

Outreach

January 18, 2018

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA

Image of the Week

Next week U.S., Mexican and Canadian negotiators will meet in Montreal, Quebec for Round 6 of NAFTA negotiations, the first full round of negotiations since November.

NAFTA Negotiators Meet in Montreal for Round 6

Key developments on international trade and potential future actions



August 2017:

First round of negotiations: Mexican, Canadian and U.S. representatives met in Washington, D.C. to commence the first round of NAFTA negotiations. USTR Lighthizer focused on the issue of rules of origin requirements, especially in regards to the auto industry



September 2017:

Second round of negotiations: The second round of NAFTA negotiations in Mexico City saw little progress made on difficult discussions. The chief negotiators expressed optimism about reaching a deal, but industry officials and private-sector sources voiced frustration over the lack of new ideas put forward



Late September 2017:

Third round of negotiations: Representatives met in Ottawa on September 23, successfully making progress on small and medium-sized enterprises and making advancements on the topics of telecommunications, competition policy, digital trade, good regulatory practices and customs and trade facilitations.



October 2017:

Fourth round of negotiations: Representatives met in Virginia from October 11-17, substantively completing discussions in the Chapter on Competition, as well as continuing discussions on customs and trade facilitation, digital trade, good regulatory practices and certain sectoral annexes.



November 2017:

Fifth round of negotiations: Negotiations continued in Mexico City from November 15-21. Talks have stalled, with Canada and Mexico unwilling to bend to US demands.

Looking ahead

- NAFTA renegotiations will resume with Round 6 on January 23 in Montreal, with controversial issues still to be resolved:
 - Automotive rules of origin
 - Eliminating Chapter 19, which allows private companies to challenge trade rulings made by NAFTA countries
 - A sunset clause to end NAFTA in five years unless each country agrees to its renewal
 - Government procurement

Member Opportunities

- CMC State of the Industry 2018 – Miami, FL – January 28-30
- NAEGA Board of Directors Meeting – Miami, FL – January 30
- PNW Port Range Subcommittee Meeting – Portland, OR – January 31
- Barge Doc Digitization Workshop – New Orleans, LA – February 16
- NAEGA Annual Members Meeting – Scottsdale, AZ – March 19
- NAFTA and Asia-Pacific Policy Teams
- Contracts and Best Practices Seminars
- NAEGA Internships

Action Reports

Recent Actions:

- Member Invoices and Annual Meeting Notification
- Letter on Section 199A of Tax Law

Upcoming Actions

- IPPC Global Symposium on e-Phyto – Kuala Lumpur – January 21-26
- CMC State of the Industry and IGTC Stakeholder Meetings – Miami – January 28-30

Pending Actions

- U.S. APHIS Consultations on IPPC Activities
- CFIA Consultations for Canada-U.S. RCC

News

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- U.S. to Begin Enforcing GLOMAG

NAEGA Calendar and Member Notices

- Upcoming Events and Notices for Members



Member Opportunities

CMC State of the Industry 2018 – Miami, FL – January 28-30

NAEGA member personnel are invited to join the NAEGA Board of Directors at the Commodity Markets Council’s State of the Industry 2018 conference. The conference will take place at The Miami Beach Edition Hotel. CMC is the leading trade association for commodity futures exchanges and their industry counterparts. The State of the Industry 2018 conference will include discussion and presentations by industry and government leaders focusing on agriculture, metals, energy, power and technology markets. Governor of Nebraska Pete Ricketts will join the conference as the keynote speaker. A copy of the draft agenda can be found [here](#). [Please click here if you would like to register.](#)

A NAEGA special discounted group rate of \$600 allows you to attend the Monday, January 29 CMC State of the Industry 2018 events on [this schedule](#) only. If you are interested in taking advantage of the group rate please contact Ryan Olson at rolson@naega.org. More information on the State of the Industry 2018 meeting can be found [here](#).

NAEGA members may also take advantage of the CMC State of the Industry 2018 room block at The Miami Beach Edition hotel by [clicking on the link here](#).

NAEGA Board of Directors Meeting – Miami, FL – January 30

The NAEGA Board of Directors will meet on the morning of January 30, 2018 at The Miami Beach Edition Hotel in Miami, FL. Activities set for January 30 include:

Tuesday, January 30	Event
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8:00-9:00am	NAEGA Board Breakfast and Board of Directors Meeting
9:00-10:00am	IGTC Management Council Global Conference Call
10:00am-12:00pm	NAEGA Board of Directors Meeting (<i>cont. 'd</i>)
12:00-1:00pm	IGTC Lunch and Briefing
1:00-2:00pm	NAEGA Board of Directors Meeting (<i>cont. 'd</i>)

The meeting will follow the Commodity Market Council's State of the Industry 2018. A NAEGA special discounted group rate of \$600 allows you to attend the Monday, January 29 CMC State of the Industry 2018 events on [this schedule](#). If you are interested in taking advantage of the group rate please contact Ryan Olson at rolson@naega.org. More information on the State of the Industry 2018 meeting can be found [here](#).

NAEGA members may also take advantage of the CMC State of the Industry 2018 room block at The Miami Beach Edition hotel by [clicking on the link here](#).

Please RSVP [here](#), and contact Ryan if you have any questions.

PNW Port Range Subcommittee Meeting – Portland, OR – January 31

All NAEGA members are invited to attend a meeting of the Grades and Inspection Committee's PNW Port Range Subcommittee from 8:00-12am on January 31 in Portland, OR. The meeting will take place in the Oregon Wheat Commission Conference Room at the Wheat Marketing Center, 1200 NW Naito Parkway, Portland, OR. During the meeting Dana Coale, Acting Deputy Administrator of the Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) will address the Subcommittee from 8:00-10:00am

Ms. Coale is temporarily serving as the Deputy Administrator for the FGIS pending the selection of the permanent Deputy Administrator. Ms. Coale will provide an update on the ongoing process of merging FGIS with the AMS to be a separate grain inspection program within the agency. Space for the meeting is limited to a maximum of two representatives from each member company.

Following the meeting with Ms. Coale, the Subcommittee will formally convene from 10am-12pm in the same room to further discuss the reorganization, structure, staffing, mission and leadership within FGIS. A formal agenda with the specific topics to be discussed as well as additional details about the meeting will be sent out shortly.

Barge Document Digitization Value Assessment Workshop – New Orleans, LA – February 16

On February 16, NGFA and NAEGA are hosting a "Value Assessment Workshop" to engage industry stakeholders and needed experts in a fact and opinion finding workshop to examine possibilities for digital solutions to be applied to Mississippi River barge documentation and perhaps lead to proof of concept and business plan development. Interested industry personnel from the grain trading community including barge companies, fleet operators, barge freight users, loaders and shippers, and digital solutions providers are invited to participate in the "Barge Document Value Assessment Workshop".

The Workshop will be held in New Orleans, LA on February 16 from 10:00am-2:00pm in the Fleur de Lis BC Room at the [Royal Sonesta Hotel](#). Lunch will be provided.

If you or a colleague would like to attend, please register [here](#).

The Workshop coincides with the Mid-South Grain Association's Annual Convention on February 16-17, also at the Royal Sonesta. If you would like to attend the Mid-South Convention, please register directly with the Mid-South Grain Association. A registration form from the Association can be found [here](#).

Hotel rooms are available at the Royal Sonesta and can be reserved by calling (504) 586-0300 and referencing the MidSouth Grain room block.

A more complete agenda for the Barge Document Value Assessment Workshop will be available soon.

NAEGA Annual Members Meeting – Scottsdale, AZ – March 19

Please make your plans and reserve your hotel rooms now for the 2018 NAEGA Annual Members meeting and committee meetings on March 18-19, 2018 at the Westin Kierland Resort & Spa in Scottsdale, Arizona. All NAEGA member personnel are invited to attend and participate in all NAEGA meetings and events. A preliminary schedule includes:

Sunday, March 18	Event
1:00-3:00m	Contracts Committee Meeting
1:00-3:00pm	Joint NAEGA Grades and Inspections Committee and NGFA Grain Grades and Weights Committee meeting
3:15-5:30pm	Joint NAEGA Production Technology and NGFA Biotechnology Committee meeting
6:00-7:00pm	CoBank Welcome Reception
Monday, March 19	
10:00am-12:00pm	NAEGA 2 Model Contract Revisions Briefing
12:00-1:30pm	NAEGA Members lunch and Annual Members Meeting
1:30-3:30pm	NAEGA Board of Directors Meeting

[To reserve you hotel room, please click on this link.](#)

Invitations to all meetings and events will be distributed soon.

NAFTA and Asia-Pacific Policy Teams

With NAFTA negotiations underway and the evolving U.S.-China trade relationship we expect many more fast paced and dramatic developments that could greatly change the terms of trade for NAEGA members. Your involvement is needed!

NAEGA ad hoc policy teams of member personnel working largely through conference calls are helping to guide our multifaceted effort to address the evolving trade environment. Teams focused on the North American Free Trade Agreement and the Asia-Pacific Market are already established. The **NAFTA Policy Team** will be heavily engaged over the next three months to

support NAEGA work with the U.S. Food and Ag. Dialogue for Trade, The Pacific Northwest Economic Region, the Canada U.S. Grain and Seed Trade Task Group and the NAEGA committees and Board of Directors to address NAFTA. A similar effort will soon start with an **Asia-Pacific Policy Team** that will be focused on U.S. trade relations with China, Japan, Korea and the Trans Pacific environment more generally.

Please contact [Ryan](#) if you have any questions or are interested in participating in NAEGA's ad hoc policy teams.

Contracts and Best Practices Seminars

NAEGA is beginning to plan seminars for 2018! Let us know where we should hold 2018 Seminars and what topics you would like us to cover. NAEGA also conducts company specific private seminars. Please let us know if you are interested attending or hosting a NAEGA seminar. Click [here](#) for more information the in-depth, interactive programs NAEGA conducts!

Internships

We have an open intern position starting January 2017 to work at the NAEGA office at 1400 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA 22202. Information on working for NAEGA as an intern can be found [here](#).

Full Details on Upcoming Events can be found in the Meetings & Events Section of the [NAEGA Member's Only Page](#).

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Action Reports

Recent Actions:

Member Invoices and Annual Meeting Notification

NAEGA has completed its annual invoicing for membership dues and export volume fees. On Friday, January 12, each member representative should have received an email with a membership invoice and an annual member meeting notification. Member representatives will also receive an invoice and meeting notification via Fedex. All NAEGA member dues and export volume fees are due by February 15, 2018.

Letter on Section 199A of Tax Law

NAEGA is consulting with and supporting the actions of the National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA) regarding issues raised with Section 199A of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017. Concern has been raised by industry participants about how the new Section 199A will influence grain marketing decisions. On January 11, NGFA and the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives (NCFC) issued a joint statement about these developments, which can be read [here](#). According to the statement, NGFA and NCFC "are working intensively with stakeholders, including cooperatives, noncooperative-owned agribusinesses and Senate offices, including Senators Hoeven, Thune and Roberts. The goal of these discussions is to arrive at an equitable solution that preserves the benefits that cooperatives and their farmer patrons previously enjoyed under Section 199 of the tax code, while addressing any unforeseen impacts on producers' marketing decisions.

Upcoming Actions:

IPPC Global Symposium on e-Phyto – Kuala Lumpur – January 21-26

On January 21-26 IGTC Secretariat Katy Lee will travel to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia for the 3rd IPPC Global Symposium on e-Phyto. The Symposium is titled “e-Phyto and Trade Facilitation” and will be attended by representatives of global bodies such as the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and the World Trade Organization (WTO). Katy is scheduled to speak on behalf of IGTC for 30 minutes. In addition to the Symposium, Katy will be provided information by governments regarding national and regional priorities with a focus on Sri Lanka, Samoa, Ghana, New Zealand, Netherlands, Kenya, Malaysia and Japan.

CMC State of the Industry and IGTC Stakeholder Meetings – Miami – January 28-30

On January 28-30 IGTC Secretariat Katy Lee will travel to Miami, FL to attend the Commodity Markets Council’s State of the Industry 2018 conference and host the NAEGA Board of Directors at a IGTC Breakfast on January 30. Katy will also attend the NAEGA Board of Directors meeting and brief NAEGA Board Members on IGTC policies and activities.

Pending Actions:

U.S. APHIS Consultations on IPPC Activities

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service is accepting consultations on three draft specifications and 13 draft International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) from the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC).

Draft Specifications:

- [Revision of ISPM 12](#)
- [Audit of phytosanitary context](#)
- [Supplement to ISPM 11](#)

Draft ISMPs:

- [2017 Amendments to ISPM 5: Glossary of phytosanitary terms](#)
- [International movement of cut flowers and foliage](#)
- [Requirements for the use of fumigation as a phytosanitary measure](#)
- [Diagnostic protocols: Bactrocera dorsalis complex](#)
- [Diagnostic protocols: Conotrachelus nenuphar](#)
- [Diagnostic protocols: Ips spp](#)
- [Diagnostic protocols: Xylella fastidiosa](#)
- [Diagnostic protocols: Puccinia psidii](#)
- [Revision of Diagnostic Protocol: Plus pox virus](#)
- [Revision of ISPM 6: Surveillance](#)
- [Requirements for the use of temperature treatments as a phytosanitary measure](#)
- [Draft revision of Annexes 1 & 2 to ISPM15](#)
- [Draft 2015 and 2016 amendments to ISPM 5 Glossary of phytosanitary terms](#)

Please contact Gary or Ryan if you are interested in contributing to any of these comments.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is seeking input from stakeholders for the development of new cooperation opportunities and prioritization of existing initiatives under the Canada-United States Regulatory Cooperation Council (RCC). The purpose of this consultation is to provide an additional mechanism to seek stakeholder feedback on the prioritization of work plan initiatives currently being pursued between the CFIA and its U.S. regulatory counterparts, and to solicit input on potential opportunities for the future. The deadline to submit input is March 30, 2018. Input [can be submitted at this link](#).

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In the News

Soybean and Oilseed Traits Authorized in EU

The European Commission has authorized the final approval of four soybean and one rapeseed events. The authorization decisions were published in the Official Journal on December 28, 2017. The events include:

Soybean:

- [305423 x 40-3-2](#)
- [DAS-4406-6](#)
- [FG72 x A5547-127](#)
- [DAS-68416-4](#)

Rapeseed:

- [88302 x Ms8 x Rf3](#).

U.S. to Begin Enforcing GLOMAG

On December 20, 2017, President Trump signed an Executive Order (EO 13818) which seeks to use economic sanctions to tackle international human rights abuses. EO 13818 blocks the assets of 13 persons and lays the framework for applying blocking and U.S. visa restrictions on additional persons in the future.

The EO also authorizes blocking sanctions to those who materially assist, sponsor, or provide financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to, the targeted activities even absent the presence of a Specially Designated National (SDN). This means that companies or individuals involved with parties that may be engaged in human rights violations or corrupt activities, even if not designated an SDN, run the risk of potentially being designated themselves under this broad authorization.

Read more about this development [here](#).

If you would like more information, or wish to provide comments on any of these news topics monitored by NAEGA, please contact us.

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Calendar & Member Notices
Click [here](#) for a Copy of the IGTC Calendar

2018

January

- 22-26** – IPPC Global ePhyto Symposium – Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- 23-28** – NAFTA Negotiating Round – Montreal, Canada
- 25-26** – Paris Grain Day 2018 – Paris, France
- 28-30** – Commodity Markets Council State of the Industry – Miami, FL
- 30** – NAEGA Board of Directors Meeting – Miami, FL
- 30** – IGTC Management Council – Virtual
- 31** – PNW Grades and Inspections Subcommittee meeting – Portland, OR

February

- 16** – Barge Document Value Assessment Workshop - New Orleans, LA
- 16-18** - Midsouth Grain Association Annual Convention – New Orleans, LA
- 21-22** – WTO Agriculture Committee – Geneva, Switzerland
- 28** – IGTC MRL Policy Team Call - Virtual
- 28-March 1** – WTO SPS Committee – Geneva, Switzerland

March

- 6** – IGC Market Conditions Committee Meeting – London, UK
- 14** – IGTC Management Council – Virtual
- 18-20** – NGFA Annual Convention – Scottsdale, Arizona
- 18** – NAEGA Contracts Committee Meeting – Scottsdale, AZ
- 18** – Joint NAEGA Grades and Inspections Committee and NGFA Grain Grades and Weights Committee Meeting – Scottsdale, AZ
- 18** – Joint NAEGA Production Technology and NGFA Biotechnology Committee Meeting – Scottsdale, AZ

19 – NAEGA 2 Revisions Briefing – Scottsdale, AZ

19 – NAEGA Annual Members Meeting – Scottsdale, AZ

18-20 – NAEGA Annual Meetings – Scottsdale, Arizona

26-28 – Canadian Global Crops Symposium – Toronto, Canada

April

16-20 – IPPC Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-13) – Rome, Italy

May

14-18 – IPPC Standards Committee – Rome, Italy

June

6-7 – WTO Agriculture Committee – Geneva, Switzerland

14 – IGTC Management Council – Virtual

18-20 - IGTC Strategy Session – London, UK

19 – 27th IGC Grains Conference – London, UK

19 – 2018 Gafta London Dinner – London, UK

July

1-September 30 – IPPC ISPM Consultation - Virtual

11-12 – WTO SPS Committee – Geneva, Switzerland

August

1-2 – Australian Grains Industry Conference – Melbourne, Australia

September

4-7 – IGTC and Gafta Seminars – Washington, D.C.

10 – USSEC Annual Event – Mid-West, U.S.A.

14 – IGTC Management Council – Virtual

26-27 – WTO Agriculture Committee – Geneva, Switzerland

October

31-November 1 – WTO SPS Committee – Geneva, Switzerland

November

19-23 – IPPC Standards Committee – Rome, Italy

21-22 – WTO Agriculture Committee – Geneva, Switzerland

10-22 – COP 14 – Egypt

December

4 – IGC 40th Session – London, UK

14 – IGTC Management Council - Virtual

TBD – Biosafety Protocol COP 14 – Egypt

2020

December

TBC – COP 15 – CBD – Beijing, China

2022

December

TBC – COP 16 – CBD - Turkey

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