

## NSTIC Initiation

### First Report to Plenary

#### Overarching themes:

- 1) There might require a difference between how NSTIC is started up at initiation and how governance is established in the intermediate and long term.
  - a. Smaller steering body ["Tiger Team"] to get things started
  - b. Will definitely change over time but there are risks to the small size
- 2) Strong attention must be paid to perception of all actions by NSTIC, at initiation and in the intermediate and long term.

There is not universal consensus on these two points, but wide agreement that these are key issues.

[The following comments were made by one or more participants of the initiation work group. These points are not consensus or majority agreed concepts except where noted.]

#### Key Requirements

- 1) Government at initiation could set timeline and rhythm/pace of activity to ensure rapid pace is adhered to.
- 2) A wide spectrum of stakeholders need to be on board.
- 3) Some board members should be able to bring investment to support innovation, both money and users/market.
- 4) Iterative develop may be required [this is the typical method for a successful internet service or internet business]
- 5) We need to create an organization that will behave in an independent manner in practice to do the right thing.

#### Recommendations

- 1) Stakeholders need to represent a class of key participants via directors who will also serve to push the national strategy in addition to representing the interests of their class. [Majority position]
- 2) As to form of organization (the question from the NSTIC NOI):
  - a. Blank page organization is needed to ensure broadest possible participation. [Majority position]
  - b. Initiate using existing stakeholder organization. [Minority position]
- 3) To accelerate the process of establishing a governance structure, we could adopt a successful existing governance model from ANSI, Oasis or other standards group. These principles might usefully include:
  - a. All stakeholders can join with a nominal fee;
  - b. Active participation required;
  - c. ANSI manages it.
- 4) Form a non-profit corporation (a 501c3) to manage NSTIC:
  - a. Expenses of the standards management body are likely to exceed expenses;
  - b. At the start contemplate having the ability to form one or more for profit subsidiaries to provide value added services across the NSTIC infrastructure;

- c. Business cases exist for many services where revenues will exceed expenses, and this will require a for profit structure underneath the non-profit governance board.
- 5) Consider having role playing committee (to conduct table top exercises) to consider ecosystem negative actors such as hackers:
  - a. What role do they play?
  - b. What are their incentives?
  - c. How would we effectively deal with them?
- 6) Having a specific technical model “straw man” might help start the effort.
- 7) Archive comments
- 8) Consider using crowdsourcing software (such as WhyNot?)
- 9) Does steering group have to be all powerful versus a small group that just liaises with other key existing groups?
- 10) Could the Steering Committee manage all contractual work and outsource all but the management of those contractors.

#### Prioritizing Issues

- 1) Consider a small appointed group under FACA for a limited timeline to kick start the effort to ensure rapid progress is made.
  - a. This group would have to be committed to a significant donation of their time;
  - b. This group would have to be very representative.
- 2) Public perception of the initial group is key/critical.

#### International Considerations

- 1) Establishing a liaison committee of international representatives in the intermediate term would be useful and it should be given agenda time at the steering committee meetings to provide feedback and input. [Majority position.]
- 2) The Steering Group should have some international representation. [Minority position.]
- 3) International input should be required in a step past initiation. [Majority position.]
- 4) This effort is a U.S. effort that needs to reach out and learn from overseas experiences. [Majority position.]
- 5) Foreign governments and their intelligence community do have the major role overseas unlike the U.S.
- 6) U.S. effort could expand overseas or be set up dually, domestically and international from the start. [Minority position.]

#### Key Unanswered Questions

- 1) Does the Steering Group need to address all the potential functions it could have?
  - a. Do they need to have that Day 1?
  - b. Do they need to have that ultimately?
  - c. Would they instead be able to hand off some responsibilities
- 2) Would going after a subset of trust frameworks lead to more success versus an all encompassing effort? [Minority position.]
- 3) Do we need a Steering Committee Day 1 or could we instead just use crowdsourcing to quickly stand up the organization? [Minority position.]
- 4) We must have a Steering Committee to ensure large entity capture doesn't occur. Neutrality towards best outcomes is important.

- 5) “Uphold guidelines” – What does it mean in practice?
- 6) What would be the attributes of members?
  - a. Time commitments?
  - b. Activities?
  - c. Quality of their work (there is a trade off between fidelity and accuracy )?

#### Role of Government

- 1) Government needs to ensure that the guiding principles are adhered to.
- 2) In other standards bodies, a good role for government has been to serve as Vice Chair or Chair of subcommittees to ensure agenda isn't hijacked and guiding principles are adhered to.
- 3) Government could determine:
  - a. Which groups have representation at the Steering Committee;
  - b. Which individuals are appointed initially on the Steering Committee.
- 4) Government may need to guarantee liability issues at some level to make the program a success.

#### Other Major Topics

- 1) Use crowdsourcing software to get the best ideas on the table and to gauge the true level of support for each idea from the members of NSTIC.
- 2) Need excellent communication/outreach to ensure bridges are built to key constituencies.
- 3) Need to have a mitigation to ensure large corporate interests don't subvert the committee, initially or down the road. We will need the right structure from the beginning.
- 4) Do all trust frameworks have to interoperate? One answer: No, all trust frameworks must operate under a common framework so that individual identities held by different trust frameworks can be consumed.
- 5) Should we do an RFP?
- 6) Should the Steering Committee be set up under a SDO (Standards Development Organization).