Message

From: Hill-Macon, Cam [Hill-Macon.Cam@epa.gov]
Sent: 3/24/2017 11:45:36 PM
To: Almodovar, Lisa [Almodovar.Lisa@epa.gov]; Kasman, Mark [Kasman.Mark@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Please add any items you have for the Senior Advisor Agenda

Adding one more at the bottom of item #4. I had saved it for next week but realized that the numbers might get stale. Thanks. chm

---

From: Hill-Macon, Cam
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 7:43 PM
To: Lisa Almodovar (Almodovar.Lisa@epa.gov) <Almodovar.Lisa@epa.gov>; Kasman, Mark <Kasman.Mark@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Please add any items you have for the Senior Advisor Agenda

Here's MLAC's contribution to the SA agenda. It's very Brazil heavy so feel free to move anything to next week if you feel appropriate.

Thanks,

Cam

1. **Status of briefing materials for Jane for her meetings during the coming week**

2. **Items for Jane to report at the Senior Staff**

3. **Forward looking items for written report to the Administrator**

4. **Items for Mark or his 1-1 meeting with Jane**

Items for Action

- Cristina and Cam held a call with Embassy Brasilia, one of the follow up actions from our Brazil MOU extension meeting with Jane. Embassy Brasilia offered to facilitate communications by meeting with MMA to let them know about the upcoming expiration of the MOU and to suggest that identifying a more narrow set of priorities could build the case for extension; however, Embassy Brasilia reports that Brazil's Ministry of Foreign Affairs is waiting for signals from the U.S. Administration about its priorities before discussing cooperation. Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Items for Information

- The Brazilian media is reporting that POTUS held a call with Brazilian President Michel Temer. They discussed political reforms, job creation, Venezuela, U.S.-Brazil trade agreements, and Western Hemisphere regional affairs. Several times during the call, POTUS reportedly informally invited Temer to visit the U.S.
- The next CAFTA-DR ECA meeting is scheduled for June 21-22, in Costa Rica. It's unknown as this point if DOS will request high-level (AA or OD) participation.
- CAFTA-DR funds are expected to end in 2018. The current EPA-AID IA will be extended—no cost extension, thru Sept. 2018 – to execute the remaining technical capacity activities related to: enforcement and compliance, EIA, wastewater management and solid waste management.

- Brazil's interest in ADR seems to be most focused on finding ways for the GOB to settle disputes regarding licenses and project mitigation measures outside of the court system. It sounds like EPA information on our administrative procedures would be in order and Tim Epp has offered to speak with Brazilian authorities, if they are interested. Embassy Brasilia will present this idea and get back to us.
- ORBA and OGAP (Mercurio and Rourk) participated in a second planning call on Thursday for what is now being termed as the "Filling the Gaps Workshop" with respect to gaining a better understanding and making recommendations to developing countries with regard to the use of on-the-ground and satellite-based air monitoring data in understanding air quality challenges where limited date exists. The workshop is now being planned for either mid/late July or September timeframe to be held either in Washington, D.C., or New York City. The discussion centered on dates and location for the meeting, the agenda and developing country participants. OAR has funding for five African participants and the World Bank indicated it will likely be able to fund additional developing country experts.
- ORBA participated in the monthly Brazil ESTH Interagency Conference Call in which Embassy-Brasilia (ESTH, HHS, Military, Security, USAID and Commerce), Consulates in Brazil (Rio, Recife, and Sao Paulo), main State (OES, OST, Health/Bio Defense), and other USG representatives participated. The topics covered included the construction of a new sanitary landfill in Brasilia with plans for construction of similar additional facilities; an update on the yellow fever outbreak in Brazil, which has mostly impacted the State of Minas Gerais with five recent cases in the State of Rio; violence against environmental activists in Brazil; Embassy Earth Day events; and Ministry of Environment and IBAMA's involvement in streamlining the EIA process. The next call will be in May due to scheduling conflicts in April and the USGS-EPA water mission was mentioned as a possible agenda item.
- MLAC (Hill-Macon) attended a briefing on the U.S.-Brazil agenda hosted by the Brazil-U.S. Business Council (BUSBC) and Congressmen Meehan and Meeks, as Co-Chairs of the Brazil Caucus. The briefing featured remarks from Brazil's Ambassador Sergio Amaral and high-level representatives from 6 companies doing business in the U.S. and Brazil: Citi, GE, Braskem, JBS (a Brazilian ag company), DuPont, and Embraer. All speakers cited their hope for Brazil's improved economy; stressed the existing links between the two countries (including over $30 billion in Brazilian investment in the U.S. that created over 100,000 jobs); and expressed their support for a free trade agreement between the two countries. Two companies, Braskem and JBS (an agricultural company) mentioned green products or environmental protection in their presentations. The Embassy of Brazil expressed its desire to renew formerly strong ties between the U.S. and Brazilian legislatures. OITA will meet with BUSBC representatives to get a readout of their trip to Brazil next week (which will include a meeting with Fernando Coimbra).
- Brazil's media this week focused on the new "Flesh is Weak" scandal, in which Federal Police investigators say that health inspectors were bribed to overlook expired meats and chemicals and that other products were added to meat to improve its appearance and smell. So far, the EU and 19 countries have suspended imports of Brazilian meets or adopted some kind of restriction: Canada, Mexico, Jamaica, Panama, Bahamas, Sao Vicente and Grenadine, Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago, Chile, Switzerland, Algeria, Israel, Egypt, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, China, Japan, and South Korea. The Brazilian press reports that the U.S. has increased its inspections of meat shipments from Brazil.

5. Upcoming MLAC and MLAC funded travel – date, name, country, a few words regarding purpose (e.g. scoping mission, deliver training, presentation at XYZ meeting)

Mar 28-30: Melissa Dimas + Jennifer May to Costa Rica for training on the Public Participation Guide (*CAFTA-DR Public Participation IA*).

April 24-27: Orlando Gonzalez to El Salvador to initiate the air quality program regional dialogue (*CAFTA-DR IA*)

May 12-26 (TBC): Cristina Mercurio + Sara Terry to Addis Ababa and Nairobi to meet with stakeholders to help determine which city will be selected to join the Megacities Project (*OAR/OAQPS funding*)

6. Items for ORBA-OGAP Coordination meeting

7. Upcoming events – please include a short 2-3 sentence description

March 27-31, 2017: OES Air Quality Distance Training