FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 17th, 2006

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OSTP UNVEILS FEDERAL PLAN FOR R&D TO STRENGTHEN SECURITY OF NATION'S IT INFRASTRUCTURE

The National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), a Cabinet-level Council that coordinates science and technology policies across the Federal Government, today released the *Federal Plan for Cyber Security and Information Assurance Research and Development.* This report sets out a framework for multi-agency coordination of Federal R&D investments in technologies that can better secure the interconnected computing systems, networks, and information that together make up the U.S. information technology (IT) infrastructure.

"This country's IT infrastructure – which includes not only the public Internet but also the networking and IT systems that control critical infrastructures ranging from power grids to emergency communications systems – is vital not only to our national and homeland security but to our economic security," said John H. Marburger III, Science Adviser to the President and Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy. "This report provides a blueprint for coordination of Federal R&D across agencies that will maximize the impact of investments in this key area of the national interest."

The *Federal Plan for Cyber Security and Information Assurance* outlines strategic objectives for coordinated Federal R&D in cyber security and information assurance (CSIA). The Plan presents a broad range of CSIA R&D technical topics and identifies those topics that are multi-agency technical and funding priorities. The Plan's findings and recommendations address R&D priority-setting, coordination, fundamental R&D, emerging technologies, roadmapping, and metrics. Together with commentaries about the CSIA R&D technical topics that describe their significance, the current state of the art, and gaps in current capabilities, these elements provide a baseline for implementing the Plan's recommendations.

The Plan was prepared by the Interagency Working Group (IWG) on Cyber Security and Information Assurance (CSIA), whose members represent more than 20 government organizations. The CSIA IWG operates under the auspices of the NSTC's Subcommittee on Infrastructure and Subcommittee on Networking and Information Technology Research and Development (NITRD). The *Federal Plan for Cyber Security and Information Assurance Research and Development* is available on the NITRD Program Web site: http://www.nitrd.gov/.

About the National Science and Technology Council
The National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) is the principal means for the President to coordinate science, space, and technology policy across the diverse parts of the Federal research and development enterprise. An important objective of the NSTC is the establishment of clear national goals for Federal science and technology investments in areas ranging from information technologies and health research, to improving transportation systems and strengthening fundamental research. The Council prepares R&D strategies that are coordinated across Federal agencies to form an investment package aimed at accomplishing multiple national goals.

About the Office of Science and Technology Policy
Congress established OSTP in 1976 with a broad mandate to advise the President and others within the Executive Office of the President on the impacts of science and technology on domestic and international affairs. The 1976 Act also authorizes OSTP to lead an interagency effort to develop and implement sound science and technology policies and budgets and to work with the private sector, state and local governments, the science and higher education communities, and other nations toward this end. The director of OSTP serves as co-chair of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology and oversees the NSTC on behalf of the President. For more information, visit: http://www.ostp.gov/