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Temporary Entry for Business Persons

The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) levels the playing field for American workers and American businesses, leading to more Made-in-America exports and more higher-paying American jobs here at home. By cutting over 18,000 taxes different countries put on Made-in-America products, TPP makes sure our farmers, ranchers, manufacturers, service suppliers, and small businesses can compete—and win—in some of the fastest growing markets in the world. With more than 95 percent of the world’s consumers living outside our borders, TPP will significantly expand the export of Made-in-America goods and services and support American jobs.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As businesses seek to establish and develop opportunities across the region, they need to obtain visas. The Temporary Entry for Business Persons chapter ensures efficient visa processing procedures and transparency

related to requirements for the temporary entry application process. No provision in TPP will require changes to U.S. immigration law, regulations, policy, or practice because our system already operates in a manner consistent with the provisions in the Temporary Entry chapter. In addition, while the other 11 TPP Parties have agreed upon country-specific reciprocal commitments on access for each other's business persons, the United States is not undertaking any commitments in this area.

CHAPTER OVERVIEW

Application Procedures

The Temporary Entry for Business Persons chapter encourages TPP authorities to promptly provide information on applications for temporary entry, to ensure that application fees are reasonable, and to make decisions on applications and inform applicants of decisions in a timely manner, as we already do in the United States.

Transparency

The chapter includes commitments to ensure that information on requirements for temporary entry are readily available to the public, including by publishing information promptly and online if possible, and providing explanatory materials and specifying where inquiries should be directed relating to temporary entry measures. This is fully consistent with U.S. practice.

NEW FEATURES

TPP's Temporary Entry for Business Persons chapter provides enhanced transparency and opportunities for enhanced cooperation among the TPP countries on these issues.

IMPACT

The Asia-Pacific region is already the largest business travel region in the world, based upon travel spending, and according to one industry group, business travel is expected to grow by around six percent annually over the next five years. For Americans, the importance of personal connections, small-business contacts, and coordination for building successful business relationships is highlighted by the fact that Americans made more than 61

million foreign trips in 2013.

As businesses seek to establish and develop opportunities across the region, they need to obtain visas efficiently. To address this issue, the Temporary Entry for Business Persons chapter ensures efficient visa processing procedures and transparency-related requirements for the temporary entry application process. While the other 11 Parties have agreed upon country-specific reciprocal commitments on access for each other's business persons, the United States is not undertaking any commitments in this area. Nor will any TPP provision require changes to U.S. immigration law, regulations, policy, or practice, as our system already operates in a manner consistent with the temporary entry chapter. In addition, TPP will explicitly affirm the ability of TPP Parties to regulate the entry of foreign nationals into their territory.

