



# U.S. Engagement on MRL Harmonization in APEC

Anna Gore
Foreign Agricultural Service
Office of Agreements and Scientific Affairs
International Regulations and Standards Division





# A Trade Facilitative Approach to MRL Enforcement and Compliance Assistance

- Join us!
  - October 9-10 in Brisbane, Australia
  - Save the Date coming soon





#### Overview

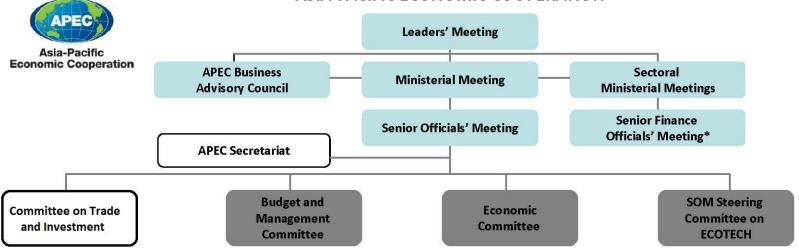
- Background: APEC and MRL Harmonization
- Strategic importance of APEC
- Workshop topics and details





#### **APEC: An Overview**

#### ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION







#### **APEC: An Overview**



#### **Committee on Trade and Investment**

#### Sub-committees/Experts Groups

- Sub-Committee on Standards and Conformance
- Sub-Committee on Customs Procedures
- Market Access Group
- Group on Services
- Investment Experts Group
- Intellectual Property Rights
- Business Mobility Group
- Electronic Commerce Steering Group

#### **Industry Dialogues**

#### (Reports to CTI)

- Automotive Dialogue
- Chemical Dialogue
- Life Sciences Innovation Forum

#### (Reports to SOM)

 High Level Policy Dialogue on Agricultural Biotechnology



Food Safety Cooperation Forum

Partnership Training Institute Network

**MRL Harmonization** 





#### **APEC Timeline**

- 2007: FSCF established
- 2008: PTIN established
- 2013: APEC Regulatory Cooperation Plan and Action Plan
  - Identification of priorities: MRLs and export certificates
- 2016: Import Tolerance Guidelines





## MRL Harmonization in APEC



#### IMPORT MRL GUIDELINE FOR PESTICIDES

A guideline on possible approaches to achieve alignment of international MRLs

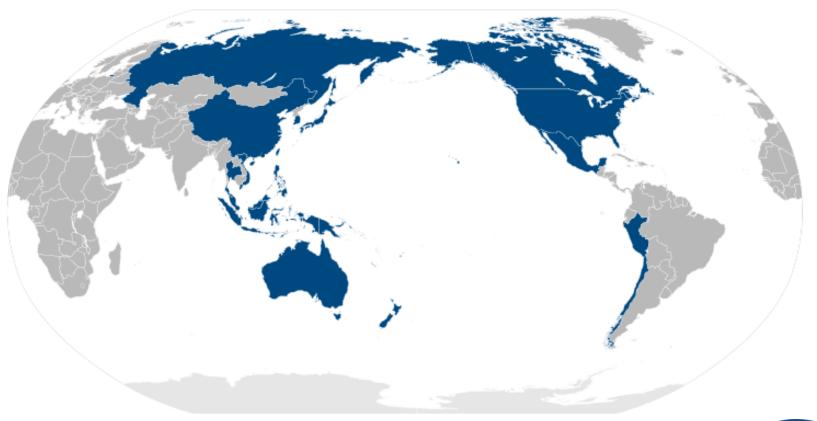
APEC Food Safety Cooperation Forum Sub-Committee on Standards and Conformance

July | 2016





# The Strategic Importance of APEC







## The Strategic Importance of APEC

- \$15 billion in specialty crop exports (2017)
- Approximately 20% of our comments on SPS notifications were related to MRLs in 2017
- Substantial regional commitments to capacity-building

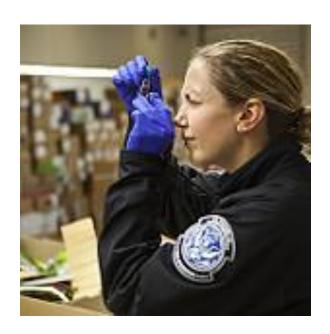


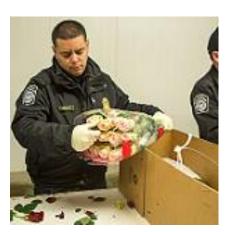
# USDA A Trade

### U.S. Workshop:

# A Trade Facilitative Approach to MRL Enforcement and Compliance Assistance











## APEC workshop: Key questions

- How can economies respond responsibly and flexibly to an MRL violation?
  - Immediately and in the months/years afterwards
- When does an MRL violation pose a health risk?
- How can governments address consumerdriven public health concerns about pesticides?



#### Thanks!

- Questions?
  - Anna.gore@fas.usda.gov
  - o 202-720-5620

