

**Advisory Committee on Biotechnology & 21st Century
Agriculture (AC21) Meeting: March 14-15, 2016**

Plenary Meeting

**Room 107A, USDA Jamie L. Whitten Building,
1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, DC 20250**
Provisional Agenda

Meeting Objectives:

- Consider work of the three *ad hoc* subgroups on the progress of their analyses relevant to the new AC21 charge;
- Listen to presentations from outside experts on topics relevant to the work of the AC21; and
- Continue overall discussions on the committee charge and planning subsequent work.

Day 1—March 14, 2016

8:30—Coffee Available

9:00-9:25—Welcome and review of agenda

- Michael Schechtman, Designated Federal Official for AC21, USDA
- PA Secretary of Agriculture Russell Redding, Chairperson

9:25-9:50—Updates on biotechnology regulatory developments since last meeting

- Michael Gregoire, Associate Administrator, USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
- Michael Schechtman

9:50-10:05-- Update on new Farm Service Agency financial assistance to establish conservation buffer zones for organic producers

- Betsy Rakola, Organic Policy Advisor, Agricultural Marketing Service

10:05-10:25—Update on new ERS report, Economic Issues in the Coexistence of Organic, Genetically Engineered (GE) and Non-GE Crops

- Catherine Greene, Economic Research Service

10:25-10:40—Break

10:40-12:00--Reports from 3 *ad hoc* subgroups on their intersessional work and discussion

- Guidance document subgroup, Lynn Clarkson, AC21
- Models and Incentives subgroup, Hon. Douglas Goehring, AC21
- Venues and Conveners subgroup, Leon Corzine, AC21

12:00-12:30-- Discussion of the two types of potential interactions envisioned in AC21 thus far—regional/broader educational discussions and neighbor to neighbor discussions—and their relationship to each other

12:30-1:45—Lunch (on your own)

1:45-2:20—Presentation from the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) on cooperative local processes in conservation management plus discussion

- Speaker TBD

2:20-3:00--Presentation from National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) on how it can engage in the coexistence process plus discussion

- Barbara Glenn, CEO, NASDA

3:00-3:15—Break

3:15-5:00—Public Comments

5:00—Adjourn for the Day

Day II—March 15, 2016

8:30—Coffee available

9:00-9:10—Welcome and Reflections on Day I

- Hon. Russell Redding, Chair

9:10-10:00— Discussion on potential scope of farmer-to-farmer discussions envisioned

10:00-10:30—Discussion on structuring a new cooperative model for coexistence discussions

10:30-10:45—Break

10:45-11:45— Additional discussion on elements of the proposed guidance document and intersecting activities of the 3 workgroups

11:45-12:30—Discussion on how to elicit support from stakeholders and potential venues/conveners

12:30-1:45—Lunch (on your own)

1:45-2:00—Recapping the morning's discussions

1:45-2:15— Additional discussion on continuing work of the workgroups

2:15-3:00— Discussion on the mechanics of writing the report and the associated Guidance Document

3:00-3:30—Further discussion of next steps and additional information needed

3:30-3:45—Closing Remarks and Adjournment