



CHARTER  
of the  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES  
COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE  
NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

**A. Official Designation**

The Subcommittee on International Issues (International Subcommittee) 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 International Subcommittee is to enhance coordination of Federal agencies' international science and technology (S&T) cooperation and partnerships.<sup>1</sup> The International Subcommittee will address long-term strategic engagement goals, policy issues related to high-value international collaboration, and short-term country- and issue-specific priorities. The International Subcommittee will serve as a forum to discuss Administration priorities and agency-level activities in support of those priorities.

**C. Functions**

The primary functions of the International Subcommittee are to:

1. Enhance communication among Federal agencies regarding U.S. Government international S&T activities to promote complementary efforts among Federal agencies, increase transparency and information sharing on S&T issues affecting national policy and security, encourage interagency collaboration, and leverage subject matter expertise across the Federal Government.<sup>2</sup>
2. Enhance international science, engineering, and technology cooperation between governments and facilitate the development, if necessary, of strategies for international science and technology engagement, as previously described in the President's 2010

---

<sup>1</sup> Cooperation and partnerships may include exchange of ideas, information, skills, and technologies; exchanges of scientists and technical experts; the convening of joint seminars, scientific conferences, and meetings; training and enhancing the skills of scientists and technical experts; access to world class infrastructures; and the conduct of joint research projects and programs.

<sup>2</sup> This may include a comprehensive review of current international S&T activities, identification of engagement gaps and opportunities for collaboration, and establishment of a coordinated and cohesive strategy to produce measurable results. This Subcommittee's functions do not supersede any Department or Agency statutory or regulatory authority.

National Security Strategy<sup>3</sup> and by the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST).<sup>4</sup>

3. Initiate the development of a policy-coordination process to identify opportunities for, and address barriers to, increased international S&T cooperation.
4. Coordinate interagency outreach and strategic communication activities regarding international S&T cooperation, consistent with the participating agencies' communications policies and directives.
5. Promote the use of science, technology, and innovation as tools for global development, security, and diplomacy.
6. Identify and initiate the process for approval of *ad hoc* Task Forces to advance short-term country- and issue-specific priorities.
7. Respond to topical requests from the CoS, as well as consider requests from other NSTC Committees and Subcommittees.

#### **D. Membership**

The following NSTC departments and agencies are represented on the International Subcommittee at the Deputy Assistant Secretary (or designee) level:

Department of Agriculture;  
Department of Commerce;  
Department of Defense;  
Department of Energy;  
Department of Health and Human Services;  
Department of Homeland Security;  
Department of the Interior;  
Department of Justice;  
Department of Labor;  
Department of State (Co-chair);  
Department of Transportation;  
Department of Treasury;  
Department of Veterans Affairs;  
Office of the Director of National Intelligence;  
Environmental Protection Agency;  
National Aeronautics and Space Administration; and  
National Science Foundation.

The following departments and agencies are also represented on the International Subcommittee:

U.S. Agency for International Development;  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission;  
Peace Corps; and  
U.S. Trade and Development Agency.

---

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/rss\\_viewer/national\\_security\\_strategy.pdf](http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/rss_viewer/national_security_strategy.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> Recommendation 3-5 in the November 2010 PCAST *Report to the President on Accelerating the Pace of Change in Energy Technologies Through an Integrated Federal Energy Policy*, p. 21.

The following organizations in the Executive Office of the President are also represented on the International Subcommittee:

National Security Staff;  
National Economic Council;  
Office of Management and Budget;  
Office of Science and Technology Policy (Co-chair); and  
Office of the Vice President.

Cooperating departments and agencies shall include other such Executive organizations, departments, and agencies as the Co-chairs may designate at their discretion.

While residing within the CoS, the International Subcommittee will support all NSTC Committees and Subcommittees on topics related to international S&T cooperation and partnerships. As such, Subcommittee Co-chairs will keep all NSTC Committees informed of its work, will solicit ideas for future discussion and action from all NSTC Committees, and will consider representation on the Subcommittee from all NSTC Committees. As needed and determined with consultation with the NSTC Executive Director, work products of the Subcommittee will be cleared through other Committees. Liaisons from all NSTC Committees are welcome to attend Subcommittee meetings.

#### **E. Private-Sector Interface**

The International Subcommittee may seek advice from members of the PCAST and will recommend to the NSTC Committees requesting its support and/or the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy the nature of additional private-sector advice<sup>5</sup> needed to accomplish its mission. The International Subcommittee may also interact with and receive *ad hoc* advice from various private-sector groups consistent with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

#### **F. Termination Date**

Unless renewed by the Co-chairs of the CoS prior to its expiration, the International Subcommittee shall terminate no later than June 30, 2017.

#### **G. Determination**

I hereby determine that the establishment of the Subcommittee on Topics in International Science, Technology, and Innovation 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.

---

<sup>5</sup> 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, etc.

Approved:



Jo Handelsman  
Co-chair, Committee on Science, and  
Associate Director for Science,  
Office of Science and Technology Policy

5/26/14

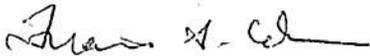
Date



France Córdoba  
Co-chair, Committee on Science, and  
Director,  
National Science Foundation

3-31-16

Date



Francis Collins  
Co-chair, Committee on Science, and  
Director, National Institutes of Health,  
Department of Health and Human Services

4/8/10

Date