Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA) Action Package Prevent 3 (APP3)

**Purpose**

GHSA APP3 focuses on promoting best practices, sharing information, and providing resources on storage and monitoring of high-risk pathogens; biorisk management training; and promotion of biosecurity and biosafety legislation that is compliant with the International Health Regulations (2005).

APP3 measures biosecurity and biosafety progress through internationally recognized assessment tools, including the World Health Organization (WHO) Joint External Evaluation Tool and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) Performance of Veterinary Service Pathway assessment. To help countries meet the goals set by these two assessment tools, APP3 acts as a liaison, connecting country representatives with non-governmental organizations and experts focused on biosafety and biosecurity.

**Formation**

APP3 falls under the auspices of the Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA), formed in 2014. GHSA is a partnership of more than 70 countries and non-governmental organizations and stakeholders who seek to support implementation and alignment with international global health security standards, including the International Health Regulations (2005), the Biological Weapons Convention, and United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540. GHSA advocates for a multi-sectoral partnership approach that includes engagement with the non-governmental sector, collaboration between public health and security entities, self-evaluation, and securing political commitments.

In 2017, GHSA member countries supported a five-year extension of GHSA, resulting in the ‘GHSA 2024’ framework.
Structure

**Action Packages** GHSA goals cover progress in national capacities in prevention, detection, and response to global health security events. To assist partner countries and non-governmental organizations to implement these broad goals, partner countries can join ‘Action Packages’ (or working groups) such as APP3 focused on specific aspects of GHSA’s mission and on developing measures and initiatives that help achieve GHSA’s targets. Each Action Package reports to the Action Package Coordination Task Force which then reports directly to the GHSA Steering Group/Chair.

Membership

**Participating countries**

- Argentina
- Australia
- Azerbaijan
- Bangladesh
- Barbados
- Belize
- Canada
- Cape Verde
- Denmark
- Finland
- Germany
- Ghana
- India
- Indonesia
- Jordan
- Kenya
- Malaysia
- Mali
- The Netherlands
- Nigeria
- Peru
- Portugal
- Republic of Korea
- Saudi Arabia
- Singapore
- South Africa
- Spain
- Tanzania
- Thailand
- Uganda
- Ukraine
- United Kingdom
- United States
Membership cont.

National/International organizations

- Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (ACDC)
- African Society for Laboratory Medicine (ASLM)
- Association for Biosafety and Biosecurity (ABSA)
- Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
- BWC Implementation Support Unit (ISU)
- Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA)
- Chatham House
- Civilian Research and Development Foundation (CRDF) Global
- US Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA)
- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)
- International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)
- International Experts Group of Biosafety and Biosecurity Regulators (IEGBBR)
- International Federation of Biosafety Associations (IFBA)
- International Genetically Engineered Machine Competition (iGEM)
- Merrick and Company
- Nuclear Threat Initiative (NTI)
- United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI)
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH)

Key Activities

APP3 primarily serves community-building, information-sharing, and resource hub functions, providing a structured forum (through meetings and a ‘Community Corner newsletter’) in which members can share new initiatives, guidance documents, success stories and lessons learned.

APP3 also emphasizes the importance of setting quantifiable targets to achieve its strategic objectives and measures progress at the country-level.

Key Resources

- The Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA) ghsagenda.org
- The Action Package Prevent-3 Biosafety and Biosecurity ghsagenda.org/biosecurity-biosafety/