

News Release

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For Immediate Release

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Joined by USTR Ambassador Ron Kirk, Chairmen David Dreier and Max Baucus, Ranking Member Sandy Levin and TPP Ambassadors, U.S. Business Coalition Highlights Importance of Comprehensive, High-Standard TPP

Economic Opportunities and Job Benefits Will Depend on Ultimate Quality of the Agreement

Washington, D.C., April 18, 2012: The U.S. Business Coalition for TPP hosted a Capitol Hill event today with United States Trade Representative Ron Kirk, Rules Committee Chairman David Dreier, Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus, House Ways and Means Ranking Member Sandy Levin and the Ambassadors or their representatives from all the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) partner countries. This event highlighted the importance of the TPP negotiations to promote economic opportunities and competitiveness, the creation and retention of jobs, higher living standards, and the reduction of poverty across all the TPP countries.

Rick Johnston, Co-Chair of the TPP Coalition and Senior Vice President, International Government Affairs at Citi, spoke on behalf of the cross-sector TPP Coalition:

“The TPP negotiations are at an important crossroads. With the 12th TPP negotiating round set to begin in Dallas in less than three weeks, it is critical for all TPP countries to redouble efforts to achieve the type of comprehensive, high-standard and commercially meaningful agreement across all sectors that the Leaders of all of the TPP countries called for last November. Only by achieving such a high-quality agreement will the benefits to our economies and our industries, workers and consumers be realized. And such an outcome requires U.S. leadership.

“This year, Citi celebrates 200 years of helping our customers compete and thrive in international trade and investment. Our 200-year history tells us that the free flow of capital and goods fosters stronger and more productive economies that are mutually reinforcing. That is what the Trans-Pacific Partnership is all about and that is what Citi and its Coalition partners will be working hard to help the U.S. government and the other TPP partner governments to accomplish in the weeks and months to come.”

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The U.S. Business Coalition for TPP is a broad-based and cross-sectoral group of U.S. companies and associations that have joined together to promote the United States' negotiation of a comprehensive, high-standard and commercially meaningful Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement with Australia, Brunei, Chile, Malaysia, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam. The Coalition's members represent the principal sectors of the U.S. economy, including agriculture, manufacturing, merchandising, processing, publishing, retailing and services.