Charter

Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS)

A. Official Designation: Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS).

B. Objectives and Scope of Activities: The Committee shall provide the Secretary of Defense, through the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management Policy), (ASD (FMP)), with advice and recommendations on matters and policies relating to the recruitment and retention, treatment, employment, integration, and well-being of highly qualified professional women in the Armed Forces. In addition, the Committee shall provide advice and recommendations on family issues related to the recruitment and retention of a highly qualified professional military. To accomplish this mission, the Committee shall be composed of not more than 35 civilian members, representing an equitable distribution of demography, professional career fields, community service, and geography, and selected on the basis of their experience in the military, as a member of a military family, or with women's or family-related workforce issues. Members must be US citizens selected without regard to race, creed, gender, national origin, age, marital status or physically challenging conditions. Members are appointed by the Secretary of Defense, and shall serve as individuals and not as official representatives of any group or organization with which they may be affiliated. While the members serve at the pleasure of the Secretary of Defense, normally the term of membership is three years, with approximately one-third of the membership rotating annually. The members of the Committee shall serve without compensation, but may be allowed transportation and per diem for all Government-directed travel.

C. Period of Time Necessary for the Committee to Carry Out Its Purposes: Indefinite.

D. Official to Whom the Committee Reports: The Committee reports to the ASD (FMP), with functional responsibilities under the staff cognizance of the Military Director for DACOWITS and Women's Military Matters. The ASD (FMP) shall appoint a Designated Federal Officer (normally the Military Director) to approve or call each meeting, to approve the meeting agenda, to attend all meetings, and to chair meetings when so directed by the agency head. The officer so designated shall have the authority to adjourn any meeting of the Committee which is not considered to be in the public interest.

E. Agency Responsible for Providing Necessary Support: The ASD (FMP) provides such personnel, facilities, and other administrative support necessary for the performance of the Committee's functions.

F. Duties: The duties of the Committee include assisting the Secretary of Defense by advising on specified matters relating to the recruitment and retention, treatment, employment, integration, and well-being of highly qualified professional women in the Services. In addition, the Committee will advise on family issues related to the recruitment and retention of a highly qualified professional military. In carrying out its duties, the Committee serves as a conduit of information and advice to the Secretary of Defense on issues relating to the recruitment and retention, treatment, employment, integration, and well-being of highly qualified professional women and on family issues related to the recruitment and retention of a highly qualified professional military. Through its work, the Committee encourages public acceptance of military service as a citizenship responsibility and as a career field for qualified women in the Services. In addition, the Committee will actively promote family-related issues that will assist the Department in recruiting and retaining a highly qualified professional military.

G. Annual Operating Costs: It is estimated that the annual operating costs to support the Committee will not exceed $520,000, which includes staff support years, meetings, per diem and travel costs. The annual person-years of Federal staff support for the Committee will not exceed seven.

H. Number and Frequency of Committee Meetings: A minimum of two meetings shall be held annually.

I. Termination Date: The Committee shall terminate upon the completion of its mission or two years from the date this Charter is filed with the US Congress.

J. Filing Date:

APR 1 7 2002