



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### ***MEDIA ADVISORY***

#### **U.S. Secretary of Transportation Slater To Lead Transportation And Trade Mission to Singapore, Hong Kong, Beijing and Tokyo**

U.S. Secretary of Transportation Rodney E. Slater will travel to Asia February 21-- 26, 2000 to promote transportation policies fostering President Clinton and Vice President Gore's goals of prosperity, stability and democracy in all regions of the world, including the one-third of humanity living in Asia. The \$7 trillion economy of this region will significantly impact America's destiny in this new century and new millennium.

**[At 8:30 a.m. EST on Thursday, February 24, near the close of the trip, Secretary Slater will hold a conference call for U.S. media that will overview and update the week's activities.  
Contact: Bill Adams (202) 366-5580]**

The Secretary will meet with his transportation counterparts and other government officials in **Singapore, Hong Kong, Beijing and Tokyo** to discuss the department's vision of a new transportation architecture for a new century and a new millennium. The department's vision of an international transportation architecture in the 21st century and its impact on the emerging global economy reflects the need to accommodate the predicted expansion of trade and tourism between the United States and its Asia-Pacific partners in the years ahead.

During his meetings, the Secretary will emphasize aviation, which he believes is a driving force for economic development in the 21st century. He will advocate a more open aviation system in Asia, based on **multilateral** agreements among groups of countries. This approach builds on the *Aviation in the 21st Century -- Beyond Open Skies* conference hosted by Secretary Slater in Chicago last December, at which aviation ministers and other leaders representing 90 countries discussed the challenges and opportunities facing international aviation.

Secretary Slater's public schedule follows.

**U.S. Secretary of Transportation Rodney E. Slater**  
**U.S -- Asia Transportation Mission to Singapore, Hong Kong, Beijing and Tokyo**  
**Trip Public Schedule (*Corresponding U.S. EST in Italics*)**  
**Tuesday, February 22 -- Saturday, February 26**

**Tuesday, February 22 - Singapore** In Singapore, the Secretary will urge APEC ministers to move forward on region-wide liberalization, which is already on the agenda of next month's APEC Ministerial.

- 7:00 a.m.**      **Meet with U.S. air transport company CEO-s.**  
**Hosted by U.S.-ASEAN Business Council.**  
*(Corresponds to 6:00 p.m. EST, Monday, February 21)*
- 7:45 a.m.**      **Deliver remarks at a meeting with the U.S. ASEAN Business Council, which will include CEO-s of major U.S. companies including UPS, United Airlines, Boeing and others/OPEN**  
**Location: Regent Hotel, Tanglin Rooms 3 and 4, Second Level**  
*(Corresponds to 6:45 p.m. EST, Monday, February 21)*
- 10:00 a.m.**      **Ribbon-cutting of Asian Aerospace 2000 Exhibition**  
**Ceremony presided over by Deputy Prime Minister Tan Tony and Minister of Communication Yeo Cheow Tong/OPEN**  
**Location: Changi Exhibition Centre, Hall A**  
*(Corresponds to 9:00 p.m. EST, Monday, February 21)*
- 10:30 a.m.**      **Tour of U.S. Pavilion and Press Conference/OPEN**  
**Location: Changi Exhibition Centre**  
*(Corresponds to 9:30 p.m. EST, Monday, February 21)*
- 12:00 noon**      **Lunch hosted by Deputy Prime Minister Tan Tony**  
*(Corresponds to 11:00 p.m. EST, Monday, February 21)*
- 2:15 p.m.**      **Meeting with Singapore Minister of Communications Yeo Cheow Tong**  
*(Corresponds to 1:15 a.m. EST, Tuesday, February 22)*
- 2:45 p.m.**      **Meet with Ministers of Transport from APEC/ASEAN countries to discuss air service liberalization, a follow-up to the Chicago Aviation Conference**  
*(Corresponds to 1:45 a.m. EST, Tuesday, February 22)*
- 4:15 p.m.**      **Meeting with the Civil Aviation Administration Minister Liu Jianfeng**  
*(Corresponds to 2:30 a.m. EST, Tuesday February 22)*

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**Wednesday, February 23 -- Hong Kong** In Hong Kong, the Secretary will promote a liberalized air service agreement and discuss maritime access concerns.

- 8:00 a.m.**      **Breakfast hosted by Consul General Michael Klosson and Secretary for Economic Services Stephen Ip and other local officials**  
*(Corresponds to 7:00 p.m. EST, Tuesday, February 22)*
- 9:45 a.m.**      **Meeting with CSX officials and tour of CSX terminal at Hong Kong Harbor**  
**Location: CSX Terminal at Hong Kong Harbor**  
***PHOTO-OP***  
*(Corresponds to 8:45 p.m. EST, Tuesday, February 22)*
- 12:15 p.m.**     **Secretary Slater to address American Chamber of Commerce Luncheon/*OPEN***  
**Location: The Hong Kong Hotel, Centenary Rooms 1 and 2**  
*(Corresponds to 11:15 p.m. EST, Tuesday, February 22)*
- 2:00 p.m.**      **Media Availability**  
**Location: The Hong Kong Hotel, Centenary Rooms 1 and 2**  
*(Corresponds to 1:35 a.m. EST, Wednesday, February 23)*
- 4:30 p.m.**      **Tour Hong Kong's Multimodal Project, FEDEX and UPS facilities/*OPEN***  
**Location: UPS facility, Hong Kong Airport**  
*(Corresponds to 3:30 a.m. EST, Wednesday, February 23)*

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**Thursday, February 24 -- Beijing, China** In Beijing, the Secretary will advance the case for a bilateral Open Skies agreement between the People's Republic of China and the U.S.

- 11:30 a.m. Meet with Acting Civil Aviation Administration of China Minister Shen Yuakang**  
*(Corresponds to 10:30 p.m. EST, Wednesday, February 23)*
- 12:00 p.m. Meet with Acting Civil Aviation Administration Minister Shen Yuakang**  
*(Corresponds to 11:00 p.m. EST, Wednesday, February 23)*
- 2:30 p.m. Tour of Forbidden City**  
*(Corresponds to 1:30 a.m. EST, Thursday, February 24)*
- 9:30 p.m. Conference call to U.S. reporters**  
*(Corresponds to 8:30 a.m. EST, Thursday, February 24)*

**Friday, February 25 -- Tokyo, Japan** In Tokyo, the Secretary will focus on both aviation and maritime access issues.

- 3:00 p.m. Country briefing with Ambassador Foley and staff**  
*(Corresponds to 12:00 a.m. EST, Friday, February 25)*
- 4:00 p.m. Meet with Minister of Transport Toshihiro Nikai**  
**Location: Ministry of Transport**  
*(Corresponds to 2:00 a.m. EST, Friday, February 25)*

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**Saturday, February 26 -- Tokyo, Japan**

- 10:00 a.m.**    **Tour of Narita Airport/Meeting with U.S. air carrier representatives**  
*(Corresponds to 8:00 p.m. EST, Friday, February 25)*
- 2:00 p.m.**    **Press availability**  
**Location: Narita Airport**  
*(Corresponds to 12:00 a.m. EST, Saturday, February 26)*

**\*\*\* Cross International Date Line to Honolulu \*\*\***

**Saturday, February 26 -- Honolulu, Hawaii**

- 12:00 p.m.**    **Meeting with Governor Benjamin Cayetano and**  
**Lt. Governor Macie Mirono**  
*(Corresponds to 5:00 p.m. EST, Saturday, February 26)*
- 2:00 p.m.**    **Meet with Honolulu Mayor Jeremy Harris, Director of Honolulu County**  
**Department of Transportation Cheryl Soon and representatives of the**  
**Army Corps of Engineers, the Hawaii DOT and FHWA to discuss local**  
**transportation issues.**  
*(Corresponds to 7:00 p.m. EST, Saturday, February 26)*

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