

country. The new biological laboratory is being modelled on the very successful Canadian Science Centre for Human and Animal Health in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Crucial preparatory work was undertaken for the construction of the new laboratory, including a needs analysis and technical programming, facility design, geophysical assessments and site selection. Extensive biosafety and biosecurity training was also provided to key Kyrgyz scientists and technicians, and a Canada-Kyrgyz Biological Laboratory Working Group (BLWG) was established to facilitate the exchange of information and timely and informed decision making on activities related to the lab project. As the new

laboratory will not be completed for several years, the GPP completed preparations for the implementation of priority security upgrades at several existing biological facilities in the Kyrgyz Republic.

### Looking Ahead at 2009–2010

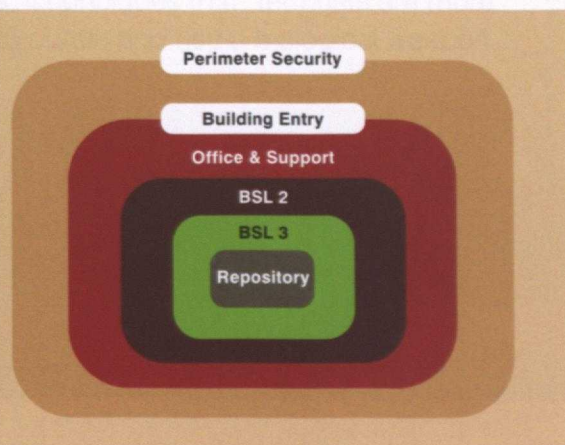
The raw materials for developing biological weapons are available wherever disease exists—that is, in all countries. To help prevent terrorists from acquiring biological weapons capabilities, the GPP will continue to assess biological threats and develop cooperative solutions aimed at helping to protect Canadians and the international community from deadly pathogens.

## Canadian Biological Non-Proliferation Efforts in the Kyrgyz Republic

Canada's decision to launch a comprehensive biosecurity, biosafety and non-proliferation program in the Kyrgyz Republic was based on many factors, including geography and the nature and type of pathogens found there. The laboratory project will have many benefits: it will enhance the biosecurity, biosafety and biocontainment capacities of the Kyrgyz Republic and reduce the threat posed by theft, sabotage, accidental release and/or terrorist acquisition of dangerous pathogens. The wider biosecurity and biosafety strategy will also have important public and animal health benefits, as it will allow quicker, more precise diagnosis of an outbreak, whether deliberately or accidentally caused. In this way, it will play an important role in protecting the Kyrgyz population and other nations, including Canada, from the potentially devastating effects of dangerous disease outbreaks.



Members of the Canada-Kyrgyz Biological Laboratory Working Group, March 2009.



The new Kyrgyz laboratory will rely on a layered security approach to protect the dangerous pathogens it will hold.