



## Colombia: U.S. Support for Colombia's "Strategy for Strengthening Democracy and Social Development"

**Secretary Condoleezza Rice**

Washington, DC

February 7, 2007

The United States welcomes the announcement by the Colombian Government of its "Strategy for Strengthening Democracy and Social Development." With the support of the U.S. and the international community, this initiative will consolidate and build on the achievements made through Plan Colombia to reduce poverty, strengthen the rule of law, and significantly reduce violence in [Colombia](#).

The priorities described in this new strategy emphasize increased economic and social programs, as well as human rights and justice reform, with special attention to the needs of Afro-Colombians, indigenous groups, and displaced persons. It also continues major efforts against narcotics trafficking and terrorist organizations.

The Colombian Government's decision to implement this strategy shows its ongoing commitments to social, economic and judicial reform that will improve the lives and security of all Colombians. Colombia has received strong bipartisan support in Congress. We believe that continued support by Congress, as well as by the international community will enhance this ongoing effort.

**2007/083**

Released on February 7, 2007

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Published by the U.S. Department of State Website at <http://www.state.gov> maintained by the Bureau of Public Affairs.