



## **CHARTER of the COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE**

### **NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL**

The Committee on Science (COS) is hereby reestablished by action of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC). The NSTC, a Cabinet-level council, is the principal means for the President to coordinate science and technology policies across the Federal Government.

#### Purpose and Scope

The purpose of the COS is to advise and assist the NSTC, with emphasis on those federally supported efforts that develop new knowledge in the sciences, mathematics, and engineering. The COS will address significant national and international policy, program, and budget matters that cut across agency boundaries and shall provide a formal mechanism for interagency science policy development, coordination, and information exchange.

The Committee will act to improve the coordination of all Federal efforts in science. This includes creating balanced and comprehensive R&D programs, establishing structures to improve the way the Federal government plans and coordinates R&D, and advising the Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy, and the Director, Office of Management and Budget, on R&D budget crosscuts and priorities.

#### Functions

The COS is part of the internal deliberative process of the NSTC under Executive Order 12881. Reporting to and directed by the Chairman of NSTC, the COS will:

- Establish and implement a process for national science policy planning, coordination, and communication among Federal agencies engaged in scientific, mathematical, or engineering research or its application to education, health, agriculture, transportation, energy, and environmental management;
- Review and advise on Federal policy, programs and issues in international science, including, planning, communication, coordination, and technical assistance;
- Identify and recommend Federal priorities in science, mathematics and engineering R&D and

- develop options for Federal R&D budget crosscuts; and
- Facilitate NSTC clearance of documents generated by interagency groups that are established under its aegis.

The COS Co-Chairs, consistent with the Committee's endorsement, will recommend action on major R&D issues to the Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy, for approval.

### Membership

The following NSTC departments and agencies are represented on the COS at the Assistant Secretary level or Deputy Assistant Secretary level or above:

Department of State  
Department of Defense  
Department of the Interior  
Department of Agriculture  
Department of Commerce  
Department of Labor  
Department of Health and Human Services  
Department of Homeland Security  
Department of Transportation  
Department of Energy  
Department of Education  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
Department of Justice  
National Science Foundation  
National Institutes of Health  
National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Smithsonian Institution

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

Office of Management and Budget  
Office of Science and Technology Policy  
Office of the Vice President  
Domestic Policy Council  
National Economic Council  
Council on Environmental Quality

Cooperating departments and agencies shall include the Department of Housing and Urban Development and other such Executive organizations, departments and agencies as the co-chairs

may, from time to time, designate.

Private Sector Interface

The COS may seek advice from members of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology and will recommend to the Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy, the nature of additional private sector advice needed to accomplish its mission. The COS may also interact with and receive *ad hoc* advice from various private-sector groups as consistent with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

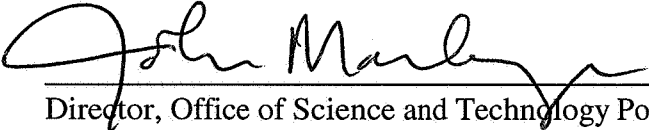
Termination Date

This charter shall terminate no later than March 31, 2009 unless renewed by the Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy.

Determination

I hereby determine that the formation of the Committee on Science 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:

  
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Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy

5/30/06  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date