

## PREFACE

The significance of science and technology in the global context has grown dramatically, and both private sector and government cooperation in international science and engineering have assumed more prominent roles. Many problems of the 21st Century will demand more information, more participation by the scientific communities of all nations, and more cooperation between these communities and political decision-makers. Not only does the scientific enterprise thrive on the open flow of ideas, but international cooperation in science and engineering also helps create a universal language and culture based on commonly accepted values of objectivity, open-mindedness, tolerance, sharing, objectivity, and free inquiry.

This report, *Toward a More Effective Role for the U.S. Government in International Science and Engineering*, focuses on how to improve the effectiveness of the Federal role in international science and engineering. It presents the findings and recommendations developed by the Task Force on International Issues in Science and Engineering and approved unanimously by the National Science Board. The report is based on an extensive review of relevant policy documents and reports, a process of hearings and consultations with experts and stakeholders, and invited commentary from individuals representing a wide range of perspectives.

On behalf of the National Science Board, I want to commend Dr. Diana Natalicio, the chair of the task force, and the other task force members—Drs. John Armstrong, Pamela Ferguson, Mary K. Gaillard, Stanley Jaskolski, Jane Lubchenco, and Luis Sequeira of the National Science Board; and Karl Erb, Director of the National Science Foundation's Office of Polar Programs—for their outstanding work in pulling together this important and complex report. Dr. Alan Rapoport, Division of Science Resources Statistics, provided outstanding and tireless support as the Executive Secretary to the task force.

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Eamon M. Kelly  
Chairman