INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY DIRECTIVE
NUMBER 204

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE PRIORITIES FRAMEWORK
(EFFECTIVE: 13 SEPTEMBER 2007)

A. AUTHORITY: The National Security Act of 1947, as amended; the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004; Executive Order 12333, as amended; National Security Presidential Directive (NSPD)-26; and other applicable provisions of law.

B. PURPOSE

1. This Intelligence Community (IC) Directive (ICD) promulgates responsibilities within the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) and IC elements for setting national intelligence priorities and translating them into action.

2. To establish objectives, priorities, and guidance for the IC to ensure timely and effective collection, processing, analysis, and dissemination of national intelligence.

3. The Director of National Intelligence (DNI) shall carry out responsibilities with regard to national intelligence priorities in accordance with NSPD-26.


C. APPLICABILITY

1. This directive applies to the IC, as defined by the National Security Act of 1947, as amended, and other departments or agencies that may be designated by the President, or
designated jointly by the DNI and the head of the department or agency concerned, as an element of the IC.

2. Nothing in this directive is intended to modify the authorities of the heads of executive departments and agencies to exercise, consistent with the DNI’s authorities and responsibilities, their authorities to manage IC elements within their departments and agencies.

D. POLICY

1. The National Intelligence Priorities Framework (NIPF) is the DNI’s sole mechanism for establishing national intelligence priorities.

2. Intelligence topics reviewed by the National Security Council (NSC) Principals Committee (PC) and approved by the President semi-annually shall form the basis of the NIPF and the detailed priorities established by the DNI.

3. The NIPF consists of:
   a. Intelligence topics approved by the President.
   b. A process for assigning priorities to countries and non-state actors relevant to the approved intelligence topics.
   c. A matrix showing those priorities.

4. The NIPF matrix reflects customers’ priorities for intelligence support and ensures that long-term intelligence issues are addressed.

5. The NIPF matrix is updated semi-annually, and ad hoc adjustments may be made to reflect changes in world events and policy priorities.

6. The ODNI and IC elements shall use the NIPF in allocating collection and analytic resources.

E. RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The DNI approves the NIPF and all aspects of the policies and processes for establishing national intelligence priorities.

2. IC elements shall:
a. Allocate resources consistent with national intelligence priorities and with their missions.

b. Represent customer priorities in the DNI’s NIPF process.

c. Report to the DNI on their coverage of NIPF priorities.

d. Associate intelligence collection requirements and analytic production with NIPF priorities.

3. The Deputy Director of National Intelligence for Analysis (DDNII A) shall:

   a. Oversee, on behalf of the DNI, the process for developing recommendations on national intelligence priorities.

   b. Recommend to the DNI ad hoc changes to national intelligence priorities.

   c. Issue guidance in coordination with DDNI for Collection (DDNI/C) to the analytic and collection communities on national intelligence priorities.

4. The Assistant Deputy Director of National Intelligence for Analytic Mission Management shall carry out all NIPF functions as directed by the DDNII A, including:

   a. Preparing materials for the NSC PC’s semi-annual review of intelligence topics.

   b. Receiving inputs to and developing drafts of national intelligence priority recommendations.

   c. Coordinating national intelligence priorities within the ODNI and IC and preparing the NIPF for the DNI’s approval.

   d. Assessing the analytic community’s coverage of national intelligence priorities.

   e. Recommending to the DDNI/A any ad hoc changes to those priorities based on world events or changing policy priorities.

5. The National Intelligence Council (NIC) shall:

   a. Provide written input to the DDNI/A on customers’ intelligence priorities based on the NIC’s daily interactions with senior customers in support of NSC PC and Deputies Committee meetings.

   b. Identify long-term intelligence issues that need to be designated as national intelligence priorities.
c. Recommend to the DDNI/A ad hoc changes to national intelligence priorities based on world events or changes in policy priorities.

d. Coordinate with Mission Managers on:

1) Written input to the DDNI/A on customers’ intelligence priorities in a mission manager area.

2) Ad hoc changes to national intelligence priorities in a mission manager area.

6. The DDNI/C shall:

a. Direct IC collection elements to optimize collection against national intelligence priorities.

b. Direct IC collection elements to develop collection capabilities to address national intelligence priorities.

c. Coordinate on the draft NIPF prior to the DNI’s approval.

d. Assess the collection community’s coverage of national intelligence priorities.

7. The Deputy Director of National Intelligence for Policy, Plans, and Requirements shall:

a. Gather information and provide written input to the DDNI/A on the priorities of senior-level military, policy, diplomatic, homeland security, law-enforcement, and other customers during semi-annual reviews of national intelligence priorities.

b. Coordinate on the draft national intelligence priorities prior to the DNI’s approval.

c. Solicit feedback from military, policy, diplomatic, homeland security, law-enforcement, and other customers to gauge how the IC is addressing their priorities.

8. The DNI Chief Financial Officer shall:

a. Ensure that national intelligence priorities are reflected in the planning, programming, and budgeting process.

b. Coordinate with the DDNI/A and DDNI/C to translate national intelligence priorities into programmatic guidance for the IC.

c. Depict and ensure how the National Intelligence Program is aligned to national intelligence priorities.
9. Mission Managers shall:

   a. Develop national intelligence priorities based on customers’ needs in their respective mission areas.

   b. Provide written input to the DDNIA on customers’ priorities in their respective mission areas during semi-annual reviews of national intelligence priorities.

   c. Provide input to the DDNIA and DDNI/C guidance to the analytic and collection communities.

   d. Focus analysis and collection in their respective mission areas on national intelligence priorities, in accordance with ICD 900.

   e. Assess the IC’s analytic and collection coverage of national intelligence priorities in their respective mission areas.

   f. Recommend to the DDNIA ad hoc changes to national intelligence priorities in their respective mission areas based on world events or changes in policy priorities.

10. The Assistant Deputy Director of National Intelligence for the President’s Daily Brief shall assist the DDNIA in developing national intelligence priorities during the semi-annual reviews.

F. EFFECTIVE DATE: This ICD becomes effective on the date of signature.