

William W. McIlhenny
Director of Policy, Planning and Coordination
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William McIlhenny is a career Foreign Service Officer who, over two decades, has held a number of bilateral and multilateral positions focused on the development and implementation of U.S. policy on Latin America, the Caribbean, and Canada.

As Director of the Office of Policy, Planning, and Coordination (a Minister-Counselor level position) he manages the WHA bureau's strategic planning function, development of the U.S. foreign assistance budget for Latin America and the Caribbean, liaison with the U.S. Congress, and other regional functions (e.g. counternarcotics, political-military affairs, civil society outreach, democracy and rights promotion).

In 2008 he served as Deputy Director of the Secretary of State's Policy Planning Staff (S/P), which he joined in 2005 as the Member responsible for Western Hemisphere issues. At the White House (National Security Council) he was Director for North American Affairs from 2000-2002. He managed the bilateral political portfolio in the State Department's Office of Mexican Affairs from 1999-2000, and worked on the Central American peace processes and other Latin America-related issues in the UNSC from 1992-1994, when he served in the Office of UN Political Affairs (IO/UNP). In 1994 he worked for the Secretary's Special Advisor for Haiti.

From 1990-1992 he was Director of Legislative Operations in the Bureau of Legislative Affairs; from 1994-1995 he was a legislative fellow of the American Political Science Association.

As the U.S. Permanent Observer to UNESCO from 1995-1999, in Paris, he managed U.S. participation in and funding of a number of multilateral programs promoting intellectual cooperation in the areas of science, culture, communications, natural and cultural conservation, and education.

He was Consul General of the United States in Florence, Italy, and had other postings at the U.S. Embassies in Managua, Nicaragua and Lisbon, Portugal.