



“Working Together to Make Trade Work”

## OUTREACH May 13, 2013

Thank you for your membership in and work with NAEGA

### Member participation opportunity:

- Reception for EU Trade Representatives, Agricultural Counselors and Attaches – Washington, DC, May 16
- IGC International Grains Conference – London, United Kingdom, June 10-11
- USAEDC Agricultural Attaché Conference – Alexandria, Virginia, July 9-10
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## NAEGA member participation opportunity

**Reception for EU Trade Representatives, Agricultural Counselors and Attaches – Washington, DC, May 16, 2013** – NAEGA Members are invited to attend a reception for EU Trade Representatives and Agricultural Counselors and Attachés on May 16, 2013 at the offices of Morgan and Lewis at 1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. The meeting, hosted by members of the Food & Ag Task Force for the Transatlantic Trade & Investment Partnership (T-TIP), will take place from 4:00pm-6:30pm and will focus on U.S. industry dialog with and outreach to EU officials on the T-TIP negotiations. If you or a representative would like to attend, you may register for the [event through this link](#).

**IGC International Grains Conference – London, United Kingdom, June 10-11, 2013** – NAEGA member personnel are invited to participate in the 2013 International Grain Council (IGC) International Grains Conference. The theme of this year’s conference is *“Assessing prospects, addressing challenges”*. The IGC Grains Conference brings together key decision makers, industry representatives and other stakeholders to discuss the latest developments in the

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grain and oilseed markets together with the policy challenges they present. We continue to find the conference to be an excellent venue during and around which to meet with key government and industry leaders. NAEGA President Gary C. Martin plans to attend and looks forward meeting with NAEGA members at the Reception and Meetings

NAEGA may be setting up meetings with key attendees. We will keep you informed.

Meanwhile your participation is welcome in 3 different ways:

1. **Literature distribution:** We will have a table top display at the IGC Exhibition. NAEGA members are welcome to send us promotional material to include on the table top. Please contact Patrick to make sure your company’s material is included on the NAEGA display.
2. **Workshop Participation:** We are sponsoring a workshop at the IGC Conference on June 11, 2013 that will cover current issues of importance in the international grain trade. NAEGA member company personnel attending invited to join the panel discussion. Please contact Gary if you or a colleague would like to make remarks.
3. **Discount Registrations:** A limited number of discounted registrations are available to NAEGA members for the IGC Conference. Please contact Patrick and let us know as soon as possible if you would like to take advantage of this discount offer.

An agenda for the full IGC Conference and registration information is [available on the IGC website](#).

**USAEDC Agricultural Attaché Conference – Alexandria, Virginia, July 9-10** – The U.S. Agricultural Export Development Council (USAEDC) has announced the agenda and for its 2013 Agricultural Attaché conference, which will be held in Alexandria, Virginia on July 9-10. USAEDC is a non-profit trade association of U.S. commodity trade associations, farmer cooperatives and state regional trade groups. The approximately 80 members expect USAEDC to assist them in their export promotion efforts, specifically those in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS). NAEGA, because of our use of the Market Access Program (MAP) is a member of USAEDC.

The attaché conference gives USAEDC members an opportunity to meet with overseas FAS attachés and staff and to discuss country-specific issues facing U.S. agricultural exports. NAEGA member representatives are encouraged to attend, and if interested should contact the NAEGA office for information on registering. More information is available [through think link](#).

**2013 APPAMEX-NAEGA Forum – Cancun, Mexico, August 15-17** – The 2013 Asociación de Proveedores de Productores Agropecuarios México (APPAMEX) - NAEGA Forum has been scheduled for August 15-17, 2013 at the in Cancun, Mexico. This year marks the 20<sup>th</sup> APPAMEX-NAEGA forum, and the theme is “Mexico’s Integration in the Global Food Security: 20 years of Commerce for the Service of the Mexican Agri-Food Industry”. An agenda for the forum is being developed and NAEGA members are invited to attend. If you or a

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member of your company would like to be a speaker at the forum or take part in a panel, please contact the NAEGA office. More details will be posted to the [NAEGA Member’s Only Website](#) and the [NAEGA Personal Pages site](#) as they become available.

*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

**EU, Comments to USTR on Transatlantic Trade & Investment Partnership** – NAEGA and the National Grain and Feed Association submitted joint comments to the Trade Policy Staff Committee (TPSC) at the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) regarding the proposed Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (T-TIP). The comments were submitted in response to a request from USTR for goals the U.S should pursue in negotiating the T-TIP.

We support the effort to identify policies and measures to increase U.S.-EU trade and investment to support mutually beneficial job creation, economic growth and international competitiveness. NAEGA and NGFA call for an ambitious, comprehensive and properly implemented U.S.-EU Free Trade Agreement (FTA) that would generate economic growth and create thousands of new jobs on both sides of the Atlantic. The letter we sent on Friday May 10 focuses on four key policies to include in the T-TIP:

1. A “Rapid Response Mechanism” (RRM) to facilitate trade when administrative entities implement Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures and other regulations, standards, testing and certification procedures that may result in technical barriers to trade (TBT). An effective and functioning RRM would prevent shipments of critically important and perishable agricultural products from being unnecessarily delayed or banned from import.
2. Other “WTO-Plus” measures to address Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) and Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT). These measures should: provide for enforceable dispute resolution, include effective disciplines that underscore the importance of harmonized, science-based regulations, be fully enforceable and ensure that T-TIP parties are held to commitments on risk assessment, risk management, transparency, border checks, laboratory testing and regulatory-coherence measures
3. Reduction and elimination of measures related to crop biotechnology that currently restrict or prevent trade in grains, oilseeds and their derived food and feed products. Doing so would be to the mutual benefit to consumers, farmers and the economies of the United States and the EU.

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4. Fair treatment of U.S. farm products in compliance with EU mandatory sustainability requirements. For example, a bilateral agreement, as provided for in EU Renewable Energy Directive (RED), should expressly recognize RED sustainability requirements are achieved via production and marketing practices conducted in compliance with the long-standing framework of 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.

The letter is posted to the NAEGA Public Website under [“Public Comment and Policy Statements”](#). The TPSC will conduct a hearing to consider the T-TIP on May 29 and 30.

**Japan, Recent NAEGA Travel to Tokyo** – NAEGA President Gary C. Martin was in Tokyo, Japan this week. His meetings with key Japanese and U.S. government officials and NAEGA members regarding trade policy, commercial practices, biotechnology, sanitary & phytosanitary measures, grain quality and supply security were very informative and successful. Corn quality concerns, the recent announcement that the Japanese and U.S. government have completed bilateral negotiations on the Trans Pacific Partnership, and commercialization plans for crop biotech were included in the discussions. Gary will be preparing a full trip report, and it will be posted to the [NAEGA International Programs Committee Website](#) and [NAEGA Personal Pages website](#). This NAEGA travel was completed with the assistance of USDA Market Access Program (MAP) funding.

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

### **2013**

**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)

### **May**

**16** – Comments due to FDA on the proposed rule for hazard analysis and preventive controls for human food: [http://www.ofr.gov/OFRUpload/OFRData/2013-00125\\_PI.pdf](http://www.ofr.gov/OFRUpload/OFRData/2013-00125_PI.pdf)

**16** – Comments due to FDA on the proposed rule for hazard analysis and preventive controls for produce: [http://www.ofr.gov/OFRUpload/OFRData/2013-00123\\_PI.pdf](http://www.ofr.gov/OFRUpload/OFRData/2013-00123_PI.pdf)

**16** – Deadline to request to appear at public International Trade Commission hearing on the probable economic effect of duty-free imports under T-TIP: [http://www.usitc.gov/secretary/fed\\_reg\\_notices/332/131\\_037\\_notice04182013sgl.pdf](http://www.usitc.gov/secretary/fed_reg_notices/332/131_037_notice04182013sgl.pdf)

### **June**

**9** – Comments due to USTR on negotiation objectives with regards to Japan's participation in the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Trade Agreement:

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<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2013-05-07/pdf/2013-10724.pdf>

**9** – Deadline to request to attend USTR hearing on negotiation objectives with regards to Japan's participation in the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Trade Agreement:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2013-05-07/pdf/2013-10724.pdf>

**17** – Written comments due to International Trade Commission on ITC investigation of the probable economic effect of the TPP:

**18** – Written comments due to International Trade Commission on ITC investigation of the probable economic effect of duty-free imports under T-TIP:

[http://www.usitc.gov/secretary/fed\\_reg\\_notices/332/131\\_037\\_notice04182013sgl.pdf](http://www.usitc.gov/secretary/fed_reg_notices/332/131_037_notice04182013sgl.pdf)

**25** – Comments due to USDA/APHIS on the proposed extension of information collection associated with the regulations for the importation of seed and screenings from Canada:

<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2013/04/26/2013-09911/notice-of-request-for-extension-of-approval-of-an-information-collection-importation-of-seed-and>

*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**

**USTR Requests Comments on Japan's Participation in TPP** – The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative is inviting public comments on the negotiating positions the U.S. should take when Japan joins the Trans-Pacific Partnership talks this summer. USTR is also seeking comments on negotiations to address certain non-tariff measures that will be conducted bilaterally in parallel to the TPP negotiations.

Written comments are due no later than June 9, 2013. USTR will also hold a public hearing July 2 to gather additional input, and notifications of intent to testify at this hearing are due by June 9.

Comments and testimony may address the reduction or elimination of tariffs or NTMs on any articles provided for in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States that are products of Japan, any concession that should be sought by the U.S., or any other matter relevant to the inclusion of Japan in the TPP or the parallel bilateral negotiations. Comments are particularly sought on the following issue:

USTR is looking for comments that include:

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- General and product-specific negotiating objectives for Japan in the context of the TPP negotiations
- Economic costs and benefits to U.S. producers and consumers of removal of tariffs and removal or reduction in non-tariff barriers on articles traded with Japan
- Treatment of specific goods, described by the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the U.S. (HTSUS), under the proposed TPP agreement
- Adequacy of existing customs measures to ensure that qualifying imported goods from TPP countries, including Japan, receive preferential treatment, and appropriate rules of origin for goods entering the United States under the proposed TPP agreement
- Existing barriers to trade in services between the United States and Japan that should be addressed in the TPP negotiations

Details on the how to submit comments and how to sign up to attend the hearing can be found in the Federal Register posted online at: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2013-05-07/pdf/2013-10724.pdf>

**ITC to Study Probable Economic Effects of Japan Joining TPP** – The International Trade Commission (ITC) has launched an investigation of the probable economic effect of adding Japan to the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP) currently under negotiation by the U.S. and ten other countries. The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) asked the ITC to identify any changes from its previous advice on the effect of providing duty-free treatment to goods imported from the other TPP participants.

The ITC states that it will consider each article of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) for which tariffs will remain, taking into account the implementation of U.S. commitments in the World Trade Organization and under free trade agreements the U.S. has with other TPP countries. The ITC’s advice will be based on the 2013 HTSUS nomenclature and trade data for the year 2012. The advice will assume that any known U.S. non-tariff barrier will not be applicable to such imports, and the ITC will note in its report any instance in which the continued application of a U.S. non-tariff barrier would result in different advice with respect to the effect of the removal of the duty.

The ITC will also prepare an assessment of the probable economic effect of eliminating tariffs on imports of certain agricultural products on U.S. industries producing the products concerned and the economy as a whole.

The ITC will hold a public hearing in connection with this investigation on June 11, 2013. Requests to appear at this hearing should be filed no later than May 28 and written comments should be submitted no later than June 17. Full details are available in the [ITC’s webpage](#).

**USTR Announces High Level Economic Dialogue With Mexico** – The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) has announced that U.S. President Barack Obama and Mexico’s President Peña Nieto agreed to establish a High Level Economic Dialogue (HLED) to further

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develop and strengthen the commercial and economic relationship between both countries during President Obama’s recent travel to Mexico.

The HLED, which will be led at the cabinet level, and USTR notes that it is envisioned as a “flexible platform intended to advance strategic economic and commercial priorities central to promoting mutual economic growth, job creation, and global competitiveness.”

According to USTR, both parties will meet annually starting this fall. HLED initiatives will focus around the following three main concepts:

- Promoting Competitiveness and Connectivity
- Fostering Economic Growth, Productivity and Innovation
- Partnering for Regional and Global Leadership

USTR also notes that involvement of the private sector will be requested by the HLED as it develops its annual agenda. The full announcement from USTR can be found here: <http://www.ustr.gov/about-us/press-office/fact-sheets/2013/may/us-mexico-hled>

*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**

### **May**

**16** - Washington, DC Reception for EU Trade Representatives, Agricultural Counselors

**21-24** – Washington, DC – IPC Global Food Security Symposium 2013

**29-30** – Washington, DC – Office of the U.S. Trade Representative Hearings on T-TIP

### **June**

**5** – Washington, DC – International Trade Commission Hearing on the probable economic effect of duty-free imports under T-TIP

**5-7** – Opatija, Croatia - 2013 Zagreb and Croatian Association of Feed Producers, Technologists and Nutritionists (KRMIVA) Feed Conference – NAEGA invited to attend & present

**10-11** - London, United Kingdom - 2013 IGC International Grains Conference - NAEGA Members invited to participate

**10-14** – Istanbul & Izmir, Turkey – USDA U.S.-Turkey Agribusiness Trade Mission – NAEGA Members invited to participate

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**11** – Washington, DC – International Trade Commission Hearing on the probable economic effect of the TPP

**19-20** – Minneapolis, Minnesota – Possible NAEGA Contracting & Best Practices Seminar

**26-27** – Kansas City, Missouri – Possible NAEGA Contracting & Best Practices Seminar

### **July**

**2** – Washington, DC – Office of the U.S. Trade Representative Hearing on negotiations to address certain non-tariff measures that will be conducted bilaterally in parallel to the TPP negotiations

**9-10, 2013** – Alexandria, Virginia – U.S. Agricultural Export Development Council (USAEDC) 2013 FAS Attaché Meetings & Seminar – NAEGA Members invited to participate.

### **August**

**15-17** – Cancun, Mexico – APPAMEX NAEGA Forum – NAEGA Members Invited to Attend

### **November**

**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**

#### **March**

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

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

### **Member Notices**

**The New NAEGA.org** – NAEGA’s public website at [www.NAEGA.org](http://www.NAEGA.org) has been redesigned and launched as of June 18, 2012. The new NAEGA.org features a more user-friendly interface, a better search engine, and integration with the NAEGA Personal Pages website. The new site also features social media tools for sharing public NAEGA actions on a wider scale. NAEGA accounts have been established at LinkedIn and Twitter, and stories on the public site can be shared on Google Plus. NAEGA members and staff should take the opportunity to enhance their experience with a NAEGA Members Personal Page. NAEGA Director of Operations Patrick Hayden is will assist you to setup and maintain your NAEGA Personal Page.

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