

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Defense Innovation Board (DIB) Preparatory Session

Friday, 15 March 2024 9:00am-10:00am EDT

Virtual Session

External Participants: Lori Abele, Principal Director for South and Southeast Asia, OSD Policy, Michael Horowitz, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Force Development and Emerging Capabilities, OSD Policy, Aditi Kumar, Deputy Director, Defense Innovation Unit (DIU), Lisa Sawyer, Deputy Assistant Secretary for European and NATO Policy & Special Coordinator for Afghanistan, OSD Policy, Andrew Winternitz, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for East Asia, OSD Policy.

DIB Participants: Charles Phillips, Sue Gordon, Will Roper, Mary Meeker

DIB Staff: Dr. Marina Theodotou (DFO), Jacob Sharpe, Elliot Silverberg, Melanie Heinlein, Logan Hatfield, Carrie Shideler, Dr. Juan Merizalde

Purpose: Preparatory session to gather information for DIB report.

Meeting Summary:

The session focused on the strategic partnership between the U.S. and India, emphasizing India's military capabilities and the significant evolution of the defense industrial partnership over the past five years. The discussion highlighted the expansion of technology cooperation in defense, the deepening of defense innovation and partnerships through the India-US Defense Acceleration Ecosystem, and the acceleration in co-development and co-production with India in critical tech areas. Despite these advancements, challenges persist, including barriers such as the lack of clarity on IP and Indian indigenization requirements. The session also addressed the PRC pacing challenge, the need for rapid innovation in warfare, and the potential expansion of the export control system to other NATO countries. The discussion concluded with the recognition of the shift in technology supremacy, the need for a culture change, and the importance of articulating partner imperatives.

Prepared By: Juan Merizalde (DIB Staff)