

Meeting Minutes of the Subcommittee on Disaster Reduction

2 November 2006, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., New Executive Office Building Room 5213

Italics indicate absent members. "T" indicate members participating via teleconference.

Officers

David Applegate (USGS), Vice-Chair
Margaret Davidson (NOAA), Vice-Chair

NSTC Liaison

Gene Whitney (OSTP)

Working Group Chairs

International Working Group

Ralph Braibanti (State), Chair

Grand Challenges Task Group

Noel Raufaste (NIST), Co-Chair

Earth Observations Working Group

Steve Ambrose (NASA), Co-Chair

Tim Battista (NOAA), Co-Chair

Bruce Quirk (USGS), Co-Chair

Designated Representatives

BLM *Ed Shepard*

John R. Haugh

CDC *Dan Sosin*

DHS Bruce Davis

DHS/FEMA *David Maurstad*

Craig Wingo

DHS/USCG Suzanne Strohl

DOE *Patricia Hoffman*

DOI James Tate, Jr.

DOT Sheila Duwadi

EOP / OSTP Gene Whitney

EPA *Peter Jutro*

Stephen Clark

HUD *David Engel*

NASA *Steve Ambrose*

NGA *Robert Lohman*

NGB *Bill Ryan*

NIH Allen Dearry

NIST *Jim St. Pierre*

Noel Raufaste

NOAA *Margaret Davidson*

NSF Joy Pauschke

OPHS Sven Rodenbeck (T)

State *Ralph Braibanti*

Fernando Echavaria

USACE *Barbara J. Sotirin*

Dr. Dimitria Syriopoulou

USAID *Peter Morris*

USDA *Allen Dedrick*

USDA / USFS Susan Conard

USGS David Applegate

Other Attendees

DHS Caroline Purdy

NASA John Labrecque

NOAA Margaret McCalla

NSF Thomas Birkland

Jacqueline Meszaros

Bob O'Connor

Secretariat Emily Wallace

Will Hottel

WSPA/UN Larry Roeder

Agenda

- 10:00 Welcome and Introductions
- 10:05 Approval of October Meeting Minutes
- 10:10 Report from the Chair
- 10:20 Report from the Vice-Chair
- 10:30 Report from the NSTC Liaison
- 10:40 Briefing and Discussion – A Homeland Security Perspective on Critical Infrastructure
- 11:10 Working Group Reports
- 11:30 Close and Next Actions

Handouts

- Agenda
- October Meeting Minutes
- Community Resilience Salon Agenda

I. Call to Order

SDR Chair David Applegate called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. Summary of Discussion

A. Report from the Chair

Dr. David Applegate began by discussing the SDR response to the National Science Board (NSB) document *Hurricane Warning: The Critical Need for a National Hurricane Research Initiative* mentioned in the previous meeting. Dr. Gene Whitney restated the Subcommittee's concerns that the document does not take into account the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act of 2004 and is not clear on where the proposed \$500 million dollar increase in funding for hurricane research will come from. The SDR responded to the report by sending an e-mail to the National Science Board supporting comments that the White House Office on Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) had already submitted.

Dr. Applegate announced that the National Academies of the Sciences (NAS) will be holding a workshop on December 6th to explore whether they would like to reinstate their Board on Natural Disasters (BOND) given the increased level of public interest in the subject. Agencies will ultimately have to provide money to determine how many studies can be reasonably funded by the BOND. The SDR has always maintained a close working relationship with the NAS and is interested in any developments that come out of the workshop. The SDR Secretariat will distribute information regarding this event.

B. Report from the Vice Chair

SDR Vice Chair Dr. Margaret Davidson was not in attendance, but did submit an outline and agenda for the upcoming Community Resilience Salon, being held at the Chamber of Commerce on December 7th. Due to the high level of interest from SDR members in attending this event, the December SDR meeting will be pushed back to December 14th. Anyone interested in attending the Salon should contact the Secretariat.

C. Report from the NSTC Liaison

Dr. Gene Whitney (OSTP) recounted the many SDR documents currently waiting for some type of White House clearance, including the 14 *Grand Challenges Implementation Plans*, currently awaiting final clearance from OMB. A press release and cover letter have been prepared for when these documents are finally approved. The *Catastrophic Scenarios* document is also undergoing OSTP clearance in preparation for CENR clearance, but Dr. Whitney is not pushing for that document to get OSTP's okay until after the Implementation Plans have been approved.

Dr. Whitney discussed the *Stern Review Report on the Economics of Climate Change* that was recently published in the U.K. This report addresses numerous issues that will be of interest to the SDR and members are strongly encouraged to review it.

D. Briefing and Discussion - A Homeland Security Perspective on Critical Infrastructure

Dr. John G. Voeller (OSTP) briefed the members on the Department of Homeland Security's Critical Infrastructure Protection Plan (CIP). The CIP is designed to protect all sectors of the nation's infrastructure against both terrorist attacks and natural and technological disasters by coordinating research and development activities. Dr. Voeller discussed many of the themes and goals of the plan, and addressed the need for ongoing cooperation from all levels of government as well as academia and the private sector. The plan ties closely to many SDR activities, including the Grand Challenges for Disaster Reduction.

Copies of Dr. Voeller's presentation will be available on the SDR members-only website.

III. Working Group Reports

Earth Observations Working Group.

No report available.

International Working Group

Dr. Fernando Echavaria (Department of State) thanked all members who submitted materials for the U.S.-China Joint Commission Meeting in Beijing last month.

Dr. Salvano Briceno, Director of the U.N./International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, will be paying a visit to the State Department on Friday November 17th from 2-4 pm. Amy McKee is the point of contact for anyone interested in attending this meeting.

IV. Close and Next Actions

The next SDR meeting will be on Thursday, December 14th in Room 5104 at the New Executive Office Building (located at 725 17th Street, NE).

V. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m. EDT.

VI. Future Meetings

The SDR meets on the first or second Thursday of every month from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. ET in the New Executive Office Building (contact the Secretariat to facilitate building entry):

December 14, 2006	April 5, 2007	September 6, 2007
January 11, 2007	May 3, 2007	October 4, 2007
February 1, 2007	June 7, 1007	November 1, 2007
March 1, 2007	July 19, 2007	December 6, 2007

VII. Agenda Items and Other Communications with the Subcommittee

Please send proposed agenda items and any other items intended for distribution to the full Subcommittee to Emily Wallace (ewallace@grs-solutions.com).

VIII. Contact Information SDR Leadership

David Applegate, Chair, 703-648-6715, applegate@usgs.gov

Margaret Davidson, Vice Chair, margaret.davidson@noaa.gov, 843-740-1220

Gene Whitney, NSTC Liaison, 202-456-6081, gwhitney@ostp.eop.gov

International Working Group

Ralph Braibanti, Chair, 202-663-2330, braibantirl@state.gov

Earth Observations Working Group

Steve Ambrose, Co-Chair, 202-358-0851, sambrose@nasa.gov

Tim Battista, Co-Chair, 301-713-3028 x171, tim.battista@noaa.gov

Bruce Quick, Co-Chair, 605-594-6040, quirk@usgs.gov

Grand Challenges Task Group

Noel Raufaste, Chair, 301-975-6062, noel.raufaste@nist.gov

Secretariat

Emily Wallace, 703-560-7448, ewallace@grs-solutions.com

IV. Summary of November Actions

Action	Lead	By When
Eistribute information regarding the December 6 th NAS Workshop on Disasters	Secretariat	Complete
Members interested in attending the November 17 th meeting with UN/ISDR Director Salvano Briceno should contact the Secretariat (ewallace@grs-solutions.com)	Members	10 November
All members interested in attending the Community Resilience Salon, being held at the Chamber of Commerce on December 7 th will contact the Secretariat (ewallace@grs-solutions.com)	Members	20 November
Post John Voeller's presentation on the SDR members-only website	Secretariat	30 November