DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, DC 20301-2800

JAN 27 2006

In reply refer to:
I-05/015572-POL

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Foreign Military Sales (FMS) Purchases of Medical Countermeasures, DSCA Policy 06-06 [SAMM E-Change 46]

This memorandum updates the SAMM to provide guidance on the purchase of medical countermeasures. The update includes adding medical countermeasures to the category of what may be purchased under FMS, and also advises the Implementing Agencies on Letter of Request and Letter of Offer and Acceptance submission procedures. The latter is particularly significant in relation to allowing sufficient time for the staffing process with the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD).

Effective immediately, the SAMM, Chapters 4 and 5, are updated to include the following information on purchases of medical countermeasures:

a. C4.3.15. Medical Countermeasures. Purchases of medical countermeasures such as drugs, vaccines, and other medical interventions against biological and chemical agents require the approval of the Office of the Secretary of Defense. It is essential that Letters of Request (LORs) for these items be submitted to DSCA as soon as the requirement is known to allow sufficient staffing time. See paragraph C5.1.4.3.4 for additional information on LOR submission.

b. C5.1.4.3.4 LORs for Medical Countermeasures. The Implementing Agency forwards a copy of requests for medical countermeasures to DSCA (Operations Directorate and Strategy Directorate). DSCA (Strategy Directorate) staffs the request with the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD). Based on OSD's direction, DSCA advises the Implementing Agency on how to respond to the purchaser's LOR. If the decision is to prepare an LOA, the Implementing Agency develops and submits the LOA to DSCA for countersignature. Medical countermeasure LOAs are not eligible for Automated State Department Approval. DSCA forwards the LOA to OSD for further staffing and approval as appropriate. If approved, DSCA countersigns the LOA. If disapproved, DSCA provides the Implementing Agency with instructions on how to respond to the purchaser.

c. Table C5.T9., Automated State Department Approval (ASDA) Eligibility, is revised to add purchases of medical countermeasures to the list of case documents that cannot be processed under ASDA.

This change will be included in the automated version of the SAMM found on the DSCA Web Page as SAMM E-Change 46. If you have questions concerning this policy or the SAMM, please contact Ms. Kathy Robinson, DSCA STR/POL, at (703) 601-4368 or e-mail: kathy.robinson@dsca.mil.

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