

Plans for the 2012 G8 Chicago Summit: May 19-20, 2012

Caroline Bracht
Researcher, G8 Research Group
February 23, 2012

Abbreviations and Acronyms	2
Preface	2
Introduction: United State's 2012 G8	2
Agenda: The Policy Summit	2
Priority Themes	2
Deauville Partnership	3
Non-proliferation	4
Food Security	5
Other	5
Process: The Physical Summit	5
Meetings	6
United State's G8 Team	6
Participating Leaders	6
G8 Leaders	6
Canada	6
France	7
Germany	7
Italy	7
Japan	7
Russia	7
United Kingdom	8
United States	8
European Union	8

Abbreviations and Acronyms

G8	Group of Eight
G20	Group of Twenty
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
NATO	North American Treaty Organization
NPDG	Nonproliferation Directors Group
NSSG	Nuclear Safety and Security Group
SMEs	small and medium-sized enterprises

Preface

This report on “Plans for the 2012 G8 Chicago Summit” is compiled by the G8 Research Group largely from public sources as an aid to researchers and other stakeholders interested in the G8. It will be updated periodically as plans for the summit evolve. This report includes material on the physical summit, the United States internal preparations and G8 ministerial meetings.

Introduction: United State’s 2012 G8

The United States holds the presidency of the G8 for 2012 and will host the summit on May 19-20, 2012 in Chicago, U.S. The Chicago Summit will cover issues such as anti-corruption, rule of law, democracy, expanding education and strengthening civil society engagement. However, other issues to be discussed will be identified as the United States develops the agenda.

The 2012 G20 summit will be hosted by Mexico in Cabo San Lucas in Baja California Sur.

Agenda: The Policy Summit

Priority Themes

The United States has not finalized an agenda. However, as host of the 2012 G8 summit the United States will take a pragmatic and results-oriented approach. It would like to identify the agenda items that are important to citizens and will include issues such as the rule of law, anti-corruption, expanding educational opportunity, and strengthening civil society. The U.S has set up a Forum consisting of \$1 million in grants to facilitate civil society input in the lead-up to the summit. The intention is to reinforce the notions of

democratic freedoms and economic opportunity.¹ (November 22, 2011, Targeted News Service)

Deauville Partnership

The United States has put forward the Deauville Partnership as one way to coordinate economic efforts in the Middle East and North Africa. The two-pronged approach suggested to benefit Egypt specifically would include an investment and trade strategy and helping Egyptian exporters make better use of the Generalized System of Preferences program. The Deputy U.S. Trade Representative Miriam Sapiro outlined that the approach would focus on delivering immediate as well as long-term goals. In contrast, the Egyptian Minister of Industry and Foreign Trade Mahmoud Al-Said Eisa said that Egypt is focused on short-term steps to stimulate economic growth and employment, and that a free trade agreement with the United States is not part of its immediate strategy. Furthermore, he downplayed the short-term value of trying to generate growth through the Deauville Partnership.² (Inside U.S. Trade, January 20, 2012)

In a White House Office of the U.S. Trade Representative speech it was reiterated that “multilaterally, as the chair for the G8 process for 2012, the United States is committed to making the best use of the Deauville Partnership to coordinate efforts related to the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region by major economies and the international financial institutions. “Bilaterally, we are ready to work with our Egyptian counterparts to step up our joint work in such areas as SMEs [small and medium-size enterprises], trade facilitation, services and investment, agriculture, good regulatory practices, as well as regional trade and investment arrangements to create more export opportunities and grow Egypt’s economy. We look forward to working with Minister Eissa to create a concrete bilateral Action Plan to achieve our shared goals.”³ (US Fed News, January 17, 2012)

Caroline Atkinson, director of the International Economic Affairs at the American National Security Council, reasserted the readiness in the United States to keep supporting Tunisia in the transition period and to implement the Deauville conventions.⁴ (January 13, 2012, Agency Tunis Afrique Press)

During discussions with the U.S ambassador to Tunisia, Tunisian finance minister Houcine Dimassi articulated the plan to intensify talks to “examine the possibility of implementing the Deauville conventions,” as Tunisia is in a transitional period with increasing pressure on the state budget.⁵ (January 10, 2012, Philippines News Agency)

¹ Burns, William, Targeted News Service (November 22, 2011), “Deputy Secretary Speaks on Forum for the Future.”

² Inside U.S. Trade (January 20, 2012), “Egyptian Minister Presses For Short-Term Steps To Economic Growth” Vol. 30, No. 3.

³ US Fed News (January 17, 2012), “Remarks By Ambassador Miriam E. Sapiro At U.S.-Egypt Business Council.”

⁴ Agency Tunis Afrique Press (January 13, 2012), “Deauville Partnership follow-up.”

⁵ Philippines News Agency (January 10, 2012), “Tunisia urges G8 to materialize aid pledge in face of economic crunch”.

At the 2011 Deauville Summit, as part of the newly established Deauville Partnership, the G8 leaders agreed to “support the integration of the Partnership Countries in the regional and global economy through increased trade and inward investment to the region.” At the Forum of the Future in November 2011, William J. Burns, Deputy Secretary of the United States reiterated the importance and attention the U.S. will place on open trade and investment across the MENA region. “We are mobilizing the world’s leading economies and international lending institutions to support the transitions in Tunisia, Egypt, and Libya, as well as the major reforms underway in Jordan and Morocco.”⁶ (November 22, 2011, Targeted News Service)

On July 23, 2011, Jordan’s Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Ja’far Hasan announced that Jordan was officially invited to join the G8’s Deauville Partnership initiative. The minister received the invitation at a G8 meeting in Paris aimed at supporting Arab countries in economic, investment, trade and aid domains in addition to supporting political and economic reform programs. Two follow-up meetings will be held with Arab countries, which joined the ‘Deauville Partnership’ initiative later in the year.⁷ (July 24, 2011, BBC Monitoring Middle East)

The previous G8 host Nicolas Sarkozy has assigned former French prime minister Edouard Balladur to be in charge of the Deauville Partnership. The group headed by Balladur will work closely with other multilateral bodies, notably the international financial institutions. Balladur will start visiting Arab countries this month. The mandate of Balladur’s group will end when the French presidency of the G8 expires on December 31, 2011.⁸ (July 5, 2011, Dow Jones Newswires)

Sarkozy hopes that Morocco will join the Deauville Partnership. “As part of measures adopted at the latest G8 meeting, on May 27, France hopes that Morocco will join the Deauville Partnership, which aims to lend practical support for the Arab states engaged in democratic transition,” Sarkozy said.⁹ (July 3, 2011, Agence Maghreb Arabe Presse)

Non-proliferation

The U.S. has assumed the lead for the three nonproliferation groups that report to the G8: the Nonproliferation Directors Group (NPDG); the Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction, and the Nuclear Safety and Security Group (NSSG). The first meeting of the NPDG was held by Assistant Secretary of State for International Security and Nonproliferation Thomas M. Countryman on January 25, at the Department of State. The groups will meet throughout 2012 to help develop and implement international objectives for nonproliferation. The G8 Nuclear Safety and

⁶ Targeted News Service (November 22, 2011), “William J. Burns, Deputy Secretary Speaks on Forum for the Future.”

⁷ BBC Monitoring Middle East (July 24, 2011), “Jordan invited to join G8's "Deauville Partnership" initiative for Arab nations.”

⁸ David Pearson, Dow Jones Newswires (July 5, 2011), “France Names Ex-Premier To Head G8 Group To Help Arab Countries.”

⁹ Agence Maghreb Arabe Presse (July 3, 2011), “French president says France hopes Morocco will join G8 for support to democracy.”

Security Group will support the implementation of the International Atomic Energy Agency's (IAEA) Action Plan for Nuclear Safety developed in response to the Fukushima accident in Japan in 2011, emphasize the importance of strong nuclear plant safety culture, and support G8 endorsement and participation in the IAEA Response and Assistance network to strengthen international emergency preparedness.¹⁰ (January 23, 2012, Office of the Spokesperson)

Food Security

The United States will launch a \$15 million program to support agribusiness and food security in Indonesia. It has been suggested by Roger N. Beachy, vice-chair and president of Emeritus Donald Danforth Plant Science Center at the United States, that Indonesia can play a more significant role in the G8 and G20 in terms of food security.¹¹ (February 8, 2012, Xinhua News Agency)

Other

On December 19, 2011, the United States will host the first official-level trilateral dialogue with the assistant secretaries of state from India and Japan in Washington. The State department has planned for the meeting to provide "an opportunity to hold comprehensive discussion on a range of Asia-Pacific regional issues."¹² (December 6, 2011, The Pioneer)

The full Chicago Summit agenda has not yet been finalized. The anticipated dates for the G8 Summit and the adjacent North American Treaty Organization (NATO) summit are May 15-22, 2012. The NATO summit is to include discussion on NATO's Enduring Partnership with Afghanistan agreed on at the 2010 Lisbon meeting and it is suspected that this topic will be addressed at the G8 Summit also. It is also expected that the G8 summit will agree on new ways for NATO nations to prioritise, specialise and share multinational projects so that they can keep and improve their security capabilities, an approach known as "Smart Defence."¹³ (September 23, 2011, North Atlantic Treaty Organization)

Process: The Physical Summit

In preparation for the G8 and NATO summits, the Chicago City Council has passed, with little opposition, two ordinances dealing with security, demonstrations and parades. It

¹⁰ Office of the Spokesperson (January 23, 2012), "U.S. Assumes Chairmanship of G8 Related Nonproliferation Groups."

¹¹ YaJiaDaFenShe, Xinhua News Agency (February 8, 2012), "U.S. to launch 15 mln USD program to support agribusiness, food security in Indonesia."

¹² The Pioneer (December 6, 2011), "US-India-Japan dialogue to be launched on Dec 19."

¹³ North Atlantic Treaty Organization (September 23, 2011), "NATO Secretary General announces Chicago summit dates."

will be the first time in more than three decades a city has hosted both meetings.¹⁴ (January 19, 2012, Chicago Daily Herald)

According to Chicago City Hall, it is estimated that the city's G8/NATO host committee will have to raise \$45 million to \$60 million. The actual cost may be higher depending on the final schedule, protesters and federal government transfers.¹⁵ (January 16, 2012, Crain's Chicago Business)

Meetings

May 19-20, 2012	G8 Summit
May 20-21, 2012	NATO Summit

United State's G8 Team

- Barack Obama, President
- Michael Forman, G8 sherpa
- Timothy Geithner, Secretary of the Treasury
- Hilary Clinton, Secretary of State
- Leon E. Panetta, Defence Secretary
- Eric Holder, Attorney General, Department of Justice
- Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture
- Hilda L. Solis, Secretary of Labor

Participating Leaders

G8 Leaders

Canada

Stephen Harper was elected prime minister of Canada in January 2006 and was re-elected in October 2008. He was first elected as a member of Parliament in 1993. He served as leader of the opposition for several years before becoming prime minister. Before running for politics he served as a policy adviser for the Reform Party. Born in Toronto, Ontario, on April 30, 1959, he studied at the University of Toronto and the University of Calgary, earning his master's degree in economics in 1991. He and his wife, Laureen Harper, have two children. Canada hosted the 2010 Muskoka Summit and usually follows Italy in the hosting sequence (i.e., 2018). This will be Harper's sixth G8 summit.

¹⁴ Chicago Daily Herald (January 19, 2012), "Chicago OKs Summit Plan."

¹⁵ Greg Hinz, Crain's Chicago Business (January 16, 2012), "G8/NATO summits' elephant in the room."

France

Nicolas Sarkozy became president of France on May 16, 2007, having served as the president of the Union pour un Mouvement Populaire (UMP) since 2004. From 1983 to 2002, he was mayor of Neuilly-sur-Seine. Born in Paris on January 28, 1955, he received his law degree from the Université de Paris and practised law before entering politics. He is married to Carla Bruni-Sarkozy and has three children from previous marriages. This will be his fifth G8 summit. France hosted both the G8 and the G20 in 2011.

Germany

Angela Merkel became chancellor of Germany in November 2005. She was first elected to the Bundestag in 1990 and has held the cabinet portfolios for women and youth, environment, nature conservation and nuclear safety. Before entering politics she worked as a researcher and physicist. She was born in Hamburg on July 17, 1956 and received her doctorate in physics from the University of Leipzig in 1978. She is married to Joachim Sauer and has no children. Germany last hosted the G8 summit in 2007 at Heiligendamm and followed Russia in the last hosting sequence (i.e., 2015). This will be her sixth G8 summit.

Italy

Mario Monti took office as prime minister of Italy in November 2011 following an invitation from President Giorgio Napolitano. Also at this time he was appointed a lifetime senator. Monti was asked to form a new technocratic government following the resignation of Silvio Berlusconi. He also serves as minister of economy and finance. Monti, formally trained as an economist, taught economics at the University of Turin from 1970 to 1985 before moving to Bocconi University in Milan. He served as a European commissioner from 1995 to 2004, and has been rector and president of Bocconi University. Monti is married with two children. This will be the first G8 summit he has attended.

Japan

Yoshihiko Noda was formally appointed as the prime minister of Japan on September 2, 2011, replacing Naoto Kan. Noda was born in 1957, graduated in 1980 from Waseda University School of Political Sciences and Economics and was accepted into Matsushita Institute of Government and Management. In 1993, he was elected to the Diet and won control of the Diet in September 2009. In June 2010, Noda was appointed minister of finance by Prime Minister Kan. After Kan's resignation in August 2011, Noda won the leadership of the Democratic Party of Japan and was appointed prime minister. Noda is married with two children. This will be his first G8 summit.

Russia

Dmitry Medvedev became president of Russia in May 2008, having been officially endorsed as a presidential candidate in December 2007 by United Russia. He served as deputy prime minister from 2005 to 2008. Before entering politics, he worked as a legal expert and lawyer. He was born in Leningrad (now St. Petersburg) on September 14,

1965, and earned a degree in law in 1987 and a doctorate in private law in 1990 from Leningrad State University. He is married to Svetlana Medvedeva and they have one child. Russia hosted its first G8 summit in 2006 at St. Petersburg and followed the United Kingdom in the last hosting sequence (i.e., 2014). This will be his fourth G8 summit.

United Kingdom

David Cameron became prime minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in May 2010. He was first elected to parliament in 2001 as representative for Witney, and served as party leader since 2005. Before becoming a politician Cameron worked for the Conservative Research Department and served as a political strategist and advisor to the Conservative Party. Born in London, England, on October 9, 1966, Cameron received a bachelor's degree in philosophy, politics and economics at the University of Oxford. He is married to Samantha Sheffield and has three children; a fourth child died in 2009. This will be the second G8 summit that he has attended. The United Kingdom last hosted the G8 in 2005 at Gleneagles and follows the United States in the G8 hosting sequence (i.e., 2013). This will be Cameron's third G8 summit.

United States

Barack Obama was inaugurated January 20, 2009. In 2005 Obama was elected to the Senate, having previously worked as a community organizer, a civil rights lawyer and a state legislator for Illinois. The first black president of the United States, he was born on August 4, 1961, in Honolulu, Hawaii, to a Kenyan father and American mother. He received his bachelor's degree from Columbia University in 1983 and a law degree from Harvard University in 1991. He is married to Michelle Obama and they have two children. This will be Obama's fourth G8 summit and his first as host.

European Union

Herman Van Rompuy was elected the first full-time president of the European Council on November 19, 2010. He was previously prime minister of Belgium from 2008 to 2009. Before entering politics, Rompuy was a lecturer. Born in Etterbeek, Belgium, on 31 October 1947, he holds a bachelor's in philosophy and a master's degree in applied economics from Katholieke Universiteit Leuven. He is married to Geertrui Windels and has four children. This will be his third G8 summit as president of the European Council.

José Manuel Barroso became president of the European Commission in November 2004. Previously, he was prime minister of Portugal from 2002 to 2004. Before entering politics Barroso was an academic. He studied law at the University of Lisbon, holds a master's degree in economics and social sciences from the University of Geneva and received his doctorate from Georgetown University in 1998. He is married to Maria Margarida Pinto Ribeiro de Sousa Uva and has three children. This will be his eighth G8 summit.

While the European Union leaders participate in the G8 summit, the EU does not host summits.