



Office of Science and Technology Policy  
Executive Office of the President  
Washington, DC

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
January 27, 2005

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**OSTP Director John Marburger to Head U.S. Delegation at Thai-Sponsored Meeting to Develop Tsunami Early Warning System for Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia**

Dr. John H. Marburger, III, science advisor to President Bush and director, Office of Science and Technology Policy, will lead the U.S. delegation to a Ministerial meeting on regional cooperation in the development of a tsunami warning system for the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia sponsored by the government of Thailand. The meeting will be held in Phuket, Thailand on January 28-29, 2005.

The U.S. is committed to a process of intergovernmental collaboration on the development of a global tsunami warning system, with coverage that includes the Indian Ocean. This system should be part of the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS), the international effort to develop a comprehensive, sustained, and integrated Earth observation system. GEOSS, which now consists of 54 participating nations, including India, Indonesia and Thailand, is planning to adopt its implementation plan at the third Earth Observation Summit that will be held in Brussels this February.

The Bush Administration recently announced a plan to expand U.S. tsunami detection and warning capabilities throughout the entire Pacific, Atlantic, and Caribbean basins, which, as part of GEOSS, will provide tsunami warning for regions bordering half of the world's oceans. The plan commits a total of \$37.5 million over the next two years.

For more information on GEOSS, visit <http://earthobservation.org>.

*About the Office of Science and Technology Policy*

Congress established OSTP in 1976 with a broad mandate to advise the President and others within the Executive Office of the President on the impacts of science and technology on domestic and international affairs. The 1976 Act also authorizes OSTP to lead an interagency effort to develop and to implement sound science and technology policies and budgets and to work with the private sector, state and local governments, the science and higher education communities, and other nations toward this end. The Director of OSTP serves as co-chair of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology and oversees the National Science and Technology Council on behalf of the President. For more information visit [www.ostp.gov](http://www.ostp.gov).

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