

NEMA Preparedness Committee

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE
NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS TASK FORCE REPORT

DATE: March 22, 2011

WHEREAS, the state of preparedness is critical to this nation's ability to manage natural disasters, acts of terrorism and other hazards;

WHEREAS, at the request of the U.S. Congress, the National Preparedness Task Force was created to evaluate the state of preparedness in this nation by evaluating preparedness from a historical perspective, reviewing all post 9/11 preparedness activities, and proposing recommendations;

WHEREAS, the Task Force represented a truly collaborative, intergovernmental effort of 35 state, local, tribal, territorial and federal stakeholders with a range of disciplines and perspectives;

WHEREAS, the report issued by the Task Force, *Perspectives on Preparedness: Taking Stock Since 9/11*, presents a full spectrum of innovative and forward thinking recommendations to further improve the state of preparedness and meet the challenges of an ever-changing world picture;

WHEREAS, these recommendations build on the preparedness successes so far, suggest new opportunities for success and address on-going challenges;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the National Emergency Management Association commends the efforts of the National Preparedness Task Force and endorses its recommendations, as stated in the *Perspectives on Preparedness: Taking Stock Since 9/11*; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, as the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security move toward implementation of the Task Force recommendations, they should do so in consultation with NEMA and other key stakeholders.

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Authenticated: _____

NEMA Secretary

NEMA 2011 Mid-Year Conference, March 20-25, 2011, Alexandria VA

National Preparedness Task Force Recommendations to Congress

Strategic Investments to Sustain and Grow Preparedness

#1: Include preparedness in the portfolio of strategic, futures-oriented analysis currently conducted by the National Intelligence Council.

#2: The Department of Education, working with FEMA, should develop materials that school districts can use to implement a preparedness curriculum.

#3: Establish a system of financial incentives to encourage individuals, families, and businesses to train and materially prepare for emergencies.

#4: Provide incentives for jurisdictions to take pre-event steps that will reduce the length and magnitude of disaster recovery.

#5: Ensure national cyber-security efforts address local, State, Tribal, and Territorial preparedness implications.

Policy and Guidance

#6: Expand the reach of the National Advisory Council.

#7: Revitalize and “network” the Regional Advisory Councils.

#8: Embed local, State, Tribal, and Territorial officials in the FEMA National Preparedness Directorate (NPD).

#9: Establish a clear and consistent policy coordination process.

#10: Engage non-governmental stakeholders in a collaborative policy process.

#11: Planning-related policy and guidance should ensure that basic emergency plans match community demographics.

#12: Establish and fund a national, comprehensive mutual aid system based on NIMS.

#13: Develop a strategic policy planning process to prepare for tomorrow’s challenges.

Capabilities and Assessment

#14: Conduct Threat and Hazard Identification Risk Assessment (THIRA) processes at all levels of government to establish a foundation to justify preparedness improvements.

#15: Prioritize ongoing efforts to update the existing Target Capabilities List with tiered, capability specific performance objectives and NIMS-typed resource requirements.

#16: Establish a NIMS-typed resource inventory for nationally deployable homeland security and emergency management assets.

#17: Use existing, familiar, user-friendly systems, such as NIMSCAST, to collect preparedness assessment and resource inventory data from all levels of government.

#18: Implement the elements of a preparedness assessment framework over a three-year period, with an integrated set of annual milestones.

Grants Administration

#19: Establish an interagency working group to better coordinate preparedness grants at the Federal level.

#20: Incentivize coordination among local, State, Tribal, and Territorial stakeholders regarding preparedness-related grant funds.

#21: DHS should evaluate the role of match requirements in Federal preparedness assistance grants to ensure that match requirements do not dis-incentivize local, State, Tribal, and Territorial participation and that they support capability development and sustainment.

#22: Federal agencies with decentralized grant administration and monitoring functions should ensure consistent application of standards.

#23: Allow grantees flexibility to use federal grant funds to support sustainment and maintenance costs without limitation.

#24: To reflect the diverse goals and objectives of Federal grant programs, grant funding should be allocated using a variety of approaches, including: 1) baseline amounts for each state and territory; 2) amounts based on risk formulas targeted to specific areas; 3) category/program-specific grants; and 4) competitive programs that encourage innovation.

#25: More closely link grant programs with capability assessments.