Principles and Scope of Cooperation (PSC)

between

Overseas Vote Foundation (OVF), 4325 Old Glebe Road, Arlington, VA 22207,
a non-profit organization under Sec. 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code

and

Consultant Name, Title, Affiliation and Address.

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Preamble

The parties are committed to improving the election process for all US citizens, in particular by examining the implementation of potential benefits provided by the Internet in the voting process. The parties desire to enter into a research cooperation to work toward this goal by contributing to the *End-to End Verifiable Internet Voting: Feasibility and Assessment Study* (E2E VIV *Project*), supported by a grant from the Democracy Fund, a project of the Omidyar Network Fund, Inc.

The immediate term "Parties" referred to in this PSC are Overseas Vote Foundation (OVF) and the Consultant. The term "Participants" refers to the broader group of consultants comprising the team members and advisors who have committed to participate to other aspects of the project.

Background

Over the past decade, OVF has been focused on our mission to improve the overseas and military voter experience. We have become a leader in online voter services innovation and development and voter survey research, and worked diligently to build positive collaborative dialogue amongst stakeholders in the overseas and military community.

We have observed that attempts to increase the use of the Internet in the balloting process continue to be made by vendors who do not openly test or certify their solutions. In addition, the use of email, although never designed to be a voting system and lacking in the security and administration features needed to guarantee the integrity of the ballot or the election overall, is increasingly being adopted for online ballot return.

OVF has proposed a project to elucidate and specify the security, testing and usability aspects to be considered in the development of end-to-end verifiable Internet voting system. The purpose is to provide a basis for eventual re-thinking and potential transformation of current

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voting technology in use for remote online ballot return from overseas and military voters, and potentially for disabled voters.

Omidyar Network Fund, Inc., a nonprofit corporation, through its project Democracy Fund, has granted OVF support for the mentioned research project with the full title:

"End-to-End Verifiable Internet Voting: Specification and Feasibility Assessment Study"

Purpose

The significance of this project will be in its ability to break open the conversation and include all sides in a constructive project to openly examine and review what is really needed by voters and election officials, and to determine whether this form of voting can meet those needs and still guarantee security of the ballot. Equally important, it will identify associated tradeoffs and shortcomings that represent the diverse range of values we hold dear in our elections.

We aim to examine and potentially make the case that use of the Internet enables and facilitates the introduction of E2E-verifiability and that the benefits of E2E-V may be able to overcome the vulnerabilities introduced by using the Internet.

The key components and targets of the E2E VIV Project include:

a. *System Specification:* The E2E VIV Project focuses on development of a set of specifications for an end-to-end verifiable online voting process that could serve both disabled and remote absentee voters and that can stand up to adversarial real-world attack.

b. *Usability / Accessibility*: The specification for the system must start from a demand for usability and accessibility; this project will delineate and assess the E2E-verifiable voting protocol with usability and accessibility foremost in mind and determine if it meets requirements.

c. *Security*: We aim to determine an optimal security specification for a remote, end-to-end, verifiable Internet Voting (IV), one which will guarantee an acceptable level of security to enable absentee voters, to utilize this method of voting, confident that their ballots are counted as cast, and to offer a method for signaling any suspicion that it is not, thereby enabling reparative action.

d. *Testing*: The project must go beyond claiming the IV system to be secure; it must demonstrate that fact. The very difficult question of whether one can provide reasonable evidence for IV security will be addressed as we aim to propel understanding and awareness of this question – and its answer. Alongside this, it is our objective to set a new example, and a new standard for open testing and evaluation in the arena of IV.

Election officials will be brought together with technologists to specify a Verifiable Internet Voting system that operates in an End-to-End manner – one that can stand up to the security challenges posed by the open Internet in a unique way – and one that is not afraid to be open and transparent for testing.

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Usability and accessibility are aspects of the specified system that are of equal importance with security. The presence of both aspects is essential in the voting scenario. Past misunderstandings in this respect will be overcome by bringing together a diverse and disparate team, which will serve to establish a dialogue.

Please see the established success targets and dates in the Addendum.

Roles and Activities of the Parties

Name (Consultant) intends to:

- (Specific activities of the individual consultant…….)

- Contribute knowledge, insights and expertise and to assist progress toward the stated goals;
- Assist the relevant subgroup/s in determining and executing action plans;
- Make a reasonable attempt to contribute in writing to the finished product, where/when and if this is deemed necessary and useful;
- Remain forthcoming and constructive toward achieving the project goals.

OVF shall:

- Track and manage the entire project, roles, responsibilities and activities, including contractual, legal, financial and reporting;
- Coordinate and manage the recruitment and participation of all members;
- Organize and schedule all group meetings; assist in organizing subgroup meetings as needed;
- Manage and execute project communications, including all public relations;
- Review, edit, circulate project documents;
- Maintain website presence and updates;
- Coordinate and manage graduate student involvement;
- Business Plan development;
- Public meeting organization and execution;
- Phase II and Phase III funding acquistion as possible, and as deemed adviseable based on project outcome;
- Publish final reports to Democracy Fund and through website, openly.

Publications

Publications, studies, or research funded by this Grant and-pursuant to this PSC shall be made available to the public, and shall include the following acknowledgment: "Supported by a grant from the Democracy Fund". The Parties and Participants agree to grant Democracy Fund a royalty-free, nonexclusive license to copy, publish and distribute any publications, studies, or research funded by this Grant.

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The Parties and Participants are encouraged to publish and to make widely available on an unrestricted basis the data or other technical information created in the course of the E2E VIV project or through cooperative activities pursuant to this PSC. The confidentiality terms set forth above shall be observed.

Intellectual Property and Use Rights

All intellectual property and other work product created by the Consultant or a Participant under this Cooperation will be owned by the Consultant or Participant.

Nevertheless, in accordance with the underlying intent of the project to create knowledge and solutions useful for the public good, OVF shall obtain nonexclusive use rights to the intellectual property and other developed work product. In particular, the Parties and Participants shall grant to OVF a non-exclusive, perpetual, royalty-free right and license to make use of the established intellectual property and work product for development, improvement, distribution and for application of the work product to public, administrative and research purposes consistent with OVFs' and Democracy Funds' status as non-profit organizations.

Good Faith, Cooperation

No provision in this PSC shall be deemed as a contractual obligation, but rather shall represent an expression of mutual intentions to collaborate in good faith to achieve the goals of the E2E VIV Project. The Parties agree that if any of the terms herein are subject to questions of intent or interpretation, the Parties will enter into open and honest negotiations without seeking legal action to resolve any such issues. As a final resolution of any dispute under this PSC, either Party may terminate the cooperation without cause.

Availability of Funds

OVF is acting under a grant contract, which is subject to termination. The activities contemplated under this MOU are subject to the availability of funds and other necessary resources to the Parties. This MOU does not obligate funds and neither Party is required to obligate funds to the activities proposed herein.

In view of the selection and participation of Consultant in the E2E VIV Project, OVF requests Consultant's acknowledgement that he or she has read, understood and will abide by the above principles of the cooperation.

Date: January 14, 2014

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Addendum – Success Targets

This list contains the agreed "Success Targets" for the project. These are <u>incorporated into</u> the contract with the Democracy Fund.

- **<u>Written Report and Recommendations</u>:** this research project will result in a written report that will illustrate the procedure the team took to arrive at the proposed specifications, the framework for testing and the usability considerations, as well as any supplemental materials, which support the project.
  Target Complete: Mar-Apr 2015

  The Report shall contain the following sections:

  - **Whole Product Solution Specification** including, but not limited to the following: System Requirements, Usability Specifications, Security and Usability Analysis and Specifications, Testing Considerations, Scenarios and Specifications, (open and transparent); E2E Crypto-protocol Definition, Legal and Administrative Considerations; Technical Specifications and Properties; Build/Buy review and analysis; and a Business/Marketing Plan.

  - **Framework for Secure, End-to-End Voting Systems:** We expect that a defined specification for a potentially feasible system delineated through the Whole Product Solution Specification and the Technical Specification process will receive majority support of the assembled team, including support from both the technical specialists and the usability specialists. There may be nine members of the working group, and so that would indicate that at least five (including technical and usability staff) are supportive of advancing the concepts.

- **System Specification, Potential Product Recognized by Election Administration Professionals:** At least three election administrators from different jurisdictions will be involved in the system requirements study and review the framework and plan; agree that the concept is sound (including potential pricing structure); and agree that they would consider the system if available on the market.
  Target Complete Date: May 2015

- **Present the project and its results in public hearings/meetings and with advocacy groups:** Present the project and its deliverables during at least two public meetings of election officials or technical professionals. Meet with at least three advocacy groups representing the Military and Overseas Voting Community or the Disability Voting Community to discuss the project and have them provide input.
  Target Timeline: Jan – Mar 2015

- **Identify path to get the second and third phases funded and go-to market.** Identify two potential sources of non-DF funding that would consider supporting the next phases or otherwise develop the system. The next two phases—which would be scoped out in this research—would include actual development and testing of the system, as well as establishment of a business and marketing program development for the system. Because the 'solution' is not yet identified, it is difficult at this point to understand the scope or cost required.
  Target Timeframe: Jan – Apr 2015

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- **Inform Public of the "Team of Rivals" Approach Results**: Hold a news conference or publish an op-ed highlighting the unusual bedfellows of the project, and identifying the successes and outcomes of the research/framework in addition to ongoing follow-on efforts.
Target Timeframe: Mar - Apr 2015

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