David Templeman

David Templeman completed six years (2000–2006) as Director General of Emergency Management Australia (DGEMA), the Federal Government’s agency with responsibility for reducing the impact of natural, technological and human-caused disasters on the Australian community. As DGEMA, he was a member of the Australian Health Protection Committee, the National Counter-Terrorism Committee, the Critical Infrastructure Advisory Council and the Australian Emergency Management Committee.

David played a central role in the whole-of-government response to many major emergencies in Australia and the region, including bushfires, extreme storms, cyclones, earthquakes and floods, including critical infrastructure failures. He also coordinated the Australian Government’s emergency management response to international crises such as the 9/11 terrorist attacks in the United States; the Bali, Madrid and Jakarta embassy bombings; Australia’s response to the 2004 tsunami in South East Asia and the London bombings in 2005. David contributed to national health emergency planning issues such as the severe acute respiratory syndrome epidemic in 2003, and avian flu pandemic arrangements.

David has been the Chief Executive of a national peak not-for-profit organisation in preventative health—The Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia—since 2007. He is a senior volunteer member of St John Ambulance Australia and the Chair of the ACT Alcohol and Drug Foundation (Karralika). In addition to these activities, David holds appointments on the boards of the International Federation of Non-Government Organisations and the International Council on Alcohol and Addictions. He is also a member of the National Leadership Group for the White Ribbon Foundation and a Board Director for a newly established NGO, the National Rural Law and Justice Alliance, a Board Director for Families Australia and a Friend of the National Rural Health Alliance.