



CHARTER
of the
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FOOD AND AGRICULTURE,
COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE,
NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

A. Official Designation

The Subcommittee on Food and Agriculture (SFA) is hereby established by action of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), Committee on Science (CoS).

B. Purpose and Scope

The purpose of the SFA is to identify strategic research needs and resource gaps for the development, implementation, and promotion of “sustainable” food, fiber, and biofuel production systems, defined as those that protect the environment, public health, and animal welfare. The SFA will engage the Federal food and agriculture science and technology community, including the social science, economic, and agriculture education communities, in identifying these needs and prioritize the tools and resources needed to meet them. The SFA will define strategies Federal agencies can use to advance innovation in food and agriculture science and technology. The SFA will strive to enhance the Federal food and agriculture research and development enterprise by developing recommendations about how to include a broad range of backgrounds and perspectives to achieve robust intellectual dialogue.

C. Functions

In fulfilling its purpose, the SFA shall perform the following functions:

- 1) Identify science and technology (S&T) opportunities for, and S&T challenges to, creating a national, sustainable food and agriculture system and initiate the development of a Federal research coordination process to leverage opportunities and address challenges.
- 2) Coordinate interagency strategies that will promote agricultural innovation and support a diversity of stakeholders in rural and urban food production;
- 3) Include issues surrounding soil health in all relevant functions of the Subcommittee and develop science-based recommendations to attain sustainable stewardship of the Nation’s soils; and
- 4) Develop recommendations for Federal actions that will improve food safety and nutrition and incentivize innovation in processing, focusing on the underlying science of these issues.

While residing within the CoS, the SFA will support coordination of food and agriculture science and technology across all NSTC bodies, including but not limited to the Water-Energy-Food Nexus Task Force, the Interagency Working Group on Plant Genomics, the Interagency Working Group on Aquaculture, the Interagency Working Group on Scientific Collections, the Subcommittee on Water Availability and Quality, and the Subcommittee on Global Change Research. Liaisons from all NSTC bodies may attend SFA meetings. SFA Co-Chairs will keep all relevant NSTC committees informed of its work and will solicit ideas for future study.

D. Membership

The following NSTC departments and agencies are represented on the SFA:

- Department of Agriculture (Co-chair);
- Department of Commerce;
- Department of Defense;
- Department of Energy;
- Department of Health and Human Services (Co-chair);
- Department of the Interior;
- Department of State;
- Department of Veterans Affairs;
- Environmental Protection Agency;
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration;
- National Science Foundation;
- Smithsonian Institution; and
- U.S. Agency for International Development.

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

- Office of Management and Budget; and
- Office of Science and Technology Policy (Co-chair).

Cooperating departments and agencies shall include such other Executive organizations, departments, and agencies as the Co-Chairs may designate, as appropriate. The SFA will also strive to enhance the Federal research and development enterprise by embracing diversity, recognizing that inclusion of a broad range of backgrounds and perspectives is critical to achieving robust intellectual dialogue.

E. Private-Sector Interface

The SFA may consult the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) to secure appropriate private sector advice and will recommend to the Committee on Science or the Assistant to the President for Science and Technology the nature of additional private-sector¹

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

advice needed to accomplish its mission. The SFA may also interact with and receive *ad hoc* advice from various private-sector groups consistent with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

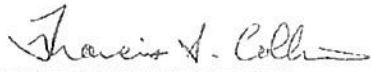
E. Termination Date

Unless renewed by the Co-chairs of the Committee on Science prior to its expiration, the SFA shall terminate no later than August 31, 2017.

F. Determination


I hereby determine that the establishment of the Subcommittee on Food and Agriculture 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:



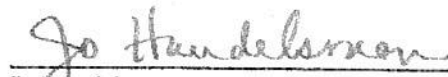
Francis Collins
Co-Chair of the CoS, and
Director, National Institutes of Health

4-28-16
Date



France Córdoba
Co-Chair of the CoS, and
Director, National Science Foundation

4-27-16
Date



Jo Handelsman
Co-Chair of the CoS, and
Associate Director for Science, Office of Science and Technology Policy

4/29/16
Date

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.