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WASHINGTON, D.C.  
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**NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
November 16, 2006

ODNI News Release No. 21-06

**Information Sharing Environment Implementation Plan Report Sent to Congress**

Director of National Intelligence John D. Negroponte today submitted to Congress the *Implementation Plan Report for the Information Sharing Environment (ISE)*. The Implementation Plan Report includes: a description of the functions, capabilities, resources, and conceptual design of the ISE; a plan for designing, testing, integrating, deploying and operating the ISE; and, a process for measuring progress made toward implementing the ISE, as well as its performance once established. The ISE is an approach that facilitates the sharing of terrorist related information. It is composed of the policies, processes, protocols and technology that enable the sharing of this information among federal, state, local, tribal and private sector entities, as well as our foreign partners.

“The ISE and this Implementation Plan Report are critical to ensuring that those responsible for protecting our nation from future terrorist attacks have the information they need to effectively carry out their mission,” said John D. Negroponte, Director of National Intelligence. “I commend Ambassador Thomas McNamara on his leadership and the other members of the Information Sharing Council for their hard work in developing this important report.”

Since Dec. 16, 2005, the Program Manager for the Information Sharing Environment worked closely with officials from the Departments of Justice, Homeland Security, Defense, and State, the FBI, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, and 10 other agencies on the Information Sharing Council to produce the Report. In developing the Implementation Plan Report, the Information Sharing Council received extensive input from state, local and tribal officials and from representatives from the private sector. The ISE will promote the use of existing systems to advance and promote a culture of information sharing through greater collaboration while protecting the privacy and legal rights of Americans.

“This Report provides a roadmap for the successful implementation of the ISE, and responds to the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission,” said Ambassador Thomas McNamara, Program Manager for the Information Sharing Environment. “It builds on the progress of the past five years to further improve the way in which we share information and fight terrorism.”

The Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (IRTPA) called for creation of the Information Sharing Environment (ISE). IRTPA also established the Office of the Program Manager for the Information Sharing Environment (PM-ISE) and provided it with government-wide authority to plan, oversee, and manage the ISE. Its mandate is to assist the President and government agencies in developing and operating the ISE, and to monitor and assess its progress.

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