. But this isn't necessarily a bad thing, because we can sit down with the policy advisory team, so long as we get this done soon. So please, take a moment in the coming days to review this document.

I'm hoping for unanimous approval here, too. The strength of our recommendations comes from 100% buy-in from all of our organizations. I am confident that we can find a workable consensus among all of us. Thanks again for your time and effort on this, and I look forward to your feedback.

-patrick

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