“...We have to change our mindsets and start thinking about biological threats as the security threats that they are....”

President Barack Obama
September 26, 2014
Global Health Security Vision

To attain a world safe and secure from global health threats posed by infectious diseases

where we can prevent or mitigate the impact of naturally-occurring outbreaks and intentional or accidental releases of dangerous pathogens, rapidly detect and transparently report outbreaks when they occur, and employ an interconnected global network that can respond effectively to limit the spread of infectious disease outbreaks in humans and animals, mitigate human suffering and the loss of human life, and reduce economic impact.
National Strategy for Countering Biological Threats

• Goal: **PROTECT** against the misuse of the life sciences to develop or use biological weapons.

• Objectives:
  – **P**romote global health security
  – **R**einforce norms of safe and responsible conduct
  – **O**btain timely and accurate insight on current and emerging risks
  – **T**ake reasonable steps to reduce the potential for exploitation
  – **E**xpand our capability to prevent, apprehend, and attribute
  – **C**ommunicate effectively with all stakeholders
  – **T**ransform the international dialogue on biological threats
Why Global Health Security?

- In today’s increasingly interconnected world we remain vulnerable.
- No one nation can achieve Global Health Security on its own.
- The vitality of the global economy is only as secure as the collective health of our people.

- 11 years ago SARS cost $30 billion in only 4 months.
- The anthrax attacks of 2001 infected 22 people, killed 5, and cost more than $1 billion to clean up.
- The 2009 H1N1 influenza pandemic killed 284,000 people in its first year alone.
- AIDS spread silently for decades.
“New diseases are inevitable, but in the 21st century we have the tools to greatly reduce the threat posed by global epidemics. We can put in place a safe, secure, globally linked, interoperable system to prevent disease threats, detect outbreaks in real time, and share information and expertise to respond effectively.”

--Secretary Sebelius, Secretary Kerry, and Assistant to the President Lisa Monaco, February 2014

Today’s Health Security Risks:

- Emergence and spread of new microbes.
- Globalization of travel and trade.
- Rise of drug resistance.
- Potential for accidental release, theft or illicit use.
Emerging organisms • Drug resistance • Intentional creation • Societal commitment • New technologies • Success leads to success • Prevent wherever possible • Detect rapidly • Respond effectively
Global Health Security Agenda Objectives

- **Prevent Avoidable Epidemics**
  1. Prevent the emergence and spread of antimicrobial drug resistant organisms and emerging zoonotic diseases and strengthen international regulatory frameworks governing food safety.
  2. Promote national biosafety and biosecurity systems.
  3. Reduce the number and magnitude of infectious disease outbreaks.

- **Detect Threats Early**
  4. Launch, strengthen and link global networks for real-time biosurveillance.
  5. Strengthen the global norm of rapid, transparent reporting and sample sharing in the event of health emergencies of international concern.
  6. Develop and deploy novel diagnostics and strengthen laboratory systems.
  7. Train and deploy an effective biosurveillance workforce.

- **Respond Rapidly and Effectively**
  9. Improve global access to medical and non-medical countermeasures during health emergencies.
“This is not just a health challenge; it's a security challenge as well. Infectious diseases -- **whether naturally occurring, deliberate or accidental** -- have the potential to cause enormous damage in terms of lives lost, economic impact and ability to recover, just as with nuclear, chemical, or cybersecurity attacks.”

--Secretary Sebelius, Secretary Kerry, and Assistant to the President Lisa Monaco, February 2014

“This [the Global Health Security Agenda] is indeed a timely initiative. **It raises the political profile of the threat from emerging and epidemic-prone diseases.** And it energizes efforts to improve health security...in line with WHO International Health Regulations...”

--World Health Organization Director General Margaret Chan February 13, 2014
Statement by the Chair of Global Health Security Agenda
White House Event, September 26, 2014

44 countries announced over 100 new commitments to prevent, detect and respond to biological threats worldwide. President Obama and senior officials from around the world called on nations to act now to achieve enduring global health security capacity in West Africa and around the world.

President of the United States Barack Obama, National Security Advisor Rice, Assistant to the President for Homeland Security and Counterterrorism Monaco, and Secretaries Burwell, Kerry and Hagel met today with Ministers and senior officials from 43 other countries and leading international organizations to make concrete commitments to advance the Global Health Security Agenda.

Australia, Azerbaijan, Canada, Chile, China, Denmark, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Liberia, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States, Vietnam, and Yemen.
GHS Vision and Targets

Vision
Our vision is a world safe and secure from global health threats posed by infectious diseases.

U.S. Overarching Target
Over the next five years the United States commits to working with at least 30 partner countries (containing at least 4 billion people) to prevent, detect and effectively respond to infectious disease threats... We call on other countries to join in this effort to realize the vision of a world where all 7 billion people are effectively protected...

## Action Package Examples

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GHSA Steering Group

1. Finland: 2015 Chair
2. Canada
3. Chile
4. India
5. Indonesia
6. Italy
7. Kenya
8. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
9. Republic of Korea
10. United States
Innovative Partnerships & Senior Leadership: Required

Collaboration with International Health Organizations

- International Health Regulations (2005)
- Post-Rinderpest Eradication
- Real-Time Biosurveillance
- Pathogen Security
- Diagnostics

Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction

- 2002-2012, $20 billion
- Extension beyond 2012 for global threats
- Biosecurity as a top priority
Global Partnership
Biosecurity Deliverables

1. Secure and account for materials that represent biological proliferation risks.

2. Develop and maintain appropriate and effective measures to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the deliberate misuse of biological agents.

3. Strengthen national and global networks to rapidly identify, confirm and respond to biological attacks.

4. Reinforce and strengthen biological nonproliferation principles, practices and instruments.

5. Reduce proliferation risks through the advancement and promotion of safe and responsible conduct in the biological sciences.
Next Steps

The technology, capacity, and resources exist to make measurable progress, but **focused leadership and political will** are required to make it happen.

- February 13, 2014: GHS Agenda launch with 33 partners
- May 5-6, 2014, Helsinki: Commitment development meeting
- May, 2014: World Health Assembly
- Summer, 2014: Action Packages
- August 20-21, Jakarta: Commitment development meeting
- 9/26, 2014: White House event to review initial commitments
- 2015 and beyond: Sustainable progress
“Together, our countries have made over 100 commitments...And now, we’ve got to turn those commitments into concrete action – starting in West Africa. We’ve got to make sure we never see a tragedy on this scale again...”

President Barack Obama
September 26, 2014