Subject to Legal Review for Accuracy, Clarity, and Consistency Subject to Authentication of English and Spanish Versions Draft 8 May 2006

UNDERSTANDING REGARDING 30-DAY TENDERING PERIOD [DATE]

The Governments of the Republic of Colombia and the United States of America have reached the following understanding regarding Chapter Nine (Government Procurement) of the United States – Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement signed this day (the "Agreement"):

A procuring entity of a Party may not reduce the time limit for submission of a tender pursuant to paragraph 3 of Article 9.5 unless both Parties agree that the Party of the procuring entity has demonstrated its ability to comply with the requirements in that paragraph. The Parties acknowledge that, as of this date, only the United States is able to comply with paragraph 3 of Article 9.5.

If Colombia notifies the United States in writing that it has implemented an electronic procurement system that would enable it to comply with paragraph 3 of Article 9.5 and the United States does not object within 60 days of the receipt of the notification, Colombia shall be able to reduce the time limit for submission of a tender pursuant to that paragraph. If the United States objects, Colombia shall not be allowed to reduce its time limit for tendering under paragraph 3 of Article 9.5.