

NASA Advisory Council Recommendation

NASA Information Technology Governance Document 2013-02-11 (ITIC-01)

Recommendation:

NASA should produce a clear and concise Information Technology (IT) governance document, including documented processes, policies, and organization roles and responsibilities. The framework should incorporate leading IT governance methods.

Major Reasons for Proposing the Recommendation:

- Clarifies expectations and roles of the Chief Information Officer (CIO) with buy-in from the Mission Directorates.
- Provides clear corporate responsibilities for the growing role of IT in mission development and success.
- Administration guidance is shifting: focus on oversight of IT projects and procurement of commodity IT software, equipment, and services to be applied across the Agency.

Consequences of No Action on the Recommendation:

- NASA continues to be criticized from oversight organizations in the Administration and Congress.
- Development of “highly specialized Mission IT” will miss opportunities to leverage from NASA-wide IT developments.

NASA Response:

NASA concurs with the recommendation and appreciates the interest the NASA Advisory Council is showing in IT governance. The NASA Administrator has stated that improving IT governance is a top priority for the Agency. The Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) is currently implementing eight recommendations provided by the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) in “Audit of NASA’s Information Technology Governance” (Assignment No. A-12-018-00). The Council recommendation aligns closely with the recommendations included in the OIG report. The OCIO will include this recommendation in its response to the OIG and will work closely with the IT Infrastructure Committee of the NASA Advisory Council to ensure it is responsive to the recommendation.

Enclosure