



Remarks Given by Dr. Myra Gray
IPM Conference
Monday April 12, 2010
FINAL

BIMA'S NEW IDENTITY

[Slide #1 -- Title slide]

OPENING REMARKS (5 minutes)

Ladies and Gentlemen, Welcome to the Identity Protection and Management Conference and this beautiful city of Minneapolis. The theme of this year's conference is "*Extending the Bridge to Our External Partners.*" We are again pleased to be a sponsor of this important event.

The next few days will provide an opportunity for collaboration, information gathering and idea sharing. As each of you well know, identity protection and management has become a complex

and continuously evolving area. The challenges presented demand well-thought out solutions, technical expertise and vision. But that's why you're here...

~~~~~ [Slide #2 – BTF Logo]

It is in this spirit of vision and preparing for the future that I am pleased to announce an exciting change for the Biometrics Task Force. On March 23, 2010, the Secretary of the Army signed the Department of the Army General Orders (DAGO) authorizing the redesignation of the US Army Biometrics Task Force (BTF) as the US Army Biometrics Identity Management Agency (BIMA).

[Slide #3 – BIMA Logo]

This redesignation has the broad effect of institutionalizing a formal organization type and reporting process for DoD biometrics. Through BIMA's assigned functions and responsibilities, DoD achieves a biometrics program that is fully integrated

Department-wide and synchronized across the Services and Combatant Commands.

In addition, redesignation as BIMA is a critical milestone in the organization's history because it enables funding and manning authority. As BIMA, we now have fund certification authority, along with manpower management authority to establish and secure the resources needed to fulfill Executive Manager responsibilities. BIMA is also a permanent organization, rather than a temporary task force and this permanent status ensures that biometrics endures as an enabling capability for DoD.

The name BIMA is significant because it conveys that the organization coordinates and integrates the biometrics component of the more holistic DoD Identity Management (IdM) strategy. In 2007, the Defense Science Board (DSB) identified a migration from "*biometrics*" to a broader scope of IdM. The Assistant Secretary of Defense for

Networks and Information Integration subsequently led development of an IdM Strategic Plan that defined IdM *“as the combination of technical systems, policies, and processes that create, define, govern, and synchronize the ownership, utilization, and safeguarding of identity information”* and recognized biometrics as a key component of IdM.

Biometrics enables IdM across four domains: Warfighter, Business, Intelligence, and Security & Law Enforcement. As its name signifies, BIMA will facilitate coordination of biometrics activities within this overarching context of DoD IdM.

So as we embark on a week of discovery, collaboration and identifying solutions to challenging identity management and protection issues, we are pleased to share with you this exciting news.

Enjoy the conference!

###