EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

WASHINGTON DC 20508

CHARTER OF THE TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1. COMMITTEE'S OFFICIAL DESIGNATION

Trade and Environment Policy Advisory Committee (TEPAC).

2. AUTHORITY

The United States Trade Representative, pursuant to Section 135(c)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. § 2155(c)(1)) (Trade Act), as amended, the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. II), Section 4(d) of Executive Order 11846 of March 27, 1975, and Executive Order 12905 of March 25, 1994, as extended, established the Trade and Environment Policy Advisory Committee (TEPAC) to provide policy advice on issues involving trade and the environment.

3. OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES

The TEPAC will provide the United States Trade Representative with policy advice on issues arising in connection with the development, implementation and administration of the trade policy of the United States that involve the environment. It is anticipated that the United States Trade Representative will share the advice received with other relevant agencies interested in the subject matter.

At the conclusion of negotiations for each trade agreement referred to in Section 102 of the Trade Act, the TEPAC will provide to the President, Congress and the United States Trade Representative a report on the agreement that includes an advisory opinion on whether and to what extent the agreement promotes the interests of the United States.

4. DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES

The Office of the United States Trade Representative will use the TEPAC solely for advisory purposes. The TEPAC will report to the United States Trade Representative or his/her designee. Members serve without either compensation or reimbursement of expenses. The TEPAC will meet as needed, at the call of either the United States Trade Representative or his/her designee or two-thirds of the TEPAC members, depending on various factors such as the level of activity of trade negotiations and the needs of the United States Trade Representative.

5. AGENCY OR OFFICIAL TO WHOM THE COMMITTEE REPORTS

The TEPAC reports to the United States Trade Representative or his/her designee.

6. SUPPORT

Office of the United States Trade Representative, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs and Public Engagement.

7. ESTIMATED ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS AND STAFF YEARS

The estimated annual operating costs of the TEPAC are $47,388 and approximately 0.4 person-year of staff support (full time equivalent (FTE) years).

8. DESIGNATED FEDERAL OFFICER

A full-time employee of the Office of the United States Trade Representative appointed in accordance with agency procedures will serve as the Designated Federal Officer (DFO). The DFO will approve or call all of the committee and subcommittee meetings, prepare and approve all meeting agendas, attend all committee and subcommittee meetings, adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest, and chair meetings when directed to do so by the United States Trade Representative or his/her designee

9. ESTIMATED NUMBER AND FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

The TEPAC generally will meet two or three times per year or as deemed necessary at the call of either the United States Trade Representative or his/her designee or two-thirds of the TEPAC members.

10. DURATION/TERMINATION

The TEPAC will terminate on September 30, 2015, unless extended by the President. This charter will expire on September 27, 2017.

11. MEMBERSHIP AND DESIGNATION

A. The TEPAC will be composed of not more than 35 members, including, but not limited to, representatives from environmental interest groups, industry (including the environmental technology and environmental services industries), agriculture, academia, consumer groups, services, non-governmental organizations, and others with expertise in trade and environment matters. The TEPAC will be broadly representative of key sectors and groups of the economy with an interest in trade and environmental policy issues. The Office of the United States Trade Representative anticipates that almost all members will serve in a representative capacity with a very limited number serving in an individual capacity as special government employees.

B. TEPAC members are appointed by the United States Trade Representative for a term of two years or until the TEPAC is scheduled to expire. An individual may be reappointed to the TEPAC for any number of terms. Members serve at the pleasure of the United States Trade Representative. Appointments to the TEPAC will be made without regard to political affiliation. TEPAC members will elect a chair from among the TEPAC members.

12. SUBCOMMITTEES.

The United States Trade Representative can create subcommittees that report back and provide advice and work products directly to the TEPAC.

13. RECORDKEEPING

The Office of the United States Trade Representative handles records of the TEPAC, formally and informally established subcommittees, or other TEPAC subgroups, are handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 6.2 or other approved agency records disposition schedules. To the extent consistent with the Trade Act, 19 U.S.C. § 2155(f), these records will be available for public inspection and copying subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552.

14. FILING DATE

This charter was filed on September 27, 2015.

Approved:

9-24-2015
Date

Michael Froman
Michael B. G. Froman
United States Trade Representative