



Office of Science and
Technology Policy



National Science
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MEMORANDUM TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ANTARCTIC BLUE RIBBON PANEL

FROM: John P. Holdren, Assistant to the President for Science and Technology and
Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy

Subra Suresh, Director, National Science Foundation

SUBJECT: Charge to the Blue Ribbon Panel

The Blue Ribbon Panel should assess the current U.S. Antarctic Program operations, logistics, and management and make recommendations on a long-term strategy to deliver an efficient and effective national research program for Antarctica and the Southern Ocean, informed by the recommendations of the National Research Council. To this end, the Panel should consider:

- the status and capabilities of the current U.S. Antarctic infrastructure;
- appropriate opportunities for international collaborations;
- the role of and future requirements for permanent stations, remote camps, mobile stations, ships, and aircraft support;
- the management and logistics support options required to support the projected scientific program; and,
- complementary R&D activities (e.g., satellite measurements, technology development, etc.) that would help make Antarctic activities even more productive and affordable over the long term.

The Panel is strongly encouraged to consider and recommend innovative operational and technological approaches to maximize the scientific impact of the U.S. program in a necessarily constrained budget environment.