

# **Reid to lead delegation to Latin America**

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Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.) will lead a bipartisan delegation to Latin America next week, his office announced Wednesday.

Reid will head a group that includes Democratic Sens. Jeff Bingaman (N.M.), Kent Conrad (N.D.), Byron Dorgan (N.D.) and Robert Menendez (N.J.), as well as Republican Sens. Thad Cochran (Miss.) and Mike Crapo (Idaho).

The delegation will meet with the presidents of Guatemala, Colombia, Paraguay, and Mexico and also visit the so called Tri Border area that connects Brazil, Paraguay and Argentina.

According to Reid's office, the "purpose of the trip is to show the United States' commitment to strengthening ties with our neighbors in Latin America."

The group will also meet officials dealing with labor, trade and counter narcotics in these countries.

Congress is currently considering whether to back a trade agreement with Colombia. Trade unions and some Democrats have argued the pact lacks sufficient workforce protections.