



*“Working Together to Make Trade Work”*

## **OUTREACH August 26, 2013**

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

### **Member participation opportunity:**

- Taiwanese Goodwill Mission – Washington, D.C. – September 10
- 2013 U.S. Soy Global Trade Exchange – Davenport, Iowa – September 16-18
- NAEGA Fall Board Meeting – Minneapolis, Minnesota – September 18
- NAPPO Annual Meeting 2013 – Guelph, Ontario-Canada – October 28-November 1

### **Action Reports**

- Asia-Americas – Letter to Ambassador Froman on the Trans Pacific Partnership
- U.S.-Vietnam – Plant Health Law Team Visits U.S.
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- Upcoming Events and Notices for Members

## **NAEGA Member Participation Opportunity**

### **Taiwanese Goodwill Mission – Washington, D.C., September 10**

NAEGA will co-host a Taiwanese goodwill mission reception on September 10, from 6:00 – 8:00 pm EDT at the National Press Club in Washington D.C. The Taiwanese Mission will sign Letters of Intent (LOI) to show that the industry people from Taiwan intend to buy stipulated quantities of grains and co-products from the U.S. during 2014 and 2015. The primary function of this mission is to help enhance the face-to-face relationships with grain producers, key leaders of related associations, and government leaders.

NAEGA Member representatives are invited. A list of Taiwanese participants can be found [here](#). If you would like to attend, please let Gary or Kyle know.

### **2013 US Soy Global Trade Exchange – Davenport, Iowa, September 16-18**

NAEGA is supporting the U.S. Soy Global Trade Exchange where it is anticipated that the Chinese will be signing soybean contracts worth \$500 million. The Exchange is hosted by the

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U.S. Soybean Export Council and the Midwest Shippers Association in the Quad Cities – Davenport, Iowa from September 16-18. NAEGA President, Gary C. Martin, is scheduled to moderate a panel during the Exchange.

A preliminary agenda can be found [here](#).

### **NAEGA Fall Board Meeting – Wayzata, Minnesota, September 18**

NAEGA’s fall board meeting is scheduled to meet on September 18, 2013 from 10:00am (CDT) to 3:00pm (CDT) at Cargill, 15407 McGinty Road West, Wayzata, Minnesota.

All NAEGA Members are invited to attend. A draft agenda, including reports from all NAEGA Committees will be developed in August. **Please let us know what issues you want on the agenda by Friday August 23.**

Nearby hotels are: Sheraton Minneapolis West, 12201 Ridgedale Dr.’ Minnetonka, MN 952-593-0000 and Radisson-Plymouth, 3131 Campus Dr. Plymouth, MN 1-800-992-2694

### **NAPPO Annual Meeting 2013 – Guelph, Ontario, October 28**

The 2013 North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) annual meeting is scheduled for October 28, 2013 to November 1, 2013 at the Delta Hotel in Guelph, Ontario in Canada. More information will be coming soon. NAEGA is planning to participate. In addition to concerns with official plant protection regulation in Mexico, Canada and the U.S. expect to focus on the International Plant Protection Organization’s intentions regarding a standard for Phytosanitary Measures for International Grain Movements. Updates on the agenda are forthcoming at: <http://www.nappo.org/en/>

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

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## **Reports on NAEGA Actions**

### **Asia-Americas – Letter to Ambassador Froman on the Trans Pacific Partnership**

NAEGA signed on with 15 other business and agricultural associations in a letter to USTR that opposes the inclusion of new product-specific language in Trans Pacific Partnership’s (TPP) general exceptions. In anticipation of the 19<sup>th</sup> Round of the TPP negotiations in Brunei Darussalam, the signatories of the letter oppose a recently identified tobacco specific exception under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) Article XX(b). The new language inserted by the U.S. is inappropriate because it states the obvious applicability of Article XX(b) and in doing so risks encouraging additional product-specific references not based on evidence and sound science. The letter can be found [here](#).

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### **U.S.-Vietnam – Vietnam Plant Law Team Visits the U.S.**

NAEGA hosted a Vietnam Plant Health Law team at its office in Washington, D.C. for lunch on Wednesday, August 21. The Food and Agriculture Export Alliance (FAEA) hosted the visitors from Vietnam last week in D.C. and for a visit to Portland, Oregon. The Vietnam delegation met with USDA FAS officials, NAEGA member representatives, and staff in response to plans for an October 2013 implementation by Vietnam of a new law on Plant Protection and Quarantine. Our conversation included specifics about the draft law and how it applies to broader policy perspectives; particularly the Rapid Response Mechanism and how it fits into the Transpacific Partnership negotiations and the International Plant Protection Convention.

The following officials attended the lunch as a part of the Vietnamese team:

- Mr. Nguyen Vinh Ha, Vice Chairman, NA Science and Technology Committee (team leader)
- Dr. Phung Duc Tien, Commissioner, Department of Science, Technology and Environment, Office of NA
- Dr. Nguyen Xuan Hong, Director General, MARD/PPD
- Dr. Nguyen Quy Duong, DG, MARD/PPD/ICD
- Dr. Tran Xuan Dung, NA Science and Technology Committee
- Ms. Tran Ngoc Hoa; NA Science and Technology Committee
- Ms. Tran Thi Huong Giang, Legal Advisor, FAEA’s Representative
- Ms. Nguyen Thi Huong Nguyen, FAS, Hanoi

A file with documents from the meeting can be downloaded [here](#). We plan to complete a full review of the draft law and submit comments to the Vietnamese representatives in the coming weeks. Your comments and suggestions regarding the draft law and trade relations with Vietnam are requested.

### **World – Letter Supporting Global Low-Level Presence Initiative**

NAEGA and its Biotech Value chain Memorandum of Understanding counterpart associations are seeking increased support from US Government for the Global Low-Level Presence Initiative (GLI). In a letter to high level members of the administration in the USDA, USTR, and State Department we expressed concern that the U.S. and other key country support for GLI is waning and lacking leadership. We have asked the U.S. government to appoint a senior official(s) to lead an official U.S. position on Low-Level Presence (LLP) and participate in the Durban, South Africa meeting on September 18-22. A strong outcome is needed at the Durban meeting to maintain the momentum created from 2012 meeting in Vancouver, Canada that was supported by NAEGA and the International Grain Trade Coalition.

As soon as possible, we are seeking to meet with U.S. Government senior leadership to discuss ideas and concerns regarding the U.S. government position on LLP and making the GLI meeting successful. The Letter can be viewed [here](#).

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

## **2013**

**Sept. 12** – Comments to USTR on Russia’s implementation of WTO obligations. <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2013-08-15/pdf/2013-19859.pdf>

**Sept. 20** – Comments to USTR on China’s compliance to WTO obligations. <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2013-08-15/pdf/2013-19846.pdf>

**Sept. 27** – Comments to APHIS on Canada-United States Perimeter Approach to Plant Protection. <http://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAAPHIS/bulletins/86a42b>

**Oct. 22** – Comments to FAS on the proposed extension of an information collection in support of the export sales reporting program for U.S. agricultural commodities.

**Nov. 26** – Comments to FDA’s proposed rule on importer/third-party accreditation of foreign foods: <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2013/07/29/2013-17994/accreditation-of-third-party-auditors-certification-bodies-to-conduct-food-safety-audits-and-to-issue>

**Nov. 30** – Comments to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) on current crop variety registration system in Canada. <http://www.agr.gc.ca/eng/about-us/public-opinion-and-consultations/crop-variety-registration-engagement/?id=1374781777067>

**TBD** – Comments to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) on draft directives D-12-05: [http://www.naega.org/images/pdf/CFIA\\_Draft\\_D-12-05.pdf](http://www.naega.org/images/pdf/CFIA_Draft_D-12-05.pdf)

*NAEGA Actions on Current Issues are tracked on both the Member’s Only Section under their relevant committee pages and the on the Personal Page’s site. Updates to tracked issues are posted in this section.*

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## **New Issues & Opportunities for NAEGA Consideration**

### **Canada – Opportunity to Comment on Crop Variety Registration System**

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) seeks public comments on an Options Paper outlines potential changes to the crop variety registration system in Canada. Four potential options are presented in the paper with varying levels of involvement and oversight by private industry and the federal government. AAFC will be working closely with members of the industry from various crop value chains to ensure that Canada has an approach that encourages innovation in

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variety development and keeps pace with the changes currently taking place in the national and international crop production systems.

The comments are due on November 30, 2013. To comment on the [Options Paper](#), follow [these instructions](#). The official notice can be found [here](#).

### **U.S. – USDA APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine Priorities**

In a publically distributed memo, Osama El-Lissy, the new Deputy Administrator for Plant Protection and Quarantine at the Animal Plant Health Inspection Service of the USDA (APHIS), outlined his priorities for 2013 and 2014. El-Lissy set goals of priority concern to NAEGA to strengthen bilateral relationships with U.S. trading partners, establish an effective multinational system to reduce threats, and maintain leadership in setting international standards at International Plant Protection Convention and North American Plant Protection Organization.

The memo can be found [here](#).

### **U.S. – USDA FAS Agricultural Export Sales Reporting**

USDA FAS is accepting comments through October 22 on the proposed extension of an information collection in support of the export sales reporting program for U.S. agricultural commodities. NAEGA is considering commenting and welcome your comments and suggestions.

*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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## **NAEGA Calendar & Member Notices**

### **August**

**26** – Champaign, Illinois – Illinois Soy International Biotechnology Symposium – Gary will attend and present.

### **September**

**16-20** – London, England – IMO/DSC Meeting – NAEGA’s senior advisor, Jerry Cotter, will attend the IMO/DSC meeting which will cover reception facilities for cargo and access to stockpiles by vessel representatives.

**16-18** – Davenport, Iowa – U.S. Soy Global Trade Exchange

**18** – Wayzata, Minnesota – NAEGA Fall Board Meeting at Cargill.

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**18-20** - Durban, South Africa - Third Meeting of the Global Low Level Presence Initiative (GLI) – Kirk Miller to attend for NAEGA. Paul Green may also attend.

**19** – Washington, D.C. – FDA Public Meeting on Foreign Supplier Verification Programs (FSVP) and Accreditation of Third-Part Auditors.

**22-24** – Santander, Spain – Dry Bulk Terminals Group Meeting – NAEGA’s senior advisor, Jerry Cotter, will attend the DBTG meeting which will address Transportation Moisture Limit issues as well as operational and shipping issues and a grain elevator tour.

**27** – Washington, D.C. – Public hearing at USTR on Russia’s implementation of its WTO obligations.

### **October**

**4** – Washington, D.C. – Public hearing at USTR on China’s compliance with its WTO obligations.

**28 – Nov. 1** – 2013 NAPPO Annual Meeting – NAPPO’s annual meeting has been scheduled for October 28, 2013 to November 1, 2013 at the Delta Hotel in Guelph, Ontario in Canada. More information will be coming soon.

### **November**

**TBD** – Washington, DC – One Day USDA/USAID Food Aid & Development Meeting with Stakeholders

**4-6** – San Antonio, Texas – American Nutrition Forum – Gary Martin attending and presenting

**12-15** – Lisbon, Portugal - 6th International Conference on Coexistence between Genetically Modified (GM) and non-GM based Agricultural Supply Chains: [www.gmcc13.org](http://www.gmcc13.org)

**19-21** – Baltimore, Maryland – U.S. Agricultural Export Development Council (USAEDC) 2013 Annual Workshop – NAEGA Members invited to participate

### **2014**

**January -- TBD** – Egypt – 2013 Middle East Regional Trade Conference hosted by U.S. Wheat Associates in cooperation with NAEGA, U.S. Grains Council and U.S. Soybean Export Council

### **March**

**31** – 2014 NAEGA Annual Meetings – Hilton Head, South Carolina

**30-April 1** – 2014 NGFA Convention – Hilton Head, South Carolina

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