INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY DIRECTIVE 204

02 January 2015

National Intelligence Priorities Framework

A. AUTHORITY: The National Security Act of 1947, as amended; Executive Order (EO) 12333, as amended; National Security Presidential Directive (NSPD)-26, *Intelligence Priorities*; Presidential Policy Directive/PPD-28, *Signals Intelligence Activities;* and other applicable provisions of law.

B. PURPOSE

1. This Directive promulgates policy and establishes responsibilities for setting national intelligence priorities and translating them into action.

2. This Directive replaces Intelligence Community Directive (ICD) 204, *Roles and Responsibilities for the National Intelligence Priorities Framework,* 13 September 2007.

C. APPLICABILITY: This Directive applies to the Intelligence Community (IC) as defined by the National Security Act of 1947, as amended; and to such elements of any other department or agency as may be designated an element of the IC by the President, or jointly by the Director of National Intelligence (DNI) and the head of the department or agency concerned.

D. POLICY

1. The National Intelligence Priorities Framework (NIPF) is the primary mechanism to establish, disestablish, manage, and communicate national intelligence priorities. The NIPF reflects customers' priorities for national intelligence support and ensures that enduring and emerging national intelligence issues are addressed.

2. Guidance from the President and the National Security Advisor determines the overall priorities of top-level NIPF issues.

3. Secretaries and cabinet-level heads of departments and agencies of the United States that require national intelligence support will provide formal input to the development of the NIPF.

4. The NIPF shall reflect consideration of the value of intelligence activities to our national interests and the risks entailed in the potential exposure of intelligence priorities. PPD-28 specifically requires consideration of the value of Signals Intelligence activities and the risks of potential exposure of those activities to U.S. foreign policy, defense, commercial, economic, and financial interests, international agreements, privacy concerns, and the protection of intelligence sources and methods.

5. The Deputy Director of National Intelligence for Intelligence Integration (DDNI/II) is the DNI's designee to oversee the development and management of the NIPF.

6. The NIPF also is informed by input from heads of IC elements, Functional Managers, and National Intelligence Managers (NIMs).

7. The NIPF informs National Intelligence Program planning, programming, and budgeting activities and the allocation of collection and analytic resources.

8. The NIPF shall be published annually and reviewed quarterly. It may be updated on an *ad hoc* basis to address emerging issues.

E. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The DNI will:

a. Approve the NIPF and the policies and processes for establishing national intelligence priorities; and

b. Adjust national intelligence priorities as necessary.

2. The DDNI/II shall:

a. Serve as the DNI's designee to oversee the NIPF process;

b. Recommend to the DNI the establishment of national intelligence priorities, including *ad hoc* updates to address emerging needs and areas for de-emphasis; and

c. Request input from Secretaries and cabinet-level heads of departments and agencies, heads of IC elements, NIMs, and Functional Managers for the development of the NIPF.

d. Develop guidelines for the NIPF process, including guidelines for the alignment of intelligence activities with the NIPF, and communicate these guidelines to the IC.

3. NIMs, consistent with ICD 900, *Integrated Mission Management*, shall:

a. Advise the DNI, through the DDNI/II, on the development of and updates to the NIPF;

b. Recommend to the DNI, through the DDNI/II:

(1) National intelligence priorities within their mission areas, based on customer needs and information gaps; and

(2) *Ad hoc* updates to the NIPF to address emerging needs and areas for de-emphasis;

c. Review recommendations for *ad hoc* updates to the NIPF to address emerging needs, identify areas for de-emphasis, and, as appropriate, submit a justification package to the DDNI/II;

d. Incorporate the NIPF in the execution of their responsibilities;

e. Identify annually to the DDNI/II adjustments made to collection and analysis activities in their mission area in response to changes in national intelligence priorities; and

f. Follow classification guidance for NIPF equities as outlined in the NIPF Classification Guide.

4. Functional Managers shall:

a. Recommend to the DNI:

(1) National intelligence priorities based on customer needs and the identification of information gaps; and

(2) *Ad hoc* updates to the NIPF to address emerging needs and areas for de-emphasis;

b. Ensure that the NIPF guides the performance of their functions;

c. Identify annually to the DNI adjustments made to collection and analysis activities in their functions in response to changes in national intelligence priorities; and

d. Follow classification guidance for NIPF equities as outlined in the NIPF Classification Guide.

5. The heads of IC elements shall:

a. Recommend to the DNI:

(1) National intelligence priorities based on customer needs and the identification of information gaps; and

(2) *Ad hoc* updates to the NIPF to address emerging needs and areas for de-emphasis;

b. Ensure that IC element planning, programming, and budgeting activities and the allocation of collection and analytic resources are informed by the NIPF;

c. Identify annually to the DNI adjustments made to collection and analysis activities in their elements in response to changes in national intelligence priorities; and

d. Follow classification guidance for NIPF equities as outlined in the NIPF Classification Guide.

F. EFFECTIVE DATE: This Directive becomes effective on the date of signature.

James R. Clapper

Director of National Intelligence

2 January 2015

Date