

U.S. Biotech Crops Alliance

December 10, 2014

President Barack Obama
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The U.S. Biotech Crops Alliance (USBCA), comprised of the undersigned organizations, sincerely thanks you for addressing the issue of agricultural biotechnology and its importance to trade with President Xi during your recent Asia trip. Your leadership on this issue is critical to the establishment of a long term, and mutually beneficial, dialogue with the Chinese on the role that agricultural trade and innovative technologies play in increasing global food security.

Moving forward, our attention is shifting to the U.S.-China Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade (JCCT), where industry is hopeful that a comprehensive framework agreement establishing a schedule of commitments is reached. In addition to the ongoing trade disruption, it is critical for these discussions to re-establish a predictable process for enabling compliance with Chinese laws and regulations regarding biotechnology products and for this process to include a means to proactively manage situations that place Chinese access to U.S. commodity supplies at risk. Doing so will accomplish two goals: 1) it will enable U.S. agriculture to continue to supply China's demand for imported commodities without concern regarding trade disruption, and 2) it will enable U.S. farmers to have access to a robust pipeline of innovative products developed to improve yields and reduce the environmental footprint of agriculture.

We have conveyed this message to the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and U.S. Department of Commerce. We look forward to working closely with your Administration over the coming months to advance the dialogue.

U.S. Biotech Crops Alliance
December 10, 2014
Page 2

Sincerely,

American Farm Bureau Federation

American Seed Trade Association

American Soybean Association

Biotechnology Industry Organization

Corn Refiners Association

National Association of Wheat Growers

National Corn Growers Association

National Grain and Feed Association

National Oilseed Processors Association

North American Export Grain Association

U.S. Canola Association

U.S. Grains Council

U.S. Soybean Export Council

Cc: Ambassador Michael Froman, Office of the U.S. Trade Representative
The Honorable Penny Pritzker, U.S. Department of Commerce
The Honorable Tom Vilsack, U.S. Department of Agriculture
Catherine Atkinson, White House Deputy National Security Adviser for International
Economics