



DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
1010 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1010

JUN 13 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR: SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Interim Guidance for Implementing the National Strategy for Biosurveillance

In July 2012, the President released the National Strategy for Biosurveillance (*Strategy*), directing Federal departments and agencies to improve national biosurveillance capability within existing resources. The Strategy defines biosurveillance as the process of gathering, integrating, interpreting, and communicating essential information related to all-hazards threats or disease activity affecting human, animal, or plant health to achieve early detection and warning, contribute to overall situational awareness of the health aspects of an incident, and to enable better decision-making at all levels. DoD is adopting the Strategy's definition of biosurveillance.

The DoD already conducts biosurveillance-related activities that support the *Strategy* in the areas of comprehensive health surveillance; food protection and zoonotic disease surveillance; chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear detection and monitoring; intelligence; law enforcement; and installation environmental and wildlife monitoring.

The attached interim guidance directs actions within existing Department resources to improve the integration, synchronization, and coordination of biosurveillance-related activities in support of national and DoD priorities. This guidance does not change existing roles and responsibilities.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert S. Caith", is centered on the page.

Attachment:
As stated



OSD005777-13

DISTRIBUTION:
SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
DEPUTY CHIEF MANAGEMENT OFFICER
COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS
DIRECTOR, COST ASSESSMENT AND PROGRAM EVALUATION
DIRECTOR, OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION
GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER
ASSISTANTS TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR, ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT
DIRECTOR, NET ASSESSMENT
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES
DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

Interim Guidance for Implementing the National Strategy for Biosurveillance

The *Strategy's* goal is to achieve a well-integrated, national biosurveillance enterprise that saves lives by providing essential information for better decision-making at all levels. Essential information is required to understand and respond to a wide range of threats, including weapons of mass destruction, CBRN incidents, pandemic influenza and emerging infectious disease, environmental and natural disasters, and widespread food-borne contamination.

DoD will execute the following key tasks to integrate, synchronize, and coordinate biosurveillance-related activities at the tactical, operational, and strategic levels and to enable sharing and receiving of biosurveillance information with external partners, as requested and approved by proper authorities.

Key Tasks

The Secretaries of the Military Departments, in coordination with their Surgeons General, will make their biosurveillance-related data, reporting, and analyses available for integration at the tactical, operational, and strategic levels. They will submit unfunded requirements and integrated priorities for biosurveillance through normal departmental processes and identify training and personnel requirements.

The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs will publish a formal issuance to guide further DoD implementation of DoD biosurveillance policy, update joint doctrine, and identify, in coordination with the Military Departments and Combatant Commands, essential information reporting requirements. The Chairman will update notification procedures accordingly.

The Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics will lead the development of capabilities to collect, integrate, and analyze data and report information produced by DoD biosurveillance-related activities at all levels in support of requirements formally identified by the Military Departments and Combatant Commands.

The Under Secretary of Defense for Policy will update strategic guidance documents and publish additional guidance as necessary to support DoD implementation of the *Strategy*.

The Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness will, in coordination with the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, and the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence, submit for Secretary of Defense approval a DoD Directive for Biosurveillance within 12 months.

The Combatant Commanders will continue updating directed plans and corresponding capability gaps for improved analysis of data and reporting generated by ongoing biosurveillance-related activities. Combatant Commanders will submit unfunded requirements and integrated priorities for biosurveillance through normal departmental processes.

The Biological Preparedness Group, co-chaired by the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear, Chemical, and Biological Defense, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Global Strategic Affairs, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs, and the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence, will oversee and coordinate the implementation of these tasks.