

MOD BACKGROUND NOTE ON DR DAVID KELLY

1 Dr Kelly began his career in the public sector in November 1973 when he was appointed as a Senior Scientific Officer (SSO) in the Unit of Invertebrate Virology at the National Environment Research Establishment (NERC). He remained there for 11 years, being promoted to Principal Scientific Officer (PSO) in 1977, and awarded a merit promotion to Senior Principal Scientific Officer (SPSO) in 1982.

2 In July 1984 Dr Kelly joined the MOD and was appointed Superintendent of the Defence Microbiology Division of the (then) Chemical Defence Establishment at Porton Down. This was a substantive SPSO post. In 1991 Dr Kelly was recommended for Individual Merit (IM) Promotion to Grade 5 based on his quality and value as a specialist microbiologist. IM promotion provides the opportunity for staff to undertake their scientific or technological work unencumbered by the organisational and managerial responsibilities normally associated with the grade. He was awarded the promotion in July 1992, and was appointed Senior Adviser in Biological Defence at Porton Down.

3 From 1992 – 1996 Dr Kelly spent a good deal of time working as a United Nations Special Commission (UNSCOM) inspector, and was appointed senior adviser to UNSCOM in 1995. His home base continued to be the Chemical and Biological Defence Establishment (CBDE) at Porton Down.

4 On 1 Apr 95 the Defence Evaluation and Research Agency (DERA) was established. This Agency embraced CBDE (renamed CBD Porton Down) and Dr Kelly's personnel management and employment formally passed from MOD to DERA. The following year, on 1 Apr 96, Dr Kelly was appointed on secondment to the Proliferation & Arms Control Secretariat (PACS) within MOD, where he continued to work as an adviser to PACS and to the Non-Proliferation Department of the FCO on Iraq's chemical and biological weapons capabilities and on the work of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC). He contributed to UNMOVIC activities – particularly advising on chemical and biological weapons, and on inspector training – and provided advice on Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) and Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BWC) issues. He was also responsible for providing advice to the Defence Intelligence Staff (DIS) and the Secret Intelligence Service (SIS) on Iraq. Finally, he had responsibilities in relation to communicating Iraq WMD issues externally by providing informed contributions to international institutions, the media and the press.

5 This secondment was principally funded by the FCO, for whom Dr Kelly carried out a substantial proportion of his work.

6 In 2001 the bulk of what had been DERA moved into the private sector as Qinetiq. CBD Porton Down was not included in this transfer and on 2 July 01 became part of the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl).