

November 15, 2004

The Honorable Secretary Rob Portman
United States Trade Representative
Executive Office of the President
Washington, D.C. 20508

Dear Ambassador Portman:

As you are aware, small and minority business is a tremendous engine of the U.S. economy. As producers, suppliers, transporters, employers, exporters, and entrepreneurs smooth and transparent access to international markets is paramount to the welfare and growth of the SME sector.

Thus, pursuant to Section 2104 (e) of the Trade Act of 2002 and Section 135 (e) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended, I am pleased to transmit the report of ITAC-11 for Trade Policy Matters by the Small and Minority Business Committee on the **U.S. – Oman FTA**, reflecting a general consensus with comments by the advisory committee on the proposed Agreement.

Sincerely,

John A. Adams, Jr.,
Chairman, ITAC-11

The U.S. – Oman FTA

Report of Industry Trade Advisory Committee
On Small and Minority Business
ITAC-11
November 15, 2005

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ITAC-11: Small and Minority Business Committee

Advisory Committee Report to the President, the Congress and the United States Trade Representative on the **U.S. – Oman FTA**.

I. Purpose of the Committee Report

Section 2104 (e) of the Trade Act of 2002 requires that advisory committees provide the President, the U.S. Trade Representative, and Congress with reports required under Section 135 (e)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended, not later than 30 days after the President notifies Congress of his intent to enter into an agreement.

Under Section 135 (e) of the Trade act of 1974, as amended, the report of the Advisory Committee for Trade Policy and Negotiations and each appropriate policy advisory committee must include an advisory opinion as to whether and to what extent the agreement promotes the economic interests of the United States and achieves the applicable overall and principle negotiating objectives set forth in the Trade Act of 2002.

The report of the appropriate sectoral or functional committee must also include an advisory opinion as to whether the agreement provides for equity and reciprocity within the sectoral or functional area.

Pursuant to these requirements, ITAC-11 (formerly known as ISAC-14) on Small and Minority Business hereby submits the following report.

II. Executive Summary of Committee Report

Enclosed is a review of the committee, submitted for your review, both in terms of the final document as well as the procedures for implementations and resolution of any disputes. The committee applauds the efforts of USTR and Commerce to open freer trade with Oman. ITAC-11 supports the basis and overall concept of the Oman Free Trade Agreement and continues to support the expansion of free trade throughout the area.

III. Brief Description of the Mandate of ITAC-11

The objective of the committee is to provide timely policy and technical advice, information, and recommendations to the Secretary and USTR regarding trade barriers, implementation, and overall concern as it pertains to the operations and international competitiveness of small and minority business.

IV. Negotiating Objectives and Priorities of ITAC-11

The priorities of the committee are to represent the views of small business with the objective to enhance job growth and exports of goods and services by this business sector of the U.S. economy. As a further objective, the committee expresses an ongoing concern that cross-border trade be as fair as possible, transparent, and open to small business.

V. Advisory Committee Opinion on Agreement

The committee has viewed the agreement and would like to submit no suggestions and/or opinions to the U.S. Oman FTA agreement. ITAC-11 supports the basis and overall concept of the Oman Free Trade Agreement, and will continue to support the expansion of free trade throughout the area.

VI. Membership of Committee

Chairman

Mr. John Adams

Executive Director
Laredo Development Foundation
Laredo, TX

Vice-Chairman

Mr. John Allen

Chairman and CEO
Allen and Associates International, Ltd.
Greensboro, NC

Vice-Chairman

Mr. Roger Dickey

President
Kensington International, Inc.
Charlotte, NC

Vice-Chairman

Mr. Donald Williams

President and CEO
Princeton Healthcare, Inc.
Marietta, GA

Mr. Kent Bank

President
Minneapolis Washer and Stamping
Company, Inc.
Minneapolis, MN

Ms. Sarian Bouma

President and CEO
Capitol Hill Building and Maintenance, Inc.
Landover, MD

Mr. Bernard Brill

Executive Vice President
Secondary Materials and Recycled Textiles
Association
Bethesda, MD

Ms. Candace Chen

President
Power Clean 2000, Inc.
Los Angeles, CA

Mr. Wesley Davis

President and CEO
Proxtronics, Inc.
Springfield, VA

Ms. Karen El-Chaar

Corporate Secretary/Treasurer
Hamilton Services Group, Inc.
Allentown, PA

Dr. Sharon Freeman

President
Lark-Horton Global Consulting, Ltd.
Washington, DC

Ms. Sherrie Gilchrist

President and CEO
Chattanooga African-American Chamber
of Commerce
Chattanooga, TN

Ms. Carolyn Keats

Director, International Sales
Tender Corporation
Littleton, NH 03561

Mr. George Keller

President
Customs Advisory Services, Inc.
Atlanta, GA

Mr. John Kolmer

NAFTA Trade Specialist
Turner Center for Entrepreneurship
Peoria, IL

Mr. Lewis Kranick

Consultant
Representing Krandex Corporation
Elkhart, WI

Ms. Catherine Lee

Managing Director
Lee International Business Development LLC
Westbrook, ME

Mr. Peter Lehman
Director, Planning and Development
South Carolina State Port Authority
Charleston, SC

Mr. James Meenan
Consultant
Global Business Access, Ltd.
Fairfax, VA

Dr. Brenda Mitchell
Chief Executive Officer
Management and Environmental
Technologies, Inc.
Philadelphia, PA

Mr. David Padilla
Vice-President
Manuel Lujan Insurance Agency
Sante Fe, NM

Mr. Jeffrey Ruffner
Vice-President and General Manager
MSE Technology Applications, Inc.
Butte, MT

Mr. Esteban Taracido
President
Tele-Signal Corporation
New Rochelle, NY

Mr. Jose Travez
Vice-President
Prototype Productions, Inc.
Ashburn, VA

Mr. Craig Trumbull
Chief Financial Officer
RC Publications
Rockville, MD

Mr. William Weiller
Chairman of the Board and CEO
Purafil, Inc.
Doraville, GA

Mr. Jon Weinstein
President and CEO
Apex Plastic Industries, Inc.
Hauppauge, NY