EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security (formerly the UPMC Center for Health Security; “the Center”) proposes to extend its Track II multilateral biosecurity dialogue between the US, Singapore, Malaysia, and Indonesia into a third year. Due to the sensitive nature of the biosecurity topics, the dialogue will yield the most strategically informative and lasting results if it continues, building on trusted relationships. There is great potential for this dialogue to identify issues that could be addressed in Track I diplomacy efforts.

Biosecurity risks in Southeast Asia continue to grow, due to emerging zoonoses, changing climates, terrorist activity, and porous borders. This dialogue addresses risks due to deliberate and accidental misuse of pathogens, dual-use science, emerging biotechnology, and naturally occurring infectious disease outbreaks. The proposed dialogue would facilitate more in-depth and candid discussions aimed at improving regional efforts to address biosecurity threats. Year 3 of the dialogue would consist of a three-day meeting in Bali, Indonesia with core participants and observers from Philippines and Thailand. Findings from the dialogue will be published, and government leaders will be briefed about existing and emerging regional biosecurity issues, and efforts to protect the public from accidental, deliberate, and naturally occurring biological threats.

Research in Progress describes ongoing PASCC research. For more information please contact INSS@usafa.edu.