



US Department of Defense

2009 BMDR Terms of Reference Fact Sheet October 16, 2009

The Department of Defense is conducting the Ballistic Missile Defense Review (BMDR) pursuant to guidance from the President and the Secretary of Defense. The BMDR will also address the legislative requirement to conduct a review of the ballistic missile defense policy and strategy of the United States, as mandated by the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009, Sec. 234 (Public Law 110-417). The final BMDR report will be provided to Congress in January 2010.

- **The BMDR will assess the threats posed by ballistic missiles and develop a missile defense posture to address current and future challenges.**
 - The BMDR will determine the appropriate role of ballistic missile defense in the national security strategy and military strategy of the United States.
 - The BMDR will provide a strategic context for current and future missile defense program and budgetary decisions.
 - The BMDR will align force structure with national priorities and strategic realities.

- **The proliferation of ballistic missiles and associated technologies continue to pose threats to U.S. territory, our deployed forces, and our friends and allies.**
 - U.S. ballistic missile defense strategy and policies must be responsive to a changing threat environment, as well as budgetary constraints.
 - The U.S. must develop capabilities that are cost-effective and proven, undergoing operationally realistic testing to assess and demonstrate reliability and effectiveness.
 - The Department must continue to support cooperative ballistic missile defense efforts with friends and allies, developing common missile defense strategies and capabilities.

- **Key areas of focus for the BMDR include:**
 - Implementing a phased, adaptive approach for missile defense in Europe, as outlined in the *Fact Sheet on U.S. Missile Defense Policy: A "Phased, Adaptive Approach" for Missile Defense in Europe* (available at www.whitehouse.gov);
 - Providing effective regional missile defenses for U.S. forces and allies against short-, medium-, intermediate-range missiles;
 - Providing effective defense of the United States against longer-range missiles;
 - Balancing ballistic missile defense capabilities and investments, accounting for near and long-term threats to the U.S., allies, and deployed forces;
 - Determining requirements for ballistic missile defense capabilities, as well as the execution and oversight of the U.S. ballistic missile defense program; and
 - The objectives, requirements, and standards for ballistic missile defense program testing and evaluation

- **Like the Quadrennial Defense Review and other ongoing reviews, the BMDR process embraces a "whole of government" approach. The Department of Defense consults actively with other U.S. Government departments and agencies and appropriate Congressional committees.**

- The BMDR is informed by ongoing Department of Defense reviews and interagency strategic reviews, to include the QDR and the nuclear and space posture reviews.
- The Secretary of Defense has established a governance structure to manage the BMDR, which is co-led by the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the Joint Staff. Combatant Commands and Military Services engage frequently to inform and shape the Review.
- The BMDR process includes consultations with friends and allies.