

**Closing Statement for 11/29/01 Hearing on Combating WMD Proliferation Threats
through Non-Proliferation Programs (Part II)**

The events of September 11th have made the prospect of WMD terrorism a reality. I am pleased that the Administration today has stated that it shares my sense of urgency for our non-proliferation activities. I hope its words will be matched by action and by appropriate funds.

On another issue, every witness today said that a statutory coordination mechanism for U.S. non-proliferation is unnecessary. Mr. Van Diepen suggest that it could even be counter-productive or intrusive. This view contradicts those of every one of our witnesses from our hearing on November 14th. Each of the proliferation experts welcomed the prospect of additional senior-level coordination and even suggested how the provisions proposed by S.673 should be expanded. In fact, they all stated that *improved* coordination was vital to an effective national non-proliferation strategy.

There is agreement that we need a national strategy. I hope the Administration's review will be completed soon so that this Subcommittee can be briefed on its conclusions.