



**Republic of the Philippines**  
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**MEMORANDUM**

FOR : The Directors  
Biodiversity Management Bureau  
Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau  
Environmental Management Bureau  
Forest Management Bureau

FROM : The OIC Director  
Policy and Planning Service

SUBJECT : **CONDUCT OF THE ASEAN-U.S. TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT  
DIALOGUE ON 04-05 APRIL 2023**

DATE : **22 MAR 2023**

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This refers to the electronic mail from Tri Sulistyo Saputro of the Environment Division of the ASEAN Secretariat regarding the rescheduling of the ASEAN-US Trade and Environment Dialogue on 04-05 April 2023 which was changed from the previously-agreed dates of 15-16 March 2023 (GMT +7).

Please be informed that the said Dialogue on Trade and Environment aims to promote a better understanding and exchange of views among senior ASEAN and U.S. Trade and Environment officials on issues, opportunities and challenges emerging from strengthening environmental protection through trade policies.

In this regard, we would like to request for talking points for the Department's Focal Points for the said event, which will tackle the following topics:

- a. Incorporating Environmental Provisions in Trade Agreements
  - Environmental Governance and Procedural Matters
  - Marine debris/marine litter
  - Conservation of wild fauna and flora, and promoting trade in legally harvested natural resources (e.g., wildlife, timber, fisheries)
- b. Southeast Asia Views on Environmental Provisions in Trade
  - *How does the Philippines incorporate environmental provisions in trade agreements?*
- c. ASEAN and U.S. Approaches to Supporting More Circular Economies
- d. Private Sector and Civil Society Perspectives on the Link between Trade and environment, including use of Trade Tools to Address Climate Change

Attached is the copy of the provisional agenda for your ready reference. We would appreciate receiving your feedback by **27 March 2023**, in order to properly consolidate the inputs for developing the Department's position on trade and environment for the said event.

For your information and appropriate action, please.

  
**CHERYL LOISE T. LEAL**



# Agenda

## ASEAN-U.S. Trade and Environment Dialogue

08:00 – 11:10 am on 15-16 March 2023 (GMT+7)/

20:00 – 23:10 pm on 14-15 March 2023 (GMT-5)

### Virtual Meeting

DAY I	
7:15 – 8:00 am <sup>1</sup>	<b>Registration and arrival</b>
08:00 – 08:05 am	<b>Day I Opening and Logistics</b> <i>Logistics announcements by host: Bambang Irawan, Deputy Chief of Party, ASEAN-USAID Inclusive Growth in ASEAN through Innovation, Trade, and E-Commerce (IGNITE)</i>
08:05 – 08:20 am	<b>Welcome Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ASEAN (TBD)</li> <li>• USTR (TBD)</li> </ul>
<b>Session I</b> 08:20 – 08:50 am	<b>Setting the Scene: An Overview of Key Considerations</b> <i>Speaker will provide an overview of key considerations with respect to integrating environmental provisions in modern trade agreements. The representative will introduce considerations regarding the selection of environmental commitments for inclusion in trade agreements, common provisions, and enforcement approaches.</i> <b>Speaker:</b> Think tank (TBD) <i>Questions and answers (10 min)</i>
08:50 – 09:00 am	<b>Break</b>

<sup>1</sup> Time shown is GMT+7

<p><b>Session 2</b> 09:00 – 11:00 am</p>	<p><b>Incorporating Environmental Provisions in Trade Agreements</b></p> <p><i>This session will provide an overview of why and how certain environmental commitments are incorporated in trade agreements, with a focus on the United States' approach. During each part, experts will present environment chapter obligations and the reasoning behind those commitments. Each part will include a Q&amp;A between U.S. and ASEAN officials on how governments can pursue mutually supportive trade and environment policies.</i></p> <p>Part 1: Environmental Governance and Procedural Matters (30 minutes – 20 minute presentation, 10 minute Q&amp;A) (Speakers: USTR)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Striving for high levels of environmental protection</li> <li>○ Effective enforcement of environmental laws</li> <li>○ Non-derogation of environmental laws for the purpose of trade or investment</li> <li>○ Public participation</li> <li>○ Consultations and dispute settlement</li> </ul> <p>Part 2: Fisheries (30 minutes – 20 minute presentation, 10 minute Q&amp;A) (Speakers: USTR, with support as needed from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA), and State Department (State))</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing</li> <li>○ Sustainable fisheries management</li> <li>○ Fisheries subsidies</li> </ul> <p>Part 3: Marine debris/marine litter (30 minutes – 20 minute presentation, 10 minute Q&amp;A) (Speakers: USTR, with support as needed from NOAA and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA))</p> <p>Part 4: Conservation of wild fauna and flora, and promoting trade in legally harvested natural resources (e.g., wildlife, timber, fisheries) (30 minutes – 20 minute presentation, 10 minute Q&amp;A) (Speakers: USTR, with support as needed from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, State, and U.S. Forest Service)</p>
<p>11:00 – 11:10 am</p>	<p><b>Summary and Closing of Day 1</b></p> <p><i>This session will provide an opportunity to discuss key takeaways from Day 1 and preview highlights of Day 2.</i></p>
<p><b>DAY 2</b></p>	
<p>08:00 – 08:15 am</p>	<p><b>Day 2 Recap and Logistics</b></p> <p><i>Recap of Day 1's discussions and Logistics announcements by host: Bambang Irawan, Deputy Chief of Party, ASEAN-USAID IGNITE</i></p>
<p><b>Session 3</b> 08:15– 08:45 am</p>	<p><b>Southeast Asia Views on Environmental Provisions in Trade</b></p> <p><i>ASEAN Member States will present on their respective approaches and perspectives on incorporating environmental provisions in trade agreements.</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ASEAN members (TBD)</li> </ul>

	<i>Questions and answers (10 min)</i>
<b>Session 4</b> 08:45 – 09:30 am	<p><b>ASEAN and U.S. Approaches to Supporting More Circular Economies</b></p> <p><i>This session will feature presentations from ASEAN showcasing the ASEAN Circular Economy Framework, and from the U.S. EPA on the recently released <u>National Recycling Strategy: Part I of a Series on Building a Circular Economy for All</u>. A circular economy is restorative, regenerative by design, and makes effective use of materials and energy.</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ASEAN members (TBD)</li> <li>• U.S. EPA (TBD)</li> </ul> <p><i>Questions and answers (10 min)</i></p>
09:30 – 09:45 am	<b>Break</b>
<b>Session 5</b> 09:45– 10:15 am	<p><b>Private Sector and Civil Society Perspectives on the Link between Trade and environment, including use of Trade Tools to Address Climate Change</b></p> <p><i>Recognition of the intersection of trade and the environment, including climate change, is key to our collective ability to compete, innovate, and create livable wage jobs that will provide opportunities for underserved communities and future generations. This final topical session will seek perspectives by non-governmental stakeholders on the nexus of trade and the environment. The sharing of ideas will support broader policy objectives that contribute to inclusive and environmentally sustainable economic growth, including showcasing new opportunities for innovation of new, climate-friendly technologies and transition to net zero economies.</i></p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ASEAN and U.S. Private Sector speakers (TBD)</li> <li>• ASEAN and U.S. Environment NGO speakers (TBD)</li> </ul> <p><i>Questions and answers (10 min)</i></p>
10:15 – 10:45 am	<p><b>Wrap up and Follow-ups</b></p> <p><i>This session will provide an opportunity to discuss key takeaways and opportunities for future engagement.</i></p>
10:45 – 11:00am	<p><b>Participant Feedback</b></p> <p>Participants are requested to complete a workshop feedback form.</p>
11:00-11:10 am	<b>Closing remarks</b>