



DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
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JAN 20 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR ACQUISITION,
TECHNOLOGY AND LOGISTICS
UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PERSONNEL AND
READINESS

SUBJECT: Establishment of a Department of Defense (DoD) Laboratory Presence in the
Country of Georgia

The President of the United States signed the *National Strategy for Countering Biological Threats* on November 23, 2009. A key element of that strategy is to establish international partnerships supporting global biosurveillance, biothreat reduction, and medical countermeasure development. The construction and establishment of the Georgia-U.S. Biosurveillance and Research Center (GUSBRC) in the country of Georgia is an important step in implementing this strategy. The DoD intent is to cooperatively use the Georgia-owned GUSBRC facility to: promote global health security; identify infectious disease threats to global health security; and develop interventions to mitigate those threats.

I hereby designate the Secretary of the Army as the DoD Executive Agent to establish a collaborative DoD presence at the GUSBRC and to develop an implementation plan in partnership with the Georgian Ministry of Defense; Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Affairs; and Ministry of Agriculture as a primary means to build partnerships in global health.

The plan should include and reflect the following: (1) Army roles and responsibilities, functions, relationships, authorities, and level of OSD funding/resourcing requirements; (2) joint interagency and international requirements and coordinating responsibilities; (3) other necessary provisions to establish and sustain the DoD mission in the GUSBRC including potential sources of research program funding; and (4) the roles and responsibilities, functions, relationship, and funding accepted by the Government of Georgia. The implementation plan shall be provided for approval within 6 months of the date on this memorandum.

The Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Nuclear and Chemical and Biological Defense Programs, in conjunction with the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, will review this plan to develop a DoD Directive assigning the Army as the DoD Executive Agent for the DoD presence in the GUSBRC. Key organizational and managerial aspects of this plan and Directive will be codified with the support of the Army and other potential stakeholders.

cc:
Director, Administration and Management



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