

The Freedom of Information Act (5 USC 552)

FOIA Exemptions

(b)(1) Information specifically authorized by an executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy. Executive Order 13526 includes the following classification categories:

- 1.4(a) Military plans, systems, or operations
- 1.4(b) Foreign government information
- 1.4(c) Intelligence activities, sources or methods, or cryptology
- 1.4(d) Foreign relations or foreign activities of the US; including confidential sources
- 1.4(e) Scientific, technological, or economic matters relating to national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
- 1.4(f) U.S. Government programs for safeguarding nuclear materials or facilities
- 1.4(g) Vulnerabilities or capabilities of systems, installations, infrastructures, projects, plans, or protection services relating to US national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
- 1.4(h) Weapons of mass destruction

(b)(2) Related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency

(b)(3) Specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than 5 USC 552), for example:

ARMSEXP	Arms Export Control Act, 50a USC 2411(c)
CIA PERS/ORG	Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, 50 USC 403(g)
EXPORT CONTROL	Export Administration Act of 1979, 50 USC App. Sec. 2411(c)
FS.ACT	Foreign Service Act of 1980, 22 USC 4004
INA	Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 USC 1202(f), Sec. 222(f)
IRAN	Iran Claims Settlement Act, Public Law 99-99, Sec. 505

(b)(4) Trade secrets and confidential commercial or financial information

(b)(5) Interagency or intra-agency communications forming part of the deliberative process, attorney-client privilege, or attorney work product

(b)(6) Personal privacy information

(b)(7) Law enforcement information whose disclosure would:

- (A) interfere with enforcement proceedings
- (B) deprive a person of a fair trial
- (C) constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy
- (D) disclose confidential sources
- (E) disclose investigation techniques
- (F) endanger life or physical safety of an individual

(b)(8) Prepared by or for a government agency regulating or supervising financial institutions

(b)(9) Geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells

Other Grounds for Withholding

NR Material not responsive to a FOIA request excised with the agreement of the requester

RELEASE IN PART B5

Hickson, Diamonece

From: Richardson, Timothy M
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 7:10 PM
To: Huffman, William (Stu); Operations Center; Wurzel, Christopher F; Godfrey, Anthony F (Moscow); OCE; NEA-IRAN-DL; EB-A-OMA-DL; ENR-EDP-DL; EUR-RUS-BILAT-DL; EUR-RUS-ECON-DL; EB-RussiaSanctions; EB-IranSanctions
Cc: SES-O; Tracy, Lynne M; MoscowPolExtSection; Moscow ECON Supervisors
Subject: RE: Ops Request for Comment by 0630 EDT / 1330 Moscow: Russia to open \$7 billion Iran credit line (AFP)

Support Stu's comment below, in that these announcements often come to very little.

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Huffman, William (Stu)
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 4:10 PM
To: Operations Center; Wurzel, Christopher F; Godfrey, Anthony F; OCE; NEA-IRAN-DL; EB-A-OMA-DL; ENR-EDP-DL; EUR-RUS-BILAT-DL; EUR-RUS-ECON-DL; EB-RussiaSanctions; EB-IranSanctions
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Stu

W. Stu Huffman
Iran Sanctions Team
202-647-8848

SBU

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From: Operations Center
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 4:02 PM
To: Wurzel, Christopher F; Godfrey, Anthony F; OCE; NEA-IRAN-DL; EB-A-OMA-DL; ENR-EDP-DL; EUR-RUS-BILAT-DL; EUR-RUS-ECON-DL; EB-RussiaSanctions; EB-IranSanctions
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Subject: RE: Ops Request for Comment by 0630 EDT / 1330 Moscow: Russia to open \$7 billion Iran credit line (AFP)

Adding our EB/TFS colleagues. We would greatly appreciate your review of the piece below.

Best,

Chad Morris
Watch Officer, Operations Center
202-647-1512

From: Wurzel, Christopher F
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 3:19 PM
To: Operations Center; Godfrey, Anthony F; OCE; NEA-IRAN-DL; EB-A-OMA-DL; ENR-EDP-DL; EUR-RUS-BILAT-DL; EUR-RUS-ECON-DL
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[Redacted]

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Take care,
Chris W

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Anthony and Chris,

Thank you very much for your quick and helpful comment. We have drafted the following piece and would appreciate your review to ensure I've accurately captured your comment. Thanks again in advance.

[Redacted]

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Mackenzie Rowe | Watch Officer
State Department Operations Center
RoweML2@state.gov | 202.647.1512

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Subject: Re: Ops Request for Comment by 0630 EDT / 1330 Moscow: Russia to open \$7 billion Iran credit line (AFP)

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Hope this is useful.

Chris W

Chris Wurzel
Chief, Macroeconomic Unit
Economic Section
U.S. Embassy
Moscow, Russia
TEL: 7-495-728-5000, ext. 5178

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Operations Center
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 12:24 PM
To: Moscow ECON Supervisors; MoscowPolExtSection
Cc: SES-O
Subject: Ops Request for Comment by 0630 EDT / 1330 Moscow: Russia to open \$7 billion Iran credit line (AFP)

Colleagues,

We are currently assembling items for the Acting Exec Sec's morning oral brief and were hoping you or someone in your office might be able to provide a few sentences on the significance of the news item below by **0630 EDT / 1330 Moscow**.



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Please feel free to respond via e-mail (high or low side) or by calling the Operations Center at (202) 647-1512 and asking for the Editor.

Many thanks and kind regards,

Nick Hersh
State Department Operations Center
HershNC@state.gov 202 647 1512

Russia to open \$5 billion Iran credit line (AFP)

TEHERAN (AFP) - Russia plans to open a US\$5 billion credit line for Iran to help finance infrastructure projects in the country, officials from both countries said Thursday during a visit by Moscow's energy minister, Alexander Novak.

"We hope we can open a US\$5 billion credit line," Novak told Iranian Telecommunications Minister Mahmoud Vaezi, according to Isna news agency.

Transportation Minister Abbas Akhoundi said after meeting Novak that "the Russians are going to allocate a credit line for infrastructure projects in Iran."

"The first project would be electrifying the Garmsar-Incheh Borun train line (connecting north central Iran to the northeastern border with Turkmenistan) at a cost of US\$1.2 billion financed through the credit line," state television quoted him as saying.

Novak was accompanied by representatives from 50 Russian companies "ready to invest in Iran", he told First Vice-President Eshaq Jahangiri, according to the official Irna news agency.

Bilateral trade stands at "more than US\$1 billion", Novak said, which is "not enough" and has to be raised, asserting that Iran is Russia's "most important economic and trade partner".

The two countries discussed expanding trade in oil, gas, electricity, transport, and telecommunications as well as defence cooperation.

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Under the deal, UN and bilateral sanctions on Iran will be lifted, effectively providing a hefty boost to the economy and opening up all sorts of trade and investment opportunities to outsiders.

Hickson, Diamonece

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From: Whittington, Alexander E
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 5:13 PM
To: Huffman, William (Stu); Operations Center; Wurzel, Christopher F; Godfrey, Anthony F (Moscow); OCE; NEA-IRAN-DL; EB-A-OMA-DL; ENR-EDP-DL; EUR-RUS-BILAT-DL; EUR-RUS-ECON-DL; EB-RussiaSanctions; EB-IranSanctions
Cc: SES-O; Tracy, Lynne M; MoscowPolExtSection; Moscow ECON Supervisors
Subject: RE: Ops Request for Comment by 0630 EDT / 1330 Moscow: Russia to open \$7 billion Iran credit line (AFP)

ENR concurs with EB; text looks fine to us.

Alex Whittington
Deputy Director
Office of the Middle East and Asia
Bureau of Energy Resources
U.S. Department of State
ph: 202-736-7149

SBU
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Chris W

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RoweML2@state.gov | 202.647.1512

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Chris W

Chris Wurzel
Chief, Macroeconomic Unit
Economic Section
U.S. Embassy
Moscow, Russia
TEL: 7-495-728-5000, ext. 5178

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Cc: SES-O
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Hickson, Diamonece

RELEASE IN PART B5

From: Whittington, Alexander E
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 4:31 PM
To: Dunnigan, Robin L; ENR_MENA
Subject: RE: Ops Request for Comment by 0630 EDT / 1330 Moscow: Russia to open \$7 billion Iran credit line (AFP)

I spoke with EB [redacted]; I don't think an additional ENR comment is necessary. Does that work for you, Robin?

B5

Alex Whittington
Deputy Director
Office of the Middle East and Asia
Bureau of Energy Resources
U.S. Department of State
ph: 202-736-7149

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From: Dunnigan, Robin L
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 3:48 PM
To: ENR_MENA
Subject: FW: Ops Request for Comment by 0630 EDT / 1330 Moscow: Russia to open \$7 billion Iran credit line (AFP)

Any comment from us?

[redacted]

B5

Mackenzie Rowe | Watch Officer
State Department Operations Center
RoweML2@state.gov | 202.647.1512

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From: Conroy, Amy L
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 3:36 PM
To: ENR_EDP_MEA-DL
Subject: FW: Ops Request for Comment by 0630 EDT / 1330 Moscow: Russia to open \$7 billion Iran credit line (AFP)

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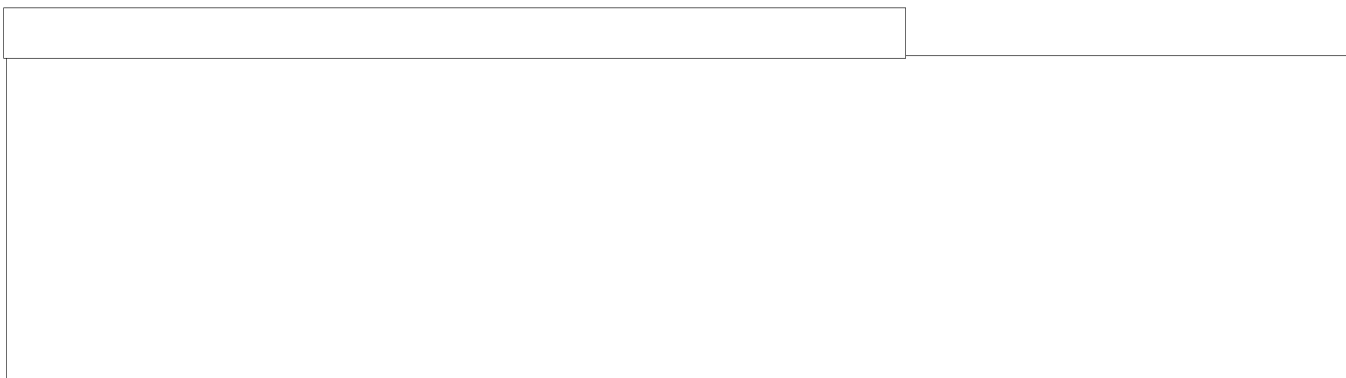
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To: Godfrey, Anthony F; Wurzel, Christopher F; OCE; NEA-IRAN-DL; EB-A-OMA-DL; ENR-EDP-DL; EUR-RUS-BILAT-DL; EUR-RUS-ECON-DL
Cc: SES-O; Tracy, Lynne M; MoscowPolExtSection; Moscow ECON Supervisors
Subject: RE: Ops Request for Comment by 0630 EDT / 1330 Moscow: Russia to open \$7 billion Iran credit line (AFP)

Anthony and Chris,

Thank you very much for your quick and helpful comment. We have drafted the following piece and would appreciate your review to ensure I've accurately captured your comment. Thanks again in advance.



B5

Mackenzie Rowe | Watch Officer
State Department Operations Center
RoweML2@state.gov | 202.647.1512

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Godfrey, Anthony F
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 7:32 AM
To: Wurzel, Christopher F; Operations Center; Moscow ECON Supervisors; MoscowPolExtSection
Cc: SES-O; Tracy, Lynne M
Subject: Re: Ops Request for Comment by 0630 EDT / 1330 Moscow: Russia to open \$7 billion Iran credit line (AFP)

I'm sure you are working with the NEA Iran team on this.

[Redacted]

B5

From: Wurzel, Christopher F
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 1:31 PM
To: Operations Center; Moscow ECON Supervisors; MoscowPolExtSection
Cc: SES-O; Tracy, Lynne M
Subject: RE: Ops Request for Comment by 0630 EDT / 1330 Moscow: Russia to open \$7 billion Iran credit line (AFP)

OPS,

(SBU) The Russian Economic Development and Finance Ministries are reportedly considering an Iranian application for a \$5 billion credit facility from Russia, possibly provided through Russia's state development bank VEB and its second-largest (state-owned) commercial bank VTB. Russian Energy Minister Aleksandr Novak has noted, however, that any projects to be funded under this facility would be decided separately on an individual basis. Novak's observation suggests that any funds from Russia would be disbursed in discrete amounts over an extended period, thus limiting the financial burden on the Russians. [Redacted]

B5

Hope this is useful.

Chris W

Chris Wurzel
Chief, Macroeconomic Unit
Economic Section
U.S. Embassy
Moscow, Russia
TEL: 7-495-728-5000, ext. 5178

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Operations Center
Sent: Friday, October 23, 2015 12:24 PM

To: Moscow ECON Supervisors; MoscowPolExtSection

Cc: SES-O

Subject: Ops Request for Comment by 0630 EDT / 1330 Moscow: Russia to open \$7 billion Iran credit line (AFP)

Colleagues,

We are currently assembling items for the Acting Exec Sec's morning oral brief and were hoping you or someone in your office might be able to provide a few sentences on the significance of the news item below by **0630 EDT / 1330 Moscow**.



B5

Please feel free to respond via e-mail (high or low side) or by calling the Operations Center at (202) 647-1512 and asking for the Editor.

Many thanks and kind regards,

Nick Hersh

State Department Operations Center

HershNC@state.gov 202 647 1512

Russia to open \$5 billion Iran credit line (AFP)

TEHERAN (AFP) - Russia plans to open a US\$5 billion credit line for Iran to help finance infrastructure projects in the country, officials from both countries said Thursday during a visit by Moscow's energy minister, Alexander Novak.

"We hope we can open a US\$5 billion credit line," Novak told Iranian Telecommunications Minister Mahmoud Vaezi, according to Isna news agency.

Transportation Minister Abbas Akhoundi said after meeting Novak that "the Russians are going to allocate a credit line for infrastructure projects in Iran."

"The first project would be electrifying the Garmsar-Incheh Borun train line (connecting north central Iran to the northeastern border with Turkmenistan) at a cost of US\$1.2 billion financed through the credit line," state television quoted him as saying.

Novak was accompanied by representatives from 50 Russian companies "ready to invest in Iran", he told First Vice-President Eshaq Jahangiri, according to the official Irna news agency.

Bilateral trade stands at "more than US\$1 billion", Novak said, which is "not enough" and has to be raised, asserting that Iran is Russia's "most important economic and trade partner".

The two countries discussed expanding trade in oil, gas, electricity, transport, and telecommunications as well as defence cooperation.

Novak's visit comes in the wake of a July agreement between Iran and major world powers, including Russia, to curb Teheran's nuclear programme.

Jahangiri said Iran hopes that "in the implementation of the nuclear agreement, Russia would also play as constructive role" as it had during the negotiations.

Under the deal, UN and bilateral sanctions on Iran will be lifted, effectively providing a hefty boost to the economy and opening up all sorts of trade and investment opportunities to outsiders.

Barnes, Angela A

From: Kavalec, Kathleen A
Sent: Friday, September 23, 2016 4:42 PM
To: Robinson, Christopher T; Randolph, Francine
Cc: Green, Eric F
Subject: RE: Meeting Request

RELEASE IN PART
B5

Ok. [redacted] - it's interesting to hear what he may have to say. Did you hear anything back today?

B5

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Robinson, Christopher T
Sent: Friday, September 23, 2016 10:16 AM
To: Kavalec, Kathleen A; Randolph, Francine
Cc: Green, Eric F
Subject: FW: Meeting Request
Importance: High

Kathy

I checked with DCSP on this invite. Dan Fried did not get asked for a meeting this time, but he has met with Kostin in the past. [redacted] However, we don't really have anything to say or offer with regard to getting off of the sanctions list.

B5

Kostin is hosting the Bolshoi event with USRBC at the Kennedy Center that week. I also note that VTB is tied to the Panama Papers case of Rodulgin laundering money for the Kremlin. VTB also is managing Russia's latest Eurobond issuance, so we might be able to ask for insights on that effort and Russian debt.

I am checking on whether Amb Tefft has met with him (or has sought access) and any other Emb Moscow efforts to meet with VTB leadership.

Chris

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Charles Lahiguera, Senior Reviewer

From: Borden, Michael [mailto:mborden@sidley.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 20, 2016 1:05 PM
To: Randolph, Francine
Subject: Meeting Request

Hello Ms. Randolph –

My name is Michael Borden and I'm an attorney at Sidley Austin. I am writing to see if Deputy Assistant Secretary Kavalec is available to meet on either **October 6 or October 7** because I'd like to introduce her to my client, the Global Chairman of VTB. VTB is a global provider of financial services operating across all key areas of the financial markets. It is also the second-largest bank in Russia. As you may know, VTB is currently on the US sanctions list as part of the US commitment to seek a diplomatic resolution to the crisis in Ukraine.

Chairman Andrei Kostin would like the opportunity to meet with Ms. Kavalec to discuss the current state of affairs. He is happy to answer any questions she might have about VTB, including the state's role in its operations, the efficacy of the sanctions on VTB, and VTB's record in Ukraine. Simply, he would like to begin a constructive dialogue so that when sanctions are eventually lifted, VTB can again become a trusted financial institution in the United States. I think that Ms. Kavalec will find him really interesting and engaging. His insights and perspectives might be unexpected.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Michael Borden

MICHAEL E. BORDEN
Counsel

SIDLEY AUSTIN LLP
1501 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005
+1 202 736 8521
mborden@sidley.com
www.sidley.com



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Barnes, Angela A

From: Kavalec, Kathleen A
Sent: Monday, September 19, 2016 11:24 AM
To: Green, Eric F
Subject: RE: Special Invitation from VTB to Gala Performance of the Bolshoi Ballet /Jazz by Igor Butman - October 8th - Kennedy Center

thanks

RELEASE IN PART B6

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Green, Eric F
Sent: Monday, September 19, 2016 11:23 AM
To: Kavalec, Kathleen A
Subject: FW: Special Invitation from VTB to Gala Performance of the Bolshoi Ballet /Jazz by Igor Butman - October 8th - Kennedy Center

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Fried, Daniel
Sent: Sunday, September 18, 2016 12:12 AM
To: Daniel Russell
Cc: Johnson, Marquita L
Subject: Re: Special Invitation from VTB to Gala Performance of the Bolshoi Ballet /Jazz by Igor Butman - October 8th - Kennedy Center

Dan -

I won't be attending. While VTB is not under full blocking sanctions, we're not interested in advancing their corporate reputation.

Dan

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Charles Lahiguera, Senior Reviewer

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 14, 2016, at 7:43 PM, Daniel Russell <Dan.Russell@usrbc.org> wrote:

Dear Dan,

Clearly your last meeting with Andrey Kostin made an impression! Please see attached a special invitation from him for you and a guest to attend a Gala Performance of the Bolshoi Theater Ballet featuring prima ballerina Svetlana Zakharova at the Kennedy Center on Saturday, October 8th. The

performance, which will occur on the margins of the World Bank/IMF meetings, will also feature a post-performance reception with Maestro Igor Butman and his jazz band.


We hope you will join us for what promises to be a wonderful cultural evening featuring some of Russia's leading artists.

We kindly ask that you RSVP directly to VTB_Bolshoi_Gala@vtb.ru to reserve your place for October 8th.

Thank you, and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Best regards,

Dan Russell
President and CEO
U.S.-Russia Business Council
1110 Vermont Avenue, NW
Suite 350
Washington, DC 20005
202 739 9181 *direct*


dan.russell@usrbc.org
www.usrbc.org

B6

<VTB at IMF invite.jpg>

Kavalec, Kathleen A

Subject: 1:00 Andrei Kostin, Global Chairman of VTB

Start: Thu 10/6/2016 1:00 PM

RELEASE IN FULL

End: Thu 10/6/2016 1:45 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Organizer: Kavalec, Kathleen A

Good afternoon, Ms. Randolph:

I wanted to follow up and send you the names and bios of the people who will likely be joining Chairman Kostin on Thursday at 1 pm for his meeting with Ms. Kavalec. There will probably be four of us:

- Andrey Kostin, President and Chairman, VTB <http://www.vtb.com/group/management/guide/kostin/>
- Paul Swigart, CEO of US Operations, VTB Capital: <http://www.prescientco.com/team/paul-swigart/>
- Michael Borden, Sidley Austin: <http://www.sidley.com/people/michael-e-borden>
- Mike Manatos, Manatos & Manatos: <http://manatos.com/aboutus/leadership/mike>

If there is anything else that you need from me, please let me know.

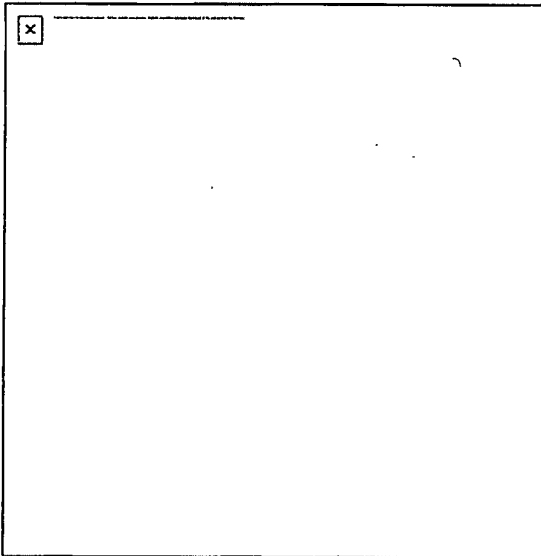
I look forward to meeting you on Thursday,

Michael

MICHAEL E. BORDEN

Counsel

SIDLEY AUSTIN LLP
1501 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005
+1 202 736 8521
mborden@sidley.com
www.sidley.com



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*****Great. Thank you. I will compile those materials and send a small packet to you soon.

MICHAEL E. BORDEN
Counsel

SIDLEY AUSTIN LLP
+1 202 736 8521
mborden@sidley.com

From: Randolph, Francine. [<mailto:RandolphF@state.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 3:19 PM
To: Borden, Michael
Subject: RE: Meeting Request
Importance: High

Hi Michael,

The meeting will be held on October 6th at 1:00 p.m. in DAS Kavalec's office. Please send me a bio for Mr. Kostin and background materials. We are located at 2201 C Street, NW, Rm 6226 and my telephone number is (202) 647-5146. Thanks.

Francine

Francine Randolph
Office of the Assistant Secretary
Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs
Department of State

Tel: 202-647-5146
randolphf@state.gov

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Borden, Michael [<mailto:mborden@sidley.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:44 PM
To: Randolph, Francine
Subject: RE: Meeting Request

Hi Francine –

Thank you so much. I'm sorry for the delayed reply – I was on a plane yesterday without wifi.

We are very grateful that DAS Kavalec is available to meet. Let's confirm **1 pm on October 6**. Please let me know if there is any information or background materials that you need from me.

Again, thank you.

Michael

MICHAEL E. BORDEN
Counsel

SIDLEY AUSTIN LLP
+1 202 736 8521
mborden@sidley.com

From: Randolph, Francine [<mailto:RandolphF@state.gov>]
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 3:55 PM
To: Borden, Michael
Subject: RE: Meeting Request
Importance: High

Hi Michael,

DAS Kavalec will be available to see you on October 6 at 1:00 p.m. or 2:00 p.m. or on October 7 at any time between 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Thanks,

Francine

Francine Randolph
Office of the Assistant Secretary
Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs
Department of State
Tel: 202-647-5146
randolphf@state.gov

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Borden, Michael [<mailto:mborden@sidley.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, September 20, 2016 1:05 PM
To: Randolph, Francine
Subject: Meeting Request

Hello Ms. Randolph –

My name is Michael Borden and I'm an attorney at Sidley Austin. I am writing to see if Deputy Assistant Secretary Kavalec is available to meet on either **October 6 or October 7** because I'd like to introduce her to my client, the Global Chairman of VTB. VTB is a global provider of financial services operating across all key areas of the financial markets. It is also the second-largest bank in Russia. As you may know, VTB is currently on the US sanctions list as part of the US commitment to seek a diplomatic resolution to the crisis in Ukraine.

Chairman Andrei Kostin would like the opportunity to meet with Ms. Kavalec to discuss the current state of affairs. He is happy to answer any questions she might have about VTB, including the state's role in its operations, the efficacy of the sanctions on VTB, and VTB's record in Ukraine. Simply, he would like to begin a constructive dialogue so that when sanctions are eventually lifted, VTB can again become a trusted financial institution in the United States. I think that Ms. Kavalec will find him really interesting and engaging. His insights and perspectives might be unexpected.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Michael Borden

MICHAEL E. BORDEN
Counsel

SIDLEY AUSTIN LLP
1501 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005
+1 202 736 8521
mborden@sidley.com
www.sidley.com



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NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

RELEASE IN PART B5,B6

Kavalec, Kathleen A

From: Fried, Daniel
Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2016 9:36 AM
To: Kavalec, Kathleen A; Keller, Andrew N
Cc: Marcos, Millette; Green, Eric F; Katsoulos, Athena
Subject: RE: VTB Bank meeting request

Feel free to join.

From: Kavalec, Kathleen A
Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2016 9:34 AM
To: Fried, Daniel; Keller, Andrew N
Cc: Marcos, Millette; Green, Eric F; Katsoulos, Athena
Subject: RE: VTB Bank meeting request

Sounds like fun!

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Fried, Daniel
Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2016 9:32 AM
To: Kavalec, Kathleen A; Keller, Andrew N
Cc: Marcos, Millette; Green, Eric F; Katsoulos, Athena
Subject: RE: VTB Bank meeting request

OK. Have offered the meeting. Manatos may regret having set up by the time I'm through with VTB.

From: Kavalec, Kathleen A
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2016 6:23 PM
To: Fried, Daniel; Keller, Andrew N
Cc: Marcos, Millette; Green, Eric F; Katsoulos, Athena
Subject: RE: VTB Bank meeting request

No objections to the meeting with Kostin to listen and send a message. I assume he is not on the sanctions list himself? Interesting that Manatos is taking him around. +Athena for the Greek-Am nexus.

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

Kavalec, Kathleen A

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

1

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

From: Fried, Daniel
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2016 5:55 PM
To: Keller, Andrew N
Cc: Marcos, Millette; Kavalec, Kathleen A; Green, Eric F
Subject: Re: VTB Bank meeting request

Ah, good precedent.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 6, 2016, at 5:50 PM, Keller, Andrew N <KellerAN@state.gov> wrote:

We met with a Sberbank rep a few weeks ago. Exactly as you said, interesting meeting and opportunity to send a strong message. On that note, I thought a readout of that meeting had been sent around. Will check on that.

B5

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Fried, Daniel
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2016 5:42 PM
To: Marcos, Millette; Kavalec, Kathleen A; Keller, Andrew N; Green, Eric F
Subject: VTB Bank meeting request

See below.

B5

What think you?

From: Mike Manatos [<mailto:Mike.Manatos@Manatos.com>]
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2016 5:37 PM
To: Fried, Daniel
Subject: meeting request - June 22

Dan,

I hope this note finds you doing well. Good to be interacting with you again, after so many years, in your new capacity.

My father and I saw you from afar at the swearing-in ceremony of Kathleen Doherty, but were unable to connect with you before you left.

I am hoping I can find some time on your schedule on Wednesday, June 22 to bring by to introduce to you the President and Chairman of VTB Bank, Andrey Kostin. As you likely know, VTB is a global provider of financial services operating across all key areas of the financial markets. It is also the second-largest bank in Russia. As you know, VTB is currently

Kavalec, Kathleen A

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

NO DISCERNIBLE CLASSIFICATION

on the US sanctions list as part of the US commitment to seek a diplomatic resolution to the crisis in Ukraine.

Mr. Kostin would like the opportunity to meet with you and discuss the current state of affairs. He is happy to answer any questions you might have about VTB, including the state's role in its operations, the efficacy of the sanctions on VTB, and VTB's record in Ukraine.

Simply, he would like to begin a constructive dialogue so that when sanctions are eventually lifted, VTB can become a trusted institution in the United States. I think you will find him interesting and engaging. His insights and perspectives might be unexpected.

Please let me know if you or your staff need more information. I hope to see you on June 22.

Sincerely,

Mike

Mike Manatos
Senior Vice President, Manatos & Manatos
1100 New Hampshire Ave, NW, WDC 20037
D: 202-393-0091, C [REDACTED]
Mike.Manatos@Manatos.com

B6

Barnes, Angela A

From: Oudkirk, Sandra S
Sent: Wednesday, November 02, 2016 5:32 PM
To: Hinman, Richard C; Bysfield, Anna W
Cc: Bailey, Robert H; Fahmy, Tarek
Subject: RE: Meeting Request - Iran-Related Sanctions

Great, I'm glad this worked out!

RELEASE IN PART
1.4(B),B1,1.4(D),B6

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

Classified by Director A/GIS/IPS, DoS on 11/22/2017 ~ Class:
CONFIDENTIAL ~ Reason: 1.4(B), 1.4(D) ~ Declassify on: 11/02/2041

From: Hinman, Richard C
Sent: Wednesday, November 02, 2016 4:55 PM
To: Bysfield, Anna W
Cc: Bailey, Robert H; Fahmy, Tarek; Oudkirk, Sandra S
Subject: RE: Meeting Request - Iran-Related Sanctions

We are confirmed!

Wow...this was extraordinarily painless – especially by State Department standards ☺

Best

Rich

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Bysfield, Anna W
Sent: Wednesday, November 02, 2016 4:37 PM
To: Hinman, Richard C
Cc: Bailey, Robert H; Fahmy, Tarek; Oudkirk, Sandra S
Subject: RE: Meeting Request - Iran-Related Sanctions

Thanks. I'll put a hold on Sandra's calendar. Please let us know once you confirm it with the Russian Embassy.

Best,
Anna

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Hinman, Richard C
Sent: Wednesday, November 02, 2016 4:33 PM
To: Bysfield, Anna W
Cc: Bailey, Robert H; Fahmy, Tarek; Oudkirk, Sandra S
Subject: RE: Meeting Request - Iran-Related Sanctions

Yep, we will do it at 11:00 here at the Department. We can use our conference room here at 4417.

Many thanks to all!

Rich

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Bysfield, Anna W
Sent: Wednesday, November 02, 2016 4:28 PM
To: Hinman, Richard C
Cc: Bailey, Robert H; Fahmy, Tarek; Oudkirk, Sandra S
Subject: RE: Meeting Request - Iran-Related Sanctions

Hi Rich,

Sandra is available at 11am on Tuesday, 11/8. She has a meeting at 10am, but we might be able to move that around if necessary.

Is this meeting going to take place in the HST? If so then we don't have to worry about travel time.

Thanks.

Anna

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Hinman, Richard C
Sent: Wednesday, November 02, 2016 4:05 PM
To: Bysfield, Anna W; Oudkirk, Sandra S
Cc: Bailey, Robert H; Fahmy, Tarek
Subject: RE: Meeting Request - Iran-Related Sanctions

Hi Folks,

Whoops, I forgot that Friday is a Russian holiday – something about the proletariat storming a winter palace or the like.

They asked if we could make this for next Tuesday at maybe 10:00 or 11:00 or so?

Rich

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Hinman, Richard C
Sent: Wednesday, November 02, 2016 3:08 PM
To: Bysfield, Anna W; Oudkirk, Sandra S
Cc: Bailey, Robert H; Fahmy, Tarek
Subject: RE: Meeting Request - Iran-Related Sanctions

Sounds good! I will try for 14:00

Thanks

Rich

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Bysfield, Anna W
Sent: Wednesday, November 02, 2016 3:08 PM
To: Hinman, Richard C; Oudkirk, Sandra S
Cc: Bailey, Robert H; Fahmy, Tarek
Subject: RE: Meeting Request - Iran-Related Sanctions

Hi Rich,

Sandra is available this Friday from 1pm – 5pm. Please go ahead to arrange for the meeting.

Thanks.

Anna

SBU

This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Hinman, Richard C
Sent: Wednesday, November 02, 2016 11:12 AM
To: Oudkirk, Sandra S

Cc: Bailey, Robert H; Bysfield, Anna W; Fahmy, Tarek
Subject: RE: Meeting Request - Iran-Related Sanctions

Actually I think you are exactly the perfect person for him to sit down with. How about if I broker a meeting for Friday with ?

1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

Are you around then?

Rich

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Oudkirk, Sandra S
Sent: Wednesday, November 02, 2016 7:53 AM
To: Hinman, Richard C
Cc: Bailey, Robert H; Bysfield, Anna W; Fahmy, Tarek
Subject: RE: Meeting Request - Iran-Related Sanctions

Hi Richard,

I'm happy to meet with the econ couns unless he's someone EUR would not meet at the office director level in which case Tarek would be the right person to take the meeting for EB. I've added Anna and Tarek to this chain for their situational awareness. Anna will be the POC for scheduling the meeting.

Thanks,
Sandra

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Hinman, Richard C
Sent: Tuesday, November 01, 2016 6:12 PM
To: Oudkirk, Sandra S
Cc: Bailey, Robert H
Subject: RE: Meeting Request - Iran-Related Sanctions

OK Great. Thanks for getting back to me so quick. My guess is that we would be meeting at Econ Counselor level, but I wouldn't rule out their DCM getting involved

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

From: Oudkirk, Sandra S
Sent: Tuesday, November 01, 2016 3:53 PM
To: Hinman, Richard C
Cc: Bailey, Robert H
Subject: RE: Meeting Request - Iran-Related Sanctions

Hi Rich,

I think it would be best if the embassy met with us, particularly if their questions will be fairly general. Just let us know what level interlocutor they would need.

Thanks,
Sandra

-----Original Message-----

From: Hinman, Richard C
Sent: Tuesday, November 01, 2016 3:41 PM
To: Oudkirk, Sandra S
Cc: Bailey, Robert H
Subject: FW: Meeting Request - Iran-Related Sanctions
Importance: High

Sandra

I hope that you are having a great day. I received this request from the Russian Embassy a while back and we have been trying to work through who would be the best person to address this since then. I believe that [redacted] is basically seeking clarification from us on the current state of play of Iran related sanctions under the JCPOA. 1.4(B)
1.4(D)

I think it is worth noting that this came really only a few days after the VTB bank visit, and, as you will probably remember, there were serious misapprehensions and misunderstandings about US sanctions on Iran even well in the aftermath of the agreement. It is pretty safe for us to assume that if a very well-connected and savvy operator like VTB does not fully understand where we are on Iran sanctions, then it is likely that very few others in Russia really do either. B1

Who do you think would be the appropriate person with whom the Russians could discuss this.

Rich

Richard C. Hinman

Econ Unit Chief
Office of Russian Affairs
Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs
Desk: 202-736-4441
Cell: [redacted]
HinmanRC@state.gov

B6

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED

-----Original Message-----

[redacted]

1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

Importance: High



1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

SBU
This email is UNCLASSIFIED.

RELEASE IN PART
1.4(B),B1,B5,1.4(D),B6

Barnes, Angela A

From: Bailey, Robert H
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 1:25 PM
To: Patel, Reena
Cc: Wong, Yvette M; Finkelstein, Craig L; Holland, Dovie A
Subject: RE: Urgent - Rosatom payment to the IAEA

Hi – just plussed you into another chain on this. Seems to be working out. Treasury is aware.

From: Patel, Reena
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 1:16 PM
To: Bailey, Robert H
Cc: Wong, Yvette M; Finkelstein, Craig L; Holland, Dovie A
Subject: Urgent - Rosatom payment to the IAEA

Classified by Director A/GIS/IPS, DoS on 11/22/2017 ~
Class: CONFIDENTIAL ~ Reason: 1.4(B), 1.4(D) ~
Declassify on: 03/27/2042

Hi Robert,

Hope all is well. Need your guidance, please. EUR and T are received the email below (see bottom of this chain). Is this something that EB also deals with? I didn't know who else needed to be looped into this matter.

Sincerely,
Reena

Reena Patel
Multilateral Affairs Officer
International Organizations/Office of UN Political Affairs
Work: 202-647-1891/Cell: [redacted]
patelr@state.gov

B6

Official - Transitory
UNCLASSIFIED

From: Finkelstein, Craig L
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2017 11:18 AM
To: Wong, Yvette M; Patel, Reena
Subject: FW: Urgent - Rosatom payment to the IAEA

Reena/Yvette,

You may have already received this note, but I am forwarding in case you have not. No idea who at State or in Vienna might handle. Do you?

Craig L. Finkelstein
Political Adviser
U.S. Mission to the United Nations, New York
FinkelsteinCL@state.gov
(212) 415-4228-Desk

[redacted] BlackBerry

B6

Official - Transitory

UNCLASSIFIED

From: Klein, Christopher C
Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2017 9:04 PM
To: Chase, Shane K; Finkelstein, Craig L
Cc: Ried, Curtis R; Donovan, James B; Merritt, Eileen; Gee, Stephen J; Tachco, Amy N
Subject: Fw: Urgent - Rosatom payment to the IAEA

I can't quite make heads or tails of this, but it seems to involve Russia, banking, the IAEA, and Iran. Please feel free to look Monday. Forwarding now so I don't forget.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: Hinman, Richard C <HinmanRC@state.gov>
Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2017 6:53 PM
To: Green, Eric F; Hardiman, Matthew X; Schofer, Andrew J; Klein, Christopher C
Cc: Kavalec, Kathleen A; Robinson, Christopher T
Subject: Re: Urgent - Rosatom payment to the IAEA

Hi Eric

I am looking at it but, as you said, I am not sure that much can be done about this until Monday.

Rich

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: Green, Eric F
Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2017 3:22 PM
To: Hinman, Richard C; Hardiman, Matthew X; Schofer, Andrew J; Klein, Christopher C
Cc: Kavalec, Kathleen A; Robinson, Christopher T
Subject: Fw: Urgent - Rosatom payment to the IAEA

Rich,

[Redacted]
Can you please look into this?

B5

USUN/UNVIE, I presume this can wait until Monday. (Not sure what we could do with the banks over the weekend anyway.)

Thx. Eric

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

[Redacted]

1.4(B)
1.4(D)
B1

B1
1.4(B)
1.4(D)

