Regional meeting fostering an exchange of ideas among a network of key leaders on economic, political, and social issues throughout the CAMCA region – Central Asia, Mongolia, the Caucasus, and Afghanistan.
The Rumsfeld Foundation hosted the 2015 CAMCA (Central Asia — Mongolia — Caucasus — Afghanistan) Regional Forum in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia from June 20-21st, 2015. The Forum brought together over 100 leaders from business, government, academia, and civil society from across the international community to discuss key issues in the Eurasia region.

The CAMCA Regional Forum was established to promote region-wide discussions on means of advancing economic growth and development in the heart of Eurasia. It promotes this goal by fostering dialogue and interaction among rising young leaders from various sectors in the 10 countries of the region, as well as with international leaders and stakeholders.

Day 1 – June 20th

Opening remarks were provided by Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, President of the Rumsfeld Foundation, and Dr. S. Frederick Starr, Chairman of the Central Asia-Caucasus Institute, followed by a keynote welcoming address from the Speaker of the Parliament of Mongolia, Mr. Enkhbold Zandaakhuu.

The first day of the Forum agenda included plenary discussions, panels, interviews and dialogue sessions focused around three main themes: “CAMCA’s Evolving Place in the World Economy,” “Foreign and Security Outlook of CAMCA in 2025,” and “Unlocking the Potential of CAMCA’s Human Capital.”

Speakers and participants at the Forum included notable professionals from Mongolia, the broader CAMCA region, Europe, India, the Republic of Korea, the United States, and more.

An impressive luncheon keynote address was provided by Amb. Zalmay Khalilzad, who presented his insights on current developments in Afghanistan and discussed prospects for future integration and cooperation among the countries of the CAMCA region.

Guests continued conversations from the day’s meetings over dinner and entertainment featuring exceptional traditional performances by the Mongolian Military Band and Dance Troupe organized by Forum partner, the Mongolian Ministry of Defense.

Day 2 – June 21st

Discussion groups convened the following morning to discuss key findings and conclusions from the previous day’s conversations. A closing plenary presentation moderated by Dr. S. Frederick Starr, featured rapporteurs from each session who presented outcomes on behalf of their dialogue participants and took questions from the audience.

Former Prime Minister to the Kyrgyz Republic, Mr. Djoomart Otorbaev, provided closing luncheon keynote remarks. Mr. Otorbaev spoke on the importance of democracy in the CAMCA region and the role Mongolia plays as a model for successful democratic transitions for its neighbors.

Following the luncheon, guests participated in a trip to the Mongolian countryside which included a visit to the impressive Chinggis Khaan Monument, followed by a traditional Mongolian dinner at the spectacular Ayanchin Four Seasons Lodge in Terelj National Park where Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and Deputy Defense Minister Battur Avirmed, made final remarks.

At the conclusion of a terrific evening, the 2015 CAMCA Regional Forum came to an end following two days of productive, interesting, and memorable discussions on the CAMCA region.

2015 Keynote Speakers

Zalmay Khalilzad

Djoomart Otorbaev
RUMSFELD FELLOWSHIP ALUMNI MEETING

In addition to the events of the 2015 CAMCA Regional Forum, the alumni of the Rumsfeld Fellowship Program gathered on June 19th to learn more about Mongolia and to discuss issues pertaining to the Fellowship Program and alumni network.

Providing insight into Mongolian history and culture, author and historian, Dr. Jack Weatherford, spoke to the Fellows on the subject of Chinggis Khan and his lasting legacy throughout Mongolia and Greater Central Asia.

Mrs. Oyungerel Tsevdamba, a Member of the Parliament of Mongolia and former Minister of Culture, Sports, and Tourism, provided inspirational remarks on her experience and the importance of education, personal responsibility, and democracy.

Lastly, Dr. Khashchuluun Chuluundorj, Executive Director of the National Council for Private Sector Support, made an impressive presentation on the Mongolian economy.

In the evening, the Fellows attended a welcoming reception where they heard updates from representatives of all 10 alumni country delegations and had an opportunity to reconnect with their friends and colleagues.
Thank you to our partners!

For questions or comments please contact:

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