FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE                ODNI News Release No. 07-08
April 4, 2008

DNI Announces Information Sharing Strategy for Intelligence Community

The Office of the Director of National Intelligence is announcing the first-ever strategy to improve the ability of intelligence professionals to share information, ultimately strengthening national security.

The document, titled the U.S. Intelligence Community Information Sharing Strategy, complements a related national strategy that President Bush released last year. The document responds to needs identified in the 9/11 and WMD Commission reports, as well as mandates in executive orders and the 2004 Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act.

The intelligence community’s strategy calls for the removal of institutional and technical barriers to information sharing in order to give the federal government an advantage in making critical decisions to help keep the nation safe.

“Improving information sharing will bring about true all-source analysis and deliver timely, objective, and actionable intelligence to our senior decision-makers, war fighters, and defenders of the homeland,” said Director of National Intelligence Mike McConnell, who recently signed the 20-page document.

Dale W. Meyerrose, the community’s information sharing executive who cosigned the strategy with the DNI, stressed the importance of managing the risks associated with improvements in information sharing. Members of the community must “carefully contemplate anticipated benefits and potential costs, ensuring mission success and protection of privacy, civil liberties, and sources and methods,” he emphasized.

Steps are already being taken to meet information-sharing goals. For example, the U.S. Intelligence Community 500 Day Plan for Integration and Collaboration details ongoing initiatives to achieve the strategy’s aims. Future measures in this area will be coordinated with a number of related federal programs.

The U.S. Intelligence Community Information Sharing Strategy is available online at www.dni.gov.

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