

Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee (ETTAC)
March 12, 2024; 10:00 am – 3:30 pm ET
Microsoft Teams

The Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee (ETTAC) convened the seventh meeting under its 2022 – 2024 charter from 10:00 AM – 3:30 PM ET on March 12, 2024. The meeting was virtual.

ETTAC Members Present:

Ms. Dana Blumberg
Mr. Chuck Chaitovitz
Ms. Lina Chiaverini
Ms. Cynthia Hartley
Mr. Max Herzog
Ms. Carrie Houtman
Ms. Tasha Jamaluddin
Ms. Debra Johnson
Ms. Anne Germain
Mr. Carlos Lemos
Mr. Ashish Raval
Mr. Jim Matharu
Mr. Ben Rubin
Ms. Clare Schulzki
Mr. Stephen Strachan
Mr. Eric Reading
Mr. John Trofatter
Mr. Joshua Mahan
Mr. Craig Updyke
Mr. Roberto Vengoechea
Mr. George Vorsheim
Mr. Sean Wihera
Dr. Peter Zemek

Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration (ITA) Officials Present:

Megan Hyndman, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), ETTAC
Evelina Scott, Secondary Designated Federal Officer, ETTAC
Anna Cron, International Trade Specialist, OEEI
Alec Hilton, International Trade Specialist, OEEI
Anthony Quinn, Team Lead, Office of Standards & Intellectual Property (OSIP), ITA

Other U.S. Government Officials Present:

Ashley Thomas, U.S. International Development Finance Corporation
Brianna Besch, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Alexis Roberts, EPA
Jesse Young, U.S. Export-Import Bank
Logan Norton, Bureau of Industry and Security
Claire Henly, Department of State

Eric Haxthausen, U.S. Trade and Development Agency
Denise Mulholland, EPA
Sarah Bonner, Small Business Association
Tim Connor, EPA
Leslie Corcelli, EPA
Kong Chiu, EPA
Ethan Zindler, Department of Treasury
Andrew LaScaleia, Department of Treasury
Jennifer Powell, U.S. International Trade Commission

Members of the Public Present:

Margaret Spiegelmen, Inside U.S. Trade
Bill Callahan, Synoptic Data
Claudio Ternieden, WWEMA

March 12rd MEETING MINUTES

Welcome and Committee Business

DFO Hyndman and ETTAC Chair Schulzki welcomed the committee members and motioned to begin the meeting. DFO Hyndman provided an overview of the agenda and mentioned that there are two meetings left in charter, and that the final meeting will be in person with senior U.S. government leadership. The committee approved the previous meeting minutes from January 23rd, 2024.

Recommendation Presentation and Approval Vote

The drafters of two in-progress recommendations summarized the draft letters and the committee discussed additional edits. The committee finalized, voted, and approved the recommendation letter on Trade Barriers Concerning PFAS. The committee discussed the recommendation on EXIM Bank Lending Terms for Climate Change Sector Understanding and decided that it would require further edits and will be approved at a future meeting.

ITA Updates

DFO Hyndman provided updates on the Environmental Technologies Top Export Market Rankings and the launch of the Environmental Technologies Market Intelligence Webinar Series, including the date for the launch event on April 10th, 2024. The ETTAC rechartering process was also discussed and DFO Hyndman requested feedback pertaining to the next ETTAC charter.

Roundtable Discussion on the Implementation of the Global Methane Pledge

Representatives from the Office of the Special Presidential Envoy (SPEC), U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA), U.S. Export-Import Bank (EXIM), and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) provided an overview of their agency roles in relation to the Global Methane Pledge and updates on U.S. methane mitigation activities. SPEC highlighted their efforts in the [Climate and Clean Air Coalition](#), USTDA discussed their methane reduction efforts through various reverse trade missions, and EPA discussed their efforts through the [Global Methane Initiative](#).

Breakout Groups to Deliberate on Draft Recommendations

Build America, Buy America Act (BABA)

The breakout group discussed the need to address various industry concerns regarding BABA, focusing on the need for inclusion of labor costs and identifying potential consequences such as retaliatory policies by foreign governments. It was decided that the recommendation letter would need to be revised and would not be ready for approval until a future meeting with the full ETTAC committee.

Standards of Environmental Technologies

Members discussed the need for U.S. government guidelines or standards on emerging environmental technologies and the process for setting standards in the United States versus international markets. The group also discussed TUV and MCERTS certifications in Europe.

Trade Promotion Programs for Small Businesses

Speakers from ITA's U.S. Commercial Service and the Small Business Administration briefed ETTAC members on the U.S. Government's services for small business exporters and answered questions from members.

EPA Panel Discussion

EPA representatives presented on various topics including BABA and EPA's environmental and climate data. One highlight from the panel discussion included EPA's [FLIGHT](#) data set, which was created under the Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program and provides a map of greenhouse gas emissions from large facilities.

ETTAC Subcommittee Breakout Meetings

Trade Facilitation, Competitiveness, and Standards

The subcommittee discussed the emerging environmental technologies standards letter, and how to move forward on engaging the U.S. government and other stakeholders on critical and emerging environmental technology guidance and certification. The committee also discussed the EPA's ETV program and the EU's TUV certification.

Climate, Emerging Technology, and Innovation

The subcommittee continued to discuss and edit the draft recommendation on EXIM Bank Lending Terms for Climate Change Sector Understanding (CCSU), focusing on the eligibility criteria for climate change mitigation projects.

Supply Chain and Circular Economy

The subcommittee on Supply Chain and Circular Economy discussed the BABA recommendation letter and the concern that 55 percent of all cost components does not include labor. The subcommittee also discussed potential retaliatory measures from trading partners as a result of BABA. The subcommittee decided to draft a letter on critical minerals.

Subcommittee Meeting Readouts

The subcommittees provided a readout of their breakout sessions to the full ETTAC committee. The Supply Chain and Circular Economy Subcommittee discussed their potential edits to the draft recommendation letter on BABA. The Climate, Emerging Technology, and Innovation

Subcommittee noted that progress was made on its draft recommendation on EXIM lending terms and that the letter should be ready for approval at the next ETTAC meeting. The Trade Facilitation, Competitiveness, and Standards Subcommittee decided to withdraw their trade promotion for small business-focused recommendation letter.

Next Steps, Public Comment & Adjourn

DOC staff collected ETTAC members' input on the format and dates of meetings for the 2024-2026 ETTAC Charter. No issues were raised during the public comment period. The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM.

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing meeting minutes are accurate and complete.



Megan Hyndman
Designated Federal Officer
Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee



Clare Schulzki
Chair
Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee