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ACTION AF-00

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| INFO | LOG-00 | NP-00 | ACQ-00 | CIAE-00 | INL-00 | USNW-00 | DS-00 |
| | EUR-00 | UTED-00 | VC-00 | TEDE-00 | INR-00 | IO-00 | LAB-01 |
| | VCE-00 | DCP-01 | NSAE-00 | OIC-02 | PM-00 | SS-00 | TEST-00 |
| | EPAE-00 | PMB-00 | DSCC-00 | DRL-02 | SAS-00 | /006W | |
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P 010506Z OCT 01
FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7276
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
SADC COLLECTIVE
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
SECDEF WASHDC

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 PORT LOUIS 001173

SENSITIVE

DEPARTMENT FOR AF/E, EUR/WE, IO/P, IO/ESA AND PM/ISO

E.O. 12958:DECL:NA
TAGS: PREL, PHUM, UNSC, MARR, MP, XA
SUBJECT: MAURITIUS FOREIGN MINISTER URGES "NO DOUBLE
STANDARD"

1. (SBU) THIS IS AN ACTION REQUEST. PLEASE SEE PARAGRAPH
10.

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2. (SBU) SUMMARY: MAURITIUS FOREIGN MINISTER ANIL GAYAN
SAID THE USG SHOULD SEIZE THE PRESENT OPPORTUNITY OF
COALITION BUILDING TO SHOW RECIPROCITY AND GREATER
ENGAGEMENT WITH AFRICA. HE URGED "BALANCE" IN USG
POSITIONS IN THE UN, AND PROPOSED A UN SECURITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL SESSION ON RELIGION. HE ALSO URGED USG GOOD
OFFICES WITH THE UK FOR RESOLUTION OF GOM CLAIMS TO THE
CHAGOS ARCHIPELAGO. GAYAN WILL SEEK HIGH LEVEL MEETINGS
WITH USG OFFICIALS WHEN IN THE U.S. FOR THE UN GENERAL
ASSEMBLY. END SUMMARY.

3. (U) CHARGE BISA WILLIAMS PAID A COURTESY CALL ON
MAURITIUS FM ANIL GAYAN ON SEPTEMBER 17.

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NO DOUBLE STANDARD

4. (SBU) GAYAN WASTED NO TIME IN LAUNCHING INTO THE MESSAGE HE FELT MOST IMPORTANT TO DELIVER. HE TOLD THE CHARGE THAT THE USG SHOULD USE THIS PERIOD OF COALITION BUILDING FOLLOWING THE SEPTEMBER 11 ATTACK ON THE U.S. TO END ITS PERCEIVED "WITHDRAWAL" FROM FOREIGN AFFAIRS. BECAUSE OF THE SOLIDARITY THE USG HAS RECEIVED FROM NATIONS WORLDWIDE, IT WAS INCUMBENT UPON THE USG TO DEMONSTRATE THAT IT WOULD PRACTICE "RECIPROCITY" WITH ITS PARTNERS. HE URGED THE USG TO SHOW GREATER ENGAGEMENT IN WORLD AFFAIRS AND TO BE MORE SUPPORTIVE OF AFRICA AS A WHOLE.

5. (SBU) CITING THE AFRICA GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT (AGOA) ACT AND USG DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN AFRICA,
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CHARGE ASKED GAYAN FOR EXAMPLES OF OQER MEASURES THAT WOULD DEMONSTRATE USG COMMITMENT TO AFRICA MORE CLEARLY. GAYAN IMMEDIATELY CITED USG REJECTION OF THE KYOTO CLIMATE CHANGE AGREEMENT, USG NONPAYMENT OF UN BUDGET ARREARS, AND USG POSITIONS AT THE UN RACISM CONFERENCE IN DURBAN. HE SAID THAT AT DURBAN, IN PARTICULAR, THE USG GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT IT WOULD SUPPORT ISRAEL UNDER "ANY AND ALL CIRCUMSTANCES." FOR AFRICAN STATES, THE USG CONDITIONS ITS SUPPORT ON PRINCIPLES OF RULE OF LAW, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND DEMOCRACY, BUT NO CONDITIONS APPEARED TO GOVERN USG ALLIANCE WITH ISRAEL. THE EFFECT IS A "DOUBLE STANDARD." THE ATTACK IN SEPTEMBER, AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY'S REACTION TO IT WERE SYMPTOMATIC OF THE FACT THAT THE WORLD "HAS PROBLEMS WITH" THE USG APPROACH.

6. (SBU) WHEN CHARGE CHALLENGED THE LINKAGE BETWEEN THE PERCEIVED ISOLATIONISM OF THE USG AND THE TERRORIST ATTACK OF SEPTEMBER, GAYAN CONCEDED THAT THE USG'S POSITIONS AT THE UN DID NOT JUSTIFY THE ATTACKS. HE INSISTED, HOWEVER, THAT IT EXPLAINED WHY THE WORLD MIGHT NOT RESPOND IMMEDIATELY TO THE USG'S CALL FOR UNITY. GAYAN SAID THAT THE USG HAS TURNED TO THE WORLD IN ITS TIME OF NEED AND BECAUSE OF THE GRAVITY OF THE SITUATION IS BEING HEEDDED. THE QUESTION REMAINED WHETHER THE USG WOULD STAND BY AFRICAN COUNTRIES IN THEIR RESPECTIVE TIMES OF NEED.

7. (SBU) CONTINUING, GAYAN STATED THAT AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS WANTED GREATER ACCESS TO THE "CORRIDORS OF

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POWER" IN WASHINGTON. "JACK STRAW CAN MEET WITH
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PRESIDENT BUSH AT THE DROP OF A HAT," BUT AFRICAN FOREIGN
MINISTERS USUALLY WERE ONLY ABLE TO ACCESS THE ASSISTANT
SECRETARY OF AFRICAN AFFAIRS. HE EMPHASIZED THAT HE
SHARED HIS VIEWS AS A FRIEND OF THE USG. HE DID NOT
CONDONE THE ATTACK ON THE U.S. BUT HE SOUGHT TO EXPLAIN
HOW THE ATTACK HAS BEEN JUSTIFIED IN SOME INTERNATIONAL
CIRCLES. HE ENCOURAGED THE USG TO THINK OF "NEW WAYS TO
BALANCE" USG POLICY AND INTERACTION WITH OTHER COUNTRIES,
PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA.

UNSC SPECIAL SESSION ON RELIGION

8. (SBU) GAYAN TOOK THE OCCASION OF THE MEETING TO THANK
THE USG AND IN PARTICULAR FORMER USUN PERMREP HOLBROOKE
AND FORMER SECRETARY ALBRIGHT FOR SUPPORTING MAURITIUS'
CANDIDACY ON THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL. HE SAID THE
MAURITIAN MISSION IN NEW YORK CONTINUES TO ENJOY
EXCELLENT SUPPORT FROM USUN AND THE GOM WAS VERY GRATEFUL
FOR IT.

9. (SBU) IN THAT CONTEXT, GAYAN NOTED THAT THE GOM IS
CONSIDERING PROPOSING A UNSC SPECIAL SESSION ON RELIGION

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ACTION AF-00

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P 010506Z OCT 01
FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7277
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
SADC COLLECTIVE
AMEMBASSY PARIS
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SUBJECT: MAURITIUS FOREIGN MINISTER URGES "NO DOUBLE STANDARD"

AND SECURITY, DESIGNED TO CREATE AN AWARENESS OF THE
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN STATES, RELIGION, AND EXTREMISTS,
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AND PERHAPS TO DISCUSS "NORMS." THE GOM HOPED TO
HIGHLIGHT DEPARTURES FROM THE "NORMAL ROUTES" OF
RELIGION. THE IDEA WAS NOT WELL HONED YET, AND THE GOM
WANTED USG VIEWS ON IT BEFORE GOING TOO FAR. CHARGE
PROMISED TO FLAG THE IDEA TO THE DEPARTMENT.

10. (SBU) ACTION REQUESTED: POST WOULD APPRECIATE
DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSE TO GAYAN'S PROPOSAL FOR A UN
SECURITY COUNCIL SPECIAL SESSION ON RELIGION AND
SECURITY.

DIEGO GARCIA

11. (SBU) GAYAN SAID THAT THE GOM HOPES THE USG WILL USE
ITS GOOD OFFICES TO "PUT PRESSURE ON THE UK TO RESOLVE
THE ISSUE OF THE CHAGOS ARCHIPELAGO," INCLUDING DIEGO
GARCIA. HE STRESSED THAT THE GOM WANTED THE ARCHIPELAGO
RETURNED TO MAURITIAN SOVEREIGNTY, AND WAS "WILLING TO
DISCUSS ARRANGEMENTS" RELATED TO THE USG MILITARY BASE AT
DIEGO GARCIA. "WE CAN GIVE YOU AS LONG A LEASE AS YOU
WANT." HE SAID THAT UK GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS CLAIM THAT
THE USG IS BLOCKING BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS, YET THE USG
HAS CONSISTENTLY SAID THAT THE MAURITIUS' CLAIMS OVER
DIEGO GARCIA ARE FOR THE MAURITIAN/UK BILATERAL
RELATIONSHIP.

12. (SBU) GAYAN EMPHASIZED THAT MAURITIUS DOES NOT WANT
TO BE TREATED LIKE A "FOOTBALL" ON THIS ISSUE. FORMER
SECRETARY OF STATE ALBRIGHT SEEMED TO APPRECIATE
MAURITIAN VIEWS DURING HER 2000 VISIT. HE HOPED THAT THE
USG WOULD WORK WITH MAURITIUS AND THE UK TO SEEK

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RESOLUTION OF THE MAURITIAN CLAIMS.

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13. (SBU) CHARGE RESPONDED THAT SHE WAS AWARE OF THE MAURITIAN POSITION ON THE CHAGOS ARCHIPELAGO AND PROMISED TO RELAY HIS APPEAL FOR USG GOOD OFFICES WITH THE UK TO THE DEPARTMENT. SHE SAID THAT SHE ALSO APPRECIATED FM GAYAN'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT TREATMENT OF THE ARCHIPELAGO IS A BILATERAL ISSUE BETWEEN MAURITIUS AND THE UK.

HIGH LEVEL APPOINTMENTS

14. (SBU) GAYAN STILL PLANS TO ATTEND THE UNGA. HE SAID THAT WHILE IN THE U.S., HE HOPES TO MEET WITH THE SECRETARY, NSC ADVISER CONDOLEEZA RICE AND OFFICIALS AT THE PENTAGON. CHARGE PROMISED TO INFORM WASHINGTON OF THE REQUEST AND ASKED TO BE APPRISED OF FM GAYAN'S TRAVEL ITINERARY AS SOON AS IT WAS FORMALIZED.
WILLIAMS

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