U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY EXECUTIVE ORDER 13960 CONSISTENCY PLAN
December 2022

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Executive Order 13960: Executive Summary

Executive Order (EO) 13960, [Promoting the Use of Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence in the Federal Government](#), was issued on December 8, 2020. The EO encourages the ongoing adoption of Artificial Intelligence (AI) throughout the Federal Government. It states that agencies must "design, develop, acquire, and use AI in a manner that fosters public trust and confidence while protecting privacy, civil rights, civil liberties, and American values".

As such, Section 3 of the EO states that agencies must adhere to these principles in developing AI tools: (a) lawful and respectful of our nation's values; (b) purposeful and performance-driven; (c) accurate, reliable, and effective; (d) safe, secure, and resilient; (e) understandable; (f) responsible and traceable; (g) regularly monitored; (h) transparent; and (i) accountable.
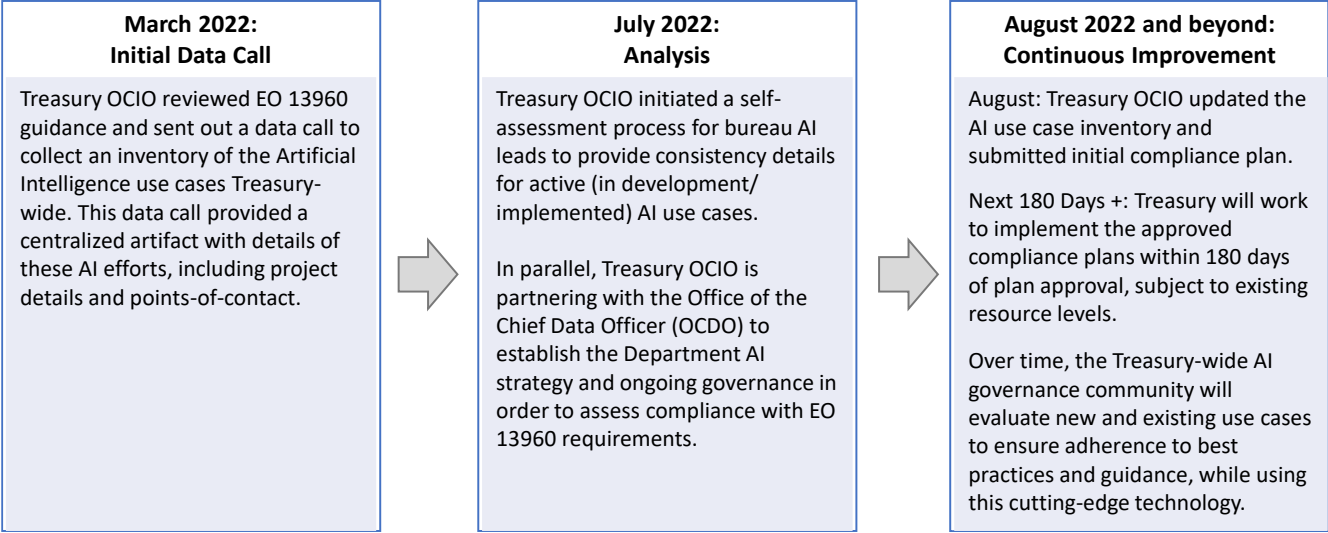
Document Purpose and Scope:

This document outlines the U.S. Department of the Treasury's initial approach for establishing consistency with EO 13960, progress to date, and next steps. Treasury has designated a Responsible AI Official (RAO) and leveraged the suggested best practices associated with the EO to guide consistency.

Consistency Progress:

Treasury (Headquarters) Departmental Offices (DO) resource level limitations dictate the need for an iterative approach to governance to ensure success and sustainability. The Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) is partnering with the Office of the Chief Data Officer (OCDO) to establish the Departmental AI definition, strategy, and ongoing governance to assess compliance with EO 13960 requirements.

Current State:

Treasury is drafting a governance plan to comply with EO 13960. Notionally, any artificial intelligence (AI) related systems within Treasury will be governed using a federated approach similar to how Treasury's technology portfolio is already managed. While the OCIO operates several shared, commodity technology platforms for several Treasury-wide and government-wide services, Treasury bureaus manage their individual technology portfolios and mission specific systems. We still expect AI to be centrally governed.

March 2022: Initial Data Call		July 2022: Analysis		August 2022 and beyond: Continuous Improvement
Treasury OCIO reviewed EO 13960 guidance and sent out a data call to collect an inventory of the Artificial Intelligence use cases Treasury-wide. This data call provided a centralized artifact with details of these AI efforts, including project details and points-of-contact.		Treasury OCIO initiated a self-assessment process for bureau AI leads to provide consistency details for active (in development/ implemented) AI use cases.		August: Treasury OCIO updated the AI use case inventory and submitted initial compliance plan.
		In parallel, Treasury OCIO is partnering with the Office of the Chief Data Officer (OCDO) to establish the Department AI strategy and ongoing governance in order to assess compliance with EO 13960 requirements.		Next 180 Days +: Treasury will work to implement the approved compliance plans within 180 days of plan approval, subject to existing resource levels.
				Over time, the Treasury-wide AI governance community will evaluate new and existing use cases to ensure adherence to best practices and guidance, while using this cutting-edge technology.

Consistency Assessment Approach

In July 2022, Treasury OCIO initiated a self-assessment process for Bureau AI leads to provide consistency details for active AI use cases across Treasury using the "Suggested Practices" assessment and compliance criteria. "Active" was defined as AI use cases in development or in operation. Following a federated approach, the AI use cases that were self-identified by the Bureaus were assessed. High level outcomes are summarized in the section below.

Assessment Outcomes

- 14 Treasury AI use cases were assessed, 3 of which fall under BEP and 11 of which fall under IRS.
- Most of the use cases were launched (11 out of 14) within the last year; 6 were launched within the past 6 months.
- Consistent with internal governance processes, IRS determined it will not share all AI outcomes or design information publicly for most of its use cases. This stems from IRS's need to protect many of its AI use cases from reverse engineering, as they are used for tax compliance and fraud.
- All the AI use cases were deemed not to have a potential impact on civil rights or civil liberties. None of the use cases inhibit equal access to opportunities, or to vital services or entitlements.
- Both BEP and IRS reported they will use the EO suggested practices and compliance criteria to guide bureau-level governance process improvements.

Planned Next Steps

Treasury will strive to execute consistency plans within 180 days from the date of this document for the identified AI use cases requiring mitigation. The following steps are planned:

- The RAO will expand from a single person to a small group inclusive of the Chief Data Officer, and Bureau AI leadership (as appropriate).
- Establish a governance approach to drive Treasury AI definition and strategy

- Draft Treasury AI Compliance Principles