



**IGTC**  
International Grain Trade Coalition

## IGTC Newsletter 26 June 2017

**IGTC MRL policy agreed:** The IGTC's policy document on MRL setting has been approved! You can find it on our Intranet, and [here](#).

## Events

### June 27: IPPC Industry Advisory Group (IAG) on ePhyto Hub - Arlington, USA

Industry associations will be updated on the progress of the ePhyto Hub pilot project. IGTC is one of eight trade flows represented on the Industry Advisory Group (IAG).

### June 28: IPPC ePhyto Hub outreach event with embassies - Washington D.C, USA

The Canadian Embassy in D.C. will welcome embassies from around the world to update them on the work of the ePhyto Hub.

### June 29: IGTC Working Group call on electronic trading documentation - Virtual

## IGTC in action

### IGTC takes floor at 2017 Global Low-Level Presence Initiative meeting



A "Practical Approaches" statement was presented at the annual GLI meeting on 14-15 June in Rome with no objections to endorsement from GLI member governments. The document has now been sent back to capitals for final approval. The IGTC's response to the Practical Approaches paper is [here](#) (also on the Intranet – [www.igtglobal.org](http://www.igtglobal.org)). LLP Policy Team Lead Tyler Bjornson was on-site at the Rome event with COCERAL, Gafta US Grains Council and NAEGA. Tyler gave a presentation to an audience of government decision makers and industry partners, in order to explain the trade impacts of unworkable LLP policies, with an emphasis on "Considerations for Threshold Setting".

Current GLI members are Australia, Argentina, Brazil, Canada (Co-Chair), Colombia (Co-Chair), Costa Rica, Indonesia, Mexico, Paraguay, Philippines, Russia, South Africa, United States, Uruguay and Vietnam. Observers are China, EU, Malaysia and Peru.

### WTO seminar – Maximum Residue Limit (MRL) setting in the EU

A WTO seminar took place last Monday, 19 June entitled "EU Policy on Plant Protection Products: Implications for Agricultural Trade". The Geneva meeting was organized by the US FAS in response to the sharpening focus of the WTO's SPS and TBT Committees on EU policies on plant protection products (PPPs).

A presentation was given by IGTC Policy Team member Dr. Teresa Babuscio as Secretary General of COCERAL, emphasising the importance of science-based policy decisions and regulatory clarity for the trade. WTO conversations continue to extend to considerations about the EU's hazard based policy for the regulation of PPPs entering the market, and the loss of import tolerances.



### IPPC member consultation on ISPM for grain

The IGTC's Working Group, bringing together 33 global grain trade leaders, will have the chance to be updated on the week's ePhyto Hub meetings.

## **June 30: IGTC Policy Team call on the International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) for grain - Virtual**

IGTC phytosanitary experts from around the world will discuss the progress of the IPPC's forthcoming ISPM for grain.

## **August 2-4: Australian Grains Industry Conference – Melbourne, Australia**

AGIC has established itself as the must attend event for senior executives, traders and others interested in the Australian grains industry. On 3rd August, the IGTC will give a presentation on the theme "Global grain industry working together to facilitate trade" (Conference [link here](#)).

## **Links**

[IGTC Website](#)

[IGTC list of members](#)



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The IPPC Standards Committee has launched a closed-door forum in order to allow its 25 members to share views on the draft ISPM for grain. According to a [report](#) from the last meeting, major issues remain open for discussion, including the scope and definition of "pests", tolerances for foreign material, and transparency issues. The IPPC's Policy Team will hold a call this Friday (30 June) to discuss the importance of advocating for a science-based Standard that facilitates the trade of grain.



The 25 members of the IPPC's Standards Committee ([see here](#)) include Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Mexico, Netherlands, Kenya, UK and USA.

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