

FISCAL YEAR 2015 SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT ON THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE COUNTERTERRORISM PARTNERSHIPS FUND

Submitted pursuant to Section 1534(g) of the Carl Levin and Howard P. "Buck" McKeon
National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (Public Law 113-291).



**Preparation of this study/report cost the Department of Defense
a total of approximately \$2,530 in the first six months of Fiscal Year 2015.**

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1. REPORTING REQUIREMENT

This report is submitted pursuant to Section 1534(g) of the Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 (Public Law 113-291), which requires a report on the authorities used, activities undertaken, and obligations and expenditures related to the Counterterrorism Partnerships Fund (CTPF).

- 1) In general. Not later than 60 days after the end of the first half of fiscal years 2015, 2016, and 2017, and the second half of fiscal years 2015 and 2016, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report addressing the preceding fiscal half-year.
- 2) Matters to be included. Each report under paragraph (1) shall include the following:
 - (A) A description of the underlying Department of Defense authorities that authorized activities supported by the Counterterrorism Partnerships Fund.
 - (B) A description of the activities supported by the Fund.
 - (C) A description of any obligations and expenditures of amounts transferred from the Fund, including recipients of amounts, set forth by country (where applicable).
 - (D) A description of any determinations made as described in Section 1534(d)(5), and a description of any transfers back to the Fund pursuant to that section.
 - (E) A description of any revisions to the plan submitted pursuant to Section 1534(f).

2. PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Pursuant to Section 1534 of the NDAA for FY 2015, the Secretary of Defense may submit a reprogramming request to support the transfer of funds from the CTPF to support the following purposes:

- 1) To provide support and assistance to foreign security forces or other groups of individuals to conduct, support, or facilitate counterterrorism and crisis response activities under authority provided the Department of Defense by any other provision of law (referred to for purposes of Section 1534 as an “underlying Defense authority”).
- 2) To improve the capacity of the United States Armed Forces to provide enabling support to counterterrorism and crisis response activities undertaken by foreign security forces or other groups or individuals under any underlying Department of Defense authority.

Section 1534 provides that these activities generally may be conducted only in the U.S. Central Command (USCENTCOM) and U.S. Africa Command (USAFRICOM) areas of responsibility. As such, the Department of Defense has developed proposals to use the CTPF for activities that most effectively support regional strategies in five regional focus areas: Syria and the Levant; Yemen; East Africa; Sahel-Maghreb; and the Lake Chad Basin. The proposals for these five regions support the National Strategy for Counterterrorism and the relevant Geographic Combatant Command (GCC) Theater Campaign Plans.

The Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations/Low-Intensity Conflict (ASD (SO/LIC)) has been designated to serve as the manager of the Fund, and oversees the CTPF. Key stakeholders who support the CTPF include the GCCs, the Joint Staff, the Department of State, and the Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA). The Chiefs of Mission (CoM) and GCCs play key roles in the development of program-level proposals that support regional strategies, ensuring integration of activities.

3. UNDERLYING DoD AUTHORITIES

Activities supported by the CTPF the first half of FY 2015 were authorized by Section 1209 (Authority to Provide Assistance to the Vetted Syrian Opposition) of the NDAA for FY 2015. As specific programs are developed, other authorities may be relied upon, as appropriate, to accomplish specific objectives.

4. ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED BY THE COUNTERTERRORISM PARTNERSHIPS FUND

During this reporting period, the Department submitted prior approval reprogramming requests to transfer \$500 million of the total \$1.3 billion appropriated for the CTPF to support the Syria Train and Equip effort under Section 1209, as specifically authorized by Congress. Of that \$500 million, \$220.5 has been transferred to several Operation and Maintenance accounts to support this effort, and the remainder of the \$500 million will be transferred early in the second half of FY 2015.

Additionally, during this reporting period, the Department developed strategies to identify and prioritize CTPF-eligible proposals for the \$800 million of funds available beyond what is authorized to be spent under the Syria Train and Equip program pursuant to Section 1209. The majority of the CTPF proposals, as developed by USCENCOM and USAFRICOM, will provide counterterrorism (CT) support to partner nations under the Department's authority to build the capacity of foreign security forces, 10 U.S. Code Section 2282. In addition, the Department intends to pursue targeted activities to build institutional and operational capacities that directly support or enable counterterrorism capabilities. A smaller portion of the funds will be used to improve the capacity of the United States Armed Forces to provide enabling support. The Department anticipates that a significant portion of the \$800 million in available FY 2015 CTPF funds will be transferred from the Fund in the second half of this fiscal year, which will be reported during the second required semi-annual report for FY 2015.

5. OBLIGATIONS AND EXPENDITURES OF AMOUNTS TRANSFERRED FROM THE FUND

Of the \$1.3 billion Congress authorized for CTPF, not to exceed \$500 million was authorized to support training and equipping of vetted Syrian opposition forces. On December 10, 2014, Congress approved the Syria Train and Equip reprogramming action (FY 15-02 PA) for \$220.5 million. The next Syria Train and Equip prior approval reprogramming action for the

remaining \$279.5 million was signed March 16, 2015, and submitted to the congressional defense committees for approval. The Department is in the process of implementing this action as the last of four committee approval letters was received after the end of this reporting period. The execution of this transfer will appear in the required April execution summary. Exhibits 1 and 2 provide additional details related to the obligations and expenditures of the \$220.5 million transferred from the Fund.

Exhibit 1: Counterterrorism Partnerships Fund Appropriation - Recipients
(Dollars in Thousands)

Transfers From:

FY 2015/2016 Available	\$1,300,000
FY 15-07 IR (Syria Train and Equip)	-220,500

Remaining Balance: **\$1,079,500**

Note: Approval of the FY 15-10 PA (Syria Train and Equip) reprogramming action for \$279.5 million approved by Congress April 17, 2015, reduced the balance available for non-Syria CTPF efforts to \$800 million.

Transfers To:

<u>Operation and Maintenance, Army, 15/15</u>	<u>+69,694</u>
Budget Activity 1: Operating Forces	+69,694
<u>Operation and Maintenance, Air Force, 15/15</u>	<u>+3,048</u>
Budget Activity 1: Operating Forces	+198
Budget Activity 2: Mobilization	+600
Budget Activity 4: Administration and Service-wide Activities	2,250
<u>Operation and Maintenance, Defense Wide, 15/15</u>	<u>+147,758</u>
Budget Activity 1: Operating Forces	+147,758

Exhibit 2: Counterterrorism Partnerships Fund Appropriation – Execution Summary
(Dollars in Thousands)

Use	Recipient	Transferred Amount	Commitments	Obligations	Expenditures
Syria Train and Equip	Operation and Maintenance, Army (O&M Army)	\$69,694	\$1,654	\$1,304	\$526
	SAG-135 Additional Activities	\$69,694	\$1,654	\$1,304	\$526
Syria Train and Equip	Operation and Maintenance, Air Force	\$3,048	-	-	-
	SAG-011 Primary Combat Forces	\$198	-	-	-
	SAG-021 Airlift Operations	\$600	-	-	-
	SAG-042 Service-wide Comm	\$2,250	-	-	-
Syria Train and Equip	Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide, USSOCOM	\$147,758	\$121,639	\$108,547	\$34,794
	TOTAL	\$220,500	\$123,293	\$109,851	\$135,320

6. TRANSFERS BACK TO THE FUND

Section 1534(d)(5) provides that upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred from the CTPF to support authorized activities are not necessary for the purpose provided, such funds may be transferred back to the Fund. During the period of this initial semi-annual report, the Department has made no such determinations. Therefore, the Department has not transferred any funds back to the Fund.

7. REVISIONS TO THE CTPF PLAN

Pursuant to Section 1534(f), the Secretary of Defense is required to submit to the congressional defense committees a plan for the intended management and use of the CTPF, including the following:

- 1) An identification of the underlying Department of Defense authorities that the Secretary has identified as available for use.
- 2) A detailed description, to the maximum extent practicable, of the requirements, activities, and planned allocation of amounts available for use.
- 3) An identification of the senior civilian employee of the DoD designated by the Secretary to serve as manager of the Fund.

The Department provided an interim response to the congressional defense committees on March 2, 2015, and provided the complete plan for the intended management and use of the CTPF on May 11, 2015. Accordingly, no revisions to the CTPF plan were submitted during this reporting period.