



Coordinating Committee: Report to ACDEB on Decision-making Standards

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Overview of Kickoff Discussion

Coordinating Committee's Positions

- As we move from fact-finding to making recommendations, both the Advisory Committee and its subcommittees will need to make decisions. Examples could include recommendations about:
 - NSDS technical architecture
 - The range of services the NSDS might offer federal, state, and local government
 - How law, regulation, and guidance might be shaped to support evidence building
 - Approaches for privacy protection or ensuring confidentiality
- Today, we present a *general model* for decision-making that we believe is principle-based, transparent, and gives equal voice to all perspectives.
- We believe it is applicable to decisions at the Advisory Committee and subcommittee level, and we welcome your feedback.

Decision-making Proposal (1 of 2)

General Model for Advisory and Subcommittees

- **Briefly.** When deciding between two or more options, each individual committee member will rank order their choices based upon a set of shared, mutually agreed-upon criteria. The most favorably ranked option overall will prevail.
- **Step 1.** Prior to developing options in response to a given decision, the committee will agree upon the criteria they will use to rank potential solutions. A set of “generic” criteria will be promulgated by the coordinating committee.
- **Step 2.** When a decision is to be made, committees will have a robust discussion of each option, with an opportunity to explore solutions relative to the decision-making criteria.
- **Step 3.** Each committee member individually ranks options based upon the agreed-upon criteria.
- **Step 4.** Rankings for each option are averaged across all members, with the most favorably ranked option being selected. In the case of a tie, the committee will go back to Step 2 and reconsider only the tied options.

Decision-making Proposal (2 of 2)

Example Criteria: Selecting Pilots to Demonstrate Potential of a NSDS

- **Criterion 1 – Value proposition to stakeholders.** *To what extent does the option have the potential to lead to a solution given timeliness and saliency for key stakeholders?*
- **Criterion 2 – Technical feasibility.** *To what extent is the option feasible given existing or planned technology?*
- **Criterion 3 – Resource feasibility.** *To what extent are necessary resources, including people, time, and money, available to implement the option?*
- **Criterion 4 – Privacy and legal considerations.** *To what extent is the solution free of significant concerns related to personal privacy, law, or regulation?*

Other criteria could be adopted by the ACDEB or subcommittees as needed to evaluate their options, but all criteria must be specified a priori and have an agreed upon definition.

Full Committee Discussion

Discussion Questions

- How likely is it this model will yield high-quality decisions?
- How effectively does this model balance burdens vs. benefits?
- How likely is it this model will work for the range of issues confronting the group?