



CHARTER
of the
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AUTONOMOUS AND UNMANNED SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND AND NATIONAL SECURITY
NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

A. Official Designation

The Subcommittee on Autonomous and Unmanned Systems Technology (AUS-TECH) is hereby established by action of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) Committee on Homeland and National Security (CHNS).

B. Purpose and Scope

The technology of remotely operated and autonomous unmanned systems (AUS) is advancing at a rapid pace. This includes non-military, commercially available technology for personal or business use, as well as technology that has been improvised, engineered independently, or modified from the original commercial form. The scope of this technology includes air, land and water vehicles, and also ensembles of vehicles, stationary systems, and technology more traditionally associated with robotics. These systems present an emerging innovative market with great potential, and it is critical that federal policies foster U.S. leadership in research, development, production and use of AUS technologies. However, the possibility of purposeful use of automated and unmanned systems in a harmful manner also poses a new and growing challenge to public safety, national security, and personal privacy.

The Subcommittee will inform policy development and coordinate science and technology efforts to balance potential cost savings, public safety gains and support technology emergence while guarding against the possibility of use of automated and unmanned systems in a harmful manner including threats to public safety and national security. The Subcommittee will also facilitate the coordination and integration of national security-related Federal science and technology program activities for protection against the operation of these systems in a manner deliberately harmful to people and property. Additionally, the Subcommittee may make

recommendations regarding future AUS and related technologies and may consult with Federal agencies establishing policies for the use of such technologies.

C. Functions

The Subcommittee on AUS-TECH will:

1. Organize agency subject matter expertise in the area of AUS technology;
2. In the context of commercial and other opportunities, review and evaluate current and proposed technologies for protections against purposeful, harmful actions from AUS;
3. Provide feedback and advice regarding current science and technology policies and regarding opportunities for policy generation to address strategic technology research and development challenges for AUS technology;
4. Evaluate and make recommendations regarding long-term Federal research and development program coordination in AUS technologies;
5. Evaluate and make recommendations regarding federal policies and investments that can strengthen U.S. leadership in the development, production and use of AUS technologies;
6. Consult with and advise other U.S. Government bodies developing policies for the use of AUS technologies.

D. Membership

The following NSTC departments and agencies are represented on the Subcommittee on AUS-TECH:

Department of Agriculture;
Department of Commerce;
Department of Defense (Co-Chair);
 Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency;
Department of Energy;
 National Nuclear Security Agency;
Department of Health and Human Services;
Department of Homeland Security (Co-Chair);
Department of the Interior;
Department of Justice;
Department of State;
Department of Transportation;
 Federal Aviation Administration;
Department of the Treasury;
Environmental Protection Agency;
National Aeronautics and Space Administration;
National Science Foundation;
Central Intelligence Agency; and

Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

The following components of the Executive Office of the President shall also be represented:

National Security Council;
Office of Management and Budget; and
Office of Science and Technology Policy (Co-Chair).

Cooperating departments and agencies shall include such other Executive Branch organizations, departments, and agencies as the Co-Chairs may designate. All members of the Subcommittee on AUS-Tech must hold a TOP SECRET // SENSITIVE COMPARTMENTED INFORMATION security clearance.

E. Private Sector Interface

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

F. Termination Date

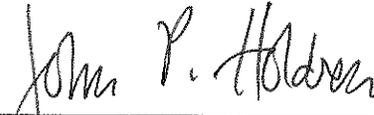
Unless renewed by the CHNS, the Subcommittee on AUS-TECH shall terminate no later than March 30, 2017.

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, and international bodies.

G. Determination

I hereby determine that the establishment of the Subcommittee on Autonomous and Unmanned Systems Technology 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:



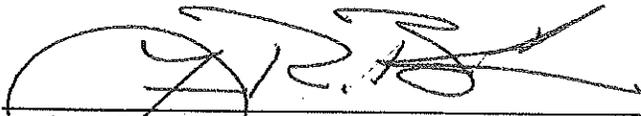
John P. Holdren
Assistant to the President for Science and Technology

5/05/15
Date



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

25 April 15
Date



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

4/24/15
Date