



# FOREIGN AFFAIRS MANUAL

## VOLUME 1 – Organization and Functions

Transmittal Letter: ORG-114

Date: August 27, 2002

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### 1 FAM 280 BUREAU OF OVERSEAS BUILDINGS OPERATIONS (OBO)

#### MAJOR CHANGES

1. Additional structural changes and significant operational modifications further clarifying and strictly assigning accountability have been made to Subchapter 1 FAM 280, *Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations (OBO)*. Specifically, the Project Management Division in the Office of Project Execution has been dissolved. Its personnel have been assigned to other divisions within OBO. This change supports OBO's new project life-cycle concept by allocating staff resources to the primary functions of planning and development, design and engineering, and construction and commissioning.

2. Revisions since the last update appear in italics. The italics will be removed the next time the material is updated. Only current changes will appear in italics. Italics provide a historical record of changes.

3. Under the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998, Public Law 105-277, the functions of the U.S. Information Agency related to international broadcasting are transferred to the Broadcasting Board of Governors. Accordingly, all provisions of the FAM previously applicable to USIA continue in effect with respect to the BBG until further notice.

4. Officers are reminded that Department-issued materials not codified in the *Foreign Affairs Manual* or its supplemental *Foreign Affairs Handbook* series generally have no regulatory validity [see 2 FAM 1115.2].

#### FILING INSTRUCTIONS (Paper Copies)

1. Remove and destroy the text of the old 1 FAM subchapter 280 (issued under TL:ORG-113 dated 07-01-2002 - 26 pages) and replace it with the attached revised subchapter 1 FAM 280 (30 pages total).

2. After inserting the material in the binder, insert this transmittal letter immediately following the TL Checklist, then fill in the entry line for TL:ORG-114, and initial.

## DISTRIBUTION NOTICE

1. The *Foreign Affairs Manual and Handbooks* (unclassified) official version can be found on State Department's Open Net site at <http://arpsdir.a.state.gov>.

2. All posts and offices keeping paper versions of the *Foreign Affairs Manual* are responsible for maintaining the FAM on a current basis (see 2 FAM 1116.5), and for ensuring that all copies (including binders) are either retained or returned to A/RPS/DIR if no longer needed. **When returning excess or unused materials include your office/post symbols and inform MMS/PB and your message center if you need to have your distribution reduced** (this generally applies only to time-sensitive paper issuances). A/RPS/MMS/PB, Room 1853, 202-736-7470, FAX 202-647-4535, handles all requests for paper copies, including non-government users (include either fiscal information or payment with request, as appropriate).

3. Use KFAM and AINF TAGS on **all** communications on FAM/FAH issues; direct questions concerning issuance, validity, and updating to A/RPS/DIR. Direct questions concerning substance and interpretations to the office indicated at the end of this transmittal letter.

**(OBO/RM/P)**