

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

JUN 09 2011

The Honorable Jong-hoon Kim  
Minister of Trade  
Republic of Korea  
Seoul, South Korea

Dear Minister Kim:

I very much enjoyed seeing you again at the recent APEC meeting in Big Sky.

As we are busy working to secure our Congress' approval of the U.S.-Korea trade agreement, our Congress, as well as U.S. industry, continues to raise questions and concerns regarding the provisions of your FTA with the European Union that pertain to geographical indications. We last corresponded on this issue in February 2010, and I would like to inquire whether there are additional updates or clarifications that you could provide. This would assist me tremendously in explaining the situation to Congress and to our stakeholders.

I look forward to hearing from you on this matter. In addition, I also look forward to working together as we each expeditiously move KORUS through our respective legislatures, so that the Agreement enters into force as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Kirk", written in a cursive style.

Ambassador Ron Kirk