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TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS COLLECTIVE

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FOR MANAGEMENT OFFICERS AND IMO/ISO/IPO

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: ACOA, AADP, AMGT

SUBJECT: ENSURING POST APPLICATIONS WORK WITH VISTA AND
FEDERAL DESKTOP CORE CONFIGURATION (FDCC) MANDATE

1. The Department of State is preparing for Microsoft's new desktop operating system - Vista, which will replace Window XP. With the move to Vista, the Department will achieve compliance with federally mandated security settings. This upgrade will have significant impact on bureau and post applications necessitating application testing and possible modification prior to Vista deployment.

2. As we comply with OMB mandates and ensure security of our systems, it is important that post-developed

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applications are tested with the Vista FDCC configuration as early as possible. IRM plans to begin domestic pilot deployments of Vista in June/July, approve Vista for general use by August/September, and anticipates completion of worldwide deployment by July 2009. At that time, bureau and post-developed applications must be compatible with Vista.

3. Vista brings with it a shift to Internet Explorer 7 (Microsoft's latest web browsing software) which will present one of the biggest compatibility challenges we have faced over the last couple of years. The FDCC configuration mandates centrally managed security settings. These will combine to significantly impact bureau and post applications.

4. For additional information on the Department's Vista testing, or the FDCC mandate, please visit the Vista collaboration website at <http://irmvista.washdc.state.sbu/> . If your post requires assistance in testing applications with Vista before it is rolled out, please contact the Vista working group at vistairm@state.gov .

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