

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250**

<b>DEPARTMENTAL REGULATION</b>		<b>Number: 1042-68</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b> Agricultural Advisory Committee For Trade – APAC and ATACs	<b>Date May 2, 2003</b>	
	<b>OPI: Foreign Agricultural Service</b>	

1 PURPOSE

The Secretary of Agriculture, after consultation with the U.S. Trade Representative on the need for a Trade Representative/Agriculture Advisory program, hereby recharterers the following advisory committees on trade:

- a The Agricultural Policy Advisory Committee for Trade (APAC); and
- b The Agricultural Technical Advisory Committees (ATACs) for Trade, including five ATACs for Trade in: 1) Animals and Animal Products; 2) Fruits and Vegetables; 3) Grains, Feed and Oilseeds; 4) Sweeteners and Sweetener Products; and 5) Tobacco, Cotton, Peanuts, and Planting Seeds.

The Secretary of Agriculture, after consultation with the U.S. Trade Representative on the need for a processed foods advisory committee, hereby establishes the Processed Foods ATAC for Trade.

These advisory committees are authorized by Sections 135(c)(1) and (2) of the Trade Act of 1974 (Pub. L. No. 93-618), as amended, and are intended to ensure that representative elements of the private sector have an opportunity to make known to the U.S. Government their views on trade and trade policy matters. The committees provide a formal mechanism through which the U.S. Government may seek advice and information. The continuance of these committees is in the public interest in connection with the work of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative. There are no other agencies or existing advisory committees that could supply this private sector

input.

## 2 SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS/CANCELLATION

- a Each committee will terminate 2 years from the date of filing, unless terminated earlier or renewed by proper authority and appropriate action.
- b Departmental Regulation 1042-68, dated April 13, 2001, is hereby superseded.

## 3 OFFICERS AND MEMBERSHIP

- a The APAC and each ATAC should consist of approximately 35 members.
- b Members of each Committee shall be appointed jointly by the Secretary of Agriculture and the U.S. Trade Representative. Membership shall be balanced and of sufficient size to be reasonably representative of the various agricultural interests of each Committee. Equal opportunity practices, in line with USDA policies, will be followed in all appointments to these committees. To ensure that the recommendations of each Committee have taken into account the needs of the diverse groups served by the USDA, membership should include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities. Members will serve at the discretion of the Secretary of Agriculture and the U.S. Trade Representative.
- c The APAC shall elect a Chairperson from its membership. The Confidential Assistant to the Administrator, Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), USDA, and the Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Intergovernmental Affairs and Public Liaison, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, shall administer the agricultural trade advisory committees through their Designated Federal Officers (DFOs).
- d Each ATAC shall elect a Chairperson from its membership. Each Committee shall have a DFO. Each Committee shall not conduct any meetings in the absence of this DFO or his or her designee, and such DFO may adjourn the meeting when he or she determines it to be in the public interest.

4 DUTIES

The Committees will advise the Secretary of Agriculture and the U.S. Trade Representative concerning: negotiating objectives and bargaining positions before entering into a trade agreement; the operation of an agreement once entered into; and other matters arising in connection with the administration of the trade policy of the United States.

The law also requires that each Committee affected shall meet at the conclusion of negotiations for each trade agreement entered into under the Trade Act of 1974 to provide a report on such agreement to the President, to Congress, and to the U.S. Trade Representative.

5 ESTIMATED ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS

Members of the Committees will serve without reimbursement of travel expenses or per diem allowances.

Each Committee will require approximately one-fourth staff support year. Annual operating costs for each Committee are estimated to be:

- a For the APAC for Trade, FY 2002 actual cost was \$23,105 and the estimated cost for FY 2003 is \$30,000.

	FY 2002	FY 2003
b		
Animals and Animal		Estimated Cost
Products .....	\$38,020	\$40,375
Fruits and Vegetables .....	\$29,851	\$33,851
Grains, Feed and Oilseeds ....	\$31,351	\$36,600
Processed Foods.....	N/A	\$14,619
Sweeteners and Sweetener		
Products .....	\$26,319	\$29,851
Tobacco, Cotton, Peanuts, and		

Planting Seeds.....	\$30,776	\$34,762
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TOTAL for ATACs	\$156,317	\$190,058

#### 6 NUMBER AND FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

Meetings of the Committees will be held as often as the Secretary of Agriculture and the U.S. Trade Representative deem necessary. Meetings of these Committees will be open to the general public in accordance with Section 135(f)(2) of the Trade Act of 1974 unless otherwise determined due to the trade sensitivity and/or classified information.

## 7 REPORTS/SUPPORT

The Committees will, at the conclusion of negotiations of a trade agreement, report on that agreement to the President, to the Congress, and to the U.S. Trade Representative. Administrative support for the operations of the Committees will be furnished by the FAS.

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