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United States: ICRC president to discuss detention with government officials

Geneva (ICRC) – The president of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Jakob Kellenberger, has arrived in Washington for talks with Secretary of State Colin Powell, National Security Adviser Dr Condoleezza Rice, and Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz. Mr Kellenberger also plans to meet senior representatives of the American Red Cross.

During his meetings with government officials, the ICRC president will review in particular the situation at the US detention facility in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. When Mr Kellenberger last visited Washington in May 2003, he asked the US authorities to institute due legal process and to implement other significant changes for the more than 600 detainees held at the facility.

The talks will also cover the humanitarian situation and ICRC activities in Iraq, Israel, the occupied and autonomous Palestinian territories, and Afghanistan.

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