

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Melia Carter

708-224-1900

Statement of the Ministerial Alliance Against the Digital Divide in Response to Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Chairman Genachowski's Remarks on Open Internet

CHICAGO - The Ministerial Alliance Against the Digital Divide (MAADD) trusts that the framework for broadband policy outlined today by Chairman Genachowski will help bring us closer to narrowing the digital divide. Such policies should guide our nation to turn our attention back to promoting broadband access, adoption, and affordability in minority and underserved communities.

As a next generation civil rights organization, MAADD is devoted to bridging the digital divide and promoting personal and economic development in communities that need it most. MAADD advocates for broadband policies such as the National Broadband Plan, which has great potential for narrowing the digital divide and empowering those in minority and underserved communities by helping to ensure broadband access becomes a reality for every American.

By rising above the arguments proposed by special interests that favor policies that would increase rates for consumers, impede investment in the broadband technologies our communities need, and hamper efforts to close the digital divide, the FCC has sent a clear message: our nation wants and deserves access to all the benefits broadband has to offer, from innovative healthcare to online education to job opportunities.

There is much work still ahead. Let us now move on to enacting the National Broadband Plan and bridging the digital divide.

The Ministerial Alliance Against the Digital Divide (MAADD) is a 25,000+ member next generation civil rights organization led by ministers devoted to bridging the Digital Divide and promoting economic and individual empowerment in low income and minority communities. For more information about MAADD, please visit www.maadd.org.