

PACKET CONTENTS:

Support United Nations Peacekeeping

'HOW TO LOBBY' (Instructions)	Page 2
MEETING AGENDA (To help your group plan)	Page 3
SAMPLE LETTER (For Scheduling)	Page 4
ISSUE BACKGROUNDER	Page 5
FACT SHEET (Bring to your visit & leave behind)	Pages 6-7

Talking-Point Short-Cuts:

(Here are some example talking points to get you started)

"U.N. Peacekeeping is a Good Investment." The United States voted for each of the 18 United Nations peacekeeping missions currently deployed around the world. Yet, based on the administration's current budget request, the U.S. will be well more than \$1 billion behind in its payments to support these missions.

"The Whole World Is Our Backyard." We can't afford to ignore problems beyond our borders anymore. Helping people keep peace and start to rebuild in war-torn regions makes us safer and is the right thing to do.

"High Success, Low Cost." An independent report by the RAND Corporation illustrates that the U.N. has by far the most successful peacekeeping force in the world. The U.S. Government Accountability Office confirmed that peace operations in Haiti would have cost the U.S. eight times as much money as the U.N. has spent.

"Keep Our Promises, Pay Our Bills." Not funding our part of U.N. peacekeeping sets a bad example and makes it less likely for troop contributing nations to do their part. That makes it harder for current missions to succeed and for new missions to get off the ground.

How to Lobby

For more detailed information and for links to resources, please refer to the website:

<http://www.globalsolutions.org/lobby>

STEP ONE >>> Find Your Issue & Your Elected Official

Pick ONE or TWO (at most!) issues.

Be sure to note whether the issue is moving through the House or Senate right now.

- Curbing Climate Change (House AND Senate bills exist)
- Ending "Oil Aid" Abroad (House bill)
- Supporting Global Peacekeeping (Senate bill)
- Establishing an "Emergency Peacekeeping Service" at the UN (House bill)
- Passing the 'Law of the Sea' Treaty (Senate issue)

Who's Your Leader?

- Determine the name, phone number and address of the official you'll meet with.
<http://www.congressmerge.com/onlinedb/index.htm>

STEP TWO >>> Gather Your Group & Form Your Plan

Form a small group to help you conduct your lobby visit.

- Shoot for at least five people per visit. More is better.
- Need help? Contact us at [outreach\[at\]globalsolutions.org](mailto:outreach@globalsolutions.org) and we will help you organize your lobby group
- Plan to meet (see the example meeting agenda found in the lobby packet)

Share the work.

- Assign a *scheduler*: The scheduler lands the meeting.
- Assign a *coordinator*: The coordinator should arrange a pre-lobby meeting with the group. The coordinator should lead the meeting, and bring packet materials that the group will use to lobby to with.
- Assign a *strategist*: The strategist should arrive at the pre-lobby meeting with a pretty good idea of how your leader generally votes on global issues and what he or she might think about the issue that you are planning to lobby on.

STEP THREE >>> The Dress Rehearsal

Practice Makes Perfect!

- Prepare for your lobby visit. Make sure that you have all the materials that you need. Walk through the lobby visit with other group members

STEP FOUR >>> The Real Deal

Arrive Early.

- The larger the group, the earlier you should arrive in order to ensure readiness. However, don't expect the leader or staffer to arrive on time.

A little small talk is good.

- Allow time for small talk at the outset, but not too much. Remember, it's your visit.

Don't burn bridges!

- Remember, you are there to build a relationship. If your leader has supported your issue in the past, commend them for their help. Even if they don't agree, remember, "No permanent friends, no permanent enemies." Some day, s/he may come through.

Listen well.

- Much of lobbying is listening, looking for indications of the leader's views, and finding opportunities to provide good information.

STEP FIVE >>> Follow-Up! (And Let Us Know How It Went)

Send a "Thank You".

- Elected officials and staffers are busy people—thank them for their time and attention to your concerns. If commitments were made in the meeting, repeat your understanding of them. If staff members were present, write to them too. Every person in that office can be an important ally

Are promises being kept?

- Your job isn't done, your mission isn't accomplished until you get a definitive response from your representative. Be persistent and ensure that your concerns are recognized and listened to.

Don't forget about us!

- Remember to tell us how it went! Please, please, please keep us in the loop! Email us: outreach@globalsolutions.org or call: Jessica Brown: 202-330-4121 to tell us how your visit went!

AGENDA

LOBBY PLANNING MEETING

Date:

Time:

Meeting called by: _____

Attendees: _____, _____, _____, _____, _____,
_____, _____, _____, _____, _____

Agenda Items

Introductions	Get to know who's who.
Discuss the Issues	What topic or topics will you lobby on? Discuss the issue(s); perhaps read through the background information from the 'packet'. Which bill(s) fits best with your chosen topic(s)? Are you planning a visit with your House Representative or one or both of your Senator's?
Assign Tasks & Roles	Assign a scheduler (makes the lobby appointment), assign a coordinator (brings all lobby materials to the meeting, makes sure people know their roles during the visit), assign a strategist (learns about the political stance of your leader(s) around your chosen topic(s)), assign any other roles you think necessary.
Plan the Visit	Draft your lobby meeting agenda. Who will speak and in what order (Speakers should plan on speaking only three-minutes or less per person)? Read through the fact sheet(s). What talking points will you highlight? Are there talking points that are not in the lobby materials that might be more relevant to your particular leader(s)?
Recap & Next Steps	Before you break the meeting, recap who is doing what. What information does the group still need to collect before the visit? How will the group communicate with each other (i.e. is someone collecting cells and emails, or are you using an on-line networking tool?).
Seek Sustenance	Post meetings are a great time to chill and get to know each other better. Changing the world is hard work. Treat yourselves!

Notes:

Use this section for additional instructions, comments, or directions.

[Today's Date], 2007

The Honorable [First and Last Name]
[Address]
[City, State, Zip]

Dear [title] [last name]:

As a constituent, I am writing to request the opportunity to meet with you to discuss [your issue] and a related piece of legislation that concerns me greatly – [Enter bill name and number].

During the meeting, I will be asking that [Representative/Senator Last Name] support positive U.S. global engagement by supporting [bill number]. As a member of Citizens for Global Solutions and a voter in [State (for Senator) or District (for Representative)], I believe that we have a responsibility to make the world a safe, just and equitable place. This will require teamwork and a common set of rules we can all live by. No one country can solve global problems alone, and the U.S. should be a leader in this collective effort.

I am available during the next congressional recess in August, but can work around your schedule. I will contact your office in a few days to be sure that you have received this request and to discuss the best time for a meeting. If helpful, I will gladly submit a list of names of others involved in the visit to you before the meeting. Thank you, in advance, for your time and willingness to communicate with your constituents.

Sincerely,

Name
Address
Phone



Keep our Promises, Pay our Bills: Lift the Cap

It's time to lift the peacekeeping cap and fund our fair share of the U.N.'s crucial missions.

The U.S. currently faces a shortfall of in its Contributions for International Peacekeeping Activities (CIPA) account, which pays for most of the U.S. share (26.1 percent) of 18 U.N. peacekeeping missions worldwide. If additional funds are not provided, total U.S. arrears may reach **\$1 billion by FY2008**. A significant portion of this deficit has been created by a law that caps at 25% the amount the U.S. will pay of a U.N. peacekeeping mission's total expenses.

Background:

In 1994, Senator Bob Dole (R-KS) introduced legislation that prohibited the U.S. from contributing more than 25% of the total funds for any U.N. peacekeeping operation. This legislation was incorporated in the State Department's authorization bill (P.L. 103-236), signed later that year by President Clinton. Since the U.S. was assessed at almost 31% for U.N. peacekeeping missions through December 2000, **the cap has contributed significantly to the amount of U.S. debt to the UN**. The five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, including the U.S., pay a premium for the peacekeeping budget because of their special role in creating peacekeeping missions and their ability to veto any mission.

On December 23, 2000, the U.N. General Assembly approved new scales of assessment for both the regular and peacekeeping budgets, reducing the U.S. share for both. The U.S. assessment for the U.N. regular budget decreased from 25% to 22% and from nearly 31% to 27% for the U.N. peacekeeping budget. Dues assessments are periodically renegotiated at the United Nations. The current U.S. assessment is 26.1% and is expected to drop below 26% later this year.

The U.N. Security Council – with U.S. support – has authorized a 50 percent increase in peacekeeping, including expanding operations of great interest to the U.S. in Lebanon and Sudan (Darfur) and a new mission in East Timor.

- Operations in Lebanon will cost around \$1 billion, adding more than \$200 million to the U.S. share.
- Operations in Darfur are on hold pending approval from the government of Sudan.
- Support packages for the African Union's Darfur mission, the possible expansion of the UN's peacekeeping force in Southern Sudan (UNMIS) and the new operation in East Timor could add as much as \$40-50 million to the U.S. share.
- There may also be a new mission to Somalia, and new missions in Chad and the Central African Republic related to the Darfur crisis.

In short, as it stands right now the U.S. may accrue additional arrears of \$600 million or more this year for U.N. peacekeeping. Given pre-FY2007 arrears of \$391 million, and assuming the FY2007 funding bills retains the administration's request for CIPA at \$1.091 billion (excluding tribunals), getting the U.S. out of arrears in will require supplemental funding in FY2007 or FY2008 of \$1.009 billion.

What Happens When The U.S. Falls Behind in its Payments?

As the largest financial contributor to U.N. peacekeeping, our failure to pay has a tremendous impact. **Countries providing troops – putting their men and women in harm's way so we don't have to – bear the brunt of the burden.** When under funded, the U.N. pays only deadline sensitive bills, such as equipment, travel and short-term logistical expenses, but must defer payments to troop contributing nations. After the U.S. repaid its arrears to the U.N. under the Helms-Biden deal in 1998, for example, the U.N. finally reimbursed 15 countries for up to three years worth of deferred troop costs.

Major troop contributing nations to the U.N. include Pakistan, Bangladesh, India, Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya, Uruguay, Jordan, Ethiopia, Nepal, South Africa, Morocco, Ukraine, Argentina and Poland. Falling behind on

FACT SHEET

U.N. peacekeeping assessments makes it more difficult to persuade these countries to continue to contribute peacekeepers, especially to large, extensive missions with complex logistics and high costs.

Without U.S. funds, the U.N. may not be able to convince nations – already owed for their previous commitments – to contribute additional troops for a Darfur mission when it takes shape. Moreover, the growing financial crisis may have dire consequences for U.N. peacekeeping efforts around the globe. If Congress does not respond adequately to this funding crisis *the end result will almost certainly be a scaling-down of U.N. operations.* Continued U.S. arrears also hurt our relationship with other U.N. member states at a time when consensus is key. Fully funding the CIPA account now is a smart investment in U.S. and international security.

Step One: Congress Should Pass S.392 to Remove the Peacekeeping Cap

Senator Biden has introduced legislation, [S.392](#) to pay up to a 27.1% assessment to the U.N. for the 2005-2008 time period. This is an important first step in permanently removing the cap and saving lives around the world. This would at least temporarily eliminate the approximately \$100 million in new arrears annually create by the peacekeeping cap. The administration has asked Congress to permanently remove this cap, allowing the U.S. to keep its promise and pay the full amount.

Talking Points – How Does U.N. Peacekeeping Benefit the U.S.?

- **If the UN doesn't do them, we might have to do it alone:** Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, testifying before the House SSJC Appropriations Subcommittee on March 9, 2005, said *"[UN Peacekeeping] is much more cost effective than using American forces. And of course, America doesn't have the forces to do all of these peacekeeping missions, but somebody has to do them. And the United States has to pay its share of people doing them."*
- **U.N. peacekeeping has reduced conflict worldwide:** Late in 2005, [The Human Security Report](#), a major international study on peace and war, judged that, contrary to popular belief, the global security climate improved dramatically between 1988 and 2001, with genocides and politicides plummeting by 80 percent in that period. The study attributed that decline to the explosion in conflict prevention, peacemaking and post-conflict activities, including increases in the number and complexity of U.N. peacekeeping missions. The report is available at: <http://www.humansecurityreport.info/index.php?option=content&task=view&id=28&Itemid=63>
- **U.N. Peacekeeping is Cost-Effective:** A recent General Accounting Office (GAO) study concluded that U.N. *peacekeeping is eight times less expensive than funding a U.S. force* – the U.N. is half as expensive and the U.S. only pays a quarter of the total costs. The study also indicates that using a U.N. force helps with subsequent nation building by bringing in development aid. According to the GAO, "The UN's strengths include multinational participation, extensive peacekeeping experience and an existing structure for coordinating nation-building activities."
- **OMB rates CIPA "Very Effective":** OMB just gave CIPA its highest (three-star) rating under its Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART), judging CIPA funds to be effective, achieving their stated goals and linked to the State Department's objectives. The full assessment is at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/expectmore/summary.10002212.2005.html>
- **U.N. Peacekeeping has a record of success:** A 2005 RAND report suggests the U.N. is better suited for peacekeeping missions than the U.S., making it not only more efficient but more effective. The study compared 16 U.S. and U.N. nation-building missions and found that of the "eight UN-led cases, seven are at peace. Of the eight U.S.-led cases, four are at peace; four are not -- or not yet -- at peace."

For more information on this paper, contact Don Kraus, Citizens for Global Solutions' vice president for government relations, at dkraus@globalsolutions.org or 202-546-3950 ext. 103.

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Last updated June 6, 2007