



*“Working Together to Make Trade Work”*

## **OUTREACH October 13, 2015**

**Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA**

### **Member Opportunities**

- IGC Meeting and Forum – Buenos Aires November 30-December 1
- IGTC General Assembly and Meetings – Buenos Aires December 2-3
- NAEGA Seminars
- NAEGA Internships

### **Action Reports**

- Trans-Pacific Partnership Review and Analysis
- IGTC Update
- NAEGA Support for Cuba Ag Exports Act

### **NAEGA Future Actions**

- U.S. Review of Coordinated Biotechnology Framework
- USDA Opens Public Comment Period on GE Wheat Field Trials
- ITC Review of Economic Impact of Trade Agreements

### **Information For Your Consideration**

- Export-Import Bank Back?
- USDA Releases Information on Benefits of Negotiated TPP

### **NAEGA Calendar and Member Notices**

- Upcoming Events and Notices for Members

Thank you for your membership and work with NAEGA. This copyrighted report is intended for the use of NAEGA membership only. The accuracy of the information reported and interpreted is not guaranteed. All contents are subject to correction and revision. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture NAEGA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or disability. NAEGA is an equal opportunity employer

To be removed from the NAEGA OUTREACH email list please send a message to [membersonly@naega.org](mailto:membersonly@naega.org) with the phrase “Unsubscribe from OUTREACH” in the subject line.



*“Working Together to Make Trade Work”*

## **Member Opportunities**

### **IGC Meeting and Forum**

On December 1, the International Grains Council and the Buenos Aires Bolsa de Cereales will hold a forum titled *The New Global Context: Challenges and Opportunities of Large Net Exporters* in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The forum will be conducted at the Bolsa de Cereales, 123 Corrientes Avenue, Buenos Aires, Argentina and feature discussions on global grain markets, upcoming developments and challenges to the grain trade, ongoing trade negotiations, and food security issues, among other topics.

Working on behalf of the International Grain Trade Coalition (IGTC), Gary Martin plans to moderate a session at the forum called *“Key Grain Trade Issue: Developments and Challenges”*. The topics and presenters include:

1. **Electronic Documentation** – Randal Giroux, Ph.D., Vice President of Food Safety, Quality and Regulatory, Cargill
2. **International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures for Grain** – presenter to be determined
3. **Accommodating New Plant Breeding Techniques** – Marcel Bruins, Ph.D., Science Advisor, NAEGA and IGTC
4. **Grain as a hazardous material?** UN Sub-committee of Experts on the Global Harmonized System (GHS) of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals – María Marta Rebizo, CIARA-CEC

NAEGA members will be invited to attend the IGC Bolsa Forum and the subsequent meetings of the IGTC. Registration information and agendas will be released soon. Please Contact Gary, Ryan, or Colleen in the NAEGA office for assistance.

### **IGTC General Assembly and Meetings**

The IGTC will hold meetings and a general assembly on December 2 and 3 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The IGTC will be hosted by the Bolsa de Cereales, 123 Corrientes Avenue, Buenos Aires, Argentina. The meetings will feature a policy strategy session, a roundtable discussion on relevant policy and commercial concerns, an IGTC general assembly, and a stakeholder outreach session. NAEGA members are welcome and will soon receive invitations and further details on this event, including a draft agenda.

Additionally, a block of hotel rooms has been reserved for IGTC members from November 28 to December 3 at the Sheraton Buenos Aires Hotel & Convention Center. Please Contact Gary, Ryan, or Colleen in the NAEGA office for assistance.

Thank you for your membership and work with NAEGA. This copyrighted report is intended for the use of NAEGA membership only. The accuracy of the information reported and interpreted is not guaranteed. All contents are subject to correction and revision. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture NAEGA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or disability. NAEGA is an equal opportunity employer

To be removed from the NAEGA OUTREACH email list please send a message to [membersonly@naega.org](mailto:membersonly@naega.org) with the phrase “Unsubscribe from OUTREACH” in the subject line.



*“Working Together to Make Trade Work”*

### **NAEGA Seminars**

The NAEGA Contracts Committee conducts seminars for in-depth and interactive education on contract practices. NAEGA Seminars are conducted in two different ways: first, “Privately” funded and designed for a single member company, and attended by persons invited by that member company; second, “Generally” funded by registration fees, designed to cover the interests of many companies, and attended by persons from several companies. In most cases, the Seminars provide intensive review of current developments and practices in international grain trade contracts, and often focus on the NAEGA 2. In-depth examination of regulatory compliance, as well as NAEGA services and policy concerns, can also be added content for a Seminar designed to meet your needs. Invitations for General Seminars are sent to all NAEGA member company representatives, and a per person registration fee will be required for attendance.

Our tentative plans for a General Seminar in Kansas City are on hold as we seek a date in near future that can be accommodated. NAEGA members interested in attending a General Seminar should contact Gary (gcmartin@naega.org) or Sam (sbonilla@naega.org). We have several open dates during which Seminars may be conducted. At your convenience, please let us know if you would like to discuss options for holding a seminar.

### **NAEGA Internships**

NAEGA is seeking candidates for internships in our Washington, D.C. office during the winter and summer of 2016. NAEGA internships last for 2 to 4 months and are tailored to meet the availability and interests of the student. Common responsibilities for a NAEGA internship include supporting staff administration and communication related to membership and industry services, national and international policy, international programs and cooperation, as well as general office administration. NAEGA interns report directly to a Director of Operations and support the work of all NAEGA staff and third party personnel. Work study programs may be incorporated into a NAEGA internship.

Please contact Ryan to discuss – we are now recruiting for interns to start in January or February and May or June of 2016. Your recommendations are welcome!

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

**[Click here to return to Index](#)**

## **Reports on NAEGA Actions**

### **Trans-Pacific Partnership Review and Analysis**

On October 5, the countries of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) announced the conclusion of negotiations. It is anticipated that a final text will be available to the public in the next couple of months. NAEGA is preparing analysis on the effects that the TPP will have on the international

Thank you for your membership and work with NAEGA. This copyrighted report is intended for the use of NAEGA membership only. The accuracy of the information reported and interpreted is not guaranteed. All contents are subject to correction and revision. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture NAEGA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or disability. NAEGA is an equal opportunity employer

To be removed from the NAEGA OUTREACH email list please send a message to [membersonly@naega.org](mailto:membersonly@naega.org) with the phrase “Unsubscribe from OUTREACH” in the subject line.



*“Working Together to Make Trade Work”*

grain and oilseed trade, including how new trade laws and rules will affect our member countries and members of the International Grain Trade Coalition. Ryan is currently leading this initiative.

If you would like to provide any input to this process or would like more information, please contact Ryan.

More information on the TPP agreement can be found [here](#). Highlights of the benefits to U.S. agriculture from TPP, provided by the USDA, can be found [here](#).

### **IGTC Update**

**New Website Up and Running** – The IGTC’s new website, [www.igtglobal.org](http://www.igtglobal.org), is now available and set to operate as a central communications platform for the IGTC. While not yet completed, the new site will soon be fully optimized to serve Corporate Stakeholders and NAEGA Members. One feature to be activated is a password-protected section that will include easy, searchable access to IGTC records and related information. The website, one of several NAEGA-funded IGTC tools, provides for current information on IGTC actions and includes key communications tools to enhance NAEGA member value. For instance, for IGTC work, Gary will now be communicating with IGTC members and stakeholders from an IGTC email address, [president@igtglobal.org](mailto:president@igtglobal.org). Please add this email to your list of acceptable contacts accordingly.

Access the new IGTC website by clicking [here](#).

**NAEGA consultants to broaden capacity** - NAEGA completed agreements with three consultants to expand and enhance IGTC:

1. Rebecca Blue, a resident of Buenos Aires, is acting as an IGTC advisor and meeting planner for upcoming meetings in Buenos Aires on Dec. 1-3. Rebecca can be reached via email at [rebecca\\_a\\_blue@yahoo.com](mailto:rebecca_a_blue@yahoo.com).
2. Marcel Bruins is following on to his valuable contribution as Secretariat during a time of evolution and growth of the Coalition over the past year as Science Advisor, a newly-created role. As IGTC Secretariat over the past year, Marcel successfully completed the formal establishment of IGTC and led several meetings and our policy advocacy efforts. In his new role, he will be focusing on advising and representation on critical files such as the New Plant Breeding Techniques and the International Plant Protection Convention establishment of an International Standard for Phyto-Sanitary Measures (ISPM) for grain movement. Marcel will be in Buenos Aires and will continue to contribute to most IGTC work and continue to provide for IGTC domicile in Switzerland. He can be reached at [mbruins1964@gmail.com](mailto:mbruins1964@gmail.com).
3. With Marcel’s move to Science Advisor, IGTC is in search of a Secretariat to lead our ever-expanding communication and administrative efforts. Everson Communications of Ottawa, Canada is providing for the Secretariat in the interim. Jim Everson, whom many of you know for his work with us on behalf of the Canada Grains Council, is the principle

Thank you for your membership and work with NAEGA. This copyrighted report is intended for the use of NAEGA membership only. The accuracy of the information reported and interpreted is not guaranteed. All contents are subject to correction and revision. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture NAEGA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or disability. NAEGA is an equal opportunity employer

To be removed from the NAEGA OUTREACH email list please send a message to [membersonly@naega.org](mailto:membersonly@naega.org) with the phrase “Unsubscribe from OUTREACH” in the subject line.



*“Working Together to Make Trade Work”*

in Everson Communications and is providing a sizeable portion of his valuable time to IGTC. Jim is working to support all IGTC activity, including the Buenos Aires meetings. For IGTC information, Everson Communications and Jim can be reached at [secretariat@igtglobal.org](mailto:secretariat@igtglobal.org).

### **NAEGA Support for Cuba Ag Exports Act**

Last week, NAEGA (via the U.S. Agriculture Coalition for Cuba) offered its support to the Cuba Agriculture Exports Act. The act removes key barriers to agricultural trade with Cuba by modifying the prohibition of certain U.S. assistance and financing for agricultural exports to Cuba currently in place under the Trade Sanctions Reform and Export Enhancement Act of 2000. Specifically, the act would:

- Repeal the TSRA financing restrictions, same as the Heitkamp/Boozman bill
- Exempt MAP, FMD, GSM-102, and Federal Checkoff programs from TSRA restrictions on government assistance in Cuba
- Enables limited investment in Cuban agribusinesses subject to the following constraints:
  - Must be an agribusiness
  - Must be a private entity not affiliated with the Government of Cuba or its agents
  - Cannot be located on confiscated land of Cuban nationals

These changes address some of the longstanding U.S. barriers to agriculture trade with Cuba, particularly regarding trade financing.

A copy of the legislation can be found [here](#). A press release and one-page brief on the legislation can be found [here](#) and [here](#), respectively.

### **NAEGA Future Actions**

**NAEGA is considering making comments on the following items. Please contact us with your advice or suggestions:**

#### **2015**

**U.S. Review of Coordinated Biotechnology Framework** – NAEGA will be engaged in a White House initiative intended to update and improve the U.S. Coordinated Biotechnology Framework. The White House issued a memorandum directing the three federal agencies with oversight responsibilities for the products of biotechnology—the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and the Department of Agriculture (USDA)—to update the Coordinated Framework, develop a long-term strategy to ensure that the system is prepared for the future products of biotechnology, and commission an expert analysis of the future landscape of biotechnology products to support this effort.

NAEGA looks forward to receiving member input. More information can be found [here](#).

**USDA Public Comment on GE Wheat Field Trials** – The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has opened up a 30-day public comment period on a proposed rule regarding the use of genetically engineered (GE) wheat in field trials. Thank you for your membership and work with NAEGA. This copyrighted report is intended for the use of NAEGA membership only. The accuracy of the information reported and interpreted is not guaranteed. All contents are subject to correction and revision. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture NAEGA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or disability. NAEGA is an equal opportunity employer

To be removed from the NAEGA OUTREACH email list please send a message to [membersonly@naega.org](mailto:membersonly@naega.org) with the phrase “Unsubscribe from OUTREACH” in the subject line.



*“Working Together to Make Trade Work”*

comment period regarding its proposed plan to strengthen oversight of genetically engineered wheat field trials. The proposed plan would require future field trials to be conducted under APHIS permit. This permitting process is proposed after two recent detections of GE wheat in unauthorized areas. APHIS will consider all public comments received on or before October 26, 2015.

NAEGA looks forward to receiving member input on this issue.

For more information, click [here](#).

**ITC Review of Economic Impact of Trade Agreements** – Prompted by a request from Congress, the U.S. International Trade Commission (USITC) has begun an investigation into the economic impacts of U.S. trade agreements since 1984. This investigation will include bilateral and multilateral agreements, including the Uruguay Round of negotiations, and will take place over a period of 8 months. Submissions of public statements will be accepted until November 4. A public hearing on the report will be conducted on November 17, and the report will be submitted to Congress on June 29.

For more information, click [here](#).

*NAEGA Actions on Current Issues are tracked on the Member’s Only Section under their relevant committee pages.*

[Click here to return to Index](#)

## Information for your Consideration

### Export-Import Bank Back?

The Export-Import Bank, whose charter expired on July 1, could soon be back in business if a new legislative effort moves forward in Congress. Currently, a bipartisan group of lawmakers are pushing for a vote on the bank after the filing of a discharge petition, the first since 2002. Led by Rep. Frank Lucas (R-OK), the discharge petition, which is a means of bypassing a committee and bringing a bill to the floor if a majority of the body are signatories, could circumvent House leadership and force a vote on the bank. If brought to the floor, the bank’s charter could be approved by the bipartisan coalition of Democrats and Republicans who supported the petition. A re-charter of the bank was already authorized in the Senate as part of the Highway Trust Fund reauthorization, but another vote would be required.

Under its previous charter, the Export-Import Bank offered credit guarantees, risk insurance, and other financial services to exporters. Some Republicans, who argue that it is corporate welfare, effectively killed its re-charter earlier this summer.

For more information on the Export-Import Bank, click [here](#).

Thank you for your membership and work with NAEGA. This copyrighted report is intended for the use of NAEGA membership only. The accuracy of the information reported and interpreted is not guaranteed. All contents are subject to correction and revision. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture NAEGA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or disability. NAEGA is an equal opportunity employer

To be removed from the NAEGA OUTREACH email list please send a message to [membersonly@naega.org](mailto:membersonly@naega.org) with the phrase “Unsubscribe from OUTREACH” in the subject line.



*“Working Together to Make Trade Work”*

### **USDA Released Information on Negotiated TPP**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has released a report on the agriculture provisions of the recently concluded TPP agreement. While the final text of the agreement will not be available for some time, USDA’s report gives some insights into the market access gains provided by the agreement. In particular, U.S. corn producers will see increased market access gains for corn in the form of reduced tariffs for non-feed products and increased country specific quotas (CSQ) for certain starches. In addition, Japan, Malaysia, and Vietnam will eliminate tariffs on soybean oil, and Japan will increase its CSQ for wheat and lower tariffs on processed wheat products.

A full copy of the report can be found [here](#).

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

[Click here to return to Index](#)

## **NAEGA Calendar & Member Notices**

### **2015**

#### **October**

**18** – Budapest, Hungary – Plant Breeding and Innovation Working Group of the International Seed Federation (ISF). Marcel Bruins, for IGTC, attending.

**26-29** – Memphis, TN - 39th NAPPO Annual Meeting

#### **November**

**12** – Washington, D.C. – NAEGA Membership and Board Meeting

**16-19** – Location TBD – USAEDC Annual Workshop

**17-20** – Amsterdam, Netherlands – International Genetically Modified Conference on Coexistence (GMCC-15)

**30 – Dec. 1** - Buenos Aires Argentina - International Grain Council (IGC) meeting and Forum Bolsa de Buenos Aires. Gary Martin, Marcel Bruins plan to attend.

#### **December**

**2- 3** – Buenos Aires, Argentina IGTC General Assembly and Meetings – Bolsa de Buenos Aires. Gary Martin, Marcel Bruins plan to attend. ALL NAEGA members / IGTC Corporate Stakeholders welcome!

Thank you for your membership and work with NAEGA. This copyrighted report is intended for the use of NAEGA membership only. The accuracy of the information reported and interpreted is not guaranteed. All contents are subject to correction and revision. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture NAEGA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or disability. NAEGA is an equal opportunity employer

To be removed from the NAEGA OUTREACH email list please send a message to [membersonly@naega.org](mailto:membersonly@naega.org) with the phrase “Unsubscribe from OUTREACH” in the subject line.



*“Working Together to Make Trade Work”*

**9-11** – Geneva, Switzerland – Globally Harmonized System (GHS) Subcommittee meeting. Jerry Cotter attending.

**15-18** – Nairobi, Kenya – Tenth WTO Ministerial Conference

## **2016**

### **January**

**11-14** – Washington, D.C.-Transportation Research Board (TRB) Agricultural Transportation Committee Annual Meeting. Gary Martin will present on multiple freight transportation modes related to the U.S. grain industry.

### **April**

**14** – Winnipeg, Canada – Tentative IGTC Meeting

[Click here to return to Index](#)

Thank you for your membership and work with NAEGA. This copyrighted report is intended for the use of NAEGA membership only. The accuracy of the information reported and interpreted is not guaranteed. All contents are subject to correction and revision. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture NAEGA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or disability. NAEGA is an equal opportunity employer

To be removed from the NAEGA OUTREACH email list please send a message to [membersonly@naega.org](mailto:membersonly@naega.org) with the phrase “Unsubscribe from OUTREACH” in the subject line.