

Mr. Marco Gonzalez
Secretariat for the Montreal Protocol
P. O. Box 30552, Nairobi, Kenya

Dr. H.J. Banks
10 Beltana Road
Pialligo, ACT 2609 Australia

Dr. Nahum Marban Mendoza
Autonomic University of Chapingo
PO Box 56230
Chapingo, Mexico

Dear Mr. Gonzalez, Dr. Banks, and Dr. Mendoza:

Please find attached the United States government response to the questions provided by MBTOC regarding the U.S. 2005 supplemental and 2006 CUE request. These responses are organized by sector for your convenience.

In preparing the CUE nominations and these responses, we have considered all resources available to us, including but not limited to: MBTOC reports, published articles, research reports, and personal communications with researchers and growers. We strive to answer MBTOC questions based on a thorough examination of all relevant material. In the future, it may facilitate our understanding of specific aspects of questions if MBTOC could provide data, or references to the relevant data, that are the basis for some of its questions. We believe this could assist us in providing MBTOC with as complete and accurate a response as possible.

With respect to the U.S. requests in two tobacco-related sectors, we have recently consulted with these applicant groups and the U.S. Government withdraws our nominations for these two sectors that were considered by MBTOC in its June 2004 report. Specifically, we withdraw for consideration our CUE requests for CUN2003/056UScN7 (Nursery float trays for tobacco seedlings) and US56N13 (tobacco – seedlings).

In our bilateral meeting at the Open Ended Working Group, information was requested on the precise details of any movement of CUE applicants to different sectors between the 2005 and 2006 CUE requests. Table 1 below summarizes all such changes.

Table 1. Description of What U.S.A. Applications Have Been Moved To New Sectors

Recategorized Applicants:	From 2005	To 2006
Ham	Commodities	Ham
CA Rose Nursery	Ornamentals	Fruit, Nut, and Flower Nursery
Western Raspberry Nursery	Orchard Seedlings	Fruit, Nut, and Flower Nursery
CA Assoc. of Nurserymen - Deciduous Fruit & Nut Tree Growers	Orchard Seedlings	Fruit, Nut, and Flower Nursery

For your convenience, Table 2 below displays the name of each of the sector specific responses to MBTOC questions in separate electronic files.

Table 2. List of Electronic Filenames

Title of Electronic Files
CUN2003 Stru USA NPMA Dried Commodities and Structures Reply to June 2004 Questions.doc
CUN2003 Comm USA Dry Cured Pork Products Reply to June 2004 Questions.doc
CUN2003 Soil USA Eggplant & Peppers Reply to June 2004 Questions.doc
CUN2003 Soil USA Orchard Replant Request to Reconsider June 2004.doc
CUN2003 Soil USA Ornamentals Reply to June 2004 Questions.doc
CUN2003 Soil USA Strawberry Fruit Reply to June 2004 Questions.doc
CUN2003 Soil USA Strawberry Runners Reply to June 2004 Questions.doc
CUN2003 Stru USA 01 Mills & Processors Reply to June 2004 Questions.doc
CUN2003 Stru USA 02 Mills & Processors Reply to June 2004 Questions.xls
CUN2003 Soil USA Tomato Reply to June 2004 Questions.doc
USA 2006 BUNI – Refined Nomination Package.xls

As a final point, the United States requests that MBTOC reconsider its recommendation to cut our request in the orchard replant sector. A detailed explanation describing the need for the amount of methyl bromide included in our request is attached.

I hope that the information provided in this response helps the MBTOC in its deliberations at its next meeting. Should you need further clarification on these questions, please contact John Thompson (ThompsonJE2@state.gov or 1 202 647 9799) on these matters.

Sincerely,

Claudia A. McMurray
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Environment