



RESEARCH
AND ENGINEERING

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3030

15 DEC 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEFENSE INNOVATION BOARD

SUBJECT: Terms of Reference – National Defense Science & Technology Strategy Review

The United States' edge in technology and innovation has long underpinned our nation's military advantage. Technology is central to today's geopolitical competition and to the future of our national security, economy, and democracy. Amid intensifying technological competition, the Department of Defense (DoD) must ensure it is able to set the foundation today to ensure enduring advantages for defense scientific discovery, research, and development. We must also ensure rapid pathways to experimentation and adoption of technologies from both the commercial and defense innovation ecosystem. Additionally, in keeping with the tenets of the National Defense Strategy, we recognize that we cannot do so alone. Accordingly, it is critical the Department prioritizes investments, fuels research, and development of critical science and technology (S&T) that will provide advanced capabilities, enhances S&T cooperation with Allies and partners, and ensures it is able to adopt, transition, and scale mission-critical technologies to the warfighter at speed.

Section 211 of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) directs *“the Secretary of Defense [to] develop a strategy— (1) to articulate the science and technology priorities, goals, and investments of the Department of Defense; (2) to make recommendations on the future of the defense research and engineering enterprise and its continued success in an era of strategic competition; and (3) to establish an integrated approach to the identification, prioritization, development, and fielding of emerging capabilities and technologies.”*

Therefore, I am establishing a task force on the Defense Innovation Board (the Board) to provide advice and recommendations on the ongoing National Defense Science & Technology Strategy review. Specifically, the Board should review and make recommendations on the following:

- Adequacy of the National Defense Science & Technology Strategy to fulfill the NDAA Section 211 requirement and National Defense Strategy priorities.

The Task Force shall submit its independent assessment and recommendations through the Emerging Science & Technology subcommittee to the full Board for its thorough consideration and deliberation at a properly noticed public meeting unless the meeting must be closed to the public pursuant to one or more of the Government in the Sunshine Act exemptions. The Board shall submit its recommendations to the Secretary of Defense within 180 days of task force member appointments.

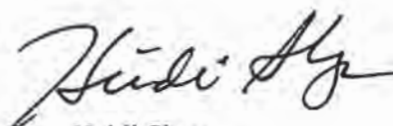
In support of this Terms of Reference (ToR) and the work conducted in response to it, the Board and the Task Force have my full support to meet with Department leaders. The Board staff, on behalf of the Board and the Task Force, may request the Office of the Secretary of

Defense and DoD Component Heads to timely furnish any requested information, assistance, or access to personnel to the Board or the Task Force. All requests shall be consistent with applicable laws; applicable security classifications; DoD Instruction 5105.04, "Department of Defense Federal Advisory Committee Management Program," dated August 6, 2007; and this ToR. As special government employee members of a DoD federal advisory committee, the Board and the Task Force members will not be given any access to DoD networks, to include DoD email systems.

Once material is provided to the Board and the Task Force, it becomes a permanent part of the Board's records. All data/information provided is subject to public inspection unless the originating Component office properly marks the data/information with the appropriate classification and Freedom of Information Act exemption categories before the data/information is released to the Board. The Board has physical storage capability and electronic storage and communications capability on both the unclassified and classified networks to support receipt of material up to the Secret level.

The Board and the Task Force will operate in conformity with and pursuant to the Board's charter, the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the Government in the Sunshine Act, and other applicable Federal statutes and regulations. The Task Force and individual Board members do not have the authority to make decisions or provide recommendations on behalf of the Board nor report directly to any Federal representative. The members of the Task Force and the Boards are subject to certain Federal ethics laws, including 18 U.S. Code § 208, governing conflicts of interest, and the Standards of Ethical Conduct regulations in 5 C.F.R., Part 2635.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and support to this critical undertaking to inform Department decisions on the National Defense Science & Technology Strategy.



Heidi Shyu

cc:

Senior Pentagon Leadership
Directors of Defense Agencies
Directors of DoD Field Activities