

**ISSC 2019  
Committee Report**

**Committee Name :** Foreign Relations  
**Chairperson:** David Fyfe  
**Date of Meeting:** 10-6-2019

**Approved**  
**By:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DRAFT** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Printed Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Recorder:**

**Committee Members Present:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Fyfe (Chairperson)	<input type="checkbox"/> Chris Sherman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Miranda Ries	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bill Kramer (EPA Delegate)
<input type="checkbox"/> Ian Jefferds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bill Taylor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lauren Gauthier	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Melissa Abbott (FDA Delegate)
<input type="checkbox"/> Amanda Lowrey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John White	<input type="checkbox"/> Andrew Button	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jon Bell (NOAA Delegate)
<input type="checkbox"/> Diane Regan	<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew Forester	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Berbells	
<input type="checkbox"/> Brian Roughan	<input type="checkbox"/> Jakov Jurisic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hongsik Yu	

**Charges**

**Charge 1: The Foreign Relations Committee is charged with reviewing information concerning foreign developments that may impact shellfish sanitation in the United States. This information may be presented through the proposal process or to the Executive Board for consideration and dissemination to Conference members.**

Findings/Conclusions:

FDA Report: Melissa Abbott

- Korea was last evaluated in 2017 and is next scheduled for 2020, consistent with a triennial schedule
- Mexico was last evaluated in 2018 and this goes through 2020
  - There were 9 action plans and all were acceptable
  - The Mexicali lab was approved for mouse biotoxin
- Eastern Canada was evaluated in 2016 and western Canada in 2017, with some recommendations
  - In the future, evaluations may focus on one coast only, with the next evaluation being conducted on the opposite coast
  - Canada evaluated the US program for the first time, focusing on Washington and Oregon; Everything was found to be satisfactory
- New Zealand has a Systems Recognition Agreement
  - New Zealand evaluated the NSSP and everything was found to be satisfactory
- E.U. is developing an Equivalence Agreement with the US
  - Mark Atto will be giving a presentation on this during the ISSC Symposium
  - To start, only Approved and Class A waters will be considered, for 2 states and 2 EU countries
  - An automated company listing system is being developed
  - There still is a trade imbalance in that the US is still unable to send processed shellfish to the EU

- The FDA is part of a core group of world experts that developed a guidance document – bivalve-risk based approach for developing countries
- APHIS is reviewing biosecurity for EU trade
- The subject of postharvest processed shellfish is being dealt with on a parallel track

EPA Report: Bill Kramer

- EPA Report has been provided electronically for posting on the ISSC/Foreign Relations website

NOAA Report: John Bell

- A NOAA vet is working with APHIS on HABs and biotoxins in both freshwater and coastal areas
- 

Korea Report: Hongsik Yu

- They have 7 identified shellfish growing areas
- #1 & #2 are for export to the US
- Portions were closed in 2012 but are progressively being opened as problems are being addressed with additional sewage treatment plants

Canada Report: John White

- Canada has 3 Federal agencies dealing with Shellfish
  - Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)
  - Environment and Climate Change (E & CC)
  - Fisheries and Oceans (F&O)
- Canada has provided an electronic copy of its report for posting on the ISSC/ Foreign Relations website

New Zealand Report: Peter Brown

- Brian Roughan has retired
- New Zealand is developing an electronic tracking system
- They have 26 processing plants for product shipped to the US
- Exported product is largely green lipped mussels and oysters
- They had 26 illness cases eating raw mussels with consumer abuse found to be the main cause
- ST36 strains found in the environment
- Serious HAB issues, with extended closures

Regarding imports, the industry expressed serious concerns about OSHV-1 associated with disposed shell and suggested tagging or labelling to address the issue.

FDA said they are working to require health certifications and an education component as part of imports

Recommendations:

1. Replace Brian Roughan (retired), with Peter Brown, as the New Zealand representative on the Foreign Relations Committee