# One-on-One Meeting Notes: Alex Dunn, AA OCSPP
# February 2020

## Discussion Topics

**Potential OCSPP Topics**

- USMCA status
- US-UK FTA
- SAICM
- Mercury Inventory Report

**Proposed OITA topics**

1. USMCA- Gaps analysis report to Congress
2. Outcomes from Brazil Mission -- Brazil MOU signing
3. China MOU Review
4. European Union – delegation to Helsinki to meet with EU
5. Southeast Asia

**USMCA- Gaps analysis report to Congress**
***[this was covered in your email to USTR]***

- Thank you for the information on Mexico's regulation of chemicals and pesticides.
- We have shared this information with USTR to explain why we think this issue should be part of the assessment/gaps analysis report to Congress on USMCA.
- We will share future documents as we get them and look forward to working closely with you.



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## Outcomes from Brazil Mission -- Brazil MOU signing

- The Administrator just returned from a successful mission to Brazil. During that visit, AAW signed an MOU with the Ministry of Environment for cooperation on several topics, including marine litter best practices, technologies for sewage treatment, and solid waste management/recycling/food waste reduction.

- He also visited Manaus in the Amazon Region to get a better understanding of environment and development challenges unique to the Amazon, a region that is receiving elevated attention from the Ministry of Environment

- We don't anticipate any major asks on OCSPP issues for initial work under the MOU.

[*Note for Chad:* In case it's raised, OCSPP raised concerns about OITA's draft talking points for the Wheeler-Salles bilateral meeting in Brasilia, claiming that they were contrary to your earlier conversation with Alex Dunn and committed OCSPP to provide assistance. The draft points only recapped a conversation that OITA and IBAMA staff had, where IBAMA expressed an interest in getting EPA feedback on IBAMA's methodology to review the pesticide Imidacloprid. OITA made no commitments. OCSPP provided alternate points promoting the use of a risk-based approach in Brazil, which we used for the Administrator's paper.]

- **If raised:** Thank you and your staff for providing talking points for his meeting with Environment Minister Salles and IBAMA President Bim.

- all expect the workplan to be finalized soon?

## China MOU Review

- Over the next several months, OITA will engage in the process of renewing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with our counterpart in China: the Ministry of Ecology and Environment (MEE). Together we have collaborated to improve capacity to address transboundary pollution, as well as other environmental and public health challenges that are integral to the Agency's mission.

- This presents an opportunity to update the MOU, such that it reflects OCSPP's international priorities in order to advance EPA's broader domestic objectives.



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- EPA's effort to engage with China has been to promote increased global cooperation on new chemicals management. EPA benefits through the exchange of information on registrations, rules and regulations to promote harmonization, and technical cooperation on risk assessment methodologies.

- It has been a fruitful effort and I want to thank you and your office for your collective efforts. We look forward to your continued support as we set the stage for future bilateral cooperation with China.

## European Union

- I understand the Administrator indicated that EPA will be sending a senior team of officials to Helsinki to meet with counterparts at the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA). In part, this would be an effort to advance cooperative activities with ECHA. Notably, Administrator Wheeler discussed his intentions to have a delegation travel to ECHA during ministerial level meetings with the EU and Finland during the last six months.

- Have you discussed this request within OCSPP, and do you have any plans to travel to Helsinki in coming months? If so, what areas of cooperation do you think would be most fruitful to advance with ECHA?

Separately, has ECHA provided any feedback with respect to the draft rolling workplan EPA recently shared with them? Based on your process and input you've received; do you

## Southeast Asia

- Over the past few years, we have worked with Vietnam on strengthening environmental governance, including public disclosure of environmental information. Your office has been very helpful on this effort and I want to specifically recognize the TRI program's continued support of this program with Vietnam.

    - Background: Under EPA's interagency agreement with DOS/OES, EPA is working with the government of Vietnam to strengthen environmental governance, including disclosure of environmental information. Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) staff convened a Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (PRTR) workshop for Vietnam in 2018



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and participated in a regional PRTR workshop in 2019. In 2020, we hope to build on these efforts and support Vietnam's development of a PRTR program.

- Also, do you have any updates on USG engagement on the Thailand glyphosate ban?
    - Background: In October 2019, Thailand made a sudden decision to upgrade 3 chemicals (including glyphosate) to list of pesticides being banned effective December 1, 2019. AA Dunn had planned to accompany USDA to Thailand in early 2020 to coordinate with U.S. embassy officials, provide more information on how EPA is handling glyphosate in the U.S., and meet with Thai counterparts. Since December, OITA has not heard anything further about the planned mission.