National Bio-Preparedness Plan Template (Draft)

Chapter 1 Introduction

A. Scope and Purpose: This paragraph defines the requirement for a National Bio-Preparedness Plan, as well as the lead and supporting agencies responsible for the plan. The bottom line is we seek to achieve unity of effort amongst national political, public health, medical, law enforcement, and civil defense organizations in response to a biological hazard.

B. Acronyms, Abbreviations

C. Executive Summary of the National Bio-Preparedness Plan

Chapter 2 Background

A. Biological Threat Environment (Define the Situation): Brief assessment of the full range of biological hazards, the vulnerabilities which increase the susceptibility of the nation and community to the impact of a hazard, and the people, property, systems or elements potentially affected in hazard zones. This would include pandemics, emerging infectious diseases, and weapons. This section should also discuss bio-surveillance and public health capabilities.

B. Regulatory Agreements, Conventions, and Treaties

- 1. 1972 Biological Weapons Convention
- 2. 1993 Chemical Weapons Convention
- **3.** Hyogo Framework for Action 2005 2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters
- **4.** World Health Organization Guidance: Public Health Response to Biological and Chemical Weapons
- 5. International Health Regulations (WHO, 2005)
- 6. Oslo Guidelines: The Use of Foreign Military Assets and Civil Defence Assets in Disaster Response Relief
- 7. ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response
- 8. Asia Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases (WHO, 2010)
- **9.** Asia Pacific Regional Guidelines for the Use of Foreign Military Assets in Natural Disaster Response Operations

C. National Disaster Risk Reduction Management Plan (NDRRMP)

- 1. Purpose: Summarizes the over-arching, multi-agency national plan. The National Bio-Preparedness Plan is subordinate to the NDRRMP.
- 2. National Disaster Management Organization (See Notional Diagram)



Notional National Disaster Management Organization

- **3.** NDRRMP Summary
 - a. DRRM priorities, areas and goals
 - b. Agency Leads and Implementing Partners
 - c. Implementation Strategies and Mechanisms
 - d. Cross-Cutting Concerns

Chapter 3 National Bio-Preparedness Plan Situation

- A. Assumptions and Planning Principles
- **B.** Linkages to Other Plans

C. Specific National Authorities

- 1. Identify the laws that govern the management of biological emergencies and establish specific responsibilities for action.
- 2. Identify any statutory or policy gaps.

D. Stakeholder Analysis

- 1. Identify a focal point, the key agency with the authority and resources to coordinate execution of the bio-preparedness plan.
- 2. Identify partner agencies and responsibilities by phase.
- **3.** Identify lead and supporting agencies by phase.
- 4. International Sources of Assistance

E. Continuity of Operations Plan

- **1.** Adapt the existing national plan to ensure continuity of operations during a biological incident.
- 2. Ensures unity of effort if government and health services are affected by the biological hazard.

Chapter 4 National Bio-Preparedness Plan Concept of Operations

A. Objectives

- **1.** Ensure the security of the nation from biological hazards.
- 2. Prevent an imminent biological incident from occurring.
- 3. Save lives and protect the health and safety of the public and responders.
- 4. Protect and restore critical infrastructure and key resources.
- **5.** Protect property and mitigate damages to individuals, communities, and the environment.

B. Key Program Components

- 1. Global and National Surveillance and Response Plan
- 2. Laboratory Surveillance and Testing Capacity
- 3. Epidemiologic Investigation
- 4. Zoonotic Diseases
- 5. Infection Control
- 6. Vaccine Program
- 7. Risk Communications
- 8. Public Health Emergency Preparedness
- 9. Community Disease Control and Prevention Standards
- 10. Chain of Custody procedures

C. Operational Framework (Phasing). Explain how the Disaster Management Cycle: Preparedness, Response, Recovery, and Mitigation, fits with the WHO/IHR phasing.



D. Synopsis of Priorities by Phase

E. Partner Agency Tasks by Phase

- 1. Preparedness
 - **a.** Focus on bio-surveillance and early detection. Ensure this effort includes medical, veterinary, industrial, and other relevant sectors of the community at all levels.
 - **b.** Conduct threat analysis and risk assessment to strengthen surveillance efforts.
 - **c.** Raise the awareness of first responders, health care workers, and public officials to possible threats. Exercise the full spectrum of biological incident responders: local through national.
 - **d.** Test the national coordination, command, and control structure prior to a biological event.
 - **e.** Ensure first responders and medical personnel are properly equipped and trained prior to an incident.
 - f. Stockpile vaccines, drugs, and PPE.

- **g.** Share laboratory capacity and resources to integrate human and animal health fields at the national level.
- h. Preparing public information and communication packages.
- i. Validate response capabilities and practice collaboration at all levels.
- **j.** Integrate WHO, UN, OIE, and other international organizations into training and education activities. This effort should include all national and local private sector entities as well, and their potential response contributions and actions.
- 2. Strengthening Response Actions
 - a. Address short-term effects of a biological incident. These are the immediate actions to preserve life, property and the environment.
 - b. Reinforce epidemiological capacity to ensure quick detection, diagnostics, and characterization.
 - c. Develop and rehearse reporting structures to ensure rapid and accurate reporting from the local to national level.
 - d. Continue to implement the WHO International Health Regulations as a means of strengthening global alert and response systems.
 - e. Develop medical and veterinary surge capacity plans to deal with high volumes/large capacities of patients.
 - f. Educate public on individual actions and preparedness steps to ensure civilians are prepared to deal with overburdened and service-limited government system during crisis.
- 3. Mitigation and Prevention
 - a. Critical activities include heightened surveillance efforts to identify threats; improved surveillance and security operations; public health and agricultural surveillance and testing; immunizations, isolation or quarantine; and targeted law enforcement operations.
 - **b.** Integrate local and national health agencies, emergency response groups, law enforcement agencies, customs and border agencies, military units, the private sector, and international organizations and laboratories.
 - **c.** Strengthen laboratory biosafety and biosecurity to mitigate the risks of an accidental release or intentional misuse of pathogens. Protect personnel from accidental or intentional infections during a biological event.
 - **d.** Create or share a biological incident best practices and information sharing data base.
 - e. Improve information sharing and communications mechanisms.

- 4. Recovery
 - a. Build back better considering the lessons gained from the biological disaster response experience.
 - b. Take steps to improve biological disaster resiliency.
 - c. Develop governmental resiliency plans to ensure that critical services are minimally effected during and post crisis.
- F. Notional Timeline (Diagram Summarizing CONOPs and lead responsibility)
- G. Bio-Surveillance Operations

Chapter 5 Coordination, Collaboration, Command, and Control

- A. Explain the Multi-Agency Coordination Structure.
- **B. Notional Structure for National Biological Preparedness**



C. Describe Civilian Coordination and Collaboration Mechanisms.

- 1. Provincial/National/Regional Considerations
- 2. Interagency/International Collaboration
- **3.** Consequence Management

- 4. Multi-Sectoral Considerations
- 5. Security Forces Assistance (Civ/Mil)
- D. Identify mechanisms and processes to collaborate with Military Staffs and Police Commands.
- E. Identify ASEAN Organizations and capacities for biological incident response.
- F. Plan to collaborate with International Civilian and Military Organizations.
- G. Plan to integrate Nongovernmental Organizations (Health Cluster) into the national response.
- H. Biological Response Reporting System
 - 1. Multiple reporting frameworks exist for reporting from the local to the national level, as well as amongst nations and international organizations. Information sharing must be a priority to ensure warnings and response information are not kept in stovepipes. For example, how does a WHO warning move from the Department of Health to the National Police?
 - 2. Respondents need to understand level within the National Disaster Management Organization
- I. Application of International Health Regulations
- J. Operational and Organizational Charts

Chapter 6 Strategic Communications

- A. Identify Target Audiences, Partners, and Stakeholders
- **B.** Develop Communications Tools and Materials
- C. Media Outreach Plan
- **D. Public Education Plan**

Chapter 7 Mobilization of National and Community Resources

- A. Logistics
- **B. Medical Supplies**
- C. Equipment and Health Sector Readiness
- D. Security Issues

Annexes

References