

Technology Gap topics:

A1-1: "Work Flow Technology to Support Tactical Networking"

A1-2: "Composers and Operational Thread capabilities"

N2-3: "IA/Security architecture for direct information exchange with coalition partners"

SUPPORTING THE NATIONAL ANTI-TERRORISM INITIATIVE IN THE PHILIPPINES

Since 1995, the Philippines has been a major player in the fight against terrorism after Philippine authorities uncovered three terrorist plots: an attempt to assassinate the Pope in Manila during his visit in 1995; a conspiracy to bomb US airliners in Asia called Operation Bojinka; and a plan to recruit pilots to hijack US jetliners in the continental US and slam the planes into government and commercial buildings. Evidence gathered by Philippine authorities led to the arrest and conviction of the mastermind of the 1993 World Trade Center bombing.

In the wake of the September 11 attacks, Philippine President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo initiated a 16-point counter-terrorism program, the requirements of which have been clustered into a "Three-Tiered Defense System," which is now being adopted by the whole system of government in the Philippines.

In direct support of this Three-Tiered Defense System, the following system is proposed to assist in securing all ports of ingress and egress from the Philippines as well as key mass transit nodes.

- A security system will be established at all ports of entry and exit at piers, airports, Mass Rail Transit stations, Light Rail Transit stations, and bus terminals for identification of suspected terrorists, criminals, and other persons of interest considered threats to Philippines national security.
- The system will integrate all key databases used by the Philippines National Police (PNP) as well as a set of used by other local and foreign law enforcement agencies. The system will allow these databases to be online and available to check and countercheck persons transiting the aforementioned security locations.
- The system will incorporate existing structured data sets (such as passport and driver license information) as well as biometric data including fingerprints, DNA, pictures, and retinal scans.

Operationally, the booths or offices established at the security points will house security personnel who will use the system to countercheck passengers' travel documents against online profiles and biometric data. In the absence of existing profiles, the system will allow security personnel to create new profiles and populate the database with travel document data and personal information (from interviews) as well as gather and record biometric data. This includes taking digital photographs, gathering digital fingerprints, performing retinal scans, and gathering DNA material.

The profiles and data created by the security portal activity will be made available and accessible to authorized personnel in various law enforcement units and offices.

The system will dynamically access national and international computer systems in order to gather the most up-to-date information on persons of interest. These systems include those of the Philippine National Bureau of Investigations, Bureau of Customs, Bureau of Immigration and Deportation, Philippine National Police, Armed Forces of the Philippines, as well as foreign law enforcement agencies like INTERPOL and the FBI.