



# NEWS

**Federal Communications Commission**  
**445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.**  
**Washington, D. C. 20554**

**News Media Information 202 / 418-0500**  
**Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>**  
**TTY: 1-888-835-5322**

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action.  
See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).

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NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:  
Meribeth McCarrick (202) 418-0654  
[Meribeth.Mccarrick@fcc.gov](mailto:Meribeth.Mccarrick@fcc.gov)

## **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY IN THE DIGITAL AGE HOLDS INAUGURAL MEETING: DEFINES MISSION**

Washington, D.C. – Yesterday, the Advisory Committee on Diversity for Communications in the Digital Age held its Inaugural Meeting at FCC headquarters. The Committee was formed over the summer by Chairman Michael Powell to assist the FCC in formulating new ways to create opportunities for minorities and women in the communications sector.

“The Advisory Committee has an historic opportunity to advance the cause of minority participation in communications companies,” said Chairman Powell. “The Committee members are an extraordinarily accomplished group of leaders with a proven commitment to minority advancement. I encourage them to bring bold and creative solutions to this age old issue.”

During the meeting, Julia Johnson, the Advisory Committee’s Chair, announced four subcommittees: Financial Issues, Transactional Transparency and Related Outreach, Career Advancement, and New Technologies.

- The Financial Issues subcommittee will assess current practices regarding access to capital, and will be chaired by Andrew Barrett, Managing Director, Barrett Group, Inc.
- The Transactional Transparency and Related Outreach Subcommittee will assess current practices of how potential investment opportunities in telecommunications industries are identified and how that information is disseminated, and will be chaired by Steve Hillard, President, CEO, Council Tree Communications.
- The Career Advancement Subcommittee will assess current executive training programs and other career development programs that target minorities and women in the telecommunications industries, and will be chaired Jenny Alonzo, President, National Association for Multiethnicity In Communications.
- The New Technologies Subcommittee will assess what ownership and career advancement opportunities are available in the new and emerging technologies, and will be chaired by Roscoe Young II, CEO, KMC Telecom.

The mission of the Federal Advisory Committee on Diversity in the Digital Age is to provide guidance to the Commission on policies and practices that could increase the diversity of ownership and could create opportunities for minorities and women to advance to managerial positions in the communications sector as well as other related sectors of the economy. Specifically, the Committee will make reports and recommendations concerning the need for any guidelines, incentives, regulations or other policy approaches to promote diversity of participation in the communications sector. The Committee will also develop a description of best practices within the communications sector for promoting diversity of participation.

The next full committee meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2004.

FCC contacts: Jane Mago or Maureen McLaughlin at (202) 418-2030.

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