President Bush directed the establishment of US Africa Command

- We are consulting with Congress, other USG Departments and Agencies, and key friends and allies
- With their help, we are creating a new command that addresses the unique challenges and opportunities in Africa
The Importance of Africa

- Africa is of significant strategic and economic importance

- Our focus is to build the capacity of our African partners to:
  - Reduce conflict
  - Improve security
  - Defeat terrorists
  - Support crisis response
USAFRICOM Concept

- U.S. Africa Command will support U.S. Government activities across Africa to:
  - Integrate US Interagency efforts
  - Assist diplomacy and development efforts

- Will consolidate the African responsibilities of three commands into one

- Goal is significant inter-agency representation from the beginning
Draft Area of Responsibility

Today

Full Operational Capability (Draft)
AFRICOM Tasks

- Work with African states, regional organizations, and other partners to:
  - Build Partnership Capacity
  - Support USG agencies in implementing security policies
  - Conduct Theater Security Cooperation activities
  - Increase partner counter-terrorism skills
  - Enhance humanitarian assistance, disaster mitigation, and response activities
  - Foster respect for human rights
  - Support African regional organizations
  - As directed, conduct military operations
US Africa Command promotes US National Security objectives by working with African states and regional organizations to help strengthen stability and security in the AOR. US Africa Command leads the in-theater DoD response to support other USG agencies in implementing USG security policies and strategies. In concert with other U.S. government and international partners, US Africa Command conducts theater security cooperation activities to assist in building security capacity and improve accountable governance. As directed, US Africa Command conducts military operations to deter aggression and respond to crises.
Way Ahead

☑ Transition responsibilities to USAFRICOM:
  • Continue on-going activities without interruption
  • Increase USAFRICOM personnel and resources

☑ Establish USAFRICOM HQ on the continent

- Many details of U.S. Africa Command remain to be developed
- We look forward to working with Congress, interagency partners, and security allies in building USAFRICOM
Conclusion

- Establishing USAFRICOM recognizes the strategic importance of Africa

- Goal is innovative inter-agency structure

- Emphasis on building partnership capacity to strengthen security & stability