



Secretariat for U.S. Representation to the APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC)

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National Center for APEC Applauds Administration's Announcement in Support of the U.S.-South Korea Free Trade Agreement

Washington, DC (June 28, 2010) – The National Center for Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (NCAPEC) commends the Administration's decision to work with Congress to pass the U.S.-South Korea free trade agreement.

“We strongly believe that the passage of the U.S.- Korea trade agreement will strengthen our economic recovery and highlight the United States' commitment and engagement in the Asia-Pacific region,” said Monica Whaley, President of NCAPEC. “Congressional approval of the U.S.- Korea trade agreement will strengthen one of the most important U.S. trade relationships in the region, and will generate great momentum going in to the U.S. hosting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum (APEC) in 2011.”

“At a time of continued economic challenges, the U.S.-South Korea free trade agreement presents both nations with an opportunity to foster domestic economic growth and job creation,” said Whaley. “We recognize there are challenges to finalizing this historic agreement. But this announcement is a great step forward in improving our trade liberalization efforts and engaging our key partners in Asia in continued shared economic development.”

About the National Center for APEC

The U.S. National Center for Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (NCAPEC) is the only U.S. business association focused exclusively on facilitating American private sector input to the APEC process. The United States will chair APEC in 2011, and the National Center is coordinating the APEC 2011 USA Host Committee, the private sector host of business activities for the 2011 APEC Meetings. The National Center also functions as a conduit for U.S. businesses into APEC by serving as the Secretariat for the three U.S. executives who are appointed members of the APEC Business Advisory Council.