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Nonproliferation and Economic Statecraft

Fact Sheet

Office of the Spokesperson

Washington, DC

June 13, 2012



On June 14, Global Economic Statecraft Day, U.S. embassies around the world are hosting more than 160 events in more than 125 countries to encourage connections between American businesses and foreign markets.

A clear understanding of economics and market forces informs the tools used to fight proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, from sanctions and security assistance to diplomacy. Whether targeting smugglers and front companies or designing border security programs or training our allies to respond in the event of an attack, our diplomats and development experts must understand the economic implications – and opportunities – associated with the policies they design and implement. Harnessing these forces advances nonproliferation efforts while allowing us to help create a constructive environment for secure international trade and a more level playing field for U.S. industry. Economic tools and economic thinking advance our strategic nonproliferation objectives and support America's economic renewal.

Ensuring that U.S. Firms Get a Fair Deal Abroad: Senior nonproliferation officials regularly meet with foreign counterparts to ensure U.S. industry is not undercut by foreign export controls, because we know when the game isn't rigged, our companies can win.

Helping U.S. Firms Comply with U.S. Nonproliferation Rules: Senior nonproliferation officials meet regularly with nuclear and aerospace industry representatives to ensure exports comply with nonproliferation requirements so that our companies can advance our shared strategic objectives while also tending to their bottom line and creating American jobs.

Promoting Exports of U.S. Technology: According to the International Atomic Energy Agency, sixty countries are currently considering the development of domestic nuclear power programs and the U.S. could capture a share of that growing market. Through our agreements for peaceful nuclear cooperation, we provide a legal foundation for the profitable export of U.S. nuclear material and equipment, while ensuring the highest safety and security standards.

Improving the Effectiveness of Export Controls and Border Security: Our border security and strategic trade control assistance improve supply chain security and increase public confidence in international trade and investment. Also, the proposed Arms Trade Treaty should raise the global standards for the control of arms exports thus lowering the risk of illicit arms trading and leveling the playing field for American industry.

Strengthening National Security through U.S. Export Control Reform: This initiative will strengthen our national security and enhance the competitiveness of key U.S. manufacturing and technology sectors by focusing controls on the most critical products and technologies and thus providing a more predictable playing field for American companies.

For further information, please contact the ISN Bureau at isninfo@state.gov or visit <http://www.state.gov/t/isn/>.

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