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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AID WORLDWIDE COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
CIS COLLECTIVE
INFO SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC
HQ USSOCOM MACDILL AFB FL
CDR USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL
CDR USSTRATCOM OFFUTT AFB NE
CDR USJFCOM NORFOLK VA
CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI
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E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: INTRODUCTION TO USAID'S OFFICE OF MILITARY AFFAIRS

OFFICES: S/F, S/P, S/T/PM. S/CRS

SUMMARY. THIS CABLE INTRODUCES DCHA'S OFFICE OF MILITARY AFFAIRS, CREATED IN 2005 TO STRENGTHEN COOPERATION BETWEEN THE DEFENSE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITIES. OMA IS DESIGNED TO REINFORCE USAID'S ABILITY TO PARTICIPATE EFFECTIVELY IN CIVILIAN-MILITARY PLANNING, TRAINING AND OPERATIONS, TO PROVIDE INFORMATION AND COORDINATION SERVICES TO FIELD MISSIONS WHO REQUEST IT, AND TO ASSIST USAID IN ADAPTING TO ITS ENHANCED ROLE IN THE FRAMEWORK OF NATIONAL SECURITY.

1. THE CREATION OF OMA REFLECTS THE CRITICAL ROLE OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR AND THE ELEVATION OF DEVELOPMENT IN THE NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY. DOD DIRECTIVE 3000.05 DIRECTS THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO DEVELOP COORDINATION MECHANISMS WITH CIVILIAN AGENCIES FOR STABILITY, SECURITY, TRANSITION AND RECONSTRUCTION (SSTR) OPERATIONS. OMA EQUIPS USAID TO PARTICIPATE MORE EFFECTIVELY IN THIS INTERAGENCY ARENA.

OFFICE OF MILITARY AFFAIRS

2. OMA WAS ESTABLISHED IN RESPONSE TO THE GROWING NEED FOR A CENTRAL OFFICE TO COORDINATE USAID-MILITARY PLANNING, TRAINING AND OPERATIONS. USAID'S PROFILE IN THE INTERAGENCY PROCESS HAS GROWN IN RECENT YEARS THROUGH OPERATIONS IN CONFLICT AREAS LIKE KOSOVO, AFGHANISTAN, AND

IRAQ. USAID HAS A LONG AND WELL-DEVELOPED HISTORY OF JOINT OPERATIONS IN DISASTER AND SIMILAR OPERATIONS, BUT THE NATURE OF OUR ENGAGEMENT HAS EVOLVED AS USAID IS CALLED UPON TO OPERATE IN LESS SECURE ENVIRONMENTS. DOD AND STATE HAVE COME TO RELY ON USAID EXPERTISE IN CONFLICT ASSESSMENT AND PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION, AND OMA WAS CREATED SO THAT USAID COULD BE MORE DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN STRATEGIC PLANNING, PROGRAMMING AND JOINT OPERATIONS.

3. REPRESENTING THE FULL SPECTRUM OF AGENCY FUNCTIONS, OMA PROVIDES THE FOCAL POINT FOR USAID INTERACTION WITH US AND FOREIGN MILITARIES IN FORMALIZED RELATIONSHIPS, THROUGH COORDINATED PLANNING, TRAINING, EDUCATION AND EXERCISES. PROGRAM AREAS OF COMMON INTEREST INCLUDE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE, THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM, STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS, CONFLICT PREVENTION AND MITIGATION, COUNTER-INSURGENCY, POST-CONFLICT RECONSTRUCTION AND STABILIZATION, AND OPERATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION. OMA MANAGES AND FACILITATES USAID'S DAY-TO-DAY INTERFACE WITH DOD, IMPLEMENTS USG POLICY IN CONSULTATION WITH USAID'S MILITARY POLICY BOARD, MONITORS JOINT OPERATIONS, AND COORDINATES JOINT PLANNING, TRAINING, CONFERENCES, EXERCISES AND COMMUNICATIONS.

4. OMA IS SITUATED IN THE DCHA BUREAU, IN PART BECAUSE DCHA HAS THE MOST STRONGLY DEVELOPED HISTORICAL LINKS TO THE DOD. OMA HAS LINKS WITH USAID'S REGIONAL AND CENTRAL BUREAUS. OMA COORDINATES WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S OFFICE OF THE COORDINATOR FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND STABILIZATION (S/CRS) AND F AND PM BUREAUS ON PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTIVITIES UNDER USG POLICY AND STRATEGY.

STRUCTURE

5. A KEY FEATURE OF OMA'S STAFFING IS THE EXCHANGE OF SENIOR MILITARY AND DEVELOPMENT PERSONNEL. UNDER MEMORANDA OF AGREEMENT WITH FIVE COMBATANT COMMANDS--SPECIAL OPERATIONS (SOCOM), EUROPE (EUCOM), CENTRAL (CENTCOM), PACIFIC (PACOM), AND JOINT FORCES COMMAND (JFCOM)--SENIOR USAID DEVELOPMENT ADVISORS WILL SERVE AS ADVISORS TO THE COMMANDER. AND THE DOD HAS PROVIDED CORRESPONDING LIAISON OFFICERS TO USAID BUREAUS TO PROVIDE DAY-TO-DAY COORDINATION AND MANAGEMENT. THROUGH THIS NETWORK OF MILITARY OFFICER EXCHANGES, OMA IS PLUGGED INTO THE MAJOR COMBATANT COMMANDS AND THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (OSD), AND THE JOINT STAFF J-5 (STRATEGY AND POLICY).

ROLE OF MISSIONS, REGIONAL AND PILLAR BUREAUS

6. ALTHOUGH OMA'S RELATIVELY SMALL STAFF WILL SERVE AS THE PRIMARY POINT OF CONTACT WITH THE MILITARY, SUPPORT FROM THE MISSIONS, REGIONAL AND PILLAR BUREAUS IS ESSENTIAL FOR USAID TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN THE EXPANDED NATIONAL SECURITY PARTNERSHIP AMONG DEVELOPMENT, DIPLOMACY AND DEFENSE. USAID STAFF DEPLOYED IN JOINT OPERATIONS WILL HAVE A CONTINUING NEED TO REACH BACK TO WASHINGTON BUREAUS FOR TECHNICAL AND INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT. OMA ENSURES LIAISON WITH THE REGIONAL BUREAUS, WHICH SERVE AS CENTERS OF GEOGRAPHIC EXPERTISE AND COORDINATION FOR ACTIVITIES IN THEIR AREAS. USAID REGIONAL BUREAUS AND FIELD MISSIONS LEAD EFFORTS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE AREAS SUPPORTED BY OMA. GIVEN THE SIZE OF DOD STAFFING COMPARED TO USAID, USAID STAFF IN OMA AND THE REGIONAL

BUREAUS WILL JOINTLY PLAN AND PRIORITIZE AREAS OF USAID AND MILITARY ENGAGEMENT ON A REGULAR BASIS.

SERVICES TO MISSIONS

7. MISSIONS SHOULD BE AWARE OF THE RANGE OF SERVICES AND CAPABILITIES AVAILABLE THROUGH THE OFFICE:

A. COORDINATION. OMA IS THE MAIN FOCAL POINT WITHIN USAID FOR CIVIL-MILITARY COORDINATION AND PLANNING, WITH REPRESENTATION IN THE OSD, COMBATANT COMMANDS AND PRINCIPAL TRAINING INSTITUTIONS. OMA SERVES AS A SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON CIVIL-MILITARY AFFAIRS THAT AFFECT USAID PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION, AND CAN ASSIST MISSIONS WITH ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE IN APPROACHING AND INFLUENCING MILITARY COUNTERPARTS.

B. POLICY DEVELOPMENT: OMA IS RESPONSIBLE FOR POLICY DEVELOPMENT. OMA PRODUCES POLICY DOCUMENTS THAT ADDRESS THE DEFENSE-DEVELOPMENT LINKAGE, PROVIDES ASSISTANCE WITH DEVELOPMENT OF MILITARY DOCTRINE AS APPROPRIATE, AND OVERSEES THE SYNCHRONIZATION OF USAID OPERATIONAL PLANS AND PROGRAMS WITH GEOGRAPHIC COMBATANT COMMAND THEATER SECURITY COOPERATION PROGRAMS AND OTHER DOD PLANNING AND OPERATIONS INSTRUMENTS.

C. TRAINING AND EDUCATION: OMA PRODUCES TRAINING MATERIALS FOR USE IN JOINT TRAINING (E.G., CONFLICT ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORKS, PROVINCIAL RECONSTRUCTION TEAM (PRT) PRE-DEPLOYMENT ORIENTATION, AFTER-ACTION REPORTS, LESSONS LEARNED) AND COORDINATES USAID PARTICIPATION IN CIVILIAN-MILITARY EXERCISES. OMA ADVISES ON TRAINING AND EDUCATION FOR CIVILIAN AND MILITARY PERSONNEL INVOLVED IN JOINT OPERATIONS OR DEPLOYED TO CONFLICT AREAS.

D. CIVIL AFFAIRS: OMA SEEKS TO COORDINATE WORLDWIDE CIVIL AFFAIRS INTERVENTIONS AND PROGRAMMING, THROUGH INFORMATION DISSEMINATION AND COMMUNICATION. OMA'S ROLE IS TO WORK WITH THE USAID REGIONAL BUREAUS TO ASSIST USAID OPERATING UNITS TO COORDINATE THEIR PLANNING AND ACTIVITIES WITH THE US MILITARY IN THE SAME AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY.

E. COOPERATION: OMA IS ENGAGED IN EDUCATING USAID ABOUT MILITARY ROLES AND CAPABILITIES, AND EDUCATING DOD ABOUT USAID ROLES AND CAPABILITIES.

SOME CURRENT OMA ACTIVITIES

8. OMA STUDIES AND ANALYZES CASES OF USAID-MILITARY COOPERATION TO DISTILL BEST PRACTICES. IN THE PHILIPPINES, COOPERATION HAS ADVANCED TO THE POINT WHERE THE US MILITARY REGULARLY ATTENDS MEETINGS OF USAID'S MINDANAO WORKING GROUP TO REVIEW PROJECT PROGRESS, SECURITY, AND COORDINATION OPPORTUNITIES. THE MILITARY PROVIDES BRIEFINGS TO USAID STAFF, AND USAID BRIEF'S MILITARY STAFF ON USAID PROGRAMS. NEW JUSMAG (JOINT UNITED STATES MILITARY ASSISTANCE GROUP) AND JSOTF (JOINT SPECIAL OPERATIONS TASK FORCE) OFFICERS ARE EMBEDDED WITH USAID ON TWO-WEEK ROTATIONS. USAID REGULARLY ATTENDS THE WEEKLY POLITICAL MILITARY MEETING AT THE EMBASSY.

9. AT PRESENT, OMA STAFF ARE TRAINING MILITARY UNITS PREPARING TO DEPLOY TO AFGHANISTAN, USING A CMM-DEVELOPED TOOL, THE TACTICAL CONFLICT ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK. OMA IS ALSO COMPLETING A COMPREHENSIVE INVENTORY OF USAID AND DOD TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES, AND INTENDS TO ISSUE A POLICY ON TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR PERSONNEL WHO ARE TO BE ASSIGNED TO CONFLICT AREAS.

10. FUTURE CABLES IN THIS SERIES WILL COVER THE USAID POLICY TOWARD JOINT TRAINING AND EXERCISES, THE DOD INFORMATION SYSTEM, JOINT PLANNING, AND CIVIL AFFAIRS. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON OMA, CONTACT TOM BALTAZAR, OFFICE DIRECTOR, OR DOUG HEISLER, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, VIA EMAIL OR AT (202) 712-5337.
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