



# **Transatlantic Partnerships to Counter Biological Threats**

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September 2010  
Venice, Italy

Sixth World Conference on the Future of Science  
*Virus: The Invisible Enemy*



# “Bioterrorism: Myth or Reality?”

- **1980s: Rajneeshee salmonella attack**
- **1990s: Aum Shinrikyo and anthrax**
- **2001: Amerithrax**
- **2001: Discovery of Al-Qa’ida’s pursuit of BW capability**



# Balancing Science and Security

**Address biological threats by:**

- 1. Improving global access to life sciences to combat infectious disease regardless of cause.**
- 2. Establishing and reinforcing norms against misuse of life sciences.**
- 3. Instituting a suite of coordinated activities that collectively will help influence, identify, inhibit, and/or interdict those who seek to misuse life sciences.**



# Seven Essential Elements

1. Promote global health security – by building global capacity for disease surveillance, detection, diagnosis, and reporting and strengthening the capacity of nations worldwide to combat infectious diseases, whether of natural, accidental, or deliberate origin.



# Seven Essential Elements

2. Reinforce norms of responsible and safe conduct in the biological sciences – to ensure that the tools or products are not redirected for malevolent purposes.



# Seven Essential Elements

3. Obtain timely and accurate insight into current and emerging disease risks – by improving threat identification and assessment skills, and increasing information-sharing about technological capabilities and deliberate biological threats.



# Seven Essential Elements

4. Take reasonable steps to reduce the potential for exploitation – by identifying, sensitizing, supporting, and safeguarding life science capabilities that could be vulnerable to misuse.



# Seven Essential Elements

5. Expand our capability to prevent, attribute, and apprehend those who seek to misuse scientific progress to inflict harm and to reduce the risk of single, multiple, or sequential attacks.





# Seven Essential Elements

6. Communicate effectively with all stakeholders – to increase local and global support with cogent, coordinated messages.



# Seven Essential Elements

7. Transform the international dialogue on biological threats – to create a truly robust global discussion about the threat and to identify internationally-supported measures to address it.



# Global Fora

- **Biological Weapons Convention**
- **WHO's International Health Regulations (IHRs)**
- **Global mechanisms for plant and animal health**

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# Other International Mechanisms

- **Australia Group**
- **Global Health Security Initiative**
- **G8 Global Partnership**
- **UN Security Council Resolution 1540**
- **Global Health Initiative (U.S.)**



# Enhancing Transatlantic Partnerships

- **Improved cooperation on global disease surveillance**
- **Collaborative scientific research to improve public health and health security**
- **Strengthened communication mechanisms**
- **Shared exercises and preparedness planning**
- **Donor coordination**