



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

Veterinary Services

Washington, DC
20250

Date:

Name:

Title:

Division:

Company/Organization:

Address:

State & Country:

Dear XXXX:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) cordially invites you to attend the International Conference on Avian Influenza and Poultry Trade (ICAAPT) to be held in Baltimore, MD, from June 22 – 24, 2015. The conference is being hosted by APHIS and the US poultry industry. Should you be unable to attend, feel free to send an appropriate avian health or trade subject matter expert in your place.

The main objective of the conference is to develop practical recommendations that will help mitigate the risk of infection when trading in poultry and poultry products. Pathways of introducing avian influenza and measures to mitigate such introductions will be discussed. While the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) has very good and clear recommended standards for the safe trade of poultry and poultry products, not all poultry products are included in the recommendations. Any summary and recommendations resulting from the conference will supplement the existing international standards and will be shared with meeting participants, international stakeholders, and the OIE.

Conference sessions will include presentations and discussions on: 1) risk factors for introduction and spread of avian influenza related to various sectors of poultry keeping, 2) effective and feasible avian influenza detection, response, and control plans, and 3) strategies to minimize trade impacts related to detection of avian influenza virus in commercial and non-commercial birds or in limited regional areas.

We welcome your input on other possible topics for the meeting and suggestions of any, experts from your country whose participation would enhance the discussions at the conference.

APHIS is able to cover travel and hotel expenses for approved speakers who will give a presentation or participate in a panel discussion during the conference. Please be aware that you or the person you designate to attend will be requested to give a 1 hour presentation or participate in a 45 minute panel discussion during the event.

Please email Ms. Candace Shearin at Candace.L.Shearin@aphis.usda.gov or call 919 – 855 – 7236 to confirm your attendance no later than April 24, 2015. To cover travel expenses for approved speakers, APHIS must have your response by the above due date. Additional details concerning the conference will be provided soon. We look forward to your response, and hope to see you in Baltimore.

Sincerely,

John R. Clifford
Deputy Administrator



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