



# COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

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# FACT SHEET

May 5, 2009

## HOLDING AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN ACCOUNTABLE

Because the stability and security of Afghanistan and Pakistan are tied more to the capacity and conduct of their governments and to the resolve of their societies than it is to the policies of the United States, the 2009 Supplemental Appropriations Bill unveiled this week by Congressman Dave Obey (D-WI), Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, provides all of the assistance requested by the President, and then some, but requires a hard-nosed review of the situation in one year to determine whether the Governments of Afghanistan and Pakistan are, or are not, demonstrating the necessary commitment, capability, conduct and unity of purpose to warrant the continuation of the President's policy announced on March 27, 2009.



Rather than impose so-called benchmarks, which if they are too tough will bind the President's hands and if they are too weak will be nothing more than political cover, this bill requires the President to submit an assessment of the Afghan and Pakistani governments by February of 2010 with respect to five concrete standards of performance.

These standards are:

1. The level of political consensus and unity of purpose to confront the political and security challenges facing the region;
2. The level of government corruption and actions taken to eliminate it;
3. The performance of security forces with respect to counterinsurgency operations and establishing population security;
4. The performance of intelligence agencies in cooperating with the U.S. in counterinsurgency and counterterrorism and not undermining the security of U.S. troops and U.S. objectives in the region; and
5. The ability of the government to control the territory within their borders.

In the meantime, this bill provides:

- \$5.12 billion for Afghanistan, including: \$3.6 billion to expand and improve capabilities of the Afghan security forces; \$980 million to fund economic development and agriculture programs, strengthen national and provincial governance and expand the rule of law; and \$536 million for diplomatic operations including additional civilian staff and diplomatic security.
- \$2.3 billion for Pakistan, including: \$997 million to help address the economic crisis, including agriculture and food security, assist the displaced population, strengthen national and provincial governance, expand the rule of law, and to improve access and quality of education; \$46 million for diplomatic operations including additional civilian staff and diplomatic security; \$897 million for a new secure embassy and consulates in Pakistan; and \$400 million for the Pakistan Counterinsurgency Capability Fund to help train and equip the Pakistani security forces for counterinsurgency operations.

In short, with the funds in this bill for Pakistan and Afghanistan, the United States is doing its part. It is now up to the Afghan and Pakistani governments to do theirs.

The language, which can be found on page 62 of the bill, reads:

## EVALUATING AFGHAN AND PAKISTANI CONDUCT AND COMMITMENT

Sec. 21008. (a) Findings Regarding Progress in Afghanistan and Pakistan - Congress makes the following findings:

- (1) Over 40,000 American military personnel are currently serving in Afghanistan, with the bravery and professionalism consistent with the finest traditions of the United States Armed Forces, and are deserving of the strong support of all Americans.
- (2) Many American service personnel have lost their lives, and many more have been wounded in Afghanistan; the American people will always honor their sacrifice and honor their families.
- (3) Afghanistan and Pakistan are experiencing a deterioration of their internal security resulting from a growing insurgency fueled by Al Qaeda, the Taliban and other extremist networks that continue to operate along the western border of Pakistan, including in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA) as well as in areas under central government authority such as Quetta in Baluchistan and Muridke in Punjab.
- (4) The United States and the international community have welcomed and supported Pakistan's return to civilian rule after almost 9 years with the free and fair elections of February 18, 2008 and have supported the development of a democratic government in Afghanistan.
- (5) Since 2001, the United States has contributed more than \$33,000,000,000 to Afghanistan and \$12,000,000,000 to Pakistan to strengthen both country's governance, economy, education system, healthcare services, and military.
- (6) The governments of Afghanistan and Pakistan must expand the writ of the national government across all provinces to secure their borders, protect their population, enforce the rule of law, and tackle the pervasive problem of corruption in order to bring security and stability to their people.

(b) Report— Because the stability and security of the region is tied more to the capacity and conduct of the Afghan and Pakistani governments and to the resolve of both societies than it is to the policies of the United States, the President shall submit a report to Congress, not later than the date of submission of the fiscal year 2011 budget request, assessing whether the Governments of Afghanistan and Pakistan are, or are not, demonstrating the necessary commitment, capability, conduct and unity of purpose to warrant the continuation of the President's policy announced on March 27, 2009. The President on the basis of information gathered and coordinated by the NSC shall advise the Congress on how that assessment requires, or does not require, changes to that policy. The measures used to evaluate the Afghan and Pakistani governments' record of concrete performance shall include the following standards of performance:

- (1) Level of political consensus and unity of purpose across ethnic, tribal, religious and party affiliations to confront the political and security challenges facing the region.
- (2) Level of government corruption and actions taken to eliminate it.
- (3) Performance of the respective security forces in developing a counterinsurgency capability, conducting counterinsurgency operations and establishing population security.
- (4) Performance of the respective intelligence agencies in cooperating with the United States on counterinsurgency and counterterrorism operations and in purging themselves of policies, programs and personnel that provide material support to extremist networks that target U.S. troops or undermine US objectives in the region.
- (5) Ability of the Afghan and Pakistani governments to effectively control the territory within their respective borders.