



CHARTER
of the
SUBCOMMITTEE ON GLOBAL INTERNET GOVERNANCE
COMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY
NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

A. Official Designation

The Subcommittee on Global Internet Governance (GIG) is hereby established by action of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), Committee on Technology (CoT).

B. Purpose and Scope

The Internet is an essential aspect of today's global economy and a vital medium for social and political discourse. In order to ensure its continued success, the United States is deeply committed to preserving and enhancing the multi-stakeholder approach to Internet policymaking that is largely responsible for the Internet's openness and decentralized development. The Internet has thrived because of a growing set of multi-stakeholder organizations in which the private sector, civil society, technical organizations, and governments each participate in shaping the Internet's technical, administrative, and policy direction. There are, however, a number of nations and institutions that seek to replace or supersede these successful Internet institutions and create, instead, mechanisms for intergovernmental control over the Internet. The United States must respond to these efforts in a coordinated and assertive manner. The purpose of the GIG is to consider U.S. efforts in various international fora that bolster the multi-stakeholder approach to Internet governance, support the continuity of existing Internet institutions, and confront proposals detrimental to the multi-stakeholder model.

The GIG recommendations will be used as policy guidance for existing preparatory processes for relevant international bodies and venues, such as the Domain Name System interagency working group (DNS-USG) and the International Telecommunication Advisory Committee (ITAC) for the 2012 World Conference on International Telecommunication (WCIT-12). The GIG will coordinate closely with the NSTC Subcommittee on Privacy and the Information Communications Infrastructure Interagency Policy Coordination Committee (ICI-IPC), specifically the Cyber International sub-IPC, as needed.

While the GIG will generally operate according to a consensus-based process, the Cyber Interagency Policy Coordination Committee (Cyber-IPC) will serve to adjudicate matters on which the group is unable to reach consensus.

C. Functions

Drawing on experience and expertise across the Federal government, the GIG will:

1. Review the global Internet policymaking landscape and develop policy recommendations that further the multi-stakeholder model.
2. Articulate legal, economic, and factual support for key Internet policy discussions.
3. Recommend strategies for the Administration's engagement in international fora, such as:
 - a. The Internet Governance Forum (IGF),
 - b. The International Telecommunication Union (ITU),
 - c. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and
 - d. The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN).

D. Membership

The following Federal departments and agencies are represented on the GIG:

Department of Commerce (Co-chair);
Department of Defense;
Department of Homeland Security;
Department of Justice;
Department of State (Co-chair);
Department of the Treasury;
Director of National Intelligence;
Federal Communications Commission (*ex officio*);
Federal Trade Commission (*ex officio*); and
National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

The following organizations in the Executive Office of the President shall also be represented on the GIG:

Domestic Policy Council;
National Economic Council;
National Security Council and National Security Staff;
Office of Science and Technology Policy; and
United States Trade Representative.

Cooperating departments and agencies shall include other such Executive organizations, departments and agencies as the Co-chairs may, from time to time, designate.

E. Private-Sector Interface

The GIG may work with the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology to secure private-sector¹ advice and will recommend to the CoT and/or the Director of OSTP the nature of additional private-sector advice needed to accomplish its mission. The GIG 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

This charter shall terminate no later than March 7, 2014, unless renewed by the Chair of the CoT prior to its expiration.

G. Determination

I hereby determine that the formation of the Subcommittee on Global Internet Governance 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:



Thomas C. Power

Chair, Committee on Technology, and
Deputy Chief Technology Officer of the United States for Telecommunications
Office of Science and Technology Policy

4/06/12

Date