

laws discriminate against women and limit their ability to acquire and transmit citizenship to their children or spouses, which can lead to statelessness. The United States will continue to work to empower women and girls and ensure opportunities for displaced and stateless women throughout the world.

Our values and our interests dictate that the protection of the most vulnerable is a critical component of our foreign policy. We have a

moral imperative to save lives. We also have interest in sustaining U.S. leadership, which enables us to drive the development of international humanitarian principles, programs, and policies like no other government in the world. Such efforts promote reconciliation, security, and well-being in circumstances where despair and misery threaten stability and critical U.S. national security interests.

## Statement on the Approval of the Settlement in the *Cobell* Class-Action Lawsuit on Indian Trust Management

*June 20, 2011*

After 15 years of litigation, today's decision marks another important step forward in the relationship between the Federal Government and Indian Country. Resolving this dispute was a priority for my administration, and we will engage in government-to-government consultations with tribal nations regarding the land

consolidation component of the settlement to ensure that this moves ahead at an appropriate pace and in an appropriate manner. And going forward, my administration will continue to strengthen our relationship with Indian Country.

## Remarks at a Democratic National Committee Fundraiser

*June 20, 2011*

Thank you, everybody. It is wonderful to see so many great friends. To Amy and all those who helped to organize tonight's dinner, I couldn't be more grateful.

Debbie Wasserman Schultz, our new DNC chair, thank you for all the extraordinary work that you're doing. I could not have made a better pick.

I want to spend most of the time in a conversation as opposed to just me making a long speech. But I do want to talk a little bit about the context in which we meet this evening. Obviously, we're going through extraordinarily challenging times. We've gone through the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. And a huge amount of energy has been devoted over the last 2 years to making sure that we pulled ourselves back from the brink; that an economy that was contracting is growing again; that we're putting more and more people back to work; that businesses are able to succeed; that we're educating our kids; that

we're making investments that will help assure that America remains not only the most powerful country on Earth, but also one that is just and one that lives up to the American Dream, the idea that anybody who has a good idea, anybody who's willing to work hard, that they've got a shot at not only living a good life, but also passing on an even better life to their kids.

We also have an extraordinarily challenging international environment. When I came into office, we were in the midst of two wars. We are almost done with our troop presence in Iraq, by the end of this year. And in Afghanistan, we're in the process of a transition where we are starting to give more and more responsibility to Afghans for their own security, at the same time as we have been dogged in pursuing Al Qaida and are creating a situation where it is very, very difficult for them to operate.

But in the midst of all this, what we've now also seen is the kind of tumult taking place in