

OPCW

Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

Project Update – "Ensuring Effective Interagency Interoperability and Coordinated Communication in the Event of a Chemical and/or Biological Weapons Attack (Implementation)"

Joseph Ballard, Office of Strategy and Policy 14 August 2018

Overview

- Project Background
- Progress Phase I and II
- Phase III Planning and Path Forward



Background

Project Goal

Enhance protection of, and assistance to, human communities

- Chemical and/or biological weapons attack
- Effective and efficient support by Agencies to States upon their request
- Focus on operations and public crisis communication



Background

- UNCTITF WMD Working Group (OPCW and IAEA)
- Implements UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy
- Builds on 2010 and 2011 WMD WG studies on coordination in the event of a nuclear, radiological, chemical or biological weapons attack



Progress

Desktop Analysis



Table-Top Exercise



18 Key Recommendations





Ensuring Effective Interagency Interoperability and Coordinated Communication in Case of

Chemical and/or Biological Attacks

United Nations, New York, 2017





Progress

Information Exchange Focal Points, Crisis Centres, etc. Inter-Agency Training CBRN environments, humanitarian sector, etc. **18** Key **Standing Arrangements** MOUs, procedures, etc. Recommendations Deployment of Teams Explore roster of experts, joint teams, etc. **Crisis Communications** Joint guidelines, existing mechanisms, etc. **Agency Practices** UNOCHA field coordination, info sharing, etc.



Phase III – Focus on Implementation

Agency Action Plan

18 Key Recommendations

Individually or collectively

Covers an 18 month period

Small, concrete steps

Mandate, priorities, resources



Key Issues

Information Exchange

- Confidentiality
- Standing arrangements

Focal Points

- Operational or management
- Formal network

Inter-agency training

- Mechanism (needs vs offers)
- General CBRN awareness

Agency Engagement

 Heads to commit to action plan



Phase III - Path Forward

18 Key Recommendations Workshop (9 and 10 April) Agencies' Action Plans (final) **Phase III Project Plan** Mid-point review Results





OPCW

منظمة حظر الأسلحة الكيميائية

禁止化学武器组织

Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

Organisation pour l'Interdiction des Armes Chimiques

Организация по запрещению химического оружия

Organización para la Prohibición de las Armas Químicas