



L. Craig Johnstone, United Nations Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees

L. Craig Johnstone, a former U.S. Ambassador and Assistant Secretary of State with extensive management, foreign aid, refugee and private sector experience, assumed his duties as UNHCR's Deputy High Commissioner in June 2007.

Mr. Johnstone came to UNHCR after more than five years as European Vice President and General Manager for The Boeing Company.

He began his international career in 1965 on assignment with the US Agency for International Development (USAID) in Vietnam, where he worked on refugee programs. Johnstone spent five years in Vietnam, first with USAID and later as a US Foreign Service Officer.

In the early 1970s, he was a Fellow of the Council on Foreign Relations in New York, and subsequently a Fellow of the Institute of Politics at Harvard. He also served with the US Embassy in Ottawa; on the staff of then Secretary of State Henry Kissinger; and as a State Department coordinator for Secretary Kissinger with the UN General Assembly.

Johnstone returned to Vietnam in 1975 on a personal mission to rescue Vietnamese who had worked for the US government. Upon returning to the United States, he worked on refugee resettlement programs and was then assigned to the team working on the Egypt-Israel negotiations on the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai. In the late 1970s and 80s, he served in Jamaica; as U.S. Vietnam negotiator in Paris; as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Latin America; and as U.S. Ambassador to Algeria from 1985-88.

He left the U.S. Foreign Service in 1989 to join the Cabot Corporation, first as Senior Vice President for International Affairs and then as President of Cabot Plastics International, the latter based in Brussels. He returned to government in 1994 under the Clinton Administration as Director (Assistant Secretary) for Resources, Plans and Policy in the Office of the Secretary of State, where he remained for five years. He was named Senior Vice President for International and National Security Affairs at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in 1999 before joining The Boeing Company.

Mr. Johnstone has served on the Board of Directors of Vital Voices, the Humanitarian Assistance Fund and a number of Private Sector Companies. END

