



**United States Department of State**

*Washington, D.C. 20520*

February 28, 2025

Case No. FL-2022-00076

Dr. Sainath Suryanarayanan  
U.S. Right to Know  
4096 Piedmont Ave. #963  
Oakland, CA 94611

Dear Dr. Suryanarayanan:

As we noted in our letter dated January 31, 2025, we are processing your request for material under the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), 5 U.S.C. § 552. The Department of State ("Department") has identified an additional one responsive record subject to the FOIA. Upon review, we have determined that the one record may be released in part.

An enclosure explains the FOIA exemptions and other grounds for withholding material. Where we have made redactions, the applicable FOIA exemption are marked on the record. Where applicable, the Department has considered the foreseeable harm standard when reviewing this record and applying FOIA exemptions. All non-exempt material that is reasonably segregable from the exempt material has been released and is enclosed.

We will keep you informed as your case progresses. If you have any questions, your attorney may contact Savith Iyengar, Assistant U.S. Attorney, at [savith.iyengar@usdoj.gov](mailto:savith.iyengar@usdoj.gov). Please refer to the case number, FL-2022-00076, and the civil action number, 22-cv-04359, in all correspondence about this case.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Avery Bullard".

Avery Bullard  
Supervisory Government Information Specialist  
Litigation and Appeals Office

Enclosures: As stated.

## **The Freedom of Information Act (5 USC 552)**

### **FOIA Exemptions**

- (b)(1) Information specifically authorized by an executive order to be kept secret in the interest of national defense or foreign policy. Executive Order 13526 includes the following classification categories:
- 1.4(a) Military plans, systems, or operations
  - 1.4(b) Foreign government information
  - 1.4(c) Intelligence activities, sources or methods, or cryptology
  - 1.4(d) Foreign relations or foreign activities of the US, including confidential sources
  - 1.4(e) Scientific, technological, or economic matters relating to national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
  - 1.4(f) U.S. Government programs for safeguarding nuclear materials or facilities
  - 1.4(g) Vulnerabilities or capabilities of systems, installations, infrastructures, projects, plans, or protection services relating to US national security, including defense against transnational terrorism
  - 1.4(h) Weapons of mass destruction
- (b)(2) Related solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of an agency
- (b)(3) Specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than 5 USC 552), for example:
- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| ARMSEXP        | Arms Export Control Act, 50a USC 2411(c)                    |
| CIA PERS/ORG   | Central Intelligence Agency Act of 1949, 50 USC 403(g)      |
| EXPORT CONTROL | Export Administration Act of 1979, 50 USC App. Sec. 2411(c) |
| FS ACT         | Foreign Service Act of 1980, 22 USC 4004                    |
| INA            | Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 USC 1202(f), Sec. 222(f) |
| IRAN           | Iran Claims Settlement Act, Public Law 99-99, Sec. 505      |
- (b)(4) Trade secrets and confidential commercial or financial information
- (b)(5) Interagency or intra-agency communications forming part of the deliberative process, attorney-client privilege, or attorney work product
- (b)(6) Personal privacy information
- (b)(7) Law enforcement information whose disclosure would:
- (A) interfere with enforcement proceedings
  - (B) deprive a person of a fair trial
  - (C) constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy
  - (D) disclose confidential sources
  - (E) disclose investigation techniques
  - (F) endanger life or physical safety of an individual
- (b)(8) Prepared by or for a government agency regulating or supervising financial institutions
- (b)(9) Geological and geophysical information and data, including maps, concerning wells

### **Other Grounds for Withholding**

- NR Material not responsive to a FOIA request excised with the agreement of the requester

**From:** "Cameron, Beth E. EOP/NSC" (b)(6) >

(b)(6)@state.gov>;  
 Price, Edward C (b)(6)@state.gov>;  
 Horne, Emily J. EOP/NSC (b)(6)  
 (b)(6) HHS/ASPA (b)(6)@hhs.gov>;  
 Frisk, Megan L. EOP/NSC (b)(6)  
 (b)(6)@hhs.gov>;  
 (b)(6) (Geneva) (b)(6)@state.gov>;  
 (b)(6)@state.gov>;  
 (b)(6)@state.gov>;  
 IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL <IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL@state.gov>;  
 Waters, John R (Rick) (b)(6)@state.gov>;  
 Cook, Nerissa J (b)(6)@state.gov>;  
 (b)(6) (Geneva) (b)(6)@state.gov>;  
 (b)(6)@state.gov>;

**To:** (b)(6) HHS/OS/OGA (b)(6)@hhs.gov>;  
 Kanapathy, Ivan J. EOP/NSC (b)(6)  
 (b)(6) FDA/OC (b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov>;  
 (b)(6) (Geneva) (b)(6)@state.gov>;  
 (b)(6) HHS/OS/OGA (b)(6)@hhs.gov>;  
 (b)(6) FDA/OC (b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov>;  
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 Raymond, Kedenard M. EOP/NSC (b)(6)  
 Rosenberger, Laura M. EOP/NSC (b)(6)  
 (b)(6)@state.gov>;  
 (b)(6)@usda.gov (b)(6)@usda.gov>;  
 (b)(6)@state.gov>;  
 Park, Christopher J (b)(6)@state.gov>;  
 (b)(6)@state.gov>;  
 (b)(6)@state.gov>

**CC:** DL NSC HealthSecBio (b)(6)  
 (b)(6)@state.gov>

**Subject:** RIGHT VERSION: FINAL Press Guidance + Statements for WHO COVID Origins Study

**Date:** Tue, 30 Mar 2021 16:10:47 +0000

(b)(5) Deliberative Process Emily (b)(5) Deliberative Process  
 (b)(5) Deliberative Process  
 (b)(5) Deliberative Process

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 12:04 PM

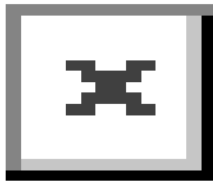
**To:** Price, Edward C (b)(6)@state.gov>; Horne, Emily J. EOP/NSC (b)(6)  
 Cameron, Beth E. EOP/NSC (b)(6) (b)(6) (HHS/ASPA)  
 (b)(6)@hhs.gov>; Frisk, Megan L. EOP/NSC (b)(6) (b)(6)  
 (b)(6)@hhs.gov>; (b)(6) (Geneva) (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)  
 (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL <IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL@state.gov>; Waters, John R (Rick) (b)(6)@state.gov>; Cook, Nerissa J (b)(6)@state.gov>;

(b)(6) Geneva) (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6)  
 (HHS/OS/OGA) (b)(6) @hhs.gov>; Kanapathy, Ivan J. EOP/NSC (b)(6)  
 (b)(6) FDA/OC) (b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov>; (b)(6) (Geneva) (b)(6) @state.gov>;  
 (b)(6) (HHS/OS/OGA) (b)(6) @hhs.gov>; (b)(6) (FDA/OC)  
 (b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov>; (b)(6) FDA/OC  
 (b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov>; Raymond, Kedenard M. EOP/NSC  
 (b)(6) Rosenberger, Laura M. EOP/NSC  
 (b)(6) (b)(6) @state.gov>;  
 (b)(6) @usda.gov (b)(6) @state.gov>; Park, Christopher J  
 (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>  
**Cc:** DL NSC HealthSecBio (b)(6) (b)(6)  
 (b)(6) @state.gov>

**Subject:** Re: FINAL Press Guidance + Statements for WHO COVID Origins Study

All - with apologies, one State redline to update a Tedros quote from today (the quote was outdated from Feb in the PG)

><https://www.who.int/director-general/speeches/detail/who-director-general-s-remarks-at-the-member-state-briefing-on-the-report-of-the-international-team-studying-the-origins-of-sars-cov-2><



WHO Director-General's  
 remarks at the Member  
 State Briefing on the report  
 of the international team  
 studying the origins of  
 SARS-CoV-2

OPENING REMARKS. Honourable  
 Ministers, Excellencies, dear colleagues  
 and friends, At the World Health  
 Assembly last year, Member States  
 requested that I, as Director-General,  
 carry out a vital and specific task.

>[www.who.int](https://www.who.int)<

Further study will be important to identify what role farmed wild animals may have played in introducing the virus to markets in Wuhan and beyond.

The team also visited several laboratories in Wuhan and considered the possibility that the virus entered the human population as a result of a laboratory incident.

However, I do not believe that this assessment was extensive enough. Further data and studies will be needed to reach more robust conclusions.

Although the team has concluded that a laboratory leak is the least likely hypothesis, this requires further investigation, potentially with additional missions involving specialist experts, which I am ready to deploy.

We will keep you informed as plans progress, and as always, we very much welcome your input.

**Let me say clearly that as far as WHO is concerned all hypotheses remain on the table.**

This report is a very important beginning, but it is not the end. We have not yet found the source of the virus, and we must continue to follow the science and leave no stone unturned as we do.

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**From:** Price, Edward C (b)(6) @state.gov>

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 12:00 PM

**To:** Horne, Emily J. EOP/NSC (b)(6) Cameron, Beth E. EOP/NSC

(b)(6) (b)(6) HHS/ASPA (b)(6) @hhs.gov>; (b)(6)

(b)(6) @state.gov>; Frisk, Megan L. EOP/NSC (b)(6) (b)(6)

(b)(6) @hhs.gov>; (b)(6) Geneva (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6)

(b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>; IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL <IO-EDA-HEALTH-

DL@state.gov>; Waters, John R (Rick) (b)(6) @state.gov>; Cook, Nerissa J (b)(6) @state.gov>;

(b)(6) (Geneva) (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6)

(HHS/OS/OGA) (b)(6) @hhs.gov>; Kanapathy, Ivan (b)(6) (b)(6)

(b)(6) FDA/OC (b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov>; (b)(6) Geneva (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6)

(b)(6) HHS/OS/OGA (b)(6) @hhs.gov>; (b)(6) FDA/OC

(b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov>; (b)(6) FDA/OC

(b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov>; Raymond, Kedenard M. EOP/NSC

(b)(6) Rosenberger, Laura (Beijing)

(b)(6) (b)(6) @state.gov>;

(b)(6) @usda.gov (b)(6) (b)(6) @state.gov>; Park,

Christopher J (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6)

(b)(6) @state.gov>

**Cc:** DL NSC HealthSecBio (b)(6) (b)(6)

(b)(6) @state.gov>

**Subject:** RE: FINAL Press Guidance + Statements for WHO COVID Origins Study

Adding Megan here, but should be out very soon – within the next couple minutes. Megan, pls confirm when it's out.

**From:** Horne, Emily J. EOP/NSC (b)(6) (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 11:55 AM  
**To:** Cameron, Beth E. EOP/NSC (b)(6) (b)(6) (HHS/ASPA)  
(b)(6) @hhs.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov; Frisk, Megan L. (b)(6)  
(b)(6) (b)(6) @hhs.gov; (b)(6) Geneva)  
(b)(6) @state.gov; Price, Edward C (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov;  
(b)(6) @state.gov; IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL <IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL@state.gov>; Waters,  
John R (Rick) (b)(6) @state.gov; Cook, Nerissa J (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) (Geneva)  
(b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) HHS/OS/OGA)  
(b)(6) @hhs.gov; Kanapathy, Ivan (b)(6) (b)(6) (FDA/OC)  
(b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov; (b)(6) Geneva (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6)  
(HHS/OS/OGA) (b)(6) @hhs.gov; (b)(6) (FDA/OC)  
(b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov; (b)(6) (FDA/OC)  
(b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov; Raymond, Kedenard M. EOP/NSC  
(b)(6) Rosenberger, Laura (Beijing)  
(b)(6) (b)(6) @state.gov;  
(b)(6) @usda.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov; Park, Christopher J  
(b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov  
**Cc:** DL NSC HealthSecBio (b)(6)  
**Subject:** RE: FINAL Press Guidance + Statements for WHO COVID Origins Study

Final formatted PG attached. State friends, please let us know ASAP when the joint statement is posted?  
Jen briefs in 30 minutes and will get this Q.

**From:** Cameron, Beth E. EOP/NSC (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 11:51 AM  
**To:** Horne, Emily J. EOP/NSC (b)(6) (b)(6) HHS/ASPA (b)(6) @hhs.gov;  
(b)(6) (state.gov) (b)(6) @state.gov; Frisk, Megan L. EOP/NSC (b)(6)  
(b)(6) HHS/OS/OGA (b)(6) @hhs.gov; (b)(6) (Geneva)  
(b)(6) @state.gov; Price, Edward C (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov;  
(b)(6) @state.gov; IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL <IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL@state.gov>; Waters,  
John R (Rick) (b)(6) @state.gov; Cook, Nerissa J (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) HHS/OS/OGA)  
(b)(6) @hhs.gov; Kanapathy, Ivan J. EOP/NSC (b)(6) (b)(6)  
(FDA/OC) (b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov; (b)(6) Geneva (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6)  
(b)(6) HHS/OS/OGA (b)(6) @hhs.gov; (b)(6) FDA/OC)  
(b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov; (b)(6) (FDA/OC)  
(b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov; Raymond, Kedenard M. EOP/NSC  
(b)(6) Rosenberger, Laura M. EOP/NSC  
(b)(6) (b)(6) @state.gov;  
(b)(6) @usda.gov; (b)(6) (state.gov) (b)(6) @state.gov; Park, Christopher J  
(b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov  
**Cc:** DL NSC HealthSecBio (b)(6)  
**Subject:** FINAL Press Guidance + Statements for WHO COVID Origins Study  
**Importance:** High

With huge thanks to Megan and to all of you, attached is the proposed final. Also topline for today re-pasted below. Emily: We think it's important to

(b)(5) Deliberative Process

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- (b)(5) Deliberative Process
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**From:** Horne, Emily J. EOP/NSC (b)(6)

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 11:39 AM

**To:** (b)(6) HHS/ASPA (b)(6) @hhs.gov; Cameron, Beth E. EOP/NSC

(b)(6) (b)(6) state.gov (b)(6) @state.gov; Frisk, Megan L.

EOP/NSC (b)(6) (b)(6) HHS/OS/OGA (b)(6) @hhs.gov; (b)(6)

(b)(6) (Geneva) (b)(6) @state.gov; Price, Edward C (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6)

(b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov; IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL <IO-EDA-HEALTH-

DL@state.gov>; Waters, John R (Rick) (b)(6) @state.gov; Cook, Nerissa J (b)(6) @state.gov;

(b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov (b)(6)

(HHS/OS/OGA) (b)(6) @hhs.gov; Kanapathy, Ivan J. EOP/NSC (b)(6)

(b)(6) (FDA/OC) (b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov; Kruzich, Joseph P (Geneva) (b)(6) @state.gov;

(b)(6) HHS/OS/OGA (b)(6) @hhs.gov; (b)(6) FDA/OC

(b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov; (b)(6) FDA/OC

(b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov; Raymond, Kedenard M. EOP/NSC

(b)(6) Rosenberger, Laura M. EOP/NSC

(b)(6) (b)(6) @state.gov;

(b)(6) @usda.gov; (b)(6) state.gov (b)(6) @state.gov; Park, Christopher J

(b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov (b)(6) @state.gov

**Cc:** DL NSC HealthSecBio (b)(6)

**Subject:** RE: (Pls clear now) Press Guidance + Statements for WHO COVID Origins Study

Suggested edits to the jt statement bullet— (b)(5) Deliberative Process

(b)(5) Deliberative Process

- (b)(5) Deliberative Process
-

**From:** (b)(6) HHS/ASPA (b)(6) @hhs.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 11:34 AM  
**To:** Cameron, Beth E. EOP/NSC (b)(6) (state.gov) (b)(6) @state.gov>; Frisk, Megan L. EOP/NSC (b)(6) Horne, Emily J. EOP/NSC (b)(6) HHS/OS/OGA (b)(6) @hhs.gov>; (b)(6) (Geneva) (b)(6) @state.gov>; Price, Edward C (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>; IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL <IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL@state.gov>; Waters, John R (Rick) (b)(6) @state.gov>; Cook, Nerissa J (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) (HHS/OS/OGA) (b)(6) @hhs.gov>; Kanopathy, Ivan J. EOP/NSC (b)(6) (b)(6) (FDA/OC) (b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov>; (b)(6) (Geneva) (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) HHS/OS/OGA (b)(6) @hhs.gov>; (b)(6) (FDA/OC) (b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov>; (b)(6) (FDA/OC) (b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov>; Raymond, Kedenard M. EOP/NSC (b)(6) Rosenberger, Laura M. EOP/NSC (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @usda.gov (b)(6) (state.gov) (b)(6) @state.gov>; Park, Christopher J (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>  
**Cc:** DL NSC HealthSecBio (b)(6)  
**Subject:** Re: (Pls clear now) Press Guidance + Statements for WHO COVID Origins Study

(b)(5) Deliberative Process

**From:** "Cameron, Beth E. EOP/NSC" (b)(6)  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 at 11:32 AM  
**To:** (b)(6) (state.gov)" <(b)(6) @state.gov>, "Frisk, Megan L. EOP/NSC" (b)(6) "Horne, Emily J. EOP/NSC" (b)(6) (b)(6) HHS/OS/OGA" (b)(6) @hhs.gov>, (b)(6) (Geneva)" (b)(6) @state.gov>, (b)(6) @hhs.gov>, "Price, Edward C" (b)(6) @state.gov>, (b)(6) @state.gov>, (b)(6) (b)(6) @state.gov>, IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL <IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL@state.gov>, "Waters, John R (Rick)" (b)(6) @state.gov>, "Cook, Nerissa J" (b)(6) @state.gov>, (b)(6) (b)(6) @state.gov>, (b)(6) @state.gov>, (b)(6) @state.gov>, (b)(6) (HHS/OS/OGA)" (b)(6) @hhs.gov>, "Kanopathy, Ivan J. EOP/NSC" (b)(6) (b)(6) (FDA/OC)" (b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov>, (b)(6) (Geneva)" (b)(6) @state.gov>, (b)(6) HHS/OS/OGA)" (b)(6) @hhs.gov>, (b)(6) (FDA/OC)" (b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov>, (b)(6) (FDA/OC)" (b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov>, "Raymond, Kedenard M. EOP/NSC" (b)(6) >, "Rosenberger, Laura M. EOP/NSC" (b)(6) @state.gov>, (b)(6) @usda.gov" (b)(6) @usda.gov>, (b)(6) (state.gov)" (b)(6) @state.gov>, "Park, Christopher J" (b)(6) @state.gov>, (b)(6) (b)(6) @state.gov>, (b)(6) @state.gov>  
**Cc:** DL NSC HealthSecBio (b)(6)  
**Subject:** RE: (Pls clear now) Press Guidance + Statements for WHO COVID Origins Study

Here are the update lines – any heartburn redlines should be sent in the next 5-7 min in red and tracked  
- -thanks!

• (b)(5) Deliberative Process

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- (b)(5) Deliberative Process
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(b)(5) Deliberative Process

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 11:29 AM

**To:** Frisk, Megan L. EOP/NSC (b)(6) Horne, Emily J. EOP/NSC

(b)(6) (b)(6)@hhs.gov> (b)(6) Geneva)

(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6) HHS/ASPA (b)(6)@hhs.gov>; Price, Edward C

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EDA-HEALTH-DL <IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL@state.gov>; Waters, John R (Rick) (b)(6)@state.gov>; Cook,

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(b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov>; Raymond, Kedenard M. EOP/NSC

(b)(6) Rosenberger, Laura M. EOP/NSC

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(b)(6)@usda.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; Park, Christopher J

(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>

**Cc:** DL NSC HealthSecBio (b)(6)

**Subject:** Re: (Pls clear now) Press Guidance + Statements for WHO COVID Origins Study

(b)(5) Deliberative Process

**From:** (b)(6)@state.gov>

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 11:25 AM

**To:** Frisk, Megan L. EOP/NSC (b)(6) Horne, Emily J. EOP/NSC

(b)(6) (b)(6)@hhs.gov>; (b)(6) Geneva)

(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6) (HHS/ASPA) (b)(6)@hhs.gov>; Price, Edward C  
(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; IO-  
EDA-HEALTH-DL <IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL@state.gov>; Waters, John R (Rick) (b)(6)@state.gov>; Cook,  
Nerissa J (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6) (Geneva) (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)  
(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6) (HHS/OS/OGA) (b)(6)@hhs.gov>; Kanapathy, Ivan  
(b)(6) (b)(6) (FDA/OC) (b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov>; (b)(6)  
(Geneva) (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6) (HHS/OS/OGA) (b)(6)@hhs.gov>;  
(b)(6) (FDA/OC) (b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov>; (b)(6) (FDA/OC)  
(b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov>; Raymond, Kedenard M. EOP/NSC  
(b)(6); Rosenberger, Laura (Beijing)  
(b)(6) (b)(6)@state.gov>;  
(b)(6)@usda.gov (b)(6)@usda.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; Park,  
Christopher J (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)  
(b)(6)@state.gov>  
**Cc:** DL NSC HealthSecBio (b)(6)  
**Subject:** Re: (Pls clear now) Press Guidance + Statements for WHO COVID Origins Study

Megan - I suggested this in a comment that (b)(5) Deliberative Process

(b)(5) Deliberative Process

(b)(5) Deliberative Process

**From:** Frisk, Megan L. EOP/NSC (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 11:20 AM  
**To:** Horne, Emily J. EOP/NSC (b)(6) (b)(6)@hhs.gov>;  
(b)(6) (Geneva) (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6) (HHS/ASPA) (b)(6)@hhs.gov>; Price,  
Edward C (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)  
(b)(6)@state.gov>; IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL <IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL@state.gov>; Waters, John R (Rick)  
(b)(6)@state.gov>; Cook, Nerissa J (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6) (Geneva)  
(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6) (HHS/OS/OGA)  
(b)(6)@hhs.gov>; Kanapathy, Ivan (b)(6) (b)(6) (FDA/OC)  
(b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov>; (b)(6) (Geneva) (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)  
(HHS/OS/OGA) (b)(6)@hhs.gov>; (b)(6) (FDA/OC)  
(b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov>; (b)(6) (FDA/OC)  
(b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov>; Raymond, Kedenard M. EOP/NSC  
(b)(6); Rosenberger, Laura (Beijing)  
(b)(6) (b)(6)@state.gov>;  
(b)(6)@usda.gov (b)(6)@usda.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)  
(b)(6)@state.gov>; Park, Christopher J (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)  
(b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>

**Cc:** DL NSC HealthSecBio (b)(6)  
**Subject:** RE: (Pls clear now) Press Guidance + Statements for WHO COVID Origins Study

Emily,

Here's the latest guidance. We are working (b)(5) Deliberat at 11<sup>th</sup> hour, so may be a bit delayed on the 11:30 mark, but almost there.

Thank you!  
Megan

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**From:** Horne, Emily J. EOP/NSC  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 11:18 AM  
**To:** (b)(6) (HHS/OS/OGA) (b)(6) @hhs.gov; (b)(6) (Geneva) (b)(6) @state.gov; Frisk, Megan L. EOP/NSC (b)(6) (HHS/ASPA) (b)(6) @hhs.gov; Price, Edward C (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov; IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL <IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL@state.gov>; Waters, John R (Rick) (b)(6) @state.gov; Cook, Nerissa J (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) HHS/OS/OGA (b)(6) @hhs.gov; Kanapathy, Ivan J. EOP/NSC (b)(6) (b)(6) (FDA/OC) (b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov; (b)(6) (Geneva) (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) (b)(6) HHS/OS/OGA (b)(6) @hhs.gov; (b)(6) FDA/OC (b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov; (b)(6) FDA/OC (b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov; Raymond, Kedenard M. EOP/NSC (b)(6) Rosenberger, Laura M. EOP/NSC (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) @usda.gov; (b)(6) state.gov (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov; Park, Christopher J (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov  
**Cc:** DL NSC HealthSecBio (b)(6)  
**Subject:** RE: (Pls clear now) Press Guidance + Statements for WHO COVID Origins Study

Are we still on track to post joint statement at 11:30?

---

**From:** (b)(6) (HHS/OS/OGA) (b)(6) @hhs.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 11:07 AM  
**To:** (b)(6) Geneva (b)(6) @state.gov; Frisk, Megan L. EOP/NSC (b)(6) Horne, Emily J. EOP/NSC (b)(6) Hall, Bill (HHS/ASPA) (b)(6) hhs.gov; Price, Edward C (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov; IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL <IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL@state.gov>; Waters, John R (Rick) (b)(6) @state.gov; Cook, Nerissa J (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) (HHS/OS/OGA) (b)(6) @hhs.gov; Kanapathy, Ivan J. EOP/NSC (b)(6) (b)(6) (FDA/OC) (b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov; (b)(6) Geneva (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) (HHS/OS/OGA) (b)(6) @hhs.gov; (b)(6) FDA/OC (b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov; (b)(6) FDA/OC (b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov; Raymond, Kedenard M. EOP/NSC (b)(6) Rosenberger, Laura M. EOP/NSC

(b)(6); (b)(6)@state.gov;  
 (b)(6)@usda.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)(state.gov)  
 (b)(6)@state.gov; Park, Christopher J (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)  
 (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov  
**Cc:** DL NSC HealthSecBio (b)(6)  
**Subject:** RE: (Pls clear now) Press Guidance + Statements for WHO COVID Origins Study

Ugh.

(b)(6) JD, LL.M  
 Director, Multilateral Relations  
 Office of the Secretary  
 Office of Global Affairs  
 U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
 Telephone: (b)(6)  
 Mobile: (b)(6)



**From:** (b)(6) Geneva (b)(6)@state.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 11:05 AM  
**To:** 'Frisk, Megan L. EOP/NSC' (b)(6) Horne, Emily J. EOP/NSC  
 (b)(6) (b)(6) (HHS/OS/OGA) (b)(6)@hhs.gov; (b)(6) (HHS/ASPA)  
 (b)(6)@hhs.gov; Price, Edward C (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov;  
 (b)(6)@state.gov; IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL <IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL@state.gov>; Waters,  
 John R (Rick) (b)(6)@state.gov; Cook, Nerissa J (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)  
 (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6) (HHS/OS/OGA)  
 (b)(6)@hhs.gov; Kanapathy, Ivan (b)(6) (b)(6) (FDA/OC)  
 (b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov; (b)(6) Geneva (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)  
 (HHS/OS/OGA) (b)(6)@hhs.gov; (b)(6) (FDA/OC)  
 (b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov; (b)(6) (FDA/OC)  
 (b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov; Raymond, Kedenard M. EOP/NSC  
 (b)(6) Rosenberger, Laura (Beijing)  
 (b)(6) (b)(6)@state.gov;  
 (b)(6)@usda.gov (b)(6)@state.gov (b)(6)(state.gov)  
 (b)(6)@state.gov; Park, Christopher J (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)  
 (b)(6)@state.gov; (b)(6)@state.gov  
**Cc:** DL NSC HealthSecBio (b)(6)  
**Subject:** RE: (Pls clear now) Press Guidance + Statements for WHO COVID Origins Study

Late breaking development is that (b)(5) Deliberative Process

(b)(5) Deliberative

**From:** Frisk, Megan L. EOP/NSC (b)(6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 4:18 PM

**To:** Horne, Emily J. EOP/NSC (b)(6); (b)(6) hhs.gov>(b)(6)  
(HHS/ASPA) (b)(6) hhs.gov>; Price, Edward C (b)(6) @state.gov>(b)(6)  
(b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>; IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL <IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL@state.gov>; Waters, John R (Rick) (b)(6) @state.gov>; Cook, Nerissa J (b)(6) @state.gov>;  
(b)(6) (Geneva) (b)(6) @state.gov>(b)(6) Geneva)  
(b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) (HHS/OS/OGA)  
(b)(6) @hhs.gov>; Kanapathy, Ivan (b)(6) (b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov>;  
(b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) HHS/OS/OGA  
(b)(6) @hhs.gov>(b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov>; (b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov>;  
Raymond, Kedenard M. EOP/NSC (b)(6); Rosenberger, Laura (Beijing)  
(b)(6); (b)(6) @state.gov>;  
(b)(6) @usda.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @state.gov>; Park, Christopher J (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>  
**Cc:** DL NSC HealthSecBio (b)(6)  
**Subject:** RE: (Pls clear now) Press Guidance + Statements for WHO COVID Origins Study

Hello again:

Good news – we have [ ] countries signed on, so will not/not need the solo statement. Please focus on the press points only for today, especially IF RAISED. In addition, we have the following to add in where appropriate – just sending in body of email in interest of time. Thank you!

(b)(5) Deliberative Process

**From:** Frisk, Megan L. EOP/NSC

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 2:33 AM

**To:** Horne, Emily J. EOP/NSC (b)(6) 'Burr, Mara' (b)(6) hhs.gov>; (b)(6)  
(b)(6) HHS/ASPA (b)(6) hhs.gov>; 'Price, Edward C' (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6)  
(b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) @state.gov>; 'IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL' <IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL@state.gov>; 'Waters, John R (Rick)' (b)(6) @state.gov>; 'Cook, Nerissa J' (b)(6) @state.gov>;  
(b)(6) Geneva' (b)(6) @state.gov>; (b)(6) Geneva'



(b)(6)@state.gov>;(b)(6)@state.gov>;(b)(6)(HHS/OS/OGA)'  
 (b)(6)@hhs.gov>; Kanapathy, Ivan J. EOP/NSC (b)(6)  
 (b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov' (b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov>;(b)(6)@state.gov' (b)(6)@state.gov>;  
 (b)(6)(HHS/OS/OGA' (b)(6)@hhs.gov>; (b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov'  
 (b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov> (b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov'  
 (b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov>; Raymond, Kedenard M. EOP/NSC  
 (b)(6); Rosenberger, Laura M. EOP/NSC  
 (b)(6); (b)(6)@state.gov>;  
 (b)(6)@usda.gov' (b)(6)@usda.gov>

**Cc:** DL NSC HealthSecBio (b)(6)

**Subject:** (Pls clear by 10 AM Mon) Press Guidance + Statements for WHO COVID Origins Study

Good morning!

Please see the press guidance and statements for your comments and clearance NLT 10 AM. Assuming

(b)(5) Deliberative Process

Many thanks!

Megan

---

**From:** Frisk, Megan L. EOP/NSC

**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 12:33 AM

**To:** Horne, Emily J. EOP/NSC (b)(6) (b)(6)@hhs.gov>; (b)(6)  
 (b)(6)@HHS/ASPA (b)(6)@hhs.gov>; 'Price, Edward C' (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)  
 (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; 'IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL' <IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL@state.gov>; 'Waters, John R (Rick)' (b)(6)@state.gov>; 'Cook, Nerissa J' (b)(6)@state.gov>;  
 (b)(6) (Geneva)' (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6) (Geneva)'  
 (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6) (HHS/OS/OGA)'  
 (b)(6)@hhs.gov>; Kanapathy, Ivan J. EOP/NSC (b)(6)  
 (b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov' (b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov> (b)(6)@state.gov' (b)(6)@state.gov>;  
 (b)(6) (HHS/OS/OGA' (b)(6)@hhs.gov>; (b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov'  
 (b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov>; (b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov'  
 (b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov>; Raymond, Kedenard M. EOP/NSC  
 (b)(6); Rosenberger, Laura M. EOP/NSC  
 (b)(6); (b)(6)@state.gov>;  
 (b)(6)@usda.gov' (b)(6)@usda.gov>

**Cc:** DL NSC HealthSecBio (b)(6)

**Subject:** (Pls review by 11 AM Mon) Press Guidance + Statements for WHO COVID Origins Study

Good morning, all:

As you probably know, the WHO COVID origins report was finally released under embargo this afternoon. Please see the revised press points and statements that incorporate your edits from last week. As there were edits coming from several agencies, we ask that you **please review again** for accuracy and to ensure your points were adequately captured. Apologies in advance if something was inadvertently missed – we appreciate your patience as we pull together lots of pieces and continually

adapt on the comms front. (On that note, as the expert group's topline is developed tomorrow, we will update these points again and re-distribute as needed.)

Thank you for your time and for reviewing quickly! We'd appreciate your response by 11 AM, as we expect to have questions at the podium on Monday.

All the best,  
Megan

**From:** Frisk, Megan L. EOP/NSC

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 24, 2021 6:01 PM

**To:** Horne, Emily J. EOP/NSC (b)(6) (b)(6) @hhs.gov; (b)(6)

(HHS/ASPA) (b)(6) @hhs.gov; Price, Edward C (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6)

(b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov; IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL <IO-EDA-HEALTH-

DL@state.gov>; Waters, John R (Rick) (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov;

(b)(6) Geneva) (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) (Geneva)

(b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) HHS/OS/OGA)

(b)(6) @hhs.gov; Kanapathy, Ivan J. EOP/NSC (b)(6)

(b)(6) fda.hhs.gov; (b)(6) @state.gov; (b)(6) (HHS/OS/OGA)

(b)(6) @hhs.gov; (b)(6) @fda.hhs.gov; (b)(6) fda.hhs.gov;

Raymond, Kedenard M. EOP/NSC (b)(6) Rosenberger, Laura M.

EOP/NSC (b)(6) (b)(6) @state.gov>

**Cc:** DL NSC HealthSecBio (b)(6)

**Subject:** (Please clear by 11 AM tomorrow) DRAFT Press Guidance + Statements for WHO COVID Origins Study

~~UNCLASSIFIED//FOUO~~

Dear colleagues,

Thank you for the sync call today and for all your hard work on this statement. We have news from Geneva that the EU indeed plans to go public with their statement Friday, but they have also agreed to coordinate with the United States and our co-signers on when that public release will be. We've proposed 3 PM EDT (8 PM CET). Right now, we are checking with partners – explaining the desire to speak with one voice with the EU, the need to post on Friday, and asking them to pave the way for signing a bit sooner than expected.

Please see attached for press points and three statements that we'll need on the WHO COVID origins study. A lot of this is language already used in our call sheets and BCLs, publicly by APNSA Sullivan, and also prior cleared language we had prepped for use. **We appreciate your edits and clearance by 11:00 AM EDT tomorrow (Thurs) 3/25. Thank you!**

There's a lot here. You'll see points for Thursday and Friday, with Friday

(b)(5) Deliberative Process

(b)(5) Deliberative Process

Please don't hesitate to call or email with questions. I'll be free after 8:30 tonight and then again in the morning after 8:30.

All the best,  
Megan

**Megan L. Frisk, PhD**  
Global Health Security and Biodefense  
National Security Council | The White House

(b)(6) (desk)  
(b)(6) (cell)

SIPR: (b)(6)

JWICS: (b)(6)

<b>Sender:</b>	"Cameron, Beth E. EOP/NSC" (b)(6)
<b>Recipient:</b>	(b)(6)@state.gov>; Price, Edward (b)(6)@state.gov>; Horne, Emily J. EOP/NSC (b)(6); (b)(6) (HHS/ASPA) (b)(6)@hhs.gov>; Frisk, Megan L. EOP/NSC (b)(6) (b)(6)@hhs.gov>; (b)(6) (Geneva) (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL <IO-EDA-HEALTH-DL@state.gov>; Waters, John R. (Rick) (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6) (Geneva) (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6) (HHS/OS/OGA) (b)(6)@hhs.gov>; Kanapathy, Ivan J. EOP/NSC (b)(6) (b)(6) FDA/OC (b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov>; (b)(6) (Geneva) (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6) (HHS/OS/OGA) (b)(6)@hhs.gov>; (b)(6) (FDA/OC) (b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov>; (b)(6) FDA/OC (b)(6)@fda.hhs.gov>; Raymond, Kedenard M. EOP/NSC (b)(6) Rosenberger, Laura M. EOP/NSC (b)(6) (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@usda.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; Park, Christopher J (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; (b)(6)@state.gov>; DL NSC HealthSecBio (b)(6)

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