

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508

February 4, 2016

The Honorable Ildefonso Guajardo Villarreal  
Secretary of the Economy  
México, D.F., México

Dear Secretary Guajardo:

I have the honor to refer to the following understanding between representatives of the Government of the United Mexican States (Mexico) and the Government of the United States of America (United States) reached during the negotiations on Section E (Geographical Indications) of Chapter 18 (Intellectual Property) of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP Agreement):

Mexico and the United States confirm their understanding that from the date of signature of the TPP Agreement until its entry into force for each Party, each government will take all measures within its legal authority to prevent any action that may be contrary to the object and purpose of the Article 18.36 (International Agreements), which relates to the protection or recognition of geographical indications under international agreements.

I have the honor to propose that this letter, and your letter of confirmation in reply, both equally authentic in the English and the Spanish languages, shall constitute an understanding between our Governments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael B. G. Froman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Ambassador Michael B. G. Froman

4 February 2016

**The Honorable Michael B.G. Froman  
United States Trade Representative  
Washington, D.C., United States of America**

Dear Ambassador Froman:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of this date, which reads as follows:

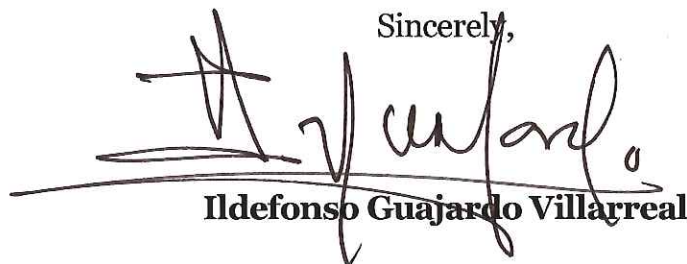
“I have the honor to refer to the following understanding between representatives of the Government of the United Mexican States (Mexico) and the Government of the United States of America (United States) reached during the negotiations on Section E (Geographical Indications) of Chapter 18 (Intellectual Property) of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP Agreement):

Mexico and the United States confirm their understanding that from the date of signature of the TPP Agreement until its entry into force for each Party, each government will take all measures within its legal authority to prevent any action that may be contrary to the object and purpose of the Article 18.36 (International Agreements), which relates to the protection or recognition of geographical indications under international agreements.

I have the honor to propose that this letter, and your letter of confirmation in reply, both equally authentic in the English and the Spanish languages, shall constitute an understanding between our Governments.”

I have the further honor to confirm that my government shares this understanding, and that your letter and this reply shall constitute an understanding between the United States and Mexico.

Sincerely,



**Ildefonso Guajardo Villarreal**