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Concept Note
Defense Side Event at
GHSAC Ministerial Meeting
Bali, Indonesia

Background: The upcoming Global Health Security Agenda (GHSAC) Ministerial Meeting in Indonesia is critical, as it will launch GHSAC 2024 and inspire the next five years of GHSAC activities. It is imperative that the defense sector is robustly included in this launch to ensure that GHSAC incorporates a truly whole-of-society approach.

Increasing ministry of defense and security partner participation in the GHSAC is an ongoing, cooperative military-to-military (MIL-MIL) effort, conducted in close coordination with civilian counterparts and the GHSAC Steering Group. These efforts began in earnest at the June 2017 GHSAC Steering Group meeting in Seoul, with a MIL-MIL bilateral meeting between the United States and the Republic of Korea. That meeting resulted in a statement by the Republic of Korea, the then-Chair of the Steering Group, supporting increased defense and security participation in GHSAC, and a series of follow-up activities that ultimately led to the inclusion of a defense-focused panel at the GHSAC Ministerial Meeting in Kampala, in October 2017. The panel included defense and security representatives from the United States, Uganda, the United Kingdom, and Finland, and focused on the role of the defense sector in GHSAC, particularly highlighting both the value and challenges of military-civilian cooperation in health activities. Over 50 people attended the session, including the Honorable Dr. Jane Ruth Aceng, Minister of Health of Uganda, and the Honorable Dr. Frances Kateh, Deputy Minister of Health of Liberia. This was the first time a defense-focused session was included at a GHSAC Ministerial Meeting. The successful execution and favorable response to that session has laid a solid foundation for additional defense engagement activities.

We therefore propose to work with the Indonesia GHSAC Ministerial Meeting planning committees, as well as our defense colleagues in Indonesia, the Republic of Korea, Italy, and others to build on the success in Kampala and organize a defense-focused side event at the GHSAC Ministerial Meeting in November 2018.

Title: *GHSAC-relevant Contributions of the Defense and Security Sectors in Support of Civilian Authorities*

Dates and Location: A side event on November 5, from 9:00 to 11:00 am, the day before the GHSAC Ministerial Meeting, November 6-8 in Bali, Indonesia.

Target Audience: Multisectoral, ministerial-level representatives from all GHSAC member countries, the GHSAC Private Sector Roundtable, the GHSAC Consortium (GHSAC), NGOs, international organizations, and other attendees of the GHSAC Ministerial Meeting.

Outcomes:

As GHSAC 2024 is launched at the 2018 Ministerial Meeting, a defense and security-focused side event will emphasize the multisectoral nature of GHSAC and raise high-level awareness of

GHSA-related work being carried out by Ministries of Defense in support of and in collaboration with their civilian colleagues.

The United States Department of Defense (DoD) offers to coordinate panel planning and to present a description of DoD's role in GHSA. This concept can be further socialized with other GHSA member countries' defense representatives to secure panel participation and seek their input on specific agenda items. We would welcome participation of defense and security sector representatives from other GHSA countries who would like to showcase their work on the topic. The structure of the panel can be negotiated based upon discussion among participating nations

Specific Objectives:

1. Launch GHSA 2024 in a multisectoral fashion, robustly integrating the defense and security sectors.
2. Educate a multisectoral, ministerial-level GHSA audience on the role of the security and defense sectors in supporting civilian-led GHSA objectives.
3. Continue the development and integration of a defense-oriented platform to encourage defense and security participation and engagement in GHSA.
4. Provide a platform for Indonesia and other nations to showcase recent activities demonstrating collaboration between the health and security sectors to advance global health security to a broad audience.