

**SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR PRESIDENT RICARDO LAGOS
WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF NORWAY
MAY 16th 2007**

May 16th

12:30

Meeting with Mr. Erik Solheim

Minister for International Development

PRESIDENT LAGOS AND MARÍA ELENA AGÜERO

Venue: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 7 Juni plass 1, Oslo

PA: Juliette Gillesdal

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PROFILE:

- Appointed Minister for International Development in 2005
- From 2001-2005 he was granted a leave of absence to serve as a Special Adviser to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs leading the Norwegian peace negotiations in Sri Lanka.
- From 1987-1997, Mr. Solheim was Leader of the Socialist Left Party

Norway and International Development:

- Mr. Solheim is one of two Cabinet Ministers at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. The other being the Minister for Foreign Affairs Jonas Gahr Støre.
- During Mr. Solheim term of office, Norway has steadily increased its development aid.
- The Government Agency NORAD is Norway's key development agency. Among its goals are:
 - To contribute towards promoting peace, democracy and human rights.
 - To promote responsible management and utilisation of the global environment and biological diversity.
 - To contribute towards preventing hardship and alleviating distress arising from conflicts and natural disasters.
 - To contribute towards promoting equal rights and opportunities for women and men in all areas of society.

Among the projects NORAD funds are:

- Governance projects, including democratic development

Objective: To secure core and project funding for the Club of Madrid

14:00

Jens Stoltenberg

Prime Minister of Norway

PRESIDENT LAGOS AND MARÍA ELENA AGÜERO

Office of the Prime Minister, Akersgaten 42

Contact Individual: Hilda Solbakken

Phone: +47 48278410

ALSO ATTENDING THE MEETING: Ingvar Havnen

Director General, Head of the International Department
Office of the Prime Minister

Martin Westland

Secretary to the Prime Minister

Hilde Solbakken

Secretary to the Prime Minister



PROFILE:

- Mr. Stoltenberg was Prime Minister 2000-2001, Minister of Finance 1996-1997 in Thorbjørn Jagland's government, Minister of Trade and Energy 1993-1996 in Gro Harlem Brundtland's government, and state secretary at the Ministry of the Environment 1990-1991 under Gro Harlem Brundtland's government.
- Mr. Stoltenberg has been member of the Storting (parliament) for Oslo since 1993, and was deputy member of the Storting 1989-1993. He was Labour's parliamentary leader at the change of government, member of the Storting's standing committee on social affairs 1991-1993, leader of the standing committee on oil and energy affairs 1997-2000 and member of the standing committee on foreign affairs 2001-2005.
- Mr. Stoltenberg has been leader of the Labour Party since 2002, was deputy leader 1992-2002, and has been a Member of the party's central board since 1985. He was leader of the Labour Youth League (AUF) 1985-1989, member of the AUF central board 1979-1989, vice president of the International Union of Socialist Youth (IUSY) 1985-1989, and leader of Oslo Labour Party 1990-1992.
- Mr. Stoltenberg has demonstrated a particular interest in development issues and is a strong supporter of the United Nations.

Background information – Government of PM Stoltenberg:

- Jens Stoltenberg's Labour Party entered into a coalition Government with the support of the Socialist Left Party and the Centre Party in October 2005.
- The Red-Green Coalition won 87 Party compared to outgoing PM Bondevik's Centre-Right coalition, which won 44 seats.
- Kjell Megne Bondevik led the Christian People's Party as PM from 2001-2005, despite his party being the junior coalition partner to the Conservative Party of Norway, which held majority of Cabinet positions. PM Stoltenberg directly succeeded Bondevik as Prime Minister
- Gro Brundtland is very close to PM Stoltenberg. Stoltenberg invited her to give a keynote address at the Labour Party Annual Convention in April.
- Gro Brundtland, during her keynote speech to the Commission on Sustainable Development in New York on May 9th outlined, on behalf of the Government, Norway's commitment to a new international agreement on climate change and to making Norway a carbon-neutral state. Brundtland is regarded as Norway's most senior envoy on the environment.

The Environment and Energy:

- Norway signed a bi-lateral agreement with China on cooperation on the reduction of emissions and technology exchange in March 2007. The agreement was signed by PM Stoltenberg and PM Wen Jiabao.
- The Norwegian government and Statoil have undertaken an agreement to establish the world's largest full-scale CO2 capture and storage (CCS) project in conjunction with the projected combined heat and power plant at Mongstad.
- Norway will commit to cutting emissions of greenhouse gases equivalent to 30 per cent of our emissions by 2020.

Other Issues:

- Stoltenberg is committed to multi-lateral foreign policy and is a very strong supporter of the UN, having Co-Chaired the SG's Panel on UN Reform in 2006.
- Stoltenberg, speaking at the UN in Geneva as Prime Minister in 2000, stated that "development is never sustainable unless there is democracy and good governance."
- Stoltenberg will address the World Health Assembly in Geneva on May 15th prior to meeting with President Lagos on the 16th

Additional Information about Norway - 2007

- **Norway has the 3rd highest GDP per head in the world, behind Luxembourg and Bermuda¹**
- **Norway is the 12th largest energy producing country in the world.²**
- **Norway is currently 1st in the UN Human Development Index**
- **Norway is first in the Gender Development Index according to the UNDP**
- **Norway is the 11th highest donor of foreign aid³**

¹ Figure taken from the Economist Intelligence Unit

² Ibid

³ Ibid