

Prevent Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction

Weapons of mass destruction in the hands of terrorists are among the greatest threats to national security. The United States has worked with its bilateral partners and through international fora to secure WMD and prevent proliferation. The Administration has expanded international efforts to deny terrorists access to advanced conventional weaponry and to weapons of mass destruction, their delivery systems, and related materials. We will continue to promote implementation of international obligations, aggressively target proliferators (including through financial sanctions), and enhance the capacity of the international community to deny terrorists access to WMD.

Domestic Initiatives

- The National Guard is fielding 55 WMD Civil Support Teams spread across each state, territory, and the District of Columbia to provide critical communications links and consequence management support to local, state and federal agencies.
- In December 2005, the National Counterproliferation Center (NCPC) was established to manage and coordinate the analysis and collection of information on nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons across the Intelligence Community.
- The Domestic Nuclear Detection Office (DNDO), established in the Department of Homeland Security, is responsible for developing a global nuclear detection architecture, acquiring the systems to implement the domestic components of the strategy, and supporting the deployment of the domestic nuclear detection system.
- In 2004, Project Shield was established to work with U.S. private sector companies that manufacture, sell, or export strategic technology and munitions to prevent terrorists, criminals, and foreign adversaries from obtaining these items.

International Initiatives

- In July 2006, President Bush and Russian President Putin launched the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism to bring together like-minded nations to work to prevent, protect against, and respond to the threat of nuclear terrorism. Through the Global Initiative, partner nations, including the G-8, will forge political commitments to strengthen our collective capabilities in the fight against terrorism.
- In July 2005, the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM) was amended to expand its scope to cover not only physical protection during the international transport of nuclear materials for peaceful use but also the physical protection of such materials while in use at facilities and during storage. The amendments also strengthen the CPPNM to address post-9/11 nuclear terrorism by criminalizing acts of sabotage against civilian nuclear facilities.
- In June 2005, the President signed Executive Order 13382, authorizing the Government to designate and block the property of WMD proliferators and persons providing support or services to such proliferators. The Annex to the Executive Order identifies eight organizations in North Korea, Iran, and Syria responsible for WMD and missile programs.
- In February 2005, the United States and Russia established the Bratislava Nuclear Security Cooperation Initiative to accelerate and complete nuclear security upgrades in Russia by the end of 2008, complete all eligible Russia-origin HEU fresh fuel repatriation to Russia from