

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 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 established the Trade and Environment Policy Advisory Committee to provide policy advice on issues involving trade and the environment. The relevant authorities are: section 4(d) of Executive Order 11846 of March 27, 1975; Executive Order 12905 of March 25, 1994, as extended; section 135(c)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. § 2155(c)(1)) (Trade Act), as amended; and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App. II).

3. OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES

The TEPAC is a trade advisory committee established to provide general policy advice to the United States Trade Representative on trade policy matters that have a significant impact on the environment. More specifically, the TEPAC provides general policy advice on issues including: (1) negotiating objectives and bargaining positions on environmental matters before entering into trade agreements; (2) the environmental impact of the implementation of trade agreements; (3) matters concerning the operation of any trade agreement once entered into; and (4) other matters arising in connection with the development, implementation, and administration of the trade policy of the United States.

The United States Trade Representative anticipates sharing the TEPAC's advice with other relevant agencies interested in the subject matter.

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 meets as needed, at the call either of 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.

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.

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

Full-time employees of the Office of the United States Trade Representative appointed in accordance with agency procedures will serve as the Primary Designated Federal Officer (DFO) and Secondary 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 necessary at the call of the United States Trade Representative or his/her designee, or two-thirds of the TEPAC members.

10. DURATION

The United States Trade Representative has an ongoing need for the TEPAC and expects it to continue indefinitely. The charter will expire two years from the filing date unless it is renewed by appropriate action.

11. TERMINATION

Executive Order 13708 of September 30, 2015, continued the TEPAC for two years. It will terminate on September 30, 2017, unless extended.

12. 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. The United States Trade Representative appoints the TEPAC members for a term that will not exceed the duration of this charter, and may reappoint individuals to the TEPAC for any number of terms. The United States Trade Representative makes appointments to the TEPAC without regard to political affiliation. Members serve at the pleasure of the United States Trade Representative.

C. The TEPAC membership will elect a chair or co-chairs from among the TEPAC members.

13. SUBCOMMITTEES.

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

14. RECORDKEEPING

The Office of the United States Trade Representative handles records of the TEPAC, formally and informally established subcommittees, or other TEPAC subgroups, 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 pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552.

15. FILING DATE

The Office of the United States Trade Representative filed this charter on September 27, 2017.

Approved:

9/27/17
Date

Robert E. Lighthizer
Robert E. Lighthizer
United States Trade Representative