

Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee
June 20, 2023: 8:45 AM – 3:30 PM ET
U.S. Department of Commerce – Commerce Research Library

The Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee (ETTAC) convened the second meeting under its 2022 – 2024 charter from 8:45 AM – 3:30 PM ET on June 20, 2023. The meeting was hybrid and included both virtual and in-person attendance. In-person participants met at the Commerce Research Library in the Herbert C. Hoover Building.

ETTAC Members Present:

Mr. Jack Adams
Ms. Adina Renee Adler
Mr. Randy Baerg
Ms. Dana Blumberg
Mr. Chuck Chaitovitz
Ms. Lina Chiaverini
Ms. Anne Germain
Ms. Cynthia Hartley
Mr. Max Herzog
Ms. Tasha Jamaluddin
Ms. Debra Johnson
Mr. Ajay Kasarabada
Ms. Vanessa Leiby
Mr. Carlos Lemos
Mr. Jim Matharu
Mr. Joshua Mahan
Mr. Ashish Raval
Mr. Eric Reading
Mr. David Rigby
Mr. Ben Rubin
Ms. Clare Schulzki
Ms. Paula Soos
Mr. Stephen Strachan
Mr. John Trofatter
Ms. Pauli Undesser
Mr. Craig Updyke
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
Victoria Yue, Senior Climate Trade Policy Specialist, Office of Energy and Environmental Industries (OEEI)
Anna Cron, Environmental Technologies Trade Specialist, OEEI
William Beterbide, Intern, OEEI

Other U.S. Government Officials Present:

Jayne Morrow, NIST
Jennifer Marshall, NIST
Anthony Quinn, ITA

Jennifer Carton Office of Europe and the Middle East, USTR
Allison Smith, Office of Environment and Natural Resources, USTR
Raffi Balian, Office of Environmental Quality, State
Sharon Yuan, Chief IPEF Negotiator, ITA Office of the Under Secretary
Elliot Diringer, Office of the Special Presidential Envoy for Climate, State
Haisum Shah, U.S. Commercial Service, ITA
Wallace Bain, Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs, State
Chrystal Denys, Advocacy Center/EBRD, ITA
Tanvi Madhusudanan, Country Manager, Indo-Pacific, USTDA
Lauren Schefsky, ITA
Ava Jamerson, ITA
Logan Norton, BIS

Members of the Public Present:

Jason Bernstein, American Chemistry Council (ACC)
Margaret Spiegelman, U.S. Inside Trade

JUNE 20 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, discussed ground rules and digital practices for the hybrid meeting, and reviewed the internal ETTAC SharePoint webpage. The committee also approved the previous (April 11-12) meeting minutes.

Subcommittee Readouts

Chair Schulzki asked each subcommittee to provide a readout of the topics of interest they have identified for potential ETTAC recommendations. The Climate, Emerging Technology, & Innovation Subcommittee stated that they were focused on identifying experts to invite to inform the subcommittee more fully on several areas of interest, including supply chains and reshoring. The Supply Chain & Circular Economy Subcommittee discussed their interest in Build America, Buy America, the U.N. Plastics Treaty, recycling lithium and critical minerals, among other topics. The Trade Facilitation, Competitiveness, & Standards Subcommittee noted its interest in electronic platforms such as Salesforce to support U.S. export promotion, the role of environmental technologies in IPEF, and engaging U.S. industry in the INC process.

Briefing on the U.S. National Standards Strategy for Critical and Emerging Technologies

Dr. Jayne Morrow, Senior Advisor to the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and Anthony R. Quinn, Standards Team Lead for the Office of Standards and Intellectual Property at the International Trade Administration, gave an overview of the U.S. National Standards Strategy for Critical and Emerging Technology. They discussed U.S. Government efforts to invest in standards development and research, increase private sector participation in standards development, and work with allies and partners to promote robust international standards.

Review of 2019 Top Markets Report

DFO Hyndman reviewed the 2019 Environmental Technologies Top Market Report, including discussing the report's Congressional mandate, goals, analytical techniques, and qualitative and quantitative methodology. DFO Hyndman noted that ITA's Office of Energy and Environmental Industries is currently in the data selection stage for the 2023 Top Markets Report and welcomes feedback from the ETTAC on the proposed methodology.

Panel 1: Overview of U.S. Cooperative Efforts with International Partners

Several U.S. government speakers briefing the Committee on U.S. government cooperative efforts with international partners to advance environmental and climate goals. Sharon Yuan, the Chief Negotiator for the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) with the Office of the Undersecretary at ITA, discussed the status of the IPEF negotiations and IPEF's role in promoting investment in the clean economy. Jennifer Carton from the Office of Europe and the Middle East, USTR, highlighted U.S.-EU Trade and Technology Council efforts to facilitate supply chain resiliency for the green transition and tackle issues related to climate change. Raffi Balian from the Office of Environmental Quality at the Department of State provided an overview of the U.N. plastic agreement negotiations as well as U.S. cooperative efforts in the G7 and G20. Finally, Elliot Diringer from the Office of the Special Presidential Envoy for Climate at the Department of State highlighted U.S. Government initiatives to engage the private sector to advance climate change goals.

Panel 2: Overview of the Process for Generating and Sharing Trade Leads with U.S. Industry

Several U.S. government speakers briefing the Committee on their offices' role in identifying and disseminating information about international project opportunities with U.S. industry. Haisum Shah with the U.S. Commercial Service discussed ITA's role in helping U.S. businesses export as well as the different ways that businesses can receive trade leads about international project opportunities. Chrystal Denys with ITA's Advocacy Center spoke about the role of ITA's Multilateral Development Bank liaison offices in providing market intelligence on MDB project opportunities, with a specific focus on the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Wallace Bain with the Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs at the State Department highlighted various initiatives at the State Department to provide information to businesses about overseas project opportunities. Finally, Tanvi Madhusudanan, Country Manager for the Indo-Pacific at the U.S. Trade and Development Agency, discussed how U.S. companies can compete for USTDA grants and technical assistance opportunities.

Subcommittee Break-Outs

The Committee split up into subcommittees to revisit the topics of interest that they expressed earlier in the day during their subcommittee readouts and refine potential recommendation topics in light of the day's briefings.

Climate, Emerging Technology, & Innovation Subcommittee

The Climate, Emerging Technology, & Innovation Subcommittee focused on honing their recommendation ideas and identifying experts to invite for future ETTAC briefings. Potential recommendation topics of interest included exploring ways to increase U.S. manufacturing for emerging technologies, learning about the risks facing U.S. companies when exporting to competitor markets, and understanding the incentives provided by the 45Q tax credit for carbon capture and storage projects under the Inflation Reduction Act.

Supply Chain & Circular Economy Subcommittee

The Supply Chain & Circular Economy Subcommittee discussed its goal to prepare a recommendation by the next ETTAC meeting related to the U.N. Resolution to End Plastic Pollution and also discussed other priority topics including lithium recycling and Build America, Buy America.

Trade Facilitation, Competitiveness, & Standards Subcommittee

The Trade Facilitation, Competitiveness, & Standards Subcommittee discussed its interest in contributing to the recommendation on the global plastics agreement and collaborating with the Climate, Emerging Technologies, & Innovation Subcommittee to develop a recommendation on the role of business and innovation in advancing climate goals. The subcommittee also discussed ITA's role in supporting reverse trade missions for ETTAC members, site visits, and innovation hubs.

After the subcommittee meetings concluded, each subcommittee provided a brief readout to the full committee on their discussions. After the readouts concluded, Chair Schulzki asked the ETTAC for a motion to approve the Committee's first recommendation letter to Secretary Raimondo. The motion was given and seconded, and the letter was approved by the ETTAC.

Public Comment & Adjournment

Jason Bernstein of the American Chemistry Council (ACC) was the sole public member to comment. Mr. Bernstein stated that he hoped to partner with the ETTAC as the ACC is keen to reduce carbon dioxide emissions using energy-saving and emission-reducing technologies. He states that the ACC is interested in supporting circular economy goals through recycling and wants to work on solutions to reduce plastic pollution. Mr. Bernstein also stated that the ACC has many applications related to PFAS that could be relevant to some of the ETTAC members.

No further issues were raised for public comment. The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM

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



Megan Hyndman
Designated Federal Officer
Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee



Clare Schulzki
Chair
Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee