Beth M. McCormick, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Defense Trade and Regional Security

Bureau of Political-Military Affairs

Beth M. McCormick, a member of the Senior Executive Service, was appointed to the position of Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Defense Trade and Regional Security in the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs on February 14, 2010. In this position, she manages two of the Bureaus main organizations, specifically the Directorate of Defense Trade Controls (DDTC), and the Office of Regional Security and Arms Transfers (RSAT). She provides overall policy guidance regarding the transfer of defense technologies to other countries, through commercial defense trade and foreign military sales, and serves as one of the key links between the State and Defense Departments on regional security issues.

Ms. McCormick began her career in government service in 1983 as a Presidential Management Intern with the Office of the Secretary of Defense. She became an Assistant for Strategic Defense and Space Arms Control Policy in 1985, where her primary responsibility was support to the Defense and Space Negotiations in Geneva, Switzerland. From August 1990 to September 1993, she served as Assistant and then Deputy Director for Space Policy, and from October 1993 to June 1994 as Deputy Director, Space and Advanced Technology, International Security Policy, Office of the Secretary of Defense. From July 1994 to October 2001, she served in several executive positions with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, including Director of International Relations and Deputy Associate Administrator for Life and Microgravity Sciences. In November 2001 she returned to the Defense Department as the Director of Policy, U.S. Air Force International Affairs, a position she held until January 2005. Following her tour with the U.S. Air Force, Ms. McCormick reported as Deputy Director of the Defense Technology Security Administration. She assumed the position of Director in August 2005 and that October was appointed as the Acting Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Technology Security Policy and National Disclosure Policy. From October 2008 to February 2010, Ms. McCormick served as the Deputy Director of the Defense Security Cooperation Agency, the Defense agency responsible for security cooperation and partner capacity building programs worldwide.

Ms. McCormick received her B.A. from Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania in Political Science, Russian and Soviet Area Studies in 1981. She received her M.A. in Security Policy Studies from George Washington University in 1983. She has received several awards for her exemplary federal service including the Meritorious Presidential Rank Award, Secretary of Defense Medal for Meritorious Civilian Service (with Silver Palm), the DSCA Exceptional Civilian Service Award, the NASA Exceptional Service Medal, the Air Force Medal for Exceptional Civilian Service, and the Department of State Superior Honor Award.