



Celebrating 100 Years

January 4, 2012

Happy New Year! Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA.

Member Action Items:

Plan now for the Centennial Celebration and 2012; NAEGA Membership Dues; Amstutz Award nominations requested; and [Recommend comments to governments](#)

NAEGA Action Items:

Peru, Biotech; World, USTR Meeting on Trans Pacific Partnership; EU, U.S.-EU High Level Working Group on Jobs and Growth and NAEGA MAP Trip Report Now Available

Calendar and Website:

Upcoming events an Issue Tracking

MEMBER ACTION ITEMS:

Please act now to reserve your company table and sponsorships at the upcoming Annual Meeting and Centennial Celebration! Response from Member Companies for table reservations at the February 23 Gala Dinner and sponsorship of the February 22 Global Industry Reception is strong! 6 Full Tables for the Gala Dinner are already reserved.

NAEGA Members are inviting guests from around the world to join the celebration. **We now expect representatives from Japan, Mexico, Australia, Argentina, Brazil, Europe and the Grain and Feed Trade Association to address NAEGA committees and attend both the reception and the dinner.** Member invitees include foreign embassy representatives, senior corporate officials, international customers, suppliers and Federal, State and local government leaders.

All NAEGA members will likely be interested in and are welcome to attend the committee meetings which will include guest speakers from around the world. NAEGA's committees will be convening over the next 40 days to set their 2012 plans including hosting guest speakers during the February 22 and 23 events.

We are planning for 200 attendees at the [Global Industry Reception](#) at the Bin 1700 Lounge at the Crystal City Marriott on February 22. Your advice on who should be invited is requested.

Companies who would like to place promotional displays at the reception need to advise us now of their intentions to sponsor the Reception.

At the Gala Centennial Dinner on February 23 we expect a keynote address from Canadian Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Gerry Ritz and have confirmed entertainment by The Capitol Steps, who have developed a new routine for the 2012 election cycle. This business dress affair will be a once in a lifetime opportunity to celebrate the past and set the stage for another 100 years of NAEGA!

Details on how to sponsor the February 22 Global Industry Reception, Reserve seats for the Gala Centennial Dinner, Register for the Annual Meetings and Centennial Celebration and book a room at the Crystal Gateway Marriott are available on the Member's Only Section of the NAEGA website and under "Meetings" on the NAEGA Personal Pages Site.

Please let us know your plans for the Celebration and meetings as soon as possible!

NAEGA Membership Dues – Invoices for NAEGA's 2012 Membership Dues have been mailed and payment is due by February 1. Prompt payment is appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact the NAEGA office.



Amstutz Award Nominations Open - NAEGA has opened up nominations for the Amstutz Award. The Amstutz Award, named after former NAEGA President Dan Amstutz, is given to persons who have exhibited distinguished leadership in free trade and outstanding promotion of agriculture. Recipients may be a citizen of any country and may be involved directly or indirectly with the export grain and oilseed business. More details on the award and Dan Amstutz are available on the Amstutz Tribute page of the NAEGA Website. If you would like to nominate an individual for the award, please contact Gary Martin at the NAEGA office.

NAEGA Action Items:

Peru, Biotech – On December 9, Peruvian President Ollanta Humala signed legislation containing a ten-year moratorium on imports and production of genetically engineered (GE) products and on GE animals. While the moratorium excludes GE products or GE derived products for human consumption, feed or processing, it does require a risk assessment of GE products. To date, Peru has not conducted any GE risk assessments. Peru has 60 days to publish implementing regulations. The pending regulations and their implementation will be critical for neutralizing negative effects on this law on international grain and oilseed trade.

World, USTR Meeting on Trans Pacific Partnership – NAEGA is communicating with governments and colleagues regarding the evolving Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP). NAEGA policy currently states that NAEGA:

1. Is supportive of including Japan, Mexico and Canada in a comprehensive agreement across all products and all sectors in all TPP economies.
2. Continues to support including an innovative technologies working group (ITWG) in the TPP. The ITWG would operate by addressing and establishing work plans to resolve the

issues related to technology and agricultural product trade. The ITWG should target low-level presence (LLP) of biotech products and labeling issues. All three countries, Japan, Canada and Mexico, have taken significant and trade supportive steps to address these issues and their addition to the ITWG process will increase the influence and reach of such a forum as well as bring relevant, import experience and expertise to the ITWG process.

3. Recognizes that the inclusion of Japan in the TPP as most significant to tariff and other barrier reductions that will quickly make the TPP of economic impact.
4. Suggests the U.S. leverage our existing relationships with Canada and Mexico as well as Japan in order to improve the inter-market compatibility and consistency of official food safety, plant health and grain and oilseed product quality measures implemented by TPP countries.
5. Supports a goal of completing a TPP in 2012 even if that means Japan, Canada or Mexico are added to the TPP talks around the middle of 2012 and after much of the agreements substance has been agreed to by the current 9 countries involved.

Member input regarding our approach to the TTP is requested.

EU, U.S.-EU High-Level Working Group on Jobs and Growth – NAEGA has been asked by U.S. government for advice on the joint U.S.-EU High-Level Working Group on Jobs and Growth. The Task Force is beginning its work towards preparing a report for U.S. and EU leaders which is due at the end of the year. The Working Group was created at the U.S.-EU Summit in November 2011 and is tasked to identify policies and measures to increase U.S.-EU trade and investment to support mutually beneficial job creation, economic growth, and international competitiveness. The Working Group was tasked to work closely with all public and private sector stakeholder groups, and to draw on existing dialogues and mechanisms, as appropriate.

NAEGA members input and advice is requested. We are currently supporting two initiatives for the Working Group:

- a. Reducing and eliminating the inconsistencies between the U.S. and EU regulation of crop biotechnology that restrict or prevent trade in grains, oilseeds and their food and feed products. For example the current EU “technical solution” with respect to the low level presence of yet to be approved for use as food or feed in the EU crop biotechnology places an impractical restriction on imports to the EU of U.S. grains, oilseeds and products thereof.
- b. Completing by August 1, 2012 a bi-lateral agreement as provided for in EU Renewable Energy Directive (RED). The Agreement should recognize the RED sustainability requirements are achieved via the production and marketing in compliance with the long standing framework U.S. conservation programs. The agreement should ultimately determine that U.S. soybeans and other commodities that are imported to the EU for Biofuels and Biofuel feedstock do not require additional certification.

Upon completing its analysis, the Working Group will also consider and recommend the practical means necessary to implement any policy measures identified. These could include a range of possible initiatives, from enhanced regulatory cooperation to negotiation of one or more

bilateral trade agreements addressing the issues above. More details on the Working Group and its mission can be found [through this link](#).

NAEGA MAP Travel Report Available – The Market Access Program (MAP) trip reports for the recent NAEGA mission to Mexico by NAEGA President & CEO Gary Martin and NAEGA Senior Advisor Sam Bonilla is now available for NAEGA members to view. MAP activity is tracked under the MAP committee and the trip reports are available on the [NAEGA personal pages](#) site and the [MAP Committee Website](#).

CALENDAR & WEBSITE

Official Comments Calendar

January

13 – Comments due to USTR on the inclusion of Canada, Japan and Mexico in negotiations on the Trans Pacific Partnership:

Request for comments on Japan’s interest in joining the TPP:

http://www.ofr.gov/OFRUpload/OFRData/2011-31322_PI.pdf

Request for comments on Canada’s interest in joining the TPP:

http://www.ofr.gov/OFRUpload/OFRData/2011-31317_PI.pdf

Request for comments on Mexico’s interest in joining the TPP:

http://www.ofr.gov/OFRUpload/OFRData/2011-31318_PI.pdf

24 – Comments due to U.S. Customs and Border Patrol on the proposed extension with a change to the burden hours of the cargo manifest/declaration, stow plan, container status messages and importer security filing: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-11-25/pdf/2011-30343.pdf>.

Activities Calendar

January

5 – Washington, DC – Meeting with the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative on the Trans Pacific Partnership – Gary Martin Attending

February

2-3 – Seattle, WA – U.S. Coast Guard ASP User’s Meeting – Jerry Cotter Attending

14 – Washington, DC – Office of Foreign Assets Control International Trade Symposium. Gary Martin Attending.

22-23 – Washington, DC – 2012 NAEGA Annual Meetings and 100th Anniversary Celebration

March

18-20 – Charleston, SC – NGFA 2012 Convention

October

1-5 – Hyderabad, India – COP/MOP 6 to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

NAEGA, Issue Tracking – NAEGA has updated the NAEGA Personal Pages website to include the new Issue Tracking system, which will improve the way NAEGA communicates to members regarding progress on issues.

NAEGA Issues & Decision Memos have been added to the site under the section currently titled “Events”. The events section will be retitled to “Current Issues”, and each Issue has its own page, containing background information on the issue and updates on current progress on the issue. The Issue Pages can be updated by Board, Committee and other persons who have been granted access to add information. New issues will be posted as NAEGA begins work on them. The issues will be sorted by the most recent updates, and the Personal Pages site can be searched by subject. All persons who have set up a Personal Page can access this information.

If you have not yet registered for the Personal Pages, or have forgotten your log in information, please contact Patrick Hayden at phayden@naega.org. He will set up your account or reset your log in information and send you a temporary password. You can find a user’s guide for the [Personal Pages here](#).

Thank you for your membership and work with NAEGA.
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“Unsubscribe from OUTREACH” in the subject line.

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