

The Role of Policy in Global Food Trade

**Economic Research Service
Conference**

April 28, 2005

Peggy S. Rochette

Food Products Association

prochette@fpa-food.org

www.fpa-food.org



Food Products Association

**Scientific and technical trade association
for the food industry -- food safety and
security, processing, health and nutrition**

- **1907- The National Cannery Association**
- **1978 - National Food Processors Association**
- **Three Food Safety Laboratories**
 - **Washington, Dublin CA, Seattle, Bangkok**
- **400 Member Companies**

Processed Food Trade

- **Global Trade in Processed Food \$3.2 trillion**
- **U.S. exports processed food - \$23 billion 2003**
- **Opportunities Excellent – Growth stagnant**
 - **Tariffs and Non Tariff Barriers to Trade**
 - **National Policies Protect Domestic Industry**

Overview – Industry Perspective

- **Fair and Equitable Playing Field**
- **Access to Accurate Information**
- **Consistency in Rules and Standards**
 - Harmonization
- **Prompt Redress of Grievances**

Government Role in Food Policy Trade

- **Domestic Policy that Facilitates Exports**
- **Trade Policy that Assures a Level Playing Field**
- **Commitment to International Rules**
- **Leadership in International Standards Organizations**
- **A Coordinated U.S. Message**
- **Build Alliances**

Domestic Policy to Facilitate Exports

- **Subsidy Programs Disadvantage U.S. Processed Foods**
- **Domestic Regulatory Schemes**
 - *Export Certification*
- **Technical Assistance to Exporters**
 - *FAS*
 - *Commerce*

Trade Policy to Level the Playing Field

- **Tariffs**
 - High Tariffs
 - Tariff escalation
 - Quotas
- **Technical Barriers**
 - Documentation/ Certification
 - Food Ingredients
 - Labeling/ Packaging

Make better use of FTA's to address NTBs

- ***1 time leverage***

Underscore International Commitments

- **WTO Dispute Resolution**
 - Lengthy and Expensive
- **Alternative forums**
 - SPS & TBT Commitments
 - Technical Working Groups (TWGs)
 - Accession Discussions
- ***Make Better Use of Existing Forums to Resolve Differences***

International Standards Organization

- Promote Science Based Regulations
- Promote U.S. Regulatory Approach
- Provide leadership to ensure relevance (Codex, OIE, IPPC)
- Provide oversight to ensure consistency (ISO/Codex)
- Encourage the cooperation of developing countries

Coordinate the U.S. Message

- **Involve All Stakeholders**
- **Coordinate and Communicate Interagency Policy**
- **Link Technical Assistance To Policy and Regulatory Infrastructure**

Build Alliances

- **Coordinate Regional Positions**
- **Build Cooperation Among the Americas**
- **Bridge the EU/US Divide**
- **Encourage alliances with developing nations**
 - **Technical Assistance in Regulation**
 - **Educated Policy Development**

Peggy S. Rochette
Sr. Director International Policy
Food Products Association

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