MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION

[MCC FR 18–10]

Establishment of MCC Economic Advisory Council and Call for Nominations

AGENCY: Millennium Challenge Corporation.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, MCC intends to establish the MCC Economic Advisory Council (''The EAC''), and is hereby soliciting representative nominations. The EAC shall serve MCC in a solely advisory capacity and provide advice and guidance to Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) economists, evaluators, leadership of the Department of Policy and Evaluation (DPE), and senior MCC leadership regarding relevant trends in development economics, applied economic and evaluation methods, poverty analytics, as well as modeling, measuring, and evaluating development interventions, including without limitation social and gender inequities. In doing so, an overarching purpose of the EAC will be to sharpen MCC's analytical methods and capacity in support of continuing development effectiveness. It will also serve as a sounding board and reference group for assessing and advising on strategic policy innovations and methodological directions in MCC.

DATES: Nominations for EAC members must be received on or before 5 p.m. EDT on October 15, 2018. Further information about the nomination process is included below. MCC plans to host the first EAC meeting in late 2018. The EAC will meet at least one time per year in Washington, DC or via video/teleconferencing.

ADDRESSES: All nomination materials or requests for additional information should be emailed to MCC's Economic Advisory Council Designated Federal Officer, Brian Epley at *MCCEACouncil@mcc.gov* or mailed to Millennium Challenge Corporation, Attn: Brian Epley, 1099 14th St. NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Brian Epley, 202.772.6515, *MCCEACouncil@mcc.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The EAC will focus on issues related to the analytical products and strategy used as inputs to compact and threshold program development and decision making, on learning from MCC experience about program effectiveness and impact, and to reflect on the broader global development trends and context of MCC's work. The EAC will provide advice, recommendations, and guidance from experts in academia and the international development community on the design and implementation of programs in a structured and integrated manner. The Vice President for MCC's Department of Policy and Evaluation affirms that the creation of the EAC is necessary and in the public interest. The EAC is seeking members from a range of academic organizations, independent think tanks, and international development agencies. Members will be chosen to represent a diversity of expertise, background, and geographic experience.

The EAC will provide advice to MCC on issues related to growth and development in low and middle income countries including:

1. New perspectives on economic development;
2. Innovative approaches to growth analytics;
3. Innovations in program and project evaluation;
4. Applied microeconomics and cost-benefit analytics;
5. Poverty and income dynamics;
6. Social development and the economics of gender; and
7. Other innovations in the field of development economics and evaluation.

Additional information about MCC and its portfolio can be found at *www.mcc.gov.* The EAC shall consist of not more than twenty (20) individuals who are recognized experts in their field, academics, innovators and thought leaders, representing (without limitation) academic organizations, independent think tanks, international development agencies, multilateral and regional development financial institutions, and foundations. Efforts will be made to include expertise from developing countries, within the resource constraints of the MCC to support logistic costs.

Qualified individuals may self-nominate or be nominated by any individual or organization. To be considered for the EAC, nominators should submit the following information:

- Name, title, organization and relevant contact information (including phone and email address) of the individual under consideration;
- A letter containing a brief biography for the nominee and description why the nominee should be considered for membership;
- CV including professional and academic credentials;

Please do not send company, or organization brochures or any other information. Materials submitted should total two pages or less, excluding CV. Should more information be needed, MCC staff will contact the nominee, obtain information from the nominee's past affiliations, or obtain information from publicly available sources.

All members of the EAC will be independent of the agency, representing the views and interests of their respective industry or area of expertise, and not as Special Government Employees. All members shall serve without compensation. The duties of the EAC are solely advisory and any determinations to be made or actions to be taken on the basis of EAC advice shall be made or taken by appropriate officers of MCC.

Nominees selected for appointment to the EAC will be notified by return email and receive a letter of appointment. A selection team will review the nomination packages. The selection team will make recommendations regarding membership to the Vice President for MCC's Department of Policy and Evaluation based on criteria including: (1) Professional experience, and knowledge; (2) academic field and expertise; (3) experience within regions in which MCC works; (4) contribution of diverse regional or technical professional perspectives, and (5) availability and willingness to serve.

In the selection of members for the EAC, MCC will seek to ensure a balanced representation and consider a cross-section of those directly affected, interested, and qualified, as appropriate to the nature and functions of the EAC.

Nominations are open to all individuals without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, mental or physical disability, marital status, or sexual orientation.

Dated: August 28, 2018.

Jeanne M. Hauch,

VP/General Counsel and Corporate Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2018–19039 Filed 8–31–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 9211–03–P

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

[18–066]

Notice of Centennial Challenges CO_2 Conversion Challenge Phase 1

AGENCY: National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Notice of Centennial Challenges CO_2 Conversion Challenge Phase 1.

SUMMARY: This notice is issued in accordance with the NASA Prize Authority. Phase 1 of the CO_2 Conversion Challenge is open, and teams that wish to compete may now register. Centennial Challenges is a program of prize competitions to stimulate innovation in technologies of interest and value to NASA and the nation. NASA envisions this competition having two phases with a total prize purse of up to $1 million. Phase 1 (the current phase) is the Concept Phase with a prize purse of up to $250,000 to demonstrate capabilities to develop technologies to manufacture ''food'' for microbial bioreactors from CO_2 and hydrogen molecules, with the ultimate goal of producing glucose. The initiation of Phase 2, a Demonstration Challenge with a prize purse of up to $750,000, is contingent on the emergence of promising submissions in Phase 1 that demonstrate a viable approach to achieve the Challenge goals. The official rules for Phase 2 will be released prior to the opening of Phase 2. NASA is providing the prize purse, and NASA Centennial Challenges will be managing the Challenge with support from Common Pool.

DATES: Challenge registration for Phase 1 opens August 30, 2018, and will remain open until 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time on January 24, 2019.

Other important dates:

February 28, 2019 Phase 1 Submission Deadline—no further requests for review will be accepted after this date

ADDRESSES: Phase 1 of the CO_2 Conversion Challenge will be executed at the participants' facility or lab.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: To register for or get additional information regarding the CO_2 Conversion Challenge, please visit: *www.co2conversionchallenge.org.*

For general information on the NASA Centennial Challenges Program please visit: *http://www.nasa.gov/challenges.* General questions and comments regarding the program should be addressed to Monsi Roman, Centennial Challenges Program, NASA Marshall Space Flight Center Huntsville, AL 35812. Email address: *hq-stmd-centennialchallenges@mail.nasa.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Summary

Future planetary habitats on Mars will require a high degree of self-sufficiency. This requires a concerted effort to both effectively recycle supplies brought from Earth and use local resources such as CO_2, water and regolith to manufacture mission-relevant products. Human life support and habitation systems will treat wastewater to make drinking water, recover oxygen from CO_2, convert solid wastes to useable products, grow food, and specially design equipment and packaging to allow reuse in alternate forms. In addition, In-situ Resource Utilization (ISRU) techniques will use available local materials to generate substantial quantities of products to supply life support needs, propellants and building materials, and support other In-Space Manufacturing (ISM) activities.

Many of these required mission products such as food, nutrients, medicines, plastics, fuels, and adhesives are organic, and are comprised mostly of carbon, hydrogen, oxygen and nitrogen molecules. These molecules are readily available within the Martian atmosphere (CO_2, N_2) and surface water (H_2O), and could be used as the feedstock to produce an array of desired products. While some products will be most efficiently made using physicochemical methods or photosynthetic organisms such as plants and algae, many products may best be produced using heterotrophic (organic substrate utilizing) microbial production systems. Terrestrially, commercial heterotrophic bioreactor systems utilize fast growing microbes combined with high concentrations of readily metabolized organic substrates, such as sugars, to enable very rapid rates of bio-product generation.

The type of organic substrate used strongly affects the efficiency of the microbial system. For example, while an organism may be able to use simple organic compounds such as formate (1-carbon) and acetate (2-carbon), these ''low-energy'' substrates will typically result in poor growth. In order to maximize the rate of growth and reduce system size and mass, organic substrates that are rich in energy and carbon, such as sugars, are needed. Sugars such as D-Glucose, a six-carbon sugar that is used by a wide variety of model heterotrophic microbes, is typically the preferred organic substrate for commercial terrestrial microbial production systems and experimentation. There are a wide range of other compounds, such as less complex sugars and glycerol that could also support relatively rapid rates of growth.

To effectively employ microbial bio-manufacturing platforms on planetary bodies such as Mars, it is vital that the carbon substrates be made on-site using local materials. However, generating complex compounds like glucose on Mars presents an array of challenges. While sugar-based substrates are inexpensively made in bulk on Earth from plant biomass, this approach is currently not feasible in space. Alternatively, current physicochemical processes such as photo/electrochemical and thermal catalytic systems are able to make smaller organic compounds such as methane, formate, acetate and some alcohols from CO_2; however, these systems have not been developed to make more complex organic molecules, such as sugars, primarily because of difficult technical challenges combined with the low cost of obtaining sugars from alternate methods on Earth. Novel research and development is required to create the physicochemical systems required to directly make more complex molecules from CO_2 in space environments. It is hoped that advancements in the generation of suitable microbial substrates will spur interest in making complex organic compounds from CO_2 that could also serve as feedstock molecules in traditional terrestrial chemical synthesis and manufacturing operations.

The CO_2 Conversion Challenge is devoted to fostering the development of CO_2 conversion systems that can effectively produce singular or multiple molecular compounds identified as desired microbial manufacturing ingredients and/or that provide a significant advancement of physicochemical CO_2 conversion for the production of useful molecules.

I. Prize Amounts

Phase 1 of the CO_2 Conversion Challenge total prize purse is up to $250,000 (two-hundred fifty thousand dollars) to be awarded to up to five (5) top teams. Up to five (5) top teams will be selected based on judges' scoring and awarded $50,000 (fifty thousand dollars) each.

II. Eligibility To Participate and Win Prize Money

NASA welcomes applications from individuals, teams, and organization or entities that have a recognized legal existence and structure under applicable law (State, Federal or Country) and that are in good standing in the jurisdiction under which they are organized with the following restrictions:

1. Individuals *must be* U.S. citizens or permanent residents of the United States and *must be* 18 years of age or older.

2. Organizations *must be* an entity incorporated in and maintaining a primary place of business in the United States.

3. Teams *must be* comprised of otherwise eligible individuals or

organizations, and led by an otherwise eligible individual or organization.

4. Teams *must* conduct their demonstration work in facilities based in the United States, to include AK, HI and U.S. territories.

U.S. government employees may enter the competition, or be members of prize-eligible teams, so long as they are not acting within the scope of their Federal employment, and they rely on no facilities, access, personnel, knowledge or other resources that are available to them as a result of their employment except for those resources available to all other participants on an equal basis. U.S. government employees participating as individuals, or who submit applications on behalf of an otherwise eligible organization, will be responsible for ensuring that their participation in the Competition is permitted by the rules and regulations relevant to their position and that they have obtained any authorization that may be required by virtue of their government position. Failure to do so may result in the disqualification of them individually or of the entity which they represent or in which they are involved.

Foreign citizens may only participate through an eligible U.S. entity as:

i. An employee of such entity,

ii. A full-time student of such entity, if the entity is a university or other accredited institution of higher learning,

iii. An owner of such entity, so long as foreign citizens own less than 50% of the interests in the entity, OR

iv. A contractor under written contract to such entity.

No Team Member shall be a citizen of a country on the NASA Export Control Program list of designated countries in Category II, Countries determined by the Department of State to support terrorism. The current list of designated countries can be found at *http://oiir.hq.nasa.gov/nasaecp/.* As of July 12, 2018, only 4 countries are in category II (Iran, North Korea, Sudan, and Syria). Please check the link for latest updates.

A team-designated team lead shall be responsible for the actions of and compliance with the rules, including prize eligibility rules, by all members of his or her team.

The eligibility requirements can also be found on the official challenge site: *www.co2conversionchallenge.org.*

III. Intellectual Property

Each application should reflect the anticipated ownership, use, and licensing of any intellectual property. The Team represents and warrants that the Entry is an original work created solely by the Team, that the Team own all Intellectual Property in and to the Entry, and that no other party has any right, title, claim or interest in the Entry, except as expressly identified by the Team to NASA in writing in the application. NASA claims no right, title, or interest to any such intellectual property solely as a consequence of the Team's participation in the competition, including the winning of a prize. NASA reserves the right to share any submissions received with its civil servants and contractors, and reserves the right to approach individual participants about any future opportunities at the conclusion of the competition.

IV. Official Rules

The complete official rules for Phase 1 of the CO_2 Conversion Challenge can be found at: *www.co2conversionchallenge.org.*

Cheryl Parker,

NASA Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 2018–18925 Filed 8–31–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7510–13–P

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

[NARA–2018–057]

Records Schedules; Availability and Request for Comments

AGENCY: National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

ACTION: Notice of availability of proposed records schedules; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) publishes notice at least once monthly of certain Federal agency requests for records disposition authority (records schedules). Once approved by NARA, records schedules provide mandatory instructions on what happens to records when agencies no longer need them for current Government business. The records schedules authorize agencies to preserve records of continuing value in the National Archives of the United States and to destroy, after a specified period, records lacking administrative, legal, research, or other value. NARA publishes notice in the **Federal Register** for records schedules in which agencies propose to destroy records they no longer need to conduct agency business. NARA invites public comments on such records schedules.

DATES: NARA must receive requests for copies in writing by October 4, 2018. Once NARA finishes appraising the records, we will send you a copy of the schedule you requested. We usually prepare appraisal memoranda that contain additional information concerning the records covered by a proposed schedule. You may also request these. If you do, we will also provide them once we have completed the appraisal. You have 30 days after we send to you these requested documents in which to submit comments.

ADDRESSES: You may request a copy of any records schedule identified in this notice by contacting Records Appraisal and Agency Assistance (ACRA) using one of the following means:

Mail: NARA (ACRA), 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740–6001.

Email: request.schedule@nara.gov.

Fax: 301–837–3698.

You must cite the control number, which appears in parentheses after the name of the agency that submitted the schedule, and a mailing address. If you would like an appraisal report, please include that in your request.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Margaret Hawkins, Director, by mail at Records Appraisal and Agency Assistance (ACRA), National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road; College Park, MD 20740–6001, by phone at 301–837–1799, or by email at *request.schedule@nara.gov.*

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: NARA publishes notice in the **Federal Register** for records schedules they no longer need to conduct agency business. NARA invites public comments on such records schedules, as required by 44 U.S.C. 3303a(a).

Each year, Federal agencies create billions of records on paper, film, magnetic tape, and other media. To control this accumulation, agency records managers prepare schedules proposing records retention periods and submit these schedules for NARA's approval. These schedules provide for timely transfer into the National Archives of historically valuable records and authorize the agency to dispose of all other records after the agency no longer needs them to conduct its business. Some schedules are comprehensive and cover all the records of an agency or one of its major subdivisions. Most schedules, however, cover records of only one office or program or a few series of records. Many of these update previously approved schedules, and some include records proposed as permanent.

The schedules listed in this notice are media neutral unless otherwise specified. An item in a schedule is media neutral when an agency may apply the disposition instructions to records regardless of the medium in