



CHARTER
of the
INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP FOR ASTRONOMICAL ASSETS AND DATA
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND AND NATIONAL SECURITY
NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

A. Official Designation

The Interagency Working Group (IWG) for Astronomical Assets and Data (AAD) is hereby established by action of the Committee on Homeland and National Security (CHNS) within the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC). This Interagency Working Group will generally be referred to as the AAD-IWG.

B. Purpose and Scope

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has an interest in policy advice to protect U.S. national security and other interests with respect to divestment and utilization of astronomical sensors and systems. The AAD-IWG offers a joint mechanism for relevant Federal departments and agencies to participate in the development of cohesive and multi-agency strategic recommendations for consideration by the NSF. The NSF will seek the coordinated recommendations on an as-needed basis and must respect and foster the academic freedom and international cooperation at the core of scientific discoveries.

C. Functions

With respect to national security interests only, the AAD-IWG will

1. Provide subject matter expertise for understanding and evaluating the capabilities of NSF astronomical sensors and systems.
2. Assess the potential impact posed by the divestment of NSF-sponsored and -funded astronomical sensors and systems.
3. Assess the potential impact posed by data collected and processed from NSF-sponsored and -funded astronomical sensors and systems.
4. Provide recommendations to the NSF on considerations for proper use and divestment of NSF-sponsored and -funded astronomical sensors and systems.

5. Provide a consensus evaluation of the viability of NSF-proposed strategies for divestment and utilization of astronomical sensors and systems.
6. Provide advice for operators of NSF facilities regarding International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) and Department of Commerce export regulations.
7. Individual members of the AAD-IWG will serve as working group liaisons to their home departments or agencies.

All formal recommendations will be provided to the Director of the National Science Foundation through the Co-Chairs of the CHNS and/or the Assistant to the President for Science and Technology.

D. Membership

The members from each of the departments and agencies listed below should be able to provide technical recommendations and facilitate communications within their respective organizations. The following NSTC departments and agencies are represented in the AAD-IWG:

- Department of Commerce
- Department of Defense
- Department of Energy
- Department of State
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- National Science Foundation (Co-chair)
- Office of the Director of National Intelligence

The following organizations in the Executive Office of the President shall also be represented on the AAD-IWG:

- National Security Council
- Office of Management and Budget
- Office of Science and Technology Policy (Co-chair)

Cooperating departments and agencies shall include such other executive organizations, departments, and agencies as the AAD-IWG co-chairs may designate.

E. Private Sector Interface

The AAD-IWG may seek advice from the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology, and will recommend to the CHNS and/or the Assistant to the President for Science and Technology the nature of additional private-sector¹ advice needed to accomplish its mission. The AAD-IWG may also interact with and receive *ad hoc* advice from various private sector groups as consistent with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

¹ The Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App., as amended, does not explicitly define "private-sector," but the phrase is generally understood to include individuals or entities outside the Federal government such as, but not limited to, the following: non-Federal sources, academia, State, local or Tribal governments, individual citizens, the public, non-governmental organizations, industry associations, international bodies.

F. Termination Date

Unless renewed by the CHNS, the AAD-IWG shall terminate no later than September 30, 2017.

G. Determination

I hereby determine that the establishment of the Astronomical Assets and Data Interagency Working Group is in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Executive Branch by law, and that such duties can best be performed through the advice and counsel of such a group.

Approved:



9/22/14

Patricia K. Falcone
Co-chair, Committee on Homeland and National Security, and
Associate Director for National Security and International Affairs,
Office of Science and Technology Policy

Date



22 Sept 14

Alan Shaffer
Co-chair, Committee on Homeland and National Security, and
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering,
Department of Defense

Date



9/22/14

Reginald Brothers
Co-chair, Committee on Homeland and National Security, and
Under Secretary for Science and Technology,
Department of Homeland Security

Date

