

Carmen Margarita Castro

Associate Comptroller
Department of State
Bureau of the Comptroller and Global Financial Services



Work Experience.

Carmen M. Castro, a career member of the Senior Foreign Service, class of Minister-Counselor, is the Associate Comptroller in the Bureau of the Comptroller and Global Financial Services (CGFS). Located in Charleston, South Carolina, the Associate Comptroller, a Deputy Assistant Secretary level position, serves as the Managing Director leading a workforce of over 350 FS, GS, contract, and overseas local staff for Global Disbursing, Post Support Unit, Financial Training and Support and Customer Support and Training operations. The Associate Comptroller is one of only two Minister Counselor Financial Management Officer positions in the Department and is the Comptroller's principal advisor on overseas financial operations. The Associate Comptroller serves as the lead for the Bureau on the coordination of corporate Financial Management Officer (FMO) corps matters, pursuant to the Bureau's support of Sec. 902 of the Chief Financial Officer's Act of 1990.

Prior to her current assignment, Carmen was the Chief Budget Officer for the financial management office in the Executive Office for the Bureaus of Near Eastern (NEA) and South and Central Asian Affairs (SCA). She led a Foreign and Civil service team of 24 and provided leadership and management oversight for all NEA and SCA financial management resources and operations. She managed in excess of \$2.8 billion in resources comprising of budgets for the NEA and SCA domestic offices and 43 overseas posts, including Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan. Served as NEA and SCA's principal advisor on all financial management issues. Provided financial oversight, policy guidance, and managed all financial operations for NEA and SCA by establishing priorities, monitoring procedures, ensuring compliance with applicable laws and regulations, and identifying staffing/training requirements. She ensured completion of the Bureau Resource Requests including all narrative and resource requests required for the Congressional Budget Justification (CBJ) as well as providing information on Congressional budget inquiries.

Carmen joined the Department of State as a Foreign Service Financial Management Specialist in 1997. She served in La Paz, Quito, Paris, San Jose, Rome, and Beijing. Prior to her career with State, she served as a Financial Management Officer for the Agency for International Development serving in the Dominican Republic, Kenya and Washington D.C. In each of her overseas posts assignments, she was in charge of the entire financial management operation of the embassy or post. She oversaw all aspects of financial management, internal controls and services for the mission including budgeting, accounting, voucher processing, cashiering, financial reporting and travel services. She ensured that funds were expended consistent with resource requirements of the Mission and Bureau's goals and objectives as outlined in the Bureau Resource Requests (BRR) and Joint Regional Strategies (JRS).

Education.

Cornell University, MBA with specialization in Finance and International Business
George Mason University, BS Graduation with Distinction in Computer Science