



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National Center for APEC Applauds Administration's Decision to Name Big Sky, Montana as Host City of the 2011 APEC Trade Ministers Meeting

Washington, DC (March 19, 2010) – The National Center for Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (NCAPEC) today applauded the Obama Administration's selection of Big Sky, Montana for the APEC 2011 Trade Ministers meeting.

“We enthusiastically support the selection of Big Sky to host the 2011 APEC Trade Ministers meeting,” said Monica Whaley, President of the U.S. National Center for Asia-Pacific Cooperation (NCAPEC). “Once again Montana will play an important role in advancing the US trade agenda; Big Sky hosted a round of U.S.-Korea trade negotiations, and prior to that, Great Falls, Montana hosted a round of U.S.-Thailand trade negotiations.”

The APEC Trade Ministers' meeting is one of the most important events in the annual APEC schedule. The meeting will be a cornerstone event to the U.S. hosting of APEC in 2011, setting the stage for President Obama's hosting of APEC's 21 presidents and prime ministers later in the year. “In 2011, we hope to continue the advancement of the Asia-Pacific trade agenda as a key element of strengthening economic recovery here in the U.S., and look forward to constructive discussions in Big Sky, Montana as an important part of that process,” said Whaley.

“The National Center for APEC is the lead coordinator for U.S. business involvement in the 2011 APEC hosting effort. We look forward to working closely with the City of Big Sky, Montana state government and business leaders, and the U.S. business community to create meaningful opportunities for the private sector to engage with the APEC Trade Ministers in Big Sky, and to make this Trade Ministers' meeting a success.”

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. NCAPEC serves as the official coordinator of business activities for the 2011 APEC Meetings. National Center membership is limited to U.S. corporations. 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.