

not be penalized solely for calling someone who is using another provider. It is common sense that the same philosophy should guide any service that is based on the transmission of information, whether a phone call or a packet of data.

So the time has come for the FCC to recognize that broadband service is of the same importance and must carry the same obligations as so many of the other vital services do. To do that, I believe the FCC should reclassify consumer broadband service under title II of the Telecommunications Act, while at the same time forbearing from rate regulation and other provisions less relevant to broadband services. This is a basic acknowledgment of the services ISPs provide to American homes and businesses and the straightforward obligations necessary to ensure the network works for everyone, not just one or two companies.

Investment in wired and wireless networks has supported jobs and made America the center of a vibrant ecosystem of digital devices, apps, and platforms that fuel growth and expand opportunity. Importantly, network investment remained strong under the previous net neu-

trality regime, before it was struck down by the court; in fact, the court agreed that protecting net neutrality helps foster more investment and innovation. If the FCC appropriately forbears from the title II regulations that are not needed to implement the principles above—principles that most ISPs have followed for years—it will help ensure new rules are consistent with incentives for further investment in the infrastructure of the Internet.

The Internet has been one of the greatest gifts our economy—and our society—has ever known. The FCC was chartered to promote competition, innovation, and investment in our networks. In service of that mission, there is no higher calling than protecting an open, accessible, and free Internet. I thank the Commissioners for having served this cause with distinction and integrity, and I respectfully ask them to adopt the policies I have outlined here, to preserve this technology's promise for today and future generations to come.

NOTE: A related video of remarks by the President was released by the White House Press Office, and no transcript was provided.

Letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives Transmitting Budget Amendments for Fiscal Year 2015

November 10, 2014

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I ask the Congress to consider the enclosed Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 Budget amendments for the Department of Defense (DOD) and the Department of State and Other International Programs (State/OIP) to fund Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO). These amendments would provide \$5.6 billion for OCO activities to degrade and ultimately defeat the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL)—including military operations as part of Operation Inherent Resolve.

Accordingly, this request would provide \$5.0 billion for DOD OCO activities in addition to the \$58.6 billion DOD OCO request I submitted to the Congress in June 2014, and

would result in a total DOD OCO request for FY 2015 of \$63.6 billion. This amount is \$15.8 billion less than the \$79.4 billion placeholder for DOD OCO in the FY 2015 Budget. The request would also provide \$520 million for State/OIP OCO activities, which is in addition to the \$7.3 billion I requested for State/OIP OCO activities in the FY 2015 Budget and the June budget amendment.

The approach to counter ISIL has evolved with emerging requirements identified subsequent to the June OCO amendment, and therefore not previously requested. These amendments include the additional funding necessary to degrade and ultimately defeat ISIL through a comprehensive and sustained counterterrorism strategy.

The details of these amendments are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

Sincerely,

BARACK OBAMA

Remarks at the First Plenary Session of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Economic Leaders' Meeting in Beijing, China
November 11, 2014

[*President Obama's remarks were joined in progress.*]

—have shown us last night's events were spectacular, and this is an extraordinary setting for our meeting. And I very much appreciate the work that you've done to develop a very productive agenda during this year's APEC meeting.

I'd like to say to all my colleagues who are assembled here, it's good to be back with you at APEC. This forum has been able to provide an extraordinarily important forum for generating ideas that boost regional and then global integration and has helped to provide jobs and support growth in all of our economies.

Our meeting comes at a very important time for the global trading system. Just 1 year ago, we celebrated the conclusion of a historic trade facilitation agreement in Bali. As was just mentioned, that agreement has been breaking down over certain issues, although I'm actually confident that there's an opportunity for us to resolve them fairly soon. But it does underscore how challenging it is to maintain and continue to grow our multilateral trading system.

So we're going to need to focus on restoring and rebuilding the WTO's negotiating function. A strong multilateral trading system that holds us together and a common framework of rules has always been a bedrock of a healthy, global economy.

Meanwhile, APEC continues to play a central role in promoting economic integration through regional and bilateral trade agreements. If these agreements are ambitious, they can be stepping stones to greater integration rather than stumbling blocks.

APEC has been the incubator of ambitious trade agreements at the center of our agenda. This is where the trade facilitation agreement started. It was APEC's work that led to the Information Technology Agreement, the ITA, which we are now negotiating to expand. So it's fitting that we're here with our APEC colleagues to share the news that the United States and China have reached an understanding on the ITA that we hope will contribute to a rapid conclusion of the broader negotiations in Geneva. We think that's good news. And I very much thank President Xi's efforts in that regard.

APEC is often at its best and most effective on the more technologic—the more technical cooperation to boost the flow of goods and services across our borders. This is the small details, day to day, that remove bottlenecks to trade and reduce the cost of transactions.

In February, I signed an Executive order establishing a single window, for example, to speed the processing of cargo flows in and out of the United States. We welcome APEC's commitment to help all our economies streamline procedures and build capacity so we can meet our goals of reducing the time and the costs of border crossings by 10 percent by next year.

I want to welcome APEC's endorsement of ideas we discussed in Honolulu to create more transparent procedures for citizens and businesses to comment on proposed new regulations, which I think represents an important step forward for businesses that want to cooperate seamlessly across borders and jurisdictions.

These efforts are not always large and public; they don't always get a lot of attention. But they represent the important strides in