

Fact Sheet: President Bush Signs *Maritime Security Policy National Security/Homeland Security Presidential Directive*

PRESIDENTIAL ACTION

The President has signed a maritime security policy directive outlining his vision for a fully coordinated U.S. Government effort to protect U.S. interests in the maritime domain. This document, the Maritime Security Policy National Security/Homeland Security Presidential Directive (NSPD/HSPD), reiterates the President's commitment to maritime security and aims to integrate and align all U.S. Government maritime security programs and initiatives into a comprehensive and cohesive national effort involving appropriate Federal, State, local and private sector entities.

Since the attacks of September 11th, Federal departments and agencies have aggressively addressed the challenge of maritime security with programs such as the Container Security Initiative, the Proliferation Security Initiative, and Operation Safe Commerce. The Maritime Security Policy NSPD/HSPD integrates and leverages these and other existing initiatives and policies while ensuring interagency alignment and focus.

Specifically, actions taken in the Presidential Directive include:

- **Strategic Vision** – The Directive details a strategic vision for maritime security while encouraging and supporting ongoing initiatives.
- **Maritime Security Policy Coordinating Committee** – The Directive creates a standing inter-agency committee to serve as the primary forum for coordination of U.S. Government maritime security policies. As part of its charter, the policy coordinating committee will review existing inter-agency practices, coordination, and execution of U.S. policies and strategies relating to maritime security, and will recommend improvements to all of them as warranted.
- **National Strategy for Maritime Security** – The NSPD/HSPD directs that a National Strategy for Maritime Security be developed that builds on current efforts and capitalizes on existing strategies, tools, and resources. The Secretaries of Defense and Homeland Security will lead a collaborative inter-agency effort to develop the strategy.
- **Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA)** – The Senior Steering Group for MDA, co-chaired by representatives of the Secretaries of Defense and Homeland Security, coordinates national efforts to develop an enhanced capability to identify threats in the maritime domain as distant from our shores as possible. The Directive charges the MDA Senior Steering Group to develop a national plan for maritime domain awareness.

- **Global Maritime Intelligence Integration** – The NSPD/HSPD directs the development of a plan to use existing capabilities to integrate all available intelligence on a global basis regarding the location, identity, and operational capabilities and intentions of potential threats to U.S. interests in the maritime domain.
- **Domestic Outreach** – The NSPD/HSPD directs the creation of an engagement plan that ensures the interests of State and local governments and the private sector are considered in the Federal Government’s development and implementation of maritime security policies.
- **Coordination of International Efforts and International Outreach** – The Directive details a coordination process for all maritime security initiatives undertaken with foreign governments and international organizations and requires the development of a comprehensive outreach strategy to solicit international support for an improved global maritime security framework.
- **Maritime Threat Response** – The NSPD/HSPD directs the development of a comprehensive National Maritime Response Plan that reflects lead agency roles and responsibilities with regards to threats in the maritime domain. The plan shall supplement the National Response Plan required by HSPD-5 and complement the critical infrastructure protection plans required by HSPD-7 and the domestic all-hazards preparedness goals and structures required by HSPD-8.
- **Maritime Infrastructure Recovery** – The NSPD/HSPD directs the development, in consultation with key industry stakeholders, of recommended minimum Federal standards for maritime recovery operations, and a comprehensive national maritime infrastructure recovery standards and a plan, complementary to the national preparedness goals and standards required by HSPD-8.
- **Maritime Transportation System Security** – The NSPD/HSPD directs the development of recommendations, in consultation with appropriate industry representatives, for improvements to the national and international regulatory framework with respect to licensing, carriage, communications, safety equipment, and other critical systems for all private vessels, including commercial vessels, operating in the maritime domain.
- **Maritime Commerce Security** – The NSPD/HSPD directs the development, in consultation with appropriate industry representatives, of a comprehensive maritime supply chain security plan.

BACKGROUND ON PRESIDENTIAL ACTION

The security of the maritime domain is a global issue. The United States, in cooperation with our allies and friends around the world and our State, local, and private sector partners, will work to ensure that lawful private and public activities in the maritime domain are protected against attack and criminal and otherwise unlawful or hostile exploitation. These efforts are critical to global economic stability and growth and are vital to the interests of the United States.

It is the policy of the United States to take all necessary and appropriate actions, consistent with U.S. law, treaties, and other international agreements to which the United States is a party, to enhance the security of and protect U.S. interests in the maritime domain, including the following:

- Preventing terrorist attacks or criminal acts or hostile acts in, or the unlawful exploitation of, the maritime domain, and reducing the vulnerability of the maritime domain to such acts and exploitation;
- Enhancing U.S. national security and homeland security by protecting U.S. population centers, critical infrastructure, borders, harbors, ports, and coastal approaches in the maritime domain;
- Expediting recovery and response from attacks within the maritime domain;
- Maximizing awareness of security issues in the maritime domain in order to support U.S. forces and improve United States Government actions in response to identified threats;
- Enhancing international relationships and promoting the integration of U.S. allies and international and private sector partners into an improved global maritime security framework to advance common security interests in the maritime domain; and
- Ensuring seamless, coordinated implementation of authorities and responsibilities relating to the security of the maritime domain by and among Federal departments and agencies.

These actions must be undertaken in a manner that facilitates global commerce and preserves the freedom of the seas for legitimate military and commercial navigation and other legitimate activities as well as the civil liberties and the rights guaranteed under the Constitution.

Today's Presidential action supports these objectives and serves as the foundation for this policy.

MUCH WORK ALREADY UNDERWAY

Since the attacks of September 11th, Federal departments and agencies have aggressively addressed the challenge of maritime security with several initiatives. Today's action seeks to leverage such existing initiatives and policies, facilitate inter-agency dialogue, and ensure interagency integration and alignment while eliminating

duplication of effort and avoiding the creation of redundant policies with regard to maritime security. These existing efforts include:

- **Container Security Initiative (CSI)** – Under the CSI program, the screening of containers that pose a risk for terrorism is accomplished by teams of Customs and Border Protection officials deployed to work in concert with their host nation counterparts. Twenty of the world’s largest ports have agreed to join CSI and are at various stages of implementation.
- **Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI)** – PSI is an effort by the United States to lead the international community to stop the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD), their delivery systems, and related materials to states and non-state actors of proliferation concern by interdicting WMD-related shipments and shutting down proliferation networks. It responds to the growing challenge posed by these materials through coordination with like-minded states that have a stake in combating WMD proliferation and the willingness to take steps to stop the flow of such items at sea, in the air, or on land. Over 60 nations support PSI.
- **Megaports Initiative** – Under the Megaports Initiative, the United States works closely with international partners to equip major foreign seaports with radiation detection equipment that will enhance their capabilities to deter, detect, and interdict illicit trafficking in nuclear and other radioactive material as it moves through the global maritime shipping network. The Megaports Initiative helps reduce the probability that these materials could be used in a weapon of mass destruction or a radiological dispersal device against the United States, its allies, and friends.
- **Advance Information** – Through the 96-hour Advance Notice of Arrival (ANOA), ships must notify the U.S. Coast Guard 96 hours before arriving in a U.S. port and provide detailed information about the crew, passenger, cargo, and voyage history. Additionally, all sea carriers with the exception of bulk carriers and approved break bulk cargo are required to provide proper cargo descriptions and valid consignee addresses 24 hours before cargo is loaded at the foreign port for shipment to the United States through the Sea Automated Manifest System. By obtaining this information well in advance of arrival, the U.S. Government is able to make determinations about which vessels require additional scrutiny, including security precautions such as an at-sea boarding or armed escort during transit to and from port.
- **Customs-Trade Partnership Against Terrorism (C-TPAT)** – A public/private initiative that teams government with importers, carriers, brokers, and other industry sectors to emphasize a seamless security-conscious environment throughout the entire commercial process, from manufacture through transportation and importation to ultimate distribution. Under the C-

TPAT initiative, business participants providing verifiable security information are eligible for special benefits.

Begun in November, 2001, C-TPAT now has more than 7,000 members and is the largest public/private Federal government partnership in U.S. history.

- **Joint Harbor Operations Centers** – A Joint Navy-Coast Guard initiative establishing interagency prototype joint harbor operations centers in select Navy homeports to improve both port security and force protection capabilities. Prototypes have been completed in San Diego, California, and Hampton Roads, Virginia.
- **Operation Safe Commerce (OSC)** – The U.S. Government is working with business interests, the largest U.S. container load centers, and the maritime industry to implement Operation Safe Commerce. OSC serves as a test bed to evaluate technologies and business practices that protect and secure the end-to-end global supply chain, enhance maritime security, and facilitate the flow of commerce. OSC's results will inform U.S. policies that protect America's vital cargo supply routes against terrorist attack and ensure the safe and expeditious movement of cargo from origin to destination.

Maritime Security is and remains a priority of the President. The Maritime Security Policy NSPD/HSPD represents another indicator of his commitment to the security of U.S. interests in the maritime domain.