USCIB’s ICT Policy Committee

2020 Goals and Objectives

Venues of Import

OECD

- **Going Digital Project Phase II**— Actively provide written inputs through Business at OECD (BIAC) aimed at shaping Phase II to ensure alignment with USCIB interests. This will include developing guidance to implement the Going Digital Integrated Policy Framework, crafting a useful Going Digital Toolkit, influencing thematic work on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Blockchain, and working to ensure that the OECD’s follow-on projects focused on digital platforms are factually accurate, analytically sound, and constructively contribute to global discussions about platform-related policy issues.

  - **AI Pillar** – Provide member input to guide development of an AI Observatory that is user-friendly and provides business-informed guidance on implementing the 2019 OECD AI Principles. Complement this with member expertise to shape follow-on analytical work on AI that presents an accurate portrayal of the technology’s potential uses, impact on jobs/skills, and other implications.

  - At the OECD, UN forums, and discussions with EU officials and EU parliamentarians, encourage a self-regulatory approach to AI and discourage premature government regulation.

  - **Blockchain Pillar** – Coordinate with USCIB’s Banking Committee as needed to provide industry expertise to enhance understanding about blockchain technology and how it may be used and promote USCIB speakers for the annual Global Blockchain Policy Forum.


- **Review of OECD 2013 Privacy Guidelines** – Assume role as BIAC “lead,” actively providing written inputs and verbal interventions to ensure that the 5-year review does not skew the framework toward data localization, restrictions on data transfer, or disproportionate fines and penalties.

- **Review of OECD 2015 Security Guidelines** – Secure USCIB member participation in the Experts Group that will be convened to review the 2015 Guidelines. Actively provide written inputs and verbal interventions focused on good practices in implementing the Guidelines and the importance of public-private partnerships.

- **Technology Foresight Forums/Special Workshop** – Working through BIAC, advocate for a Technology Foresight Forum or Special Workshop or event for OECD Ambassadors that would explore how emerging technologies are influencing the future of mobility and transport. Secure speaking roles for USCIB members from companies using such applications, such as Cruise, Uber, Google and others.
European Union

- Actively monitor implementation of EU President Ursula von der Leyen’s statement of policy priorities, focusing on (1) development of regulations for AI, 5G, and Blockchain and (2) provisions of a likely Digital Services Act (DSA) that could affect USCIB members’ business operations in the EU.
- Develop and update statements on digital policy priorities as developments in the EU evolve.
- Closely coordinate with members’ Brussels offices on any on-the-ground advocacy and/or dissemination of written advocacy statements.
- Liaise with the European Commission Mission in Washington, DC and EU Parliament Liaison Office in Washington, DC to share digital policy priorities and schedule meetings for USCIB members with visiting EU officials and parliamentarians.

Saudi Arabia G20/B20

- Ensure consistency between USCIB contributions to the OECD digital work, ICC initiatives, and USCIB inputs to the Saudi Arabia B20 work on the digital economy so that the work of all forums complements each other and supports USCIB member interests.
- Provide strong language opposing possible efforts of Saudi Arabia to promote in the G20 statement (1) a multilateral cybersecurity regime and/or (2) a multilateral agreement that would undermine human rights protections online.

United States G7/B7

- Provide USCIB member inputs to the development of a B7 statement that promotes USCIB digital economy policy priorities.
- Engage with the U.S. Government to shape its contributions to the G7 statement so that it aligns with USCIB priorities in the B7 statement.

ICANN

- Work through the ICANN Business Constituency (BC) to help guide ICANN’s efforts to reconcile WHOIS policies and registry/registrar contractual requirements with the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in manner that ensures GDPR compliance but also preserves the benefits to DNS users, law enforcement, and consumers of access to the WHOIS database.
- Leveraging USCIB’s position as the ICANN Business Constituency’s representative to the Commercial Stakeholders Group (CSG), coordinate with the other CSG constituencies to ensure alignment on policy work undertaken by the Generic Names Support Organization (GNSO).
- Monitor and engage where necessary on plans aimed at improving the effectiveness of ICANN’s multistakeholder governing framework.

United Nations

- United Nations 75th Anniversary/Digital Declaration – Leverage USCIB’s ECOSOC consultative status to provide business inputs aimed at influencing development of a “Digital Declaration,” to be issued on September 22, 2020, which supports members’ interests.
  o Remain engaged with the office of Ambassador Fabrizio Hochschild, which is coordinating the UN 75th anniversary effort and overseeing drafting of “Digital Declaration.”
- High Level Panel on Digital Cooperation (HLPDC): The HLPDC Secretariat will create ad hoc multistakeholder “coalitions of the willing” to implement recommendations of the HLPDC Final

- USCIB will take advantage of opportunities to provide written comments and verbal interventions in support of expanding the capabilities of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) in a manner that improves upon the HLPDC’s proposed IGF-Plus mechanism for digital cooperation.

**Other UN Fora:**
- Monitor developments at the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) and provide comments as appropriate to inform drafting of the report of the ITU Secretary-General for the World Telecommunication/Information and Communication Policy Forum (WTPF), which will be held in mid-May 2021.
- Provide comments or other engagement where members identify additional ITU processes or fora where USCIB participation would be impactful to achieve USCIB’s policy positions, such as at the 2020 World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), where USCIB resources allow.
- Leverage USCIB’s accreditation to the multistakeholder UN Open-Ended Working Group on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security (OEWG) to create greater awareness with governments and other stakeholders about what business is doing to improve cybersecurity.
- Engage with the U.S. Government (USG) to shape its position in the governments-only U.N. Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security (GGE), which will operate on a track parallel to the multistakeholder OEWG.

**Topics of Particular Import**

**Privacy**
- Work to ensure that privacy regulations do not impede cross-border data flows, prove to be overly burdensome to business operations, or hamper innovation.
- Contribute expertise to the OECD’s Privacy Guidelines Experts Group (PGEG) to ensure that efforts to update the 2013 OECD Privacy Framework support members’ interests.
- Pursue Guest Status in the APEC Digital Economy Steering Group and leverage that presence to promote regulatory interoperability and expand country and company participation in the APEC Cross-Border Privacy Rules system.
- Provide supportive, constructive comments on the operation of EU-US Privacy Shield Framework in anticipation of the 4th anniversary.

**Cybersecurity**
- Support voluntary, risk-based approaches to cybersecurity, incorporating standards developed by global organizations through bottom-up, multistakeholder processes.
- Support capacity-building initiatives aimed at promoting and enabling development of voluntary, risk-based approaches to cybersecurity.
- Leverage USCIB’s accreditation to the multistakeholder UN Open-Ended Working Group on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security (OEWG) to create greater awareness with governments and other stakeholders about what business is doing to improve cybersecurity.
Engage with the U.S. Government (USG) to shape its position in the governments-only U.N. Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security (GGE), share information and reinforce pro-business messaging at the OEWG, and provide inputs to USG concerning other global cybersecurity dialogues.
  o As meetings of the APEC Telecommunications and Information Working Group (APEC TEL) become more synchronized with the Senior Officials Meetings, pursue USCIB Guest Status in the APEC-TEL, engage with USG to promote members’ security interests, and secure speaking roles for USCIB members in APEC TEL security-related workshops.

Working through BIAC, promote USCIB member participation in an Experts Group that will review the OECD’s 2015 Security Guidelines to ensure that it continues to promote broader international adoption of the National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework as updated.

**Artificial Intelligence (AI)**

- Working through BIAC, facilitate USCIB member inputs to guide development of an OECD AI Observatory that is user friendly and provides business-informed guidance on implementing the 2019 OECD AI Principles.
- Complement the above with member expertise to shape follow-on analytical work on AI that presents an accurate portrayal of the technology’s potential uses, impact on jobs/skills, and other implications.
- Inform the development of an approach to AI ethics that builds consumer trust while also enabling continuing innovation.
- Closely coordinate with members’ Brussels offices on any on-the-ground advocacy and/or dissemination of written advocacy statements focused on the EU’s stated ambition of developing an AI regulation.
- At the OECD, UN forums, and discussions with EU officials and parliamentarians, encourage a self-regulatory approach to AI and discourage premature government regulation.
- Promote speaking roles and substantive contributions at OECD and other global meetings for the entire ecosystem of industry representatives developing and applying AI.

**Internet Governance**

- Work to improve the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) while maintaining its essence as a forum for open dialogue on Internet governance issues that upholds the multistakeholder model.
  o Take advantage of opportunities to provide written comments and verbal interventions in support of expanding the capabilities of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) in a manner that improves upon the HLPDC’s proposed IGF-Plus mechanism for digital cooperation.
- Pursue collaboration with the Internet Society and ICANN on Internet governance issues considered at UN-HQ through regular teleconferences and development of joint statements as appropriate.
- Develop at least one IGF Workshop on a topic determined by members.

**Emerging Technologies**

- Promote policymaker awareness of the benefits of a “human-centric” approach to
developing emerging technologies, such as “edge computing,” Artificial Intelligence (AI), the Internet of Things (IoT) and Machine-to Machine (M2M) technologies.

- Work collaboratively with policymakers to ensure a market that promotes sustainable investment and innovation throughout the digital ecosystem.

**Online Platforms**

- Monitor policy work on online platforms in the OECD (e.g., data access, data portability, platform business models), the IGF, and other venues and be prepared to engage as members deem best to ensure polices and regulations that enable a range of businesses to invest, innovate, and serve their customers/users.

**Growth of International Infrastructure and Connectivity**

- As resources allow, take advantage of opportunities identified by members where USCIB action can be impactful, to support favorable policy environments for infrastructure and technologies used for global connectivity and cross-border data flows and customer services, especially in the face of restrictions on data flows and facilities and regulation of cloud and other emerging cross-border services.
- Depending on member interest and identification of appropriate venues/opportunities, include text that highlights the contribution of such infrastructure, connectivity, and data services provided by U.S. International businesses (among others) to economic development and comprehensive availability of innovative services.

**Cross-Border Data Flows and Digital Trade Market Access**

- Coordinating with USCIB’s Trade and Investment Committee, as appropriate, oppose national mandates for the localization of data or ICT equipment.
- Working with USCIB’s Trade and Investment Committee to ensure alignment of messaging, advocate to maximize cross-border data flows and open markets for ICTs in the following international forums that will address digital trade, the digital economy, and/or e-commerce in 2020: the OECD, UNCTAD, APEC Digital Economy Steering Group (DESG); B20 USA; and the WTO.
- Coordinating with USCIB’s Trade and Investment Committee and Customs and Trade Facilitation Committee, work to elevate USCIB profile and promotion of member interests at annual UNCTAD E-Commerce for Development meetings.
- Compile and build consensus on USCIB submission to annual NTE/Section 1377 report, focusing on Section 1377 (telecommunications market barriers) inputs. Complement this written product by engaging USTR both on enforcement of market access commitments, and on pursuit of new market access opportunities.