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AUG 13 2004

SUBJECT: Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) Continues to Make Progress

- The PSI Operational Experts Group held its seventh meeting on 5-6 August in Oslo, Norway. These are the only regular multilateral PSI meetings, making the operational experts process the main locus for developing the initiative.
- Russia and Greece attended for the first time, bringing total participation in the Operational Experts Group to eighteen countries (Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Singapore, Spain, Turkey, UK, and US).
- US delegation was led by OSD Nonproliferation Policy Director David Cooper and included representatives from Joint Staff (J-5, J-3), OGC, DIA, PACOM, CENTCOM, State Department, Commerce Department, and DHS/Customs.
- Key achievements in Oslo included:
 - Finalizing host countries and realistic scenarios for the 2005 PSI exercise program (5 exercises), as well as discussing lessons learned from recent exercises.
 - Developing legal analyses of national authorities for maritime and air interdictions, and underscoring need for PSI countries to support US-proposed amendments to the Convention on the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Maritime Navigation (SUA).
- The Oslo meeting was preceded by a government-industry workshop on interdiction issues related to container shipping hosted by Denmark on August 3-4 in Copenhagen.
- This was an important first step for securing industry cooperation on interdictions.
- Next Steps: The United States will host a PSI maritime interdiction wargame at the Naval War College September 27 – October 1. Australia will host the eighth Operational Experts Group session in Sydney on 30 November – 1 December.



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