Executive Order on Optimizing the Security of Biological Select Agents and Toxins in the United States



October 19, 2010







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Thursday, July 8, 2010

Part VII

The President

Executive Order 13546—Optimizing the Security of Biological Select Agents and Toxins in the United States

U.S. Policy

- A robust and productive scientific enterprise that utilizes biological select agents and toxins (BSAT) is essential to national security;
- BSAT shall be secured in a manner appropriate to their risk of misuse, theft, loss, and accidental release; and
- Security measures shall be taken in a coordinated manner that balances their efficacy with the need to minimize the adverse impact on the legitimate use of BSAT

Findings

Need to address:

- The absence of clearly defined, risk-based security measures in the SAR/SAP
- Variations in—and limited coordination of—oversight, security practices, and inspections across federal departments



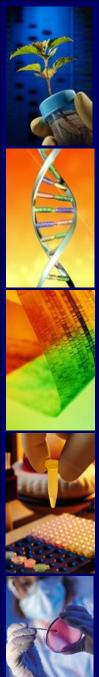
Mandated Activities

- Risk-based Tiering of the Select Agent List
- Revision of Regulations, Rules, and Guidance to Accommodate a Tiered Select Agent List
- Coordination of Federal Oversight for BSAT Security
- Implementation
 - Establishment, Operation, and Functions of the Federal Experts Security Advisory Panel
 - Role for NSABB
- Sharing of Select Agent Program Information within the USG



Federal Experts Security Advisory Panel (FESAP)

- Make technical and substantive recommendations on BSAT security concerning the Select Agent Program
- Membership from across the USG –Co-chaired by HHS and USDA



Federal Experts Security Advisory Panel (FESAP)

- Provide recommendations concerning:
 - The designation of Tier 1 agents and toxins;
 - Reduction in the number of agents on the Select Agent List;
 - The establishment of appropriate practices to ensure reliability of personnel with access to Tier 1 agents and toxins at registered facilities;
 - The establishment of appropriate practices for physical security and cyber security for facilities that possess Tier 1 agents; and
 - Other emerging policy issues relevant to the security of BSAT
- Continue to provide technical advice concerning the SAP on request

Potential Role for NSABB

"To further assist the Secretaries of Health and Human Services and **Agriculture and the Attorney** General in implementing the policy set forth in...this order, the NSABB shall provide technical advice and serve as a conduit for public consultation, as needed, on topics of relevance to the Select Agent Program."