

2021 Current Fiscal Year Report: Agricultural Technical Advisory Committee for Trade in Tobacco, Cotton, and Peanuts

Report Run Date: 05/07/2021 01:31:29 PM

1. Department or Agency

Department of Agriculture

2. Fiscal Year

2021

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Agricultural Technical Advisory Committee for Trade in Tobacco, Cotton, and Peanuts

3b. GSA

Committee No.

1934

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

06/07/2019

6. Expected Renewal Date

06/07/2023

7. Expected Term Date

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

8b. Specific Termination Authority

8c. Actual Term Date

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

No

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority

Authorized by Law

12. Specific Establishment Authority

Section 135(c)(2) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended.

13. Effective Date

03/27/1975

14. Committee Type

Continuing

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee

Other Committee

16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for this Fiscal Year

17a. Open Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

17b. Closed Meetings and Dates

0

17c. Partially Closed Meetings and Dates

0

17d. Total Meetings and Dates

0

Current FY Next FY

18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members

\$0.00 \$0.00

18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members

\$0.00 \$0.00

18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff

\$0.00 \$0.00

18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants

\$0.00 \$0.00

18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members

\$0.00 \$0.00

18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members

\$0.00 \$0.00

18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff

\$0.00 \$0.00

18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Total	\$0.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.00	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The purpose of the Committee is to provide advice to the U.S. Trade Representative and the Secretary of Agriculture on trade and other economic issues that affect U.S. agriculture. In recent years, the Administration has consulted the Committee frequently on trade issues such as WTO negotiations, as well as the evaluation of benefits from existing FTAs with Canada, Mexico and Korea. The Administration relied heavily on the Committee's guidance on many aspects of the formulation of trade strategies, proposals, and agreements. The Committee accomplishes its purpose by reviewing sensitive materials provided by USTR/USDA and providing feedback to the principal parties either through written or electronic communications. Members also attend face-to face meetings with the Secretary of Agriculture and USTR in attendance. Advisors are required to hold a Secret Clearance. The minutes from the meetings are not available due to an exemption granted within the Trade Act of 1974.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

Members are selected from producers, processors, traders, manufacturers, and consumer representatives that are self-nominated or recommended by an organization for membership. Also, special emphasis has been placed on soliciting nominations from traditionally underrepresented groups.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

The Committee meets as needed to provide advice and counsel to the Administration on significant and timely agricultural trade matters. This Committee meets approximately twice a year. Conference calls are also a method used to hold ad hoc meetings.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

Meetings are conducted so that U.S. trade negotiators can use the meetings to discuss and seek private sector advice regarding sensitive trade policy matters, the disclosure of which could seriously compromise the U.S. Government's development of policy priorities, negotiating objectives, and bargaining positions. Members must obtain a confidential security clearance so that government-classified documents can be discussed. Thus, meetings are closed to the public. Given the nature of these discussions, no other setting can be used to seek such advice without compromising U.S. trade policy.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

Section 135(g) of the Trade Act (19 U.S.C. 2155(g)) protects certain communications between and among committee members and appropriate Federal government officials in connection with trade matters, more specifically, trade negotiations, the operation of an existing trade agreement, and other matters arising in connection with the administration of U.S. trade policy.

21. Remarks

The meetings for this committee are typically closed to the public in accordance with the Trade Act of 1974, 19 U.S.C. 2155(f)(2), and the Government in the Sunshine Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(4) and (6).

Designated Federal Officer

Chuck Bertsch DFO

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Barksdale, William	06/15/2019	06/15/2023	Cargill Corporation	Representative Member
Belden, Grant	06/15/2019	06/15/2023	Golden Peanut & Tree Nuts	Representative Member
Brinkley, Charles	06/15/2019	06/15/2023	Plains Cotton Cooperative Association (PCCA)	Representative Member
Cotton, Thomas	06/15/2019	06/15/2023	Peanut Growers Cooperative Marketing Association	Representative Member
George, Clayton	01/15/2017	01/15/2021	Standard Cotton, LLC.	Representative Member
Grunenfelder, Stephanie	06/15/2019	06/15/2023	American Peanut Council	Representative Member
Huffman, Michelle	06/10/2019	06/15/2023	(non-profit) National Cotton Council of America	Representative Member
Koehler, Donald	06/10/2019	06/15/2023	(non-profit) Georgia Agricultural Commodity Commission for Peanuts	Representative Member
Muggli, Monique	06/10/2019	06/15/2023	Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids	Representative Member
Pasco, Richard	06/10/2019	06/15/2023	American Peanut Product Manufacturers Inc.	Representative Member
Plowden, Evans	06/10/2019	06/15/2023	American Peanut Shellers Association	Representative Member
Quarles, Roger	06/10/2019	06/15/2023	Burley Tobacco Growers Co-op Association	Representative Member
Scott, Travis	06/15/2019	06/15/2023	Travis Farm	Representative Member
Taylor, Sledge	06/10/2019	06/15/2023	Buckeye Farms	Representative Member
Veach, Randy	06/10/2019	06/15/2023	Randy Veach Farms	Representative Member
Waggett, Christina	06/15/2019	06/15/2023	North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services	Representative Member
Zimmer, Karl	01/15/2020	01/15/2024	Premium Peanut	Representative Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 17

Narrative Description

The Technical Advisory Committee for Trade in Tobacco, Cotton and Peanuts (TCP ATAC) supports USDA's international trade functions by providing technical advice to the U.S. Trade Representative and the Secretary of Agriculture on trade issues that affect U.S. agriculture.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

- Improvements to health or safety
- Trust in government
- Major policy changes
- Advance in scientific research
- Effective grant making
- Improved service delivery
- Increased customer satisfaction
- Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements
- Other

Outcome Comments

N/A

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

- None
- Unable to Determine
- Under \$100,000
- \$100,000 - \$500,000
- \$500,001 - \$1,000,000
- \$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000
- \$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000
- Over \$10,000,000
- Cost Savings Other

Cost Savings Comments

N/A

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

16

Number of Recommendations Comments

The number of recommendations varies from year-to-year. Historically, the Agency has misunderstood the use of this field and therefore, the total number of recommendations noted above for the life of this Committee is underreported. Efforts are underway to search historical records to be able to amend this section in the future to include the total number of recommendations produced since inception. For FY 20, The Tobacco Cotton & Peanuts ATAC committee proposed no resolution however put forth 1 recommendations and letters.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

100%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

Implementation does not necessarily apply to a number of the recommendations. The committee provides formal recommendations in the form of resolutions, but the committee provides numerous recommendations orally at meetings. The recommendations in all cases are fully considered by USTR and USDA negotiators in the course of pursuing free trade agreements and resolving trade disputes.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

See above.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes No Not Applicable

Agency Feedback Comments

Through frequent conference calls jointly held with USTR, and during committee meetings.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

- Reorganized Priorities
- Reallocated resources
- Issued new regulation
- Proposed legislation
- Approved grants or other payments
- Other

Action Comments

N/A

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

N/A

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

- Contact DFO
- Online Agency Web Site
- Online Committee Web Site
- Online GSA FACA Web Site
- Publications
- Other

Access Comments

The advisors receive information via email notifications which direct them to go to a secured access website which is not available to the public and access is limited.