

13. Pursue the development and deployment of cleaner, more efficient energy technologies of all kinds, including renewable and other low-emitting sources of energy, enhance ASEAN's regional energy infrastructure, promote energy security, promote the protection of the environment and the sustainability of natural resources, recognizing that economic growth is a necessary condition for deploying the cleaner technologies needed for continued environmental improvement, and pledge further collaboration in all modes of transport, including air maritime and multimodal transport to facilitate the movement of peoples and goods;

Social and Development Cooperation

14. Collaborate in the implementation of the Vientiane Action Programme (VAP) and its successor programmes or plans so that ASEAN may accelerate its regional integration, recognizing the importance of the Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) and other sub-regional growth areas which would bridge the development gaps within ASEAN, and stress the importance of cooperation to promote sustainable development;

15. Cooperate at the regional and global levels on disaster management, including the development of regional and global standby arrangements for disaster management and emergency response, and in this connection, welcome the ASEAN Standby Arrangements for Disaster Relief and Emergency Response;

16. Resolve to work together to prevent the spread and reduce the harm of HIV/AIDS, SARS, other infectious diseases and, on an urgent basis, develop mechanisms for cooperation to contain outbreaks of avian influenza as well as pledge cooperation to put in place systems and procedures to control infectious diseases including animal diseases;

17. Foster and deepen cooperation in science and technology, and information and communications technology and encourage people-to-people interactions and exchanges as well as inter-faith dialogues, and promote cooperation through networking activities and capacity building in education such as student exchange, fellowship programme, academic attachment and research collaboration, as well as promotion of ASEAN studies

in the U.S. and U.S. studies in ASEAN Member Countries;

18. Welcome the intention of the U.S. to foster educational exchanges and the continuing efforts of the U.S. to strengthen its engagement with the ASEAN Secretariat and support the capacity building of the Secretariat;

Follow-Up

19. Call on the ASEAN Foreign Ministers and the U.S. Secretary of State, with the assistance of the senior officials, to develop a Plan of Action to implement the ASEAN-United States Enhanced Partnership;

20. Call on the ASEAN Economic Ministers (AEM) and the United States Trade Representative (USTR) to meet and contribute to the implementation of the ASEAN-U.S. Enhanced Partnership and its Plan of Action.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this joint statement.

Remarks Prior to Discussions With President Vladimir Putin of Russia in Busan, South Korea

November 18, 2005

President Putin. Distinguished Mr. President, allow me to cordially welcome you and your colleagues. And I get impression that with some of your colleagues, I never said goodbye. [Laughter] And it is very pleasant indeed, that these colleagues, we've virtually had permanent contacts on almost all bilateral and international issues.

And I'm especially pleased to have this meeting with you here in South Korea. You stayed here for quite a while, and probably will tell me of your impressions.

President Bush. Well, thanks, Vladimir, for hosting this meeting. I always enjoy a chance to have a good discussion with you. You're right. We've got a very important relationship. We value your advice, and we value the strategic relationship we've built. So thanks—thanks again for hosting this.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:16 p.m. at the Busan Marriott. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Statement on House of Representatives Action on Legislation To Reduce Federal Spending

November 18, 2005

I applaud the Republican Members of the House who passed a significant savings package that will restrain spending and keep us on track to cut the deficit in half by 2009. We will continue to fund our priorities in a fiscally responsible way and ensure that taxpayer money is spent wisely or not spent at all. I urge the House and Senate to reach agreement promptly on a spending-reduction package that I can sign into law this year.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

November 11

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he traveled to Avoca, PA, where, upon arrival, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Anthony Blackwell, Sr. He then traveled to Tobyhanna, PA.

In the afternoon, at Tobyhanna Army Depot, the President met with family members of U.S. military personnel killed in Iraq and Afghanistan. Later, he returned to Washington, DC. While en route aboard Air Force One, he had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister John Howard of Australia.

November 12

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

November 14

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he and Mrs. Bush traveled to Anchorage, AK, where, upon ar-

ival in the afternoon, he met with USA Freedom Corps volunteer Peter Henry.

In the afternoon, at Elmendorf Air Force Base, the President met with family members of U.S. military personnel killed in Iraq and Afghanistan. Later, he and Mrs. Bush traveled to Kyoto, Japan, arriving Tuesday evening.

November 16

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, at the Kinkakuji Temple of the Golden Pavilion, he and Mrs. Bush participated in a cultural event.

Later in the morning, at the Kyoto State Guest House, the President met with Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi of Japan.

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush had lunch with Prime Minister Koizumi. Later, they traveled to Busan, South Korea, arriving in the evening.

The President announced his intention to nominate Marc L. Kesselman to be General Counsel of the Department of Agriculture.

The President announced his intention to nominate Peter N. Kirsanow to be a member of the National Labor Relations Board.

The President announced his intention to nominate Claudia A. McMurray to be Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs.

The President announced his intention to nominate Daniel Meron to be General Counsel of the Department of Health and Human Services.

The President announced his intention to appoint Noel Michael McKinnell as a member of the Commission of Fine Arts.

The President declared a major disaster in Kansas and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and flooding on October 1–2.

November 17

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, he and Mrs. Bush traveled to Gyeongju, South Korea, where, at the Hotel Hyundai, he met with President Roh Moo-hyun of South Korea.

In the afternoon, the President and Mrs. Bush had lunch with President Roh and his