

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary  
(Santa Barbara, California)

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FACT SHEET

Economic Policy Council  
Domestic Policy Council

In order to provide better policy coordination, formulation and implementation, the President today announced the creation of two new cabinet-level councils, the Economic Policy Council and the Domestic Policy Council, to advise him on economic and domestic policy issues.

The Economic Policy Council will consider those policy issues that are primarily economic in nature; the Domestic Policy Council will consider those policy issues that are not primarily economic in nature.

These new councils build on the President's commitment to cabinet government and to the inclusion of department and agency heads in the Administration's decision-making process.

General Features

The streamlined, consolidated system will help clarify responsibility and enhance accountability for formulating and implementing economic and domestic policy.

- o The two new councils will replace the following:

- Cabinet Council on Commerce and Trade
- Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs
- Cabinet Council on Food and Agriculture
- Cabinet Council on Human Resources
- Cabinet Council on Legal Policy
- Cabinet Council on Management and Administration
- Cabinet Council on Natural Resources and the Environment
- Senior Interagency Group on International Economic Policy

- o The Economic Policy Council, the Domestic Policy Council and the National Security Council will serve as the primary channels for advising the President on policy.

- o The Vice President and the Chief of Staff will serve ex-officio members of both the Economic and Domestic Policy Councils.

- o Executive department and agency heads who are not members of a council will be invited to attend the Council's meetings when issues involving their department or agency are under consideration.

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### Economic Policy Council

The increasing interrelatedness of the U.S. and international economies illustrates the importance of establishing a process that will examine economic issues in a comprehensive integrated way. The Economic Policy Council will provide the President with a single entity to advise him on domestic and international economic policy.

#### Membership

The Secretary of State  
The Secretary of the Treasury  
The Secretary of Agriculture  
The Secretary of Commerce  
The Secretary of Labor  
Director, Office of Management and Budget  
The United States Trade Representative  
Chairman, Council of Economic Advisors

Heads of the national security community departments and agencies and the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs will participate in council meetings when international policy or budget matters are discussed.

#### Chairmanship

The President will chair meetings of the Economic Policy Council. In his absence, the Secretary of the Treasury, who will serve as Chairman Pro Tempore, will preside at meetings of the Council.

#### Responsibilities

The Council will have the responsibility for advising the President on all aspects of national and international economic policy, and for overseeing the coordination and implementation of the Administration's economic policies.

#### Staff

The staff of the Council shall be headed by an Executive Secretary who will report to the Chief of Staff through the Cabinet Secretary.

Like the current cabinet councils, the Economic Policy Council will rely heavily on interagency subcabinet level Working Groups. This will enable it to utilize fully the expertise and resources of the departments and agencies, and to provide a structure through which departmental initiatives can be considered fully.

### Domestic Policy Council

The Domestic Policy Council will provide the President with a single entity to advise him on domestic and social policy. By focusing decision making and advice through a single channel for domestic policy issues, this will enhance the prospects for developing such policies in a comprehensive and integrated way.

#### Membership

The Attorney General  
The Secretary of the Interior  
The Secretary of Health and Human Services  
The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development  
The Secretary of Transportation  
The Secretary of Energy  
The Secretary of Education  
Director, Office of Management and Budget

### Chairmanship

The President will chair meetings of the Domestic Policy Council. In his absence, the Attorney General, who will serve as Chairman Pro Tempore, will preside at meetings of the Council.

### Responsibilities

The Council will have responsibility for advising the President on all aspects of domestic policy issues, and for overseeing the coordination and implementation of the Administration's domestic policies.

### Staff

The staff of the Council shall be headed by an Executive Secretary who will report to the Chief of Staff through the Cabinet Secretary.

Like the current cabinet councils, the Domestic Policy Council will rely heavily on interagency subcabinet level Working Groups. This will enable it to fully utilize the expertise and resources of the departments and agencies, and to provide a structure through which departmental initiatives can be considered fully.

### Overall Coordination

The White House Chief of Staff will have responsibility for ensuring that the activities of the National Security Council, the Economic Policy Council, and the Domestic Policy Council are fully coordinated. He will also have the responsibility for assigning topics to a particular Council.

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