1. The Advisory Committee’s Official Designation

The official designation of this federal advisory committee is the “Downloadable Security Technical Advisory Committee” (DSTAC).

2. Authority

The DSTAC is hereby established at the direction of the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) and in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) as amended, 5 U.S.C., App. 2 and the STELA Reauthorization Act of 2014.

3. The Advisory Committee’s Objective and Scope of its Activities

The STELA Reauthorization Act of 2014 (hereinafter “Act”) requires the establishment of a working group of technical experts that represent a wide range of stakeholders to identify, report, and recommend performance objectives, technical capabilities, and technical standards of a not unduly burdensome, uniform, and technology- and platform-neutral software-based downloadable security system to promote the competitive availability of navigation devices in furtherance of Section 629 of the Communications Act. To accomplish this, the DSTAC is hereby chartered pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. 2).

The DSTAC shall be comprised of key technical representatives from the following groups - MVPDs, consumer electronics manufacturers, content companies and public interest groups). The Act requires the DSTAC to file a report with the Commission by September 4, 2015 identifying, reporting, and making recommendations for performance objectives, technical capabilities, and technical standards of a not unduly burdensome, uniform and technology-and platform neutral software-based downloadable security system.
4. Description of Duties

In keeping with its advisory role, the duties of the DSTAC will be to gather data and information and to perform those analyses that are necessary to make recommendations on the questions or matters before it and to provide a report to the Commission not later than September 4, 2015. The initial meeting of the Advisory Committee shall take place not later than March 4, 2015, pursuant to the Act.

5. Official to Whom the Advisory Committee Reports

As provided by the Act, the Advisory Committee reports to the Chairman of the Commission.

6. Support

The Commission will provide the facilities and support staff necessary to conduct meetings of the DSTAC. Advisory Committee members will not be compensated for their services. The Commission will, however, pay costs associated with the provision of reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities when such costs are directly associated with the conduct of the Committee’s meetings, or are directly associated with the conduct of subcommittee meetings. Some examples of reasonable accommodations include sign language interpreters, meeting agendas produced in Braille, and communication access real-time translation services (CART) to ensure that meetings are accessible to members with disabilities, if any, and the public.

7. Estimated Annual Operating Costs in Dollars and Staff Years

Annual operating costs associated with supporting the DSTAC’s functions are estimated to be $350,000, which includes Commission staff time equivalent to 2.75 FTE's.

8. Designated Federal Officer

A full-time or permanent part-time employee, appointed by the Chairman of the Commission, will serve as the Designated Federal Officer (DFO). The DFO will approve or call all of the Committee’s meetings, prepare and approve all meeting agendas, attend all committee meetings, adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest, and chair meetings when directed to do so by the Chairman.
9. Estimated Number and Frequency of Advisory Committee Meetings

The DSTAC shall meet at least once a month until the required report is filed with the Commission.

10. Duration

The Commission will review the accomplishments and activities of the DSTAC to determine whether, after 9 months, this charter should be renewed and the DSTAC should continue as a Federal Advisory Committee.

11. Termination

The DSTAC shall terminate one year from the date of this charter, unless renewed prior to the termination date.

12. Membership

Members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Commission in consultation with the Chairperson of the DSTAC and appropriate Commission staff. Members will be appointed either as Representatives or as Special Government Employees (SGEs) as necessary. Members will include representatives from the following groups: MVPDs, online video distributors, consumer electronics manufacturers, content companies, public interest groups, and academia. Together, these members will represent a balance of viewpoints that are necessary to address effectively the issues to be considered by the DSTAC. Members should be prepared to attend a minimum of one (1) meeting each month of the DSTAC, and are also expected to participate regularly in the deliberations of any subcommittees.

13. Subcommittees

The Advisory Committee is authorized to facilitate its work through informal subcommittees, which shall report their activities and recommendations to the Advisory Committee as a whole. It is anticipated that the work of subcommittees will be conducted primarily through telephone calls, e-mail correspondence, and e-mail discussion lists. Recommendations of any subcommittee must be reported to the Advisory Committee as a whole, and may not be treated as
recommendations of the DSTAC unless and until ratified by the full Advisory Committee (either as proposed or with modifications). Subcommittee members will have an initial and continuing obligation to disclose any interests in, or connections to, persons or entities who are, or will be, regulated by, or who have interests before the Commission.

14. Recordkeeping

Records of the proceedings will be kept, as required by applicable laws and regulations. All records of the Advisory Committee, its subcommittees, and any other subgroups of the DSTAC shall be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 26, Item 2 or other approved agency records disposition schedule. These records shall be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.

15. Filing Date

December 5, 2014