



# **Implementation of the Biological Weapons Convention**

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# DoD Treaty Management

- **DoD Directive 2060.1**
  - **Subject: Implementation of, and Compliance with, Arms Control Agreements**
  - **“It is DoD Policy that all DoD activities shall be fully compliant with arms control agreements of the U.S. Government.”**



# Regulatory Framework

- **The U.S. DoD has long-standing internal methodologies to ensure safety and security of dangerous items and substances**
  - **Procedures cover chemical, biological, medical, radiological, high explosive, and other items**
  - **Codified in extensive procedures to ensure protection of personnel and the environment**
- **DoD complies with all requirements of U.S. national law and regulations**
  - **This includes compliance with arms control obligations**
    - **DoD Directive 2060.1 Implementation of, and compliance with, Arms Control Agreements**



# Acquisition Program Management

- **A key aspect of U.S. DoD procedures and precautions is careful review and management of research, development, and acquisition programs**
  - DoD requires the conduct of legal reviews of all acquisition programs, including compliance with arms control obligations
- **Two reviews are required for developmental systems**
  - Before initiation of engineering development
  - Before awarding the initial production contract
- **Non-developmental items are reviewed prior to their acquisition**
  - DoD Directive 5000.1, Defense Acquisition System



# **Biodefense Program Management**

- **U.S. DoD has recently established a new technical senior biodefense group to integrate efforts at the Department level**
- **Seeking better cooperation and coordination of efforts among government, industry, and academia**
  - **Partner with other government agencies & industry**
  - **Parallel processing of technologies and candidates**
  - **Downselect to candidate development**
  - **Fund most appropriate and promising biodefense technology solutions**



# Research Facility Safeguards

- **U.S. DoD implements U.S. national safeguards for biological select agents and toxins (BSAT)**
  - U.S. national standards from CDC/USDA establish the minimum requirements
  - DoD adds additional personnel and physical security, reliability, and safety requirements
  - DoD specifies a baseline vulnerability assessment for all DoD labs
  - DoD requires registration and reporting of labs and programs
    - DoD Directive 5210.88, Safeguarding Biological Select Agents and Toxins



# Improving Facility Safeguards

- **New U.S. DoD regulations are being developed**
  - **Many improvements go beyond the CDC/USDA Select Agent requirements**
    - **Additional layer of background investigations**
    - **drug screening**
    - **medical surveillance**
  - **Interviews and surveillance by supervisors, workers, and self reporting to enhance/ensure reliability and highest level of personnel conduct**



# Improving Facility Safeguards

- **New U.S. DoD regulations (continued)**
  - **Security enhancements to labs to include**
    - intrusion detection systems
    - facility/lab/freezer locks
    - video surveillance of BSAT labs
  - **Annual drug screening, medical surveillance, and periodic reinvestigations**
  - **Independent compliance inspections of BSAT labs**



# **Biosafety and Biosecurity Rules**

- **Federal guidance requires institutions receiving grants to establish biosafety committees**
  - **Biosafety committees review research proposals and protocols for ethical behavior, especially for projects involving recombinant DNA projects**
  - **These review committees are mandated and monitored by the DoD and the CDC**



# **A DoD Code of Conduct?**

- **DoD is committed to the legal, ethical, and appropriate operation of its biological defense research and development activities**
- **DoD believes that it has important elements of a code already in place through regulations**
- **DoD will continue to examine ways to improve its biosafety and biosecurity programs – possibly with improvement to training modules related to ethical practices in biological research and development**
- **DoD takes its commitment to the BWC seriously and constantly examines its programs and activities to ensure optimal compliance**



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