

Today, Rep. John F. Tierney (D-Mass.), Chairman of the Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs, issued the following statement about a newly released Government Accountability Office (GAO) report he requested as part of his sustained oversight of U.S. efforts in Pakistan and Afghanistan:

“The GAO report again illustrates an unacceptable situation. Despite spending \$12.3 billion of taxpayer money in Pakistan since 9/11, the United States has not met our national security goals. Pakistan’s Federally Administered Tribal Areas still remain the hotbed of terrorist activity and we still do not have a strategic, comprehensive plan. As part of my continued oversight of U.S. government spending in Pakistan, I look forward to working with the Obama Administration to identify the lessons learned from the past seven years to ensure that American taxpayer dollars are used strategically, efficiently, and effectively. Our country’s security demands nothing less.”

According to GAO’s report, as of December 2008 neither the National Security Council, the National Counterterrorism Center, the Defense Department, the State Department, nor USAID had produced a comprehensive plan concerning the Pakistan-Afghanistan border region as recommended in the April 2008 GAO report.

During the past two years, Chairman Tierney has led three Congressional delegations to Pakistan and Afghanistan and held eight related hearings. Most recently he held a hearing to investigate the failure of the Defense Department to properly account for hundreds of thousands of weapons and other sensitive equipment obtained for the Afghan army and police.

### **Documents and Links**

- [GAO Pakistan Report](#)