

Bill as Introduced

HCR 29 - AS INTRODUCED

2010 SESSION

10-2125

05/04

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 29

A RESOLUTION requiring the Congress of the United States of America to reaffirm its adherence to the Constitution of the United States regarding international agreements and treaties.

SPONSORS: Rep. Vita, Straf 3; Rep. Rappaport, Coos 1; Rep. Hogan, Hills 25; Rep. Itse, Rock 9; Rep. Comerford, Rock 9

COMMITTEE: State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs

ANALYSIS

This resolution requires the United States Congress to reaffirm its adherence to the Constitution regarding the congressional oversight and authority required for the country to enter into binding international agreements and treaties.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Ten

A RESOLUTION requiring the Congress of the United States of America to reaffirm its adherence to the Constitution of the United States regarding international agreements and treaties.

1 Whereas, the Constitution of the United States of America makes no provision for the creation of
2 new treaties or agreements among nations without the concurrence of 2/3 of the United States
3 Senate (Article 2, Section 2); and

4 Whereas, United States Senate approval of any treaty or agreement that assumes a power not
5 delegated to the government of the United States of America by the Constitution (Article I, Section 8)
6 shall constitute an unlawful seizure of undelegated powers; and

7 Whereas, New Hampshire can not be bound by any treaty that fails to meet the wording and
8 intent of the Constitution and lacks the approval of 2/3 of the United States Senate; and

9 Whereas, President George W. Bush signed a formal agreement to establish the Security and
10 Prosperity Partnership (SPP) of North America with the nations of Mexico and Canada on March 23,
11 2005, and worked to continue and further the goals of that partnership by participating in yearly
12 meetings with Mexico and Canada; and

13 Whereas, the SPP's stated goals infringe upon the sovereignty and independence of the State of
14 New Hampshire; and

15 Whereas, the government of the United States of America has neither the right nor the authority
16 to delegate or surrender any of the sovereignty or independence of the State of New Hampshire, to
17 any foreign or supranational body without the concurrence of 2/3 of the United States Senate; and

18 Whereas, all legislators have taken an oath to uphold and defend the Constitutions of
19 New Hampshire and the United States according to the meaning understood and accepted by the
20 people of the United States, at the time of adoption; and

21 Whereas, the Constitution of the United States as accepted by the people of New Hampshire
22 requires and demands federal protection of the sovereignty and independence of the State of
23 New Hampshire; now, therefore, be it

24 Resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

25 That the President and the Congress of the United States be required to reaffirm their allegiance
26 to the Constitution of the United States by severing all commitments to agreements and treaties
27 that have not been subjected to Constitutional authority and Congressional oversight; the
28 New Hampshire Congressional delegation is also urged to use all of its efforts, energies, and
29 diligence to prevent any further involvement of our government with agreements and treaties that
30 have not been subjected to Constitutional authority and Congressional oversight; and

HCR 29 - AS INTRODUCED

- Page 2 -

1 That the clerk of the house of representatives deliver signed copies of this resolution to the
2 President of the United States of America, the Speaker of the United States House of
3 Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, each member of the United States
4 Congress, the presiding officers of each state's legislature and the members of the New Hampshire
5 Congressional delegation so that they may be apprised of the sense of the citizens of New Hampshire
6 in this matter.

Amendments

Amendment to HCR 29

1 Amend the resolution by replacing all after the title with the following:

2

3 Whereas, Article 2, Section 2 of the United States Constitution makes no provision for the
4 creation of new treaties or agreements among nations without the concurrence of 2/3 of the
5 United States Senate; and

6 Whereas, fast track authority, also known as trade promotion authority, allows the President of
7 the United States to negotiate trade agreements or treaties; and

8 Whereas, fast track authority grants the United States House of Representatives authority to
9 approve or disapprove treaties, authority otherwise limited by the United States Constitution to a
10 2/3 vote of the United States Senate; and

11 Whereas, fast track authority requires the leaders of both the House of Representatives and
12 Senate to introduce the proposed treaty on the first day their body is in session; and

13 Whereas, fast track authority prevents the United States Senate and House of Representatives
14 from amending the proposed treaty; and

15 Whereas, pursuant to the United States Constitution, all treaties approved by the Senate become
16 the law of the land; and

17 Whereas, fast track authority limits Congress's authority to write implementing legislation; and

18 Whereas, the Congressional committee must take action on the bill within 45 days or the
19 proposed treaty is automatically discharged to the floor for an up or down vote; and

20 Whereas, each body is limited to a maximum of 20 hours of floor debate, thereby denying
21 legislators and the public appropriate time to consider the serious long-term ramifications of these
22 trade agreements; and

23 Whereas the Senate cannot filibuster the proposed treaty, limiting their constitutional authority;
24 and

25 Whereas, Senators elected to serve the public interest of their state and country have no role in
26 the treaty process except to approve or disapprove the proposed agreement; now therefore be it

27 Resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

28 That the general court of New Hampshire hereby urges:

29 I. The President and the Congress of the United States to ensure that all new treaties or
30 agreements among nations receive a 2/3 vote of the United States Senate as required by Article 2,
31 Section 2 of the United States Constitution; and

32 II. The New Hampshire Congressional delegation use all of its efforts, energies, and

Amendment to HCR 29

- Page 2 -

1 diligence to prevent the reauthorization or expansion of fast track authority; and

2 That the clerk of the house of representatives deliver signed copies of this resolution to the
3 President of the United States of America, the Speaker of the United States House of
4 Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, each member of the United States
5 Congress, the presiding officers of each state's legislature and the members of the New Hampshire
6 Congressional delegation so that they may be apprised of the sense of the citizens of New Hampshire
7 in this matter.

Amendment to HCR 29

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2010-0770h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This resolution urges the President and Congress to comply with the United States Constitution in requiring a 2/3 vote of the Senate to approve treaties and urges Congress to revoke fast track authority for approval of international trade agreements.

Speakers

Hearing Minutes

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

PUBLIC HEARING ON HCR 29

BILL TITLE: requiring the Congress of the United States of America to reaffirm its adherence to the Constitution of the United States regarding international agreements and treaties.

DATE: January 19, 2010

LOB ROOM: 203 **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** 2:15 p.m.

Time Adjourned: 2:40 p.m.

(please circle if present)

Committee Members: Reps. P. Garrity, Domingo, K. Roberts, Haley, Sweeney, Hutz, G., Katsiantonis, Chininis, Hardy, T. Katsiantonis, Baldasaro, Twombly, Priestly, L., Christensen, Emiro, Fields, Pepino and T. Smith.

Bill Sponsors: Rep. Vita, Straf 3; Rep. Rappaport, Coos 1; Rep. Hogan, Hills 25; Rep. Itse, Rock 9; Rep. Comerford, Rock 9

TESTIMONY

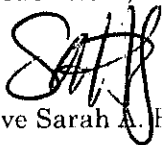
* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

Rep. Carol Vita, prime sponsor. Treaties and agreements are being entered into with Congressional oversight, as is defined in the Constitution.

***Rep. Lou Vita**. Has concerns about the use of policy czars and others that that may be making U.S. policy decisions without Congressional oversight. Provided a research handout on HCR 29 to committee. These treaties and policy are becoming part of our national body of law. Stated that Congressional approval or 2/3 vote of the Senate must be had for a treaty to become law.

Rep. Itse, co-sponsor. Article 6 states "the Constitution, and all laws pursuant to it," and treaties approved by Congress or a 2/3 vote of the Senate -- this gives the order for law in the Nation. The Senate can only approve of treaties, which they have governance/authority over. Thus they can approve, but not alter them. Currently the President can sign an agreement to a treaty, but it is not true law unless approved by Congress.

Respectfully submitted,



Representative Sarah A. Hutz,
Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

PUBLIC HEARING ON HCR 29

BILL TITLE: requiring the Congress of the United States of America to reaffirm its adherence to the Constitution of the United States regarding international agreements and treaties.

DATE: 1/19/10

LOB ROOM: 203 Time Public Hearing Called to Order: 2:15pm
Time Adjourned: 2:40pm

(please circle if present)

Committee Members: Reps. ~~M. Rallo~~, ~~P. Garrity~~, Domingo, ~~K. Roberts~~, Haley, ~~Sweeney~~, ~~Hutz~~, G. Katsiantonis, Chininis, ~~Hardy~~, ~~P. Katsiantonis~~, ~~Baldasaro~~, ~~Twombly~~, Priestly, L. ~~Christensen~~, ~~DiMiro~~, ~~Fields~~, Pepino and ~~T. Smith~~.

Bill Sponsors: Rep. Vita, Straf 3; Rep. Rappaport, Coos 1; Rep. Hogan, Hills 25; Rep. Itse, Rock 9; Rep. Comerford, Rock 9

TESTIMONY

* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

Rep. ^{Carol Vita} ~~Vita~~ - prime sponsor; Treaties and agreements are being entered into without Congressional oversight, as is defined in the Constitution.

Rep. ^{Lou} Vita - ~~prime sponsor~~ Has concerns about the use of policy czar's and others that may be making U.S. policy decisions without Congressional oversight.
* provided a research handout on HCR 29 to committee.
These treaties and policy are becoming part of our national body of law, stated that congressional approval or 2/3 vote of the Senate must be had for a treaty to become law.

Rep. Itse - Article 6 states ~~that the~~ ^{the} Constitution, and all laws pursuant to it, and treaties approved by Congress or a 2/3 vote of the Senate - this gives the order for law in the Nation. The Senate can only approve of treaties, which they have governance/authority over. Thus they can approve, but not alter them.
Currently the President can sign an agreement to a treaty, but it is not true law unless approved by Congress.

Motion STP FILE
MOTION TABLE

Respectfully Submitted,
Sarah A. Hutz
Clerk

Sub-Committee Minutes

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Subcommittee WORK SESSION
~~EXECUTIVE~~ SESSION on HCR 29

BILL TITLE: requiring the Congress of the United States of America to reaffirm its adherence to the Constitution of the United States regarding international agreements and treaties.

DATE: January 27, 2010

LOB ROOM: 203

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep.	OLS Document #:
Sponsor: Rep.	OLS Document #:
Sponsor: Rep.	OLS Document #:

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. Fields

Seconded by Rep. Twombly

Vote: (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.) Table

Moved by Rep. Smith

Seconded by Rep. T. Katsiantonis

Vote: (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

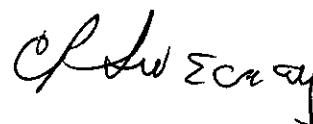
CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE:

(Vote to place on Consent Calendar must be unanimous.)

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Sarah A. Hutz, Clerk



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HCR 29

BILL TITLE: requiring the Congress of the United States of America to reaffirm its adherence to the Constitution of the United States regarding international agreements and treaties.

DATE: 1-27-10

LOB ROOM: 203

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:
Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:
Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. Fields
Seconded by Rep. ~~Bar~~ Mably
Vote: (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL Interim Study (Please circle one.) TABLE

Moved by Rep. ~~OSTRICK~~ Smith
Seconded by Rep. ~~ASSOCIATE~~ KATHASIA & TOWNS
Vote: (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE:

(Vote to place on Consent Calendar must be unanimous.)

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,
Rep. Sarah A. Hutz, Clerk C. Sweeney

STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Bill #: HCR 29 Title: requiring the Congress of the U.S. of America to reaffirm its adherence to the Constitution of the U.S. regarding international agreements & treaties.

PH Date: 1 / 19 / 10 Exec Session Date: 1 / 27 / 10

Motion: OTR Amendment #: F

MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS
Rello, Michael S, Chairman		
Garrity, Patrick F, V Chairman		N
Domingo, Baldwin M <i>abs</i>		
Roberts, Kris E	Y	
Haley, Robert J		N
Sweeney, Cynthia P		N
Hutz, Sarah A, Clerk <i>abs</i>		
Katsiantonis, George		N
Chininis, Alexis C		N
Hardy, Valerie S		N
Katsiantonis, Thomas		N
Baldasaro, Alfred P	Y	
Twombly, James E	Y	
Priestley, Anne K <i>abs</i>		
Christiansen, Lars T	X	
Emiro, Frank R	X	
Fields, Dennis H	X	
Pepino, Leo P	X	
Smith, Todd P	X	
<i>Cushing - Randy</i>		N
<i>Assmann - Beth</i>		N
TOTAL VOTE:	8	9

STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Bill #: HCR 29 Title: _____

PH Date: 1, 19, 10

Exec Session Date: 1, 27, 18

Motion: ~~OFF~~ ~~TABLE~~ TAB 12

Amendment #: _____

MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS
Rohe, Michael S, Chairmān		
Garrity, Patrick F, V Chairman	X	
Domingo, Baldwin M <i>abs</i>		
Roberts, Kris E	X	
Haley, Robert J	X	
Sweeney, Cynthia P		X
Hutz, Sarah A, Clerk <i>abs</i>		
Katsiantonis, George	X	
Chininis, Alexis C	X	
Hardy, Valerie S		X
Katsiantonis, Thomas	X	
Baldasaro, Alfred P	X	
Twombly, James E	X	
Priestley, Anne K <i>abs</i>		
Christiansen, Lars T	X	
Emiro, Frank R	X	
Fields, Dennis H	X	
Pepino, Leo P	X	
Smith, Todd P	X	
<i>Cushing, Benny</i>	X	
<i>ARSENVAULT, Brett</i>	X	
TOTAL VOTE:	15	2

STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Bill #: HR 29 Title: _____

PH Date: 1/1/10

Exec Session Date: 2/4/10

Motion: reconsideration

Amendment #: _____

MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS
Garrity, Patrick F, Chairman	X	
Cushing, Robert R, V Chairman	X	
Domingo, Baldwin M	X	
Roberts, Kris E	X	
Haley, Robert J	X	
Sweeney, Cynthia P	X	
Hutz, Sarah A, Clerk	X	
Katsiantonis, George <i>abs</i>		<i>absent</i>
Chininis, Alexis C	X	
Hardy, Valerie S	X	
Katsiantonis, Thomas	X	
Baldasaro, Alfred P	X	
Twombly, James E <i>Weiler, Ken</i>	X	
Priestley, Anne K <i>abs</i>		<i>absent</i>
Christiansen, Lars T	X	
Emiro, Frank R	X	
Fields, Dennis H	X	
Pepino, Leo P <i>abs</i>		<i>absent</i>
Smith, Todd P	X	

TOTAL VOTE:
Printed: 2/3/2010

16

∅

Testimony

HCR29

A RESOLUTION Requiring The Congress of The United States of America To Reaffirm Its Adherence To The Constitution of The United States Regarding International Treaties And Agreements

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SPP Regulatory Cooperation Framework
Cooperation In Energy, Science And Technology
Intellectual Property Action Strategy
2009 – Joint Statement By North American Leaders |
| 3 | Statement: U.S. Senator Russell Feingold
Re: Evasion of congressional scrutiny |
| 4 | Dr. Michael Coffman – treaties and agreements approved
without congressional oversight; The Endangered
Species Act |
| 5 | Treaties having the effect of law without congressional
oversight |

**SECURITY AND PROSPERITY PARTNERSHIP
INITIATIVES**

Security And Prosperity Partnership

Initiatives

The SPP web site, specifically the 2005 and 2006 Report To Leaders, and the 2007 Leaders Summit, confirms that the SPP has expanded its scope of interest to include agreements regarding:

- combating piracy and counterfeiting
- safe food and products
- energy efficiency standards
- secure borders
- arms trafficking
- terrorism
- money laundering
- trafficking of people and smuggling
- a code of ethics for online transactions
- an IP informational resource database
- electronic commerce
- liberalization of rules of origin of consumer products
- temporary work entry
- border flow analysis
- aviation safety
- harmonized air navigation systems
- port security
- security to protect North America from external threats
- security to prevent and respond to threats within North America
- streamlining secure and efficient movement of legitimate, low risk traffic across our shared border
- export controls for radioactive sources
- real-time information sharing and bioprotection
- banking reform (G20 Summit)

**INITIATIVES:
BACKGROUND REPORTS AND
STATEMENTS**

Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America

Report to Leaders

June 2005

On March 23, 2005, you announced the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America. At that time, you instructed Ministers to create an architecture which would further enhance the security of North America while at the same time promote the economic well-being of our citizens and position North America to face and meet future challenges. This effort builds on the excellent, long-standing relations among our three countries. The response to your request is attached.

In carrying out your instructions, we established working groups under both agendas of the Partnership - Security and Prosperity. We held roundtables with stakeholders, meetings with business groups and briefing sessions with legislatures, as well as with other relevant political jurisdictions. The result is a detailed series of actions and recommendations designed to increase the competitiveness of North America and the security of our people. While the Security and Prosperity agendas were developed by separate teams, we recognize that our economic well-being and our security are not two separate and distinct issues. In that spirit, we have worked together to ensure that the appropriate linkages are made between security and prosperity initiatives.

Upon your review and approval, we will once again meet with stakeholders and work with them to implement the workplans that we have developed. We will also encourage them to continue to provide us with new ideas and proposals which will help shape our forward agenda and our vision for North America.

To make North America secure for the future, we need integrated, coordinated and seamless measures in place at, within, and beyond our borders to provide our people and our infrastructure with the highest possible common level of protection from terrorists and other criminal elements, as well as from the common threats of nature.

To make North America prosperous for the future, we need to improve the efficiency of the movement of people, goods and services crossing our borders. We must remove barriers to trade, investment, research and education. We must protect our environment and promote the health and safety of our people.

Increased economic integration and security cooperation will further a unique and strong North American relationship - a relationship that meets your stated goals while preserving our political and cultural identities.

We recognize that this Partnership is designed to be a dynamic, permanent process and that the attached workplans are but a first step. We know that after today, the real work begins. We will now need to transform the ideas into reality and the initiatives into prosperity and security.

The success of our efforts will be defined less by the contents of the workplans than by the actual implementation of initiatives and strategies that will make North America more prosperous and more secure. We will report back to you semi-annually, highlighting progress on implementing our commitments and making recommendations for further initiatives to be pursued under the Security and Prosperity Partnership.

The report is presented in three separate sections. The first outlines several initiatives which were concluded during the preparation of this report. They represent an immediate benefit from this process. The second section outlines major themes and initiatives which focus on issues or situations which, when resolved, will provide major contributions to the economic and security integrity of the region. Finally, the last section is an annex which provides a description of all the initiatives that will be undertaken by the working groups, including a description of the project, milestones and completion dates.

Much has been accomplished in the preparation of this report. We want to commend the work of each of the working group chairs and working group participants for their creativity and their ability to work as a cohesive team with their colleagues from the other countries. We believe that if the dedication and hard work shown to date are carried forward, this Partnership can only succeed in providing the

security necessary to develop a strong North American platform highlighted by sustained economic growth and job creation, and improved standards of living for our citizens.

Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America

Initial Results

In the 90 days since the launch of the Security and Prosperity Partnership on March 23, 2005, a number of collaborative initiatives have been completed to advance the prosperity and security agendas:

Prosperity

- **Electronic Commerce** . In June 2005, our three countries signed a Framework of Common Principles for Electronic Commerce that will encourage the development of trans-border online business in North America . The Framework addresses the respective roles of government and the private sector, promoting transparency and security, and facilitating the acceleration of ICT use by eliminating barriers to e-commerce in cross-border transactions.
- **Liberalization of Rules of Origin** . We have completed the implementation of modifications of rules of origin, covering goods such as household appliances, precious metals, and various machinery and equipment parts. Liberalizing rules of origin reduces administrative burdens by making it easier for exporters to qualify for duty-free treatment under NAFTA. These changes will affect US\$20 billion of annual trilateral trade.
- **Consumer Products** . Canada and the United States signed a Memorandum of Understanding to enhance and strengthen the exchange of information and cooperative activities on public health and safety protection related to the safety of consumer products, and encourage compatibility of standards-related measures to the greatest extent practicable. Likewise, Mexico and the United States are holding negotiations to reach agreement on a similar Memorandum of Understanding.
- **Textiles and Apparel Labelling** . We have reached an arrangement on the Use of Care Symbols on Textile and Apparel Goods Labels that will facilitate market access of textile and apparel goods by the uniform acceptance of harmonized care symbols in North America. We plan to sign this arrangement in July.
- **Temporary Work Entry** . The three countries have forwarded a trilateral document setting out each country's domestic procedures to modify NAFTA's temporary entry appendix on professionals to the NAFTA Free Trade Commission for approval. This will clarify procedures in each country, thereby providing a mechanism for more North American professionals to be given temporary entry.
- **Migratory Species and Biodiversity** . We have signed a Declaration of Intent for the Conservation of North American Birds and Their Habitat, a non-binding trilateral agreement to cooperate in conserving the continent's bird species and the landscapes upon which they depend for survival.
- **Harmonized Approach to BSE**. A harmonized North America approach to Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) was agreed by animal health officials in all three countries in March 2005. This approach provides continued protection of human and animal health, while also establishing a framework for safe international trade opportunities for cattle and beef products from Canada, Mexico and the United States.
- **Border Flow Analysis** . Canada has completed the pilot projects to test Weigh-In-Motion (WIM) technology at Canada-U.S. border crossings and will pursue broader implementation. This initiative will take advantage of state-of-the-art technology to capture, analyze and exchange traffic flow data without impeding border trade, thus enhancing transportation flexibility and efficiency.
- **Aviation Safety** . Following on the tri-lateral agreement to create a North American Wide Area Augmentation System (WAAS) signed in 2004, five WAAS stations will be put in place in Canada and Mexico in 2005. This system, based on the U.S. Global Positioning System, will increase navigational accuracy across North America, enhancing aviation safety.
- **Airspace Capacity** . The three countries implemented Reduced Vertical Separation Minimum (RVSM) in January 2005. This initiative increases North America airspace capacity and allows aircraft to fly more efficient routes, reducing costs to air carriers and passengers.
- **Harmonized Air Navigation Systems** . Our three countries recently released a North American Aviation Trilateral Statement on a Joint Strategy for the implementation of performance-based navigation in North America. This initiative, which includes both Area Navigation (RNAV) and Required Navigation Performance (RNP) in North America, will harmonize our navigation standards, simplify training and improve efficiency for air carriers.

Security

- **NTC-NRAC Exchange.** The United States and Canada have agreed to exchange officers between their two respective targeting facilities, the National Targeting Center (NTC) in the United States and the National Risk Assessment Centre (NRAC) in Canada.
- **Public Safety along the U.S.-Mexico Border.** The United States and Mexico recently agreed to, over the course of three weeks, identify and target key procedures and guidelines to establish a standardized Alien Smuggler Prosecutions Program along the Southwest border, built upon previous U.S. - Mexico efforts in the Guide Identification Prosecution Program (GIPP), a collaborative effort between CBP and Mexico's Attorney General Office--Procuraduria General de la Republica (PGR) - to identify and prosecute local guides and alien smugglers who endanger the lives of migrants.
- **Progress on Windsor-Detroit 25% Challenge.** We are working with bridge and tunnel operators of the Detroit-Windsor gateway to develop a number of innovations that will reduce the transit times along the Detroit-Windsor corridor. On June 9, 2005, agreements were reached that are expected to increase capacity on the U.S. side of the Blue Water Bridge by 17 per cent. Improvements at the Detroit-Windsor gateway are planned for Summer/Fall 2005.
- **Expanding infrastructure at Nogales, Arizona.** We have completed the reviews necessary to approve construction of two new commercial lanes at Nogales, Arizona. The formal documentation is expected to be issued by the end of June 2005. Construction is expected to begin shortly thereafter.
- **Science & Technology Cooperation.** The Canada-U.S. Public Security Technical Program has completed a comprehensive Coordinated Risk Assessment to form the basis for identifying and prioritizing major collaborative science and technology initiatives across all homeland security mission areas. The final report is expected to be completed in late summer 2005.
- **Nexus Marine Pilot.** The United States and Canada implemented the NEXUS-Marine pilot in Windsor-Detroit for seasonal boaters in April 2005.
- **Preclearance Site.** We have identified the site for the second Canada-U.S. land preclearance pilot: at the Thousand Islands Bridge, all Canadian border operations would be re-located from Lansdowne, Ontario to Alexandria Bay, New York.
- **WCO Framework.** We have agreed to trilaterally support, and to each promote implementation, assuming a favorable vote, of the proposed WCO Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade.
- **Joint Initial Verification Team Examinations .** By the end of May 2005, the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) - Transport Canada Joint Initial Verification Team (JIIVT) had completed 94 joint verification exams , since the start of the 2005 Seaway season . The Team jointly examined vessels to ensure they were in substantial compliance with the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code regulations before they were allowed to enter the St. Lawrence Seaway and the Great Lakes .
- **Port Security Exercises.** Between May 9-11, 2005, the United States and Canada conducted three port security exercises to evaluate joint response capability to terrorist attacks along the U.S. / Canadian border of the Great Lakes between Sault Ste. Marie and Detroit.

Promoting Growth, Competitiveness and Quality of Life

Key Themes and Initiatives

On March 23, 2005, President Bush, President Fox and Prime Minister Martin committed our countries to enhancing North American competitiveness and improving the quality of life of our people. On that basis they tasked Ministers and officials, in consultation with stakeholders, to develop workplans that would give effect to that fundamental goal.

Over the past 90 days, ten working groups have been created to develop detailed workplans on prosperity and quality of life, identifying concrete, forward-looking strategies and initiatives. These initiatives form a broad and ambitious agenda of collaboration aimed at transforming important sectors of our economies and ensuring that our citizens benefit from high standards of safety and health, and joint stewardship of our environment.

I. Making North America the Best Place to do Business

The competitiveness of North American firms depends on a number of factors influencing the business environment. The three countries have identified key drivers of competitiveness and have agreed on the following priorities:

Enhancing and Streamlining Regulatory Processes in North America

- We will develop a trilateral Regulatory Cooperation Framework by 2007 to support and enhance existing, as well as encourage new cooperation among regulators, including at the outset of the regulatory process.
- The framework will aim to strengthen cooperation among regulators and encourage the compatibility of regulations and the reduction of redundant testing and certification requirements, while maintaining high standards of health and safety.

Fake Free North America

- Protection of intellectual property is key to sustaining an innovative economy. We will seek to develop a coordinated strategy by 2006, aimed at combating counterfeiting and piracy, and focusing on:
 - Enhancing detection and deterrence of counterfeiting and piracy;
 - Expanding public awareness and outreach efforts regarding trade in pirated and counterfeit goods; and,
 - Developing measurements to assess progress over time and to estimate the magnitude of the problem.

Expanding Duty Free Treatment by Liberalizing the Rules of Origin

- Ongoing liberalization of rules of origin will help improve the competitiveness of our industries by reducing transaction costs and facilitating cross-border trade in goods. Building on the work of our three countries in implementing changes to rules of origin agreed under the first round of negotiations, we have agreed to a second round of changes and commit to complete negotiations on an ambitious third round of changes by May 1, 2006. This will expand duty free treatment through rules of origin liberalization, covering at least \$30 billion in trilateral trade by 2007.

II. Sectoral Collaboration to Enhance North American Competitiveness

We are committed to continue working to identify the factors affecting the competitiveness of the North American economy. To help Governments identify these issues, we will build on the work of existing organizations, which will provide strategic advice on ways to strengthen the North American economy in areas such as improving the flow of people and goods, supply chains and regulatory cooperation. While the efforts will be private sector led, governments, policy experts and other stakeholders will also participate.

Many sectors of our economies are already well integrated and provide valuable lessons for other sectors of the North American economy. We believe that we can learn from these industries and work with them to ensure that they continue to thrive in the global economy. In that context, we will pursue a number of sectoral initiatives, including:

Steel: A Strategic Partnership – A Strategic Industry

- We will put in place a North American Steel Strategy by 2006 that will promote growth, competitiveness and prosperity. The strategy will be developed and implemented through the North American Steel Trade Committee (NASTC), which has been a leading example of sectoral cooperation among the three governments and industry. The NASTC will focus on:
 - Pursuing the elimination of distortions adversely affecting North American steel markets, including through policy coordination and other actions;
 - Reducing the costs and risks of North American steel trade through proactive measures to facilitate such trade, with improved monitoring to enhance understanding of the North American steel market; and
 - Promoting steel industry competitiveness and productivity through innovation and market development.

Moving towards a Fully Integrated Auto Sector

- We will also establish an Automotive Partnership Council of North America that will support the ongoing competitiveness of the automotive and auto parts sector. The Council will help identify the full spectrum of issues that impact the industry, ranging from regulation, innovation, transportation infrastructure, and border facilitation.

Creating a Sustainable Energy Economy for North America

- Creating a sustainable energy economy for North America is in the vital interest of all three countries. Reliable, affordable energy is critical to the prosperity and security of our peoples. We are taking action to create a policy environment that will promote the sustainable supply and use of energy in North America.

- To that end, we affirm our commitment in pursuing joint cooperation in the areas of: regulation , energy efficiency, natural gas including liquefied natural gas (LNG), science and technology, reliability of electricity transmission grids, oil sands production, nuclear energy, hydrocarbons and energy information, statistics and projections.
- Recognizing the importance of natural gas to North America's energy future, we are announcing a trilateral gas initiative to address a range of issues related to the natural gas market in North America, including: production, transportation, transmission, distribution, consumption, trade, interconnections and LNG as well as projections for the future. This initiative also focuses on transparency of regulations, laws and siting processes in the three countries to promote enhanced regional trade and investment.
- The three countries have established a regulators' expert group, recognizing that appropriate coordination of their efforts will promote the public interest through increased efficiency, expedited and coordinated action on significant energy infrastructure projects, and cost savings to both the public and regulated entities. All agree that the regulatory efforts of the Canada's National Energy Board (NEB), the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and Mexico's Comisión Reguladora de Energía (CRE) will benefit from increased communication and cooperation concerning the timing and other procedural aspects of related matters that may be pending before all three agencies.
- Canada and the United States have established a working group on electricity reliability which will coordinate their guidance to the North American Electricity Reliability Council (NERC) and regional councils, concerning an Electricity Reliability Organization (ERO) that can operate on an international basis. Mexico will take initial steps to join this Working Group, with the goal of a coordinated trilateral North American reliability effort.
- The three countries will strengthen technical and scientific cooperation in the field of energy that includes initiatives to promote cleaner and more efficient energy resources and technologies.

Air Transportation: Expanding our Horizons

- We will put in place a plan by 2007 aimed at improving the safety and efficiency of North American air navigation system and expanding air transportation opportunities. Our aim is to reach agreement on new opportunities for commercial aviation, have a compatible regulatory regime to facilitate business aviation among all three countries, increase air capacity and enhance aviation safety and air navigation.
- The United States and Mexico will work toward the development of a Bilateral Aviation Safety Agreement. The United States will support Mexico's efforts to strengthen its oversight of Mexican companies that produce parts and components for the aerospace industry. With this purpose, and at the demonstration of sufficient production surveillance, Mexico and the United States will sign a Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) for production oversight support. This MOC would be the first concrete step toward the eventual conclusion of a Bilateral Aviation Safety Agreement, under which certain Mexican aeronautical parts and products would be eligible for export to the United States, which will benefit Mexican industry.

Safer, Faster and More Efficient Border Crossings

- New, enhanced mechanisms will support binational border planning, information sharing and communications through the U.S.-Canada Transportation Border Working Group and the U.S.-Mexico Joint Working Committee on Transportation Planning. The United States and Canada will complete a border infrastructure compendium and develop an implementation plan for priority infrastructure investments at key land border ports of entry, improve border trade and traffic information, improve the cross-border movement of people and goods, enhance use of supporting technologies and improve border transportation planning and coordination. Methods for detecting bottlenecks on the U.S.-Mexico border will be developed and low cost/high impact projects identified in bottleneck studies will be constructed or implemented. New, secure SENTRI travel lanes will be constructed by 2006 and the United States and Mexico will work toward implementation of a secure cross-border commuter service between El Paso and Ciudad Juárez.

Free and Secure Electronic Commerce

- In June 2005, our three countries signed a Framework of Common Principles for Electronic Commerce. The Framework will promote the growth of online business and streamline transborder electronic commerce procedures while building consumer confidence through privacy protection, and a shared approach to cross-border recognition of electronic signatures and documents. We will begin to work together immediately to implement the Framework.

Beyond these sectoral initiatives, we propose to pay particular attention to the important role that small- and medium-sized enterprises (SME) play in driving innovation, job creation and economic growth. We will consult with SME stakeholders on ways of addressing their particular challenges with

respect to streamlining the movement of low-risk traffic across our borders, regulatory cooperation and the reduction of paper burden.

Enabling Our People

◦ To better prepare our people to deal with the challenges of the knowledge-based economy, the three countries will, by mid 2006, better coordinate and enhance the current efforts under the Partnership for Prosperity and the Canada-Mexico Partnership. The aim of this initiative is to empower our people through enhanced higher education, academic exchanges, and common research and development initiatives, so as to better prepare our human capital for the future.

III. Making North America the Best Place to Live

To make North America the best place to live, our countries will implement a series of measures that will enhance the quality of our environment, ensure high standards of safety for our food supply and promote and protect the health of our citizens. Specifically, we are committing to pursue the following:

Clean Air, Clean Water: Protecting People and our Environment .

- Our three countries will work together to:
 - Increase domestic supply of low-sulphur fuels in Mexico, through significant investment by Mexico, supported by technical assistance and capacity-building from the U.S. and Canada.
 - Address ship-source air pollution through coordinated data gathering, marine emissions inventory development, and air quality modeling.
 - Launch the joint Canada-U.S. review of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.
 - Promote ballast water management strategies in North America, demonstrating our collective commitment to combat invasive alien species.
 - Seek to conclude a trans-boundary environmental impact assessment cooperation agreement for proposed projects by June 2007.

Access to a Safe and Reliable Food Supply

- We will establish or identify a North American food safety coordinating mechanism to facilitate the:
 - Cooperative design and development of common standards, where appropriate;
 - Review of existing food safety standards to identify and assess, on a scientific basis, differences with a view to removing, where warranted and appropriate, those identified differences; and,
 - Sharing of information on food safety matters to protect and advance public health in North America.
- We will cooperate on a North American basis to speed up identification, management and recovery from food safety, animal and plant disease hazards.

Healthier North America

- We will work on many fronts to ensure a coordinated and strategic approach to address common public health issues and concerns. We will work together to improve mechanisms to share information, build on each others' knowledge and expertise, and improve capacity and cooperation by:
 - Putting in place protocols for mutual assistance and support to prevent, protect against, and respond to cross-border public health emergencies. These protocols will facilitate the exchange of liaison officers between national public health agencies, and the coordination and exchange of personnel and medical supplies.
 - Developing a regional plan to combat influenza, through the Global Health Security Initiative, that will facilitate the sharing of information (e.g., vaccine clinical trials) and the coordination of approaches to common regional issues related to preparedness (e.g., border issues).
 - Building upon existing laboratory-based surveillance initiatives in North America by finalizing the Canada-US Memorandum of Understanding related to PulseNet, examining methods to improve the monitoring of pathogens and establishing an infectious disease early warning system.
 - Establishing a North American mechanism to facilitate information-sharing on the safety of pharmaceutical products to protect and advance public health in North America.

Key Themes and Initiatives

President Bush, President Fox and Prime Minister Martin committed our countries on March 23, 2005, to:

"establish a common approach to security to protect North America from external threats, prevent and respond to threats within North America, and to further streamline the secure and efficient movement of legitimate, low risk traffic across our shared border."

Our countries have made major advances since 9/11 in developing improved security policies, systems and processes. With our improved and expanding relations at all levels, we now have opportunities to further our common security goals in an evolving and strengthened North American relationship. Over the past three months, experts from the United States, Mexico and Canada have developed specific plans and objectives to meet these goals. These North American plans and objectives, once fully implemented by the bilateral and trilateral working groups now engaged, will bring transformational improvements to our common security goals, specifically:

I. Securing North America from External Threats

We have established plans to develop and implement comparable processes which produce consistent outcomes for screening individuals prior to departure and at first point of entry into North America, as well as to develop and implement compatible screening methods for goods and cargo prior to departure from a foreign port and at the first point of entry to North America. These strategies include commitments on:

- **Biometrics and secure documentation vision.** We will work to develop systems that prevent high-risk travelers from coming to North America, and facilitate legitimate travel to and within North America, by enhancing our ability to verify traveler identities.
- **We will test technology and make recommendations, over the next 12 months, to enhance the use of biometrics in screening travelers destined to North America with a view to developing compatible biometric border and immigration systems.**
- **We will develop standards for lower-cost secure proof of status and nationality documents to facilitate cross-border travel, and work to achieve optimal production before January 1, 2008.**
- **We will devise a single, integrated global enrollment program for North American trusted traveler programs within the next 36 months.**
- **Real-time information sharing.** We will ensure real-time information sharing on high-risk individuals and cargo, and thereby better enable our Governments to prevent them from entering North America, including by:
 - **Negotiating terrorist screening information agreements and examining other appropriate linkages between Canada, Mexico and the United States.**
 - **Completing the negotiation of the Canada-U.S. visa information sharing agreement within 18 months.**
 - **Finalizing protocols to share information on high-risk cargo.**
- **Compatible screening standards .** We will implement compatible border security measures so that we can better screen out high risk individuals and cargo before they depart for North America, including by:
 - **Developing a reciprocal mechanism within 12 months to inform visa-free travel program country reviews.**
 - **Developing benchmarks on procedures and policies for visitor visa processing , including security screening, visa validity, length of stay, quality control measures and access to appeal or review, within 9 months.**
 - **Developing compatible criteria for the posting of lookouts of suspected terrorists and criminals within 9 months.**
 - **Export controls for radioactive sources.** Within 18 months, we will implement import /export control programs, consistent with newly established international standards, to minimize the risk of illicit movements of radioactive materials that could be used for malicious purposes such as "dirty bombs".
 - **Bioprotection .** Within 24 months, we will develop a coordinated strategy to identify and manage threats to our food supply and agricultural sectors, consistent with each country's legislation, and share approaches of determining risk from imported foods.

II. Preventing and Responding to Threats within North America

In North America, we have established plans for equivalent approaches to strengthen aviation security, to enhance maritime transportation and port security, to combat transnational threats to the United States, Canada, and Mexico, including terrorism, organized crime, illegal drugs, migrant and contraband smuggling and trafficking, to enhance partnerships on intelligence and information sharing, and to develop and implement a common approach to critical infrastructure protection, and response to cross-border terrorist incidents and, as applicable, natural disasters. These strategies include commitments on:

- **Preparedness.** We will implement a comprehensive North American program to ensure that our Governments are prepared to respond to large-scale incidents, including by:
 - Developing protocols within 12 months to manage incidents that impact border operations.
 - Strengthening capabilities to respond to maritime incidents and minimize the impact on maritime commerce.
 - Developing a comprehensive law enforcement strategy to respond to transnational terrorist incidents in North America.
 - Ensuring interoperability of communications systems used in response operations.
 - Drafting and signing protocols for mutual assistance and support in response to a cross-border public health emergency.
 - Conducting a preparedness exercise in advance of the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver/Whistler.
- **Critical Infrastructure Protection.** We will complete coordinated vulnerability assessments to identify our critical cross-border infrastructure and seek to enhance its protection.
- **Maritime and Aviation Security.** We will develop and implement a comprehensive North American approach to strengthening maritime and aviation security, including by:
 - Developing comparable standards and procedures for the screening of aviation passengers, hold baggage and cargo and by working together on passenger assessment programs that reflect each nation's legislation.
 - Developing and implementing plans to make port and vessel security regimes more compatible to secure our contiguous waters, and to enhance coordination of regional operations to secure our maritime borders.
- **U.S.- Mexico Border Enforcement against Smuggling Organizations.** We will form intelligence sharing task force pilots to target cross border criminal activity, in particular criminal gang and trafficking organization networks, and thereby reduce violence along the border.
- **U.S.-Canada Great Lakes/St. Lawrence Seaway Enforcement Program.** We will develop coordinated maritime law enforcement programs on the St. Lawrence Seaway/Great Lakes systems with a specific interest in interdicting smugglers/traffickers and ensuring border security.

III. Further Streamlining the Secure Movement of Low-Risk Traffic across our Shared Borders

We have also developed a border facilitation plan to build capacity and improve the flow of legitimate trade and travel at ports of entry within North America. This strategy includes commitments on:

- Working with local stakeholders along the border to make our existing infrastructure more efficient, for example by considering the expansion of the Detroit/Windsor 25% challenge to other land border crossings where applicable.
- Evaluating and making recommendations for expanding the Vancouver NEXUS -Air pilot to other U.S. air preclearance sites in Canada and examining feasibility of expanding the eligibility for NEXUS-Air to include Mexican nationals, within six months.
- Completing negotiations of a formal Canada-U.S. land preclearance agreement within 6 months, contingent on legislative amendments.
- Considering programs to substantially reduce transit times and border congestion like partnering with state, provincial and local governments and the private sector to establish "low-risk" port of entry pilots for the exclusive use of those enrolled in our trusted trade and traveler programs.
- Assessing feasibility of further streamlining FAST processing at ports of entry.
- Expanding the SENTRI program to priority ports of entry within 12 months.



2006 Report to Leaders

Security and Prosperity Partnership Of North America

Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America

Report to Leaders

August 2006

In June 2005, you received the first report on making North America more prosperous and secure through the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America (SPP). The report included a list of early accomplishments and detailed workplans containing initiatives, milestones, and completion dates. Today, we are pleased to present the second report.

On March 31, 2006 you met in Cancun to review progress on the SPP. You noted achievements and asked us to continue to build on the momentum of the ambitious agenda of collaboration found in the workplans. A number of goals have been reached and, overall, implementation is on track. We have attached an updated version of the 2005 workplan reporting on the status of initiatives through mid-June of 2006. We have also attached a list that highlights accomplishments achieved since the Cancun Summit, as well as those accomplishments noted at Cancun. By addressing common security and prosperity issues through this process, officials in all three countries have enhanced existing relationships, created new ones, and have strengthened the foundations for ongoing cooperation among our countries.

We are achieving measurable progress on a number of security issues affecting our three countries. Canada, Mexico, and the United States have strengthened relationships in the areas of preparedness, law enforcement, and the screening of travelers and cargo. Furthermore, the three countries have improved processing times at border crossings while maintaining tight security. The United States, Canada, and Mexico are making progress to standardize fingerprint-based biometric technology. Moreover, the three countries are cooperating in conducting trials and reviewing the compatibility of their biometric traveler systems.

In Cancun, you called for the creation of an Avian and Human Pandemic Influenza Coordinating Body comprising senior officials. The members of the Body have been designated and held their first meeting where they agreed how to organize and prioritize their work. The Coordinating Body will oversee work on protocols and procedures to ensure that North America is well prepared in advance of an outbreak of pandemic influenza and that our governments act in a coordinated manner to meet any threats.

At the one-year anniversary meeting of the SPP in Cancun, you asked us to examine ways to strengthen the SPP to ensure its continuity and success. To that end, we are pleased to inform you that on June 15, Ministers officially launched the North American Competitiveness Council (NACC) that you announced in Cancun. Our three governments recognize that private sector involvement is key to enhancing North America's competitive position in global markets and is the driving force behind innovation and growth. As such, the creation of the NACC provides a voice and a formal role for the private sector. The regular meetings between Ministers, senior officials, and the NACC, complemented by ongoing consultations with other interested stakeholders, will help ensure that the SPP

- 2008 Ministerial Joint Statement
- 2007 Leaders Summit
- 2006 Report to Leaders
- SPP 2006 Report to Leaders Cover Memo
- Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America (SPP) Accomplishments
- Prosperity Annex (PDF)
- Security Annex (PDF)
- 2006 Leaders Summit
- 2005 Report to Leaders
- 2005 Launch of the SPP
- SPP Fact Sheets
- SPP Myths vs Facts
- SPP News and Updates
- Prosperity Agenda
- Prosperity Working Groups
- Security Agenda
- SPP Documents and Useful Links

remains a cornerstone of North American cooperation.

Looking ahead, we are considering other avenues to strengthen the SPP, such as regular meetings of SPP Coordinators to provide direction, track progress, and discuss new initiatives, and the use of an ongoing tracking process to help us stay current on the status of initiatives. We will also look at ways to strengthen cooperation among the Working Groups in order to facilitate the accomplishment of our common goals.

Prior to the next Leaders' summit, the security and prosperity Ministers will meet to review further progress on the priority initiatives you identified in Cancun, update the SPP workplans in light of achievements to date, and develop new initiatives designed to achieve concrete results. At that time, we will discuss with the NACC its preliminary recommendations to Leaders. To facilitate a meaningful and productive discussion with the NACC, we have asked that their initial set of priorities be sent to us by September 15. We are confident that the NACC's involvement and its commitment to be part of the solution to the challenges we face as a region will contribute to make North America the best and most secure place to do business.

The SPP initiatives form a comprehensive agenda for cooperation among the three countries of North America while respecting the sovereignty and unique cultural and legal heritage of each country. Even more importantly, we believe that the SPP is making an impact in developing a culture of cooperation among three North American neighbors. Your announcement in Cancun to hold the third trilateral Leaders' meeting in Canada next year further underlines the three governments' commitment to the SPP. We look forward to further progress in the months ahead.

Michael Chertoff
Secretary of
Homeland Security

Carlos Abascal
Secretario de
Gobernación

Stockwell Day
Minister of Public Safety

Carlos Gutierrez
Secretary of
Commerce

**Sergio García de
Alba**
Secretario de
Economía

Maxime Bernier
Minister of Industry

**Condoleezza
Rice**
Secretary of State

Luis Ernesto Derbez
Secretario de
Relaciones Exteriores

Peter G. MacKay
Minister of Foreign
Affairs and Minister of the Atlantic
Canada Opportunities Agency

Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America (SPP) Accomplishments

The following accomplishments highlight the progress made to advance the SPP agenda since President Bush, President Fox, and Prime Minister Harper met in Cancun on March 31, 2006:

- To enhance the competitive position of North American firms while maintaining high standards of health and safety, officials from the regulatory, trade, and oversight agencies of all three countries met for the first time on April 18-19, 2006. The three countries discussed their respective regulatory systems and highlighted areas of cooperation. As a result, the three countries identified a core set of elements for the Regulatory Cooperation Framework to include coordinating joint work on regulatory processes, promoting best practices, and enhancing information sharing throughout the regulatory process.

- Ongoing liberalization of rules of origin is helping to improve the competitiveness of our industries by reducing transaction costs, facilitating the cross-border trade of goods, and making it easier for exporters to qualify for duty free treatment. In May, our three countries agreed to a third round of changes affecting over \$30 billion in trilateral trade with an implementation goal of 2007.
- Representatives of our three countries met on June 21 to inaugurate the North American Aviation Trilateral (NAAT) – a new forum established to achieve the SPP’s goals for civil aviation security.
- To control money laundering, Mexican and U.S. Customs officials have cooperated at an unprecedented level. As of this summer they have made hundreds of seizures totaling millions of dollars.
- To provide a uniform agreement between local offices of the Governments of the United States and Mexico, officials from both countries signed on June 27 an agreement to implement a pilot program in El Paso and Chicago, for the safe, humane, and orderly repatriation of Mexican nationals.
- Canada and the United States completed the 2006 Integrated Border Enforcement Team (IBET) Threat Assessment, which identified national security and organized crime threats along the Canada-U.S. border. The IBET Program has disrupted organized crime operations involved in bi-directional drug trafficking and human smuggling.
- To better coordinate cross-border emergency management, the United States and Canada engaged in “Pacific Peril” - a major exercise designed to test response plans for earthquakes and tsunamis in the Pacific Northwest. The United States and Canada also participated in the “Ardent Sentry” exercise, which used a number of scenarios to test emergency response capability.
- To protect critical infrastructure in the food and agriculture sector, U.S. and Canadian officials began exchanging information to compare methods for vulnerability assessments.
- The United States and Canada renegotiated a Framework for Cooperation to govern joint critical infrastructure protection and emergency management issues.
- The United States, Canada, and Mexico continued work to tighten and verify the security of nuclear and radiological facilities throughout North America. The United States and Canada implemented new enhanced security measures and cooperated on Force-on-Force exercises to test enhancements at nuclear facilities. The United States and Mexico performed security upgrades at key nuclear and radiological facilities.
- Canada and the United States, in partnership with the Mohawk Community of Akwesasne, hosted the first ever International Indigenous Cross-Border Security Summit to enhance awareness of the border security environment and its impact on indigenous peoples, and to create a course of action for future collaboration.
- To determine risk in advance and to process maritime cargo more expeditiously, Mexico is successfully implementing the Sea Cargo Initiative, which will allow for the electronic collection of data from the shipping lines 24 hours prior to loading at the port of origin. The United States and Canada are implementing a similar program.

- Canada has committed significant resources toward the enhancement of its air cargo security program. Canada and the United States continue to meet to strengthen bilateral cooperation in this area.
- To develop cooperative activities in all stages of avian influenza and human pandemic influenza management, a Coordinating Body of senior officials from the three North American countries has been established and has held its first meeting at which they agreed how to organize and prioritize their work.
- Energy Ministers agreed to develop recommendations to further align and strengthen energy efficiency standards, identify gaps in the research and innovation chain for key technologies, and develop a trilateral legal instrument on energy science and technology collaboration. Energy Ministers, together with the private sector, also agreed to develop recommendations to address barriers to the expansion of clean energy supply and deployment of technologies. In addition, the group's ongoing work has emphasized the importance of open, efficient, and transparent markets through regulatory cooperation and exchanges of energy data that support market transparency.
- To develop a coordinated strategy aimed at combating counterfeiting and piracy, a task force of senior officials from the three North American countries has been established. The next meeting to discuss the strategy will take place in the fall.
- Canada hosted, in collaboration with the United States and Mexico, a "North American Marine Conference – Towards a Shortsea Shipping Strategy for the North American Continent" in Vancouver on April 18 - 20. The conference provided an excellent opportunity to promote shortsea shipping as a means to improve the performance of national transportation systems and to contribute to environmental sustainability. It also allowed discussion on business opportunities and challenges related to shortsea shipping.

President Bush, President Fox, and Prime Minister Harper highlighted the following accomplishments at their trilateral meeting in Cancun on March 31, 2006:

- To enhance growth and competitiveness in a key sector, the North American Steel Trade Committee developed a new strategy aimed at reducing market distortions, facilitating trade and promoting overall competitiveness through innovation and market development.
- To adapt to changes in sourcing and production methods, the three countries have analyzed ways to liberalize requirements for obtaining NAFTA duty-free treatment. Changes to the rules of origin have been implemented successfully and technical teams are working on additional changes.
- To speed up response times when managing infectious disease outbreaks, save lives, and reduce health care costs, the United States and Canada signed an agreement to enable simultaneous exchange of information between virtual national laboratory networks (PulseNet).
- To make consumer goods safer, save lives, and prevent injuries, the United States and Mexico signed an agreement for advance notifications when consumer goods violate one country's safety standards or pose a danger to consumers. Canada and the

United States signed a similar agreement in June.

- The United States and Canada signed an agreement, which is a milestone in pipeline regulatory cooperation, to allow increased compliance data sharing, staff exchanges and joint training. The sharing of best practices will lead to a more uniform regulatory approach for cross border pipelines.
- The United States and Canada reached a full Open-Skies aviation agreement, removing all economic restrictions on air service to, from, and beyond one another's territory by the airlines of both countries. The agreement will encourage new markets development, lower prices and greater competition.
- The United States and Mexico expanded air service in specific markets by increasing the number of designated passenger airlines per city-pair, and opening cooperative marketing arrangements (code-sharing) to airlines of either country and carriers of third countries.
- In order to increase navigational accuracy across the region, five Wide Area Augmentation System (WAAS) stations were installed in Canada and Mexico in 2005.
- To promote prosperity by reducing the costs of trade, the United States and Canada decreased transit times at the Detroit/Windsor gateway, our largest border crossing point, by 50 percent.

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CANADA/UNITED STATES/ MEXICO SPP REGULATORY COOPERATION FRAMEWORK

On March 23, 2005, the Leaders of the United States, Canada and Mexico, announced the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America (SPP). The "Prosperity Agenda" of the SPP seeks to enhance the competitive position of North American industries in the global marketplace and to provide greater economic opportunity for all of our societies, while maintaining high standards of health and safety for our people.

Improving trilateral regulatory cooperation is a key element of the Prosperity Agenda. By increasing regulatory cooperation, the federal governments of the United States, Canada and Mexico (the Partners) aim to lower costs for North American businesses, producers, governments and consumers; maximize trade in goods and services across our borders; and protect health, safety, and the environment.

This voluntary Framework sets out steps to improve regulatory cooperation, where appropriate and feasible, while in no way diminishing the sovereignty of each Partner to carry out its regulatory functions according to its domestic legal and policy requirements. This framework is not meant to replace or duplicate ongoing regulatory cooperation undertaken by existing mechanisms.

I. Framework Goals

While maintaining high standards of health and safety, and environmental protection, the Partners strive to achieve the goals set out below.

1. **To strengthen regulatory cooperation, including at the outset of the regulatory process:** Regulatory cooperation should be strengthened on a systematic basis through increased transparency in the rulemaking process, exchanges of best practices, and information sharing among regulators.
2. **To streamline regulations and regulatory processes:** Regulations and regulatory processes can be streamlined through the increased use of joint analysis or evaluation of regulatory issues of mutual interest, information exchange on implementation approaches, or work-sharing, as well as through existing mechanisms, such as the SPP Prosperity Working Groups, North America Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) working groups, and bilateral and/or trilateral undertakings among the Partners.
3. **To encourage compatibility of regulations, promote the use or adoption of relevant international standards, as well as domestic voluntary consensus standards, in regulations, and eliminate redundant testing and certification requirements, consistent with our World Trade Organization (WTO) obligations:** These goals will be pursued through, for example, the work of the SPP Prosperity Working Groups, NAFTA working groups and bilateral and/or trilateral undertakings among the Partners.

The objectives and measures outlined in the Action Plan, Part III, are aimed at achieving these goals.

II. Trilateral Regulatory Cooperation

1. The Partners hereby establish a Coordinating Committee to ensure the effectiveness and accountability of this Framework. The Coordinating Committee is to include participants from central agencies, regulatory agencies and trade/foreign relation agencies. The nature of this coordination should depend on the specific Framework objective being addressed.
2. The Coordinating Committee is to develop an annual work-plan to implement the Action Plan set out in Part III that identifies areas of mutual interest for cooperation. The Coordinating Committee is to offer stakeholders an opportunity to comment as the work-plan is developed and make it available to the public.
3. The Coordinating Committee is to report annually to Leaders, Ministers and the public on regulatory cooperation and thereby increase the transparency and accountability of the process to: (a) ensure that the results of North American cooperative efforts are measured, (b) highlight success stories in regulatory cooperation, and (c) make recommendations to regulators to improve cooperation.

III. Action Plan

This Action Plan outlines specific objectives and measures for each Framework Goal, which are to be moved forward and measured through the trilateral Regulatory Cooperation Coordinating Committee.

Goal 1: To strengthen regulatory cooperation, including at the outset of the regulatory process.	
Objectives	Measures
A. Increase the transparency of the rulemaking process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop intergovernmental "early alert" mechanisms to systematically and proactively share information throughout the rule development process to avoid incompatibility issues.• On a systematic basis seek and provide an opportunity to comment on each other's regulatory proposals that could have implications for the other Partners and consult throughout the process.

Goal 1: To strengthen regulatory cooperation, including at the outset of the regulatory process.

<p>B. Promote good governance by sharing best practices.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Increase contacts between and among central agencies and government regulators on regulatory policy issues and practices of mutual interest, e.g. regulatory reform and review, instrument choice, regulatory tools such as compliance strategies and regulatory analysis. ◦ Develop and maintain an illustrative inventory of best practices from which regulators can draw upon as a resource. ◦ Hold meetings/conference calls of regulatory analysts to share knowledge and best practices in regulatory analysis to better understand the differences among the three countries in regulation and to determine how to move towards greater consistency in regulatory approaches and analytical practices across the three jurisdictions. ◦ Establish a voluntary exchange program in which officials from Partners' regulatory agencies work in the agency of a Partner country.
<p>C. Increase information sharing among regulators.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Facilitate and develop mechanisms to enable the sharing of information throughout the regulatory process. ◦ Share regulatory agendas. ◦ Develop annual work-plans that identify areas of mutual interest for regulatory cooperation. ◦ Develop a mechanism to share information on the status of regulations that are subject to an expedited process.

Goal 2: To streamline regulations and regulatory processes.

Objectives	Measures
<p>A. Increase the use of joint analysis or evaluation of regulatory issues of mutual interest, information exchange on implementation approaches, or work sharing to further improve the timeliness and efficiency of regulatory processes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Identify, develop and conduct pilot project(s) in joint regulatory impact analysis, including cost-benefit analysis and/or risk assessment.
<p>B. Leverage existing mechanisms such as the SPP Prosperity Working Groups, NAFTA working groups and bilateral and/or trilateral undertakings, to anticipate regulatory issues.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Identify, develop and conduct pilot project(s) for developing a compatible approach to rules and regulations in a particular sector.

Goal 3: To encourage compatibility of regulations, promote the use or adoption of relevant international standards, as well as domestic voluntary consensus standards, in regulations, and eliminate redundant testing and certification requirements, consistent with our WTO obligations.	
Objectives	Measures
A. Work towards more compatible and coordinated regulatory approaches.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Encourage the introduction of the Framework's Goals relating to regulatory compatibility into practices, policies, directives and orders. ◦ Work cooperatively towards including assessment of trade impact in the regulatory impact analysis to reduce regulatory barriers to trade among the Partners. ◦ The Coordinating Committee is to develop, for consideration, criteria for compatibility of regulations among the Partners in domestic regulatory review processes where feasible.
B. To promote the use or adoption of relevant international standards, as well as domestic voluntary consensus standards, in regulations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Promote the coordination of views related to the development of international standards and convey those views to the relevant parties that participate in international standards fora as appropriate. ◦ Work cooperatively to encourage the use or adoption of relevant international standards, as well as domestic voluntary consensus standards, in regulations.
C. Eliminate redundant testing and certification requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Work cooperatively to eliminate redundant testing and certification, by, for example, accepting the results of conformity assessment procedures. ◦ Identify, develop and conduct pilot projects to eliminate redundant testing and certification requirements.

**AGREEMENT
AMONG
THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA,
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FOR COOPERATION IN
ENERGY SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

The Government of Canada, the Government of the United Mexican States, and the Government of the United States of America (the "Parties");

Recognizing the long history of cooperation among their respective government authorities responsible for the energy sector, and desiring to expand that cooperation on a trilateral basis, with a view to joint planning of energy science and technology programs and the equitable allocation of research tasks within joint programs or projects;

Considering the interest of the leaders of Canada, the United Mexican States, and the United States of America to foster communication and cooperation among the three countries on energy-related matters of common interest and to enhance North American energy interconnections consistent with the goal of sustainable development, for the benefit of all;

Noting the formation of the trilateral North American Energy Working Group for cooperation in energy science and technology to work on identifying opportunities for cooperation in energy technology fields that are of common interest, and to foster collaboration among laboratories, scientists, universities, institutes, and industry of the Parties' countries; and

Believing that trilateral initiatives in which the Parties cooperate through sharing tasks, facilities, scientific and technical information, costs and human resources can enhance accomplishment of their respective objectives more efficiently and cost-effectively;

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1 – DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Agreement:

"Cooperative Activity" means scientific and technological research, including joint research programs, or other activities, implemented pursuant to this Agreement with the approval of the Implementing Agents.

"Equipment" means any equipment, end item, subsystem, instrumentation, component or test equipment acquired or provided for use in research, development, testing, and evaluation or other Cooperative Activity.

"Implementing Agent" means the governmental ministry, department, agency or other entity designated by a Party to implement this Agreement on its behalf. The Parties' designated Implementing Agents are: for the Government of Canada, the Department of Natural Resources; for the Government of the United Mexican States, the Secretariat of Energy; for the Government of the United States of America, the Department of Energy. A Party may change its Implementing Agent at any time by notification to the other Parties through diplomatic channels.

"Implementing Arrangement" means a written arrangement signed by two or more Parties, their Implementing Agents, or federal governmental entities designated by those Implementing Agents for the conduct of Cooperative Activity.

"Information" means recorded scientific or technical data, regardless of the form or the media on which it may be recorded.

"Participant" means a Party, its Implementing Agent, and, in coordination with the Implementing Agent, any other interested federal or non-federal entity, private sector entity, or academic institution that participates in Cooperative Activity.

"Personnel" means an Implementing Agent's staff or contractors.

ARTICLE 2 – OBJECTIVE

1. The objective of this Agreement is to facilitate and promote bilateral and trilateral cooperation where the programs of one Party complement or strengthen those of one or both of the other Parties. In entering into this Agreement, the overarching goal of the Parties is to foster bilateral and trilateral energy research and development, and deployment of advanced energy technologies for peaceful uses on the basis of mutual benefit, equality and reciprocity.

2. The Parties shall encourage and facilitate, where appropriate, the development under this Agreement of direct contacts and cooperation between other entities, including government agencies, universities, science and research centers, institutes and institutions, private sector firms and other entities of the Parties.

ARTICLE 3 – AREAS OF COOPERATION

Cooperation under this Agreement may include research, development, and deployment in the areas of renewable energy, energy efficiency, nuclear energy, fossil fuels and electricity, with a view to advancing science and technology in:

- a. Low, or zero emission energy production and end-use technologies;
- b. Low carbon fuels;
- c. Technology for cyber security related to energy infrastructure;
- d. Carbon dioxide (CO₂) sequestration;
- e. Energy-related fundamental science;
- f. Hydrogen and fuel cell technologies;
- g. Electricity generation, storage and transmission;
- h. Energy security planning tools; and
- i. Any other energy-related area, as the Parties may mutually decide upon in writing.

ARTICLE 4 – FORMS OF COOPERATION

Cooperation in accordance with this Agreement may include, but is not limited to, the following forms:

- a. Execution of joint studies, projects or experiments;
- b. Exchange and provision of Information and data on scientific and technical activities, developments, practices and results, and on program policies and plans, deployment of information tools, and market needs, including exchange of business-confidential information in accordance with Annex I;

c. Exchange of scientists, engineers, and other specialists for agreed periods of time in order to participate in experiments, analysis, design and other research and development and deployment activities at existing and new research centers, laboratories, engineering offices and other facilities and enterprises of a Party or its associated organizations or contractors in accordance with Article 7;

d. Meetings in various forms to discuss and exchange information on scientific and technological aspects of general or specific subjects in the areas listed in Article 3, and to identify additional Cooperative Activity which may be usefully undertaken;

e. Exchange and provision of samples, material, and Equipment for experiments, testing and evaluation in accordance with Articles 8 and 9; and

f. Development of networks for efficient communication and information exchange among and between the Parties and other members of the Parties' public or private sectors.

ARTICLE 5 – MANAGEMENT

1. Each Implementing Agent may appoint one person to serve as its Lead Coordinator. Each Lead Coordinator may, as necessary, appoint persons to assist the Lead Coordinators to coordinate the activities undertaken in the areas of cooperation set forth in Article 3 of this Agreement.

2. Unless otherwise determined, the Lead Coordinators should meet at least once each year at a location of their choosing to evaluate the status of cooperation under this Agreement. This evaluation should include a review of the past year's activities and accomplishments and of the activities planned for the coming year within each of the technical areas or groups of related technical areas listed in Article 3.

ARTICLE 6 – IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS AND CONTRACTS

Cooperative Activity may be conducted through the conclusion of Implementing Arrangements or contracts. Each such Implementing Arrangement or contract shall include detailed provisions for carrying out the specified forms of cooperation and may include, as appropriate, such matters as technical scope, the protection and allocation of intellectual property, management (performance measurement, systematic approach, targeting), total costs, cost sharing and schedule. Each Implementing Arrangement shall be subject to, and shall refer to, the provisions of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 7 – ASSIGNMENTS AND EXCHANGES OF PERSONNEL

Unless otherwise decided in writing:

a. Whenever an assignment or exchange of Personnel is contemplated under this Agreement, an Implementing Agent should select qualified Personnel for assignment to the host establishment to conduct the activities planned under this Agreement. Each such assignment of Personnel should be mutually decided in advance by an exchange of letters between the entities concerned, referencing this Agreement and its pertinent intellectual property provisions.

b. Each sending Implementing Agent should be responsible for the salaries, insurance, and allowances to be paid to its Personnel.

c. Each sending Implementing Agent should pay for the travel and living expenses of its Personnel while on assignment to the host establishment.

d. The host Implementing Agent should help locate adequate accommodations for the sending Implementing Agent's assigned Personnel on a mutually acceptable, reciprocal basis.

e. The host Implementing Agent should provide all necessary assistance to the assigned Personnel regarding administrative formalities, such as assistance in making work-related travel arrangements.

f. Each sending Implementing Agent should inform its Personnel of the need to conform to the general and special rules of work and safety regulations in force at the host establishment.

ARTICLE 8 –PROVISION OF EQUIPMENT

Unless otherwise decided in writing:

a. The sending Implementing Agent should supply to the receiving Implementing Agent as soon as possible a detailed list of the Equipment to be provided, together with the associated specifications and technical and informational documentation related to the use, maintenance, and repair of the Equipment.

b. The Equipment, spare parts, and documentation supplied by the sending Implementing Agent shall remain the property of the owner thereof and shall be returned upon completion of the activity or disposed of in accordance with terms agreed with the owner.

c. Each Implementing Agent should ensure that the host establishment provides the necessary premises and shelter for the Equipment, as well as electric power, water and gas, and other necessary services in accordance with all technical requirements mutually accepted by the Implementing Agents concerned. The receiving Implementing Agent should also ensure that the host establishment takes reasonable measures to protect, care for and maintain the Equipment.

d. The sending Implementing Agent should be responsible for expenses, safekeeping and insurance during the transport of the Equipment from the original location in its country to the point of entry in the country of the receiving Implementing Agent. Upon return of the Equipment, the sending Implementing Agent should be responsible for expenses, safekeeping, and insurance during the transport of the Equipment from the original point of entry in the country of the receiving Implementing Agent to the final destination in the country of the sending Implementing Agent.

e. The receiving Implementing Agent should be responsible for expenses, safekeeping, and insurance during the transport of the Equipment from the point of entry in its country to the final destination in the country of the receiving Implementing Agent. Upon return of the Equipment, the receiving Implementing Agent should be responsible for expenses, safekeeping, and insurance during the transport of the Equipment from the final destination in its country to the original point of entry in its country.

f. The Equipment provided by the sending Implementing Agent for carrying out Cooperative Activity should be considered to be scientific, not having a commercial character.

ARTICLE 9 – SAMPLES AND MATERIAL

1. All samples and material provided under this Agreement shall remain the property of the owner thereof, and shall be returned to the owner upon completion of the Cooperative

Activity if so requested, or used or disposed of in accordance with applicable laws and regulations of the receiving Party.

2. Where one Implementing Agent agrees to the request of another Implementing Agent to provide a sample or material, the Implementing Agent making the request should bear all costs and expenses associated with the transportation of the sample or material from the location of the sending Implementing Agent to the final destination.

3. Each Implementing Agent should promptly disclose to the other Implementing Agents all information arising from the examination or testing of samples or material exchanged under this Agreement.

ARTICLE 10 - TRANSFER OF INFORMATION, MATERIAL AND EQUIPMENT

1. All Information, material or Equipment transferred under this Agreement and any related Implementing Arrangement should be appropriate and accurate to the best knowledge and belief of the transmitting Implementing Agent, but the transmitting Implementing Agent does not warrant the suitability of the Information, material or Equipment transmitted for any particular use or application by the receiving Implementing Agent or any third party. Information, material or Equipment developed jointly by the Parties' Implementing Agents should be appropriate and accurate to the best knowledge and belief of the developing Implementing Agents. No Implementing Agent warrants the accuracy of the jointly developed Information or the suitability of the material or Equipment for any particular use or application by any Party, Implementing Agent or by any third party.

2. No Equipment, Information or material may be transferred to any person or entity without the consent of the owner thereof.

ARTICLE 11 – ENTRY OF PERSONNEL, EQUIPMENT AND MATERIAL

With respect to Cooperative Activity under this Agreement, each Party, in accordance with its laws and regulations, and as appropriate, shall facilitate:

- a. Prompt and efficient entry into and exit from its territory of appropriate Equipment and material;
- b. Prompt and efficient entry into its territory, for domestic travel and work therein, and exit from its territory, of persons participating on behalf of Participants;
- c. Prompt and efficient access, as appropriate, to relevant geographical areas, Information, Equipment and material, institutions, and persons participating on behalf of Participants; and
- d. Mutual logistic support.

ARTICLE 12 – INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND BUSINESS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

The allocation and protection of intellectual property and business confidential information created or furnished under this Agreement shall be in accordance with the provisions of Annex 1 to this Agreement, which is an integral part hereof.

ARTICLE 13 – FUNDING

1. Each Party shall be responsible for the costs it incurs in participating in Cooperative Activity under this Agreement.
2. Two or more Implementing Agents may create a fund, called the Joint Fund for Cooperation, consisting of contributions from their nationally-appropriated funds, to

provide supplemental financial support for Cooperative Activity under this Agreement by research institutions, universities, and other entities of the Parties. The management and operation of the fund should be the subject of separate written arrangements between or among the Implementing Agents concerned.

3. Two or more Implementing Agents may create a fund, called the Facilitation Fund, consisting of contributions from their nationally-appropriated funds, for the purpose of holding workshops, discussions and travel for scientists. The management and operation of the fund should be the subject of separate written arrangements between or among the Implementing Agents concerned.

4. As set forth in the relevant Implementing Arrangement, a Participant may make an in-kind contribution (in the form of provision of Equipment, use of test facilities, or otherwise) to Cooperative Activity, in lieu of or in addition to providing financial support.

5. The Parties do not foresee the provision of foreign assistance under this Agreement. If they or their Implementing Agents decide otherwise with respect to a particular Cooperative Activity, the relevant Implementing Arrangement would need to reflect the requirements of the laws of the cooperating Parties that regulate activities related to foreign assistance.

ARTICLE 14 – GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Cooperative Activity under this Agreement shall be subject to the availability of resources, Personnel and appropriated funds of each of the Parties.

2. Each Party shall conduct the cooperation under this Agreement in accordance with the laws and regulations of its respective country and international agreements to which that Party is a party.

3. The Parties shall hold consultations with respect to all claims and demands, loss, costs, damages, actions, suits or other proceedings arising in the course of the implementation of this Agreement.

4. Any dispute regarding the interpretation or implementation of this Agreement arising during its term shall be settled by consultations between or among the Parties concerned, except as set out in Annex I.

5. Nothing in this Agreement is intended to affect existing or future arrangements for cooperation or collaboration between or among the Parties. This Agreement shall not affect the rights and obligations of a Party resulting from other international agreements to which it is a party.

6. The treatment of security arrangements for sensitive information or equipment and unclassified export-controlled information or equipment transferred under the Agreement shall be in accordance with the provisions of Annex II, which is an integral part hereof.

ARTICLE 15 – ENTRY INTO FORCE, AMENDMENT AND TERMINATION

1. This Agreement shall enter into force upon the date of the last note of the exchange of notes among the Parties indicating that the domestic procedures necessary for its entry into force have been completed.

2. Subject to Article 15(5), this Agreement shall remain in force for five (5) years and shall be automatically renewed for further five (5) year periods unless a Party notifies the other Parties in writing at least 6 months prior to the expiration of the first 5-year period or any

succeeding 5-year period of its intent to withdraw from the Agreement, in which event the Agreement shall continue between the remaining two Parties.

3. This Agreement may be amended by written agreement of all Parties. Such amendments shall enter into force following the procedure described in paragraph 1 of this Article.

4. A Party may withdraw from this Agreement upon 6 months' advance written notification to the other Parties, in which case this Agreement shall remain in force between the remaining Parties.

5. The Parties may, by written agreement, terminate this Agreement at any time.

6. Cooperative Activity not completed at the termination of this Agreement may be continued until its completion under the terms of this Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed the present Agreement.

DONE in triplicate at _____, this _____ day of _____, 2007, in the English, French and Spanish languages, each version being equally authentic.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA:

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES:

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

Annex I

Intellectual Property

Pursuant to Article 12 of this Agreement:

I. General Obligation

The Parties shall ensure adequate and effective protection of intellectual property created or furnished under this Agreement and relevant implementing arrangements. Rights to such intellectual property shall be allocated as provided in this Annex.

II. Scope

A. This Annex is applicable to all Cooperative Activity undertaken pursuant to this Agreement, except as otherwise specifically agreed by the cooperating Parties.

B. For purposes of this Agreement, "intellectual property" shall mean the subject matter listed in Article 2 of the Convention Establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization, done at Stockholm, 14 July 1967, and may include other subject matter as agreed by the Parties.

C. Each Party shall ensure, through contracts or other legal means, if necessary, that the other Parties can obtain the rights to intellectual property allocated in accordance with this Annex. This Annex does not otherwise alter or prejudice the allocation between a Party and its nationals, which shall be determined by that Party's laws and practices.

D. Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, disputes concerning intellectual property arising under this Agreement shall be resolved through discussions between the

concerned participating entities, or, if necessary, the cooperating Parties or their designees. Upon mutual agreement of the cooperating Parties, the dispute shall be submitted to an arbitration tribunal for binding arbitration in accordance with the applicable rules of international law. The arbitration rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), or any other internationally recognized rules for binding arbitration agreed to by the cooperating Parties, shall govern.

E. Termination or expiration of this Agreement shall not affect rights or obligations under this Annex.

III. Allocation of Rights

A. Each cooperating Party shall be entitled to a non-exclusive, irrevocable, royalty-free license in all countries to translate, reproduce, and publicly distribute scientific and technical journal articles, reports, and books directly arising from Cooperative Activity under this Agreement. All publicly distributed copies of a copyrighted work prepared under this provision shall indicate the names of the authors of the work unless an author explicitly declines to be named.

B. Rights to all forms of intellectual property, other than those rights described in paragraph III.A above, shall be allocated as follows:

(1) Visiting researchers shall receive rights, awards, bonuses and royalties in accordance with the policies of the host institution.

(2) (a) Any intellectual property created by persons employed or sponsored by one Party under a Cooperative Activity other than that covered by paragraph III.B(1) shall be owned by that Party. Intellectual property created by persons employed or sponsored by more than one cooperating Party shall be jointly owned by those cooperating Parties that employed or sponsored the persons who created the intellectual property. In addition, each creator shall be entitled to awards, bonuses and royalties in accordance with the policies of the institution employing or sponsoring that person.

(b) Unless otherwise decided in an Implementing Arrangement or contract, each cooperating Party shall have within its territory all rights to exploit or license intellectual property created in the course of the Cooperative Activity.

(c) The rights of a cooperating Party outside its territory shall be determined by agreement of the cooperating Parties considering the relative contributions to the creation of the intellectual property of the cooperating Parties and their participating entities to the Cooperative Activity, the degree of commitment in obtaining legal protection and licensing of the intellectual property, and such other factors deemed appropriate.

(d) Notwithstanding paragraphs III.B(2)(a) and (b) above, if a cooperating Party believes that a particular Cooperative Activity is likely to lead to or has led to the creation of intellectual property protected by the laws of one or more cooperating Parties but not the other cooperating Party(s), the cooperating Party(s) whose laws provide for this type of protection shall be entitled to equal rights to exploit or license intellectual property worldwide although creators of intellectual property shall nonetheless be entitled to awards, bonuses and royalties as provided in paragraph III.B(2)(a).

(e) For each invention made under any Cooperative Activity, the cooperating Party employing or sponsoring the inventor(s) shall disclose the invention promptly to the other cooperating Party(s) together with any documentation and information necessary to enable the other cooperating Party(s) to establish any rights to which it or they may be entitled. The other cooperating Party(s) may ask the cooperating Party employing or sponsoring the inventor in writing to delay publication or public disclosure of such documentation or information for the purpose of protecting its or their rights in the invention. The delay shall not exceed a period of six months from the date of disclosure by the inventing cooperating Party to the other

cooperating Party (s).

IV. Business Confidential Information

In the event that information identified in a timely fashion as business-confidential is furnished or created under this Agreement, each cooperating Party shall protect such information in accordance with its applicable laws, regulations, and administrative practices. Information may be identified as "business-confidential" if a person having the information may derive an economic benefit from it or may obtain a competitive advantage over those who do not have it, and the information is not generally known or publicly available from other sources, and the owner has not previously made the information available without imposing in a timely manner an obligation to keep it confidential.

Annex II

Security Obligations

I. Protection of Sensitive Technology

The Parties agree that no Information, material or Equipment requiring protection in the interest of national security, defense or foreign relations and classified in accordance with applicable national laws and regulations shall be provided under this Agreement. In the event that Information, material or Equipment which is known or believed to require such protection is identified by a cooperating Party in the course of a Cooperative Activity, it shall be brought immediately to the attention of the appropriate officials of the other cooperating Parties. The cooperating Parties shall consult to identify and implement appropriate security measures for such Information, material and Equipment, to be agreed upon by the Parties in writing. The Parties shall, if appropriate, amend this Annex in accordance with Article 15(3) of this Agreement, to incorporate such security measures.

II. Technology Transfer

The transfer of unclassified Information, material or Equipment between or among the Parties shall be in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations of the transferring and receiving Parties, including the export control laws of the transferring and receiving Parties to prevent the unauthorized transfer or retransfer of such Information, material or Equipment provided or produced under this Agreement. If any cooperating Party deems it necessary, detailed provisions for the prevention of unauthorized transfer or retransfer of such Information, material or Equipment, and any Information, material or Equipment derived from such Information, material or Equipment, shall be incorporated into the contracts or Implementing Arrangements. Export controlled Information, material and Equipment shall be marked to identify it as export controlled and shall be accompanied by appropriate documentation identifying any restrictions on further use or transfer of such Information, material or Equipment.

Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America (SPP)

Intellectual Property Action Strategy

Strategy

The overall goal of the Security and Prosperity Partnership's Intellectual Property (IP) dialogue is for Canada, Mexico and the United States to agree on a work plan that will constitute a strategy for combating piracy and counterfeiting, in order to contribute to the overall objective of Promoting Growth, Competitiveness, and Quality of Life. As part of the "Fake Free North America" initiative, our government have identified three key areas of cooperative effort to improve IP protection and enforcement: Detect and Deter Trade in Pirated and Counterfeit Goods; Public Awareness and Outreach to Our Business Communities; and Measuring Piracy and Counterfeiting. Industry representatives from the three countries have committed to concrete actions to support the implementation of this Strategy. Each element includes goals and specific recommendations for trilateral public-private cooperation selected to achieve the stated goal.

Detect and Deter Trade in Pirated and Counterfeit Goods. This element focuses on developing best practices for overall enforcement, creating enforcement networks to enhance information sharing and enforcement operations, and improving border enforcement. Through enhanced cooperation in these areas, our goals are to reduce the movement of pirated and counterfeit goods into and between Canada, Mexico and the United States and develop a network of enforcement professionals to collaborate on transnational IP crime.

Public Awareness and Outreach to Our Business Communities. In this element, our goal is to encourage the private sector to take a greater role in preventing IP infringement and assisting enforcement actions by building private sector awareness of the enforcement systems in Canada, Mexico and the United States. We are also committed to working with the private sector to develop an initiative to reduce demand for pirated and counterfeit goods through IP public awareness campaigns for the public and other relevant constituencies.

Measuring Piracy and Counterfeiting. In this element, the governments agree to facilitate the ongoing OECD Counterfeiting Study, develop measurements to assess progress, and refine and apply the results in developing domestic and regional enforcement strategies in North America, including targeting specific high-risk product sectors.

This Action Strategy delivers on the first of four IPR related recommendations from the North American Competitiveness Council and elements within this Strategy aim to deliver on the remaining three.

Action Items

Detect and Deter Trade in Pirated and Counterfeit Goods

Best Practices for Enforcement

Goal: Develop best practices enforcement guidelines and begin implementation in the near term in a manner consistent with each county's current civil, criminal and administrative systems.

Best Practices for Enforcement: The goal is to reach consensus on a set of enforcement best practices each government would support in order to increase and strengthen IP enforcement. This proposal sets out civil, criminal and administrative legislation and enforcement practices to effectively combat trade in pirated and counterfeit goods. For example, the best practices could include judicial and administrative measures to facilitate actions to inspect, suspend, seize and destroy goods and equipment used in cases of import, export and transshipment of infringing goods. The guidelines could also provide policy direction for promoting deterrent criminal enforcement actions and transparent judicial proceedings.

Actions:

- Canada, Mexico and the United States, will engage in a continuous dialogue to discuss and periodically identify best civil, criminal and administrative enforcement measures that each government will support.
- During future work, the three governments and relevant stakeholders will further explore the issue of digital piracy.
- Industry has also agreed to work with the three governments to suggest positive policy reforms.

Lead Agency: US: United States Trade Representative (USTR), Canada: Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), Mexico: Mexican Institute of Industrial Property (IMPI), Attorney's General office (PGR), Administration General of Customs (AGA), and National Copyright Institute (INDAUTOT)

Enforcement Network

Goal: Develop network of enforcement professionals among the governments of Canada, Mexico and the United States to jointly collaborate on enforcement against transnational counterfeiting and piracy. Focus will be on operations (e.g., border enforcement, transnational counterfeiting and piracy) and/or on specific sectors based upon industry collaboration and input.

Enforcement Network: Canada, Mexico and the United States have agreed to identify points of contact that are authorized to conduct domestic criminal investigations and prosecutions of counterfeiting and piracy. These points of contact will have expertise in the area of intellectual property crimes and ability to assist in cooperative international investigations, including facilitating, in appropriate cases, the involvement of multiple law enforcement agencies at different levels of government.

- Collaboration between Canadian and U.S. authorities in Operation Site Down can be used as a best practices model for future enforcement efforts.

Actions:

- Canada, Mexico and the United States will establish and maintain an updated list of points of contact of enforcement professionals.
- Enforcement officials from the three governments will also pursue additional opportunities to share information and intelligence regarding piracy and counterfeiting within North America.

Lead Agency: US: Department of Justice (DOJ), Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Canada: Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), Mexico: Prosecutor General (PGR), and AGA

Cooperation to Enhance IPR Enforcement

Goal: Consistent and sustained efforts by Canada, Mexico and the United States against counterfeiting and piracy originating in third countries.

Collaboration and coordination regarding third countries: Coordinate efforts on a common enforcement message, sent through diplomatic channels. Efforts will be undertaken jointly where beneficial.

Collaboration on the ground in third countries: Mexican, Canadian and U.S. Embassy staff will make every effort to coordinate efforts in third countries to more effectively tackle issues that arise, and collaborate on working with the local business community to raise the awareness of IPR issues and industry best practices.

Actions:

- As outlined above, Canada, Mexico and the United States will seek opportunities to work with other countries to address the challenges of global counterfeiting and piracy. Efforts could include exploring partnerships with like-minded countries and building upon other multilateral initiatives for third country cooperation, such as in WTO, APEC, and the OECD.
- Officials will periodically exchange information on activities and events related to this element.
- Industry has committed to support and cooperate with government preparations for IP enforcement initiatives involving third countries.
- Industry has also agreed to continue to work with Canada, Mexico and the United States to coordinate effective roundtables and training programs focused on IP enforcement in third countries.

Lead Agency: US: USTR and Department of State, Canada: DFAIT, Mexico: PGR, AGA, IMPI and INDAUTOR

Border Enforcement/Detection/Transnational Investigations

Goal: A reduction of the importation, exportation and in transit movement of pirated and counterfeit goods into and between Canada, Mexico and the United States. Exchange of information about suspect shipments and tools/techniques for targeting such shipments will facilitate efforts. When counterfeit/pirated goods are encountered, develop joint cooperation between Canada, Mexico, the United States and other governments in the enforcement transnational IP investigations.

Customs Techniques for IPR Detection and Risk Management: The exchange of new innovative border enforcement techniques used to supplement current customs IPR efforts presents an opportunity for the three countries to consider comparable programs within their own systems. Exchange of ideas in this venue will encompass the sharing of best practices, lessons learned and relevant operational programs with the goal of strengthening targeting and expanding approaches to IPR enforcement.

- The U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) IPR Risk Model based on statistical techniques, and post-entry verifications to help identify and determine the scope of a company's IPR violations, are examples of such techniques.

Exchange of best practices for training of Customs officers: It is vital to ensure officers charged with responsibility for border enforcement have access to well-developed training programs. The three countries will exchange practices for training customs/border enforcement officers on IPR. The goal of this exchange is to identify best practices for developing expertise and skill in IPR border enforcement. It will encompass sharing of training methods, experiences and lessons learned.

Exchange of information regarding suspect shipments: Canada, Mexico and the United States will exchange information on these suspect shipments to facilitate enforcement by the destination country's authorities, where feasible and appropriate.

Enforcement of suspect shipments: Canada, Mexico and the United States will solicit cooperation from other governments when counterfeit/pirated goods are encountered in an effort to fully investigate/prosecute international counterfeit trafficking organizations. The SPP will promote anti-counterfeiting/anti-piracy goals, joint bi/tri and multi-lateral investigations directed at identifying the source of the counterfeit/pirated merchandise production, as well as the financial activities that result from its manufacture and distribution. The SPP through its efforts will extend Border Enforcement/Detection to fully develop joint transnational investigations to stem the flow of counterfeit/pirated products as well as joining with other like-minded nations to dismantle all aspects of the counterfeiting/pirating organizations.

Actions:

- Enforcement authorities in Canada, Mexico and the United States will develop a point-of-contact list to facilitate communication and information exchange on issues such as border enforcement techniques, best practices for training, notifying and exchanging information between enforcement agencies regarding suspect shipments and disseminating information for transnational investigations, where feasible and appropriate.

- Canada, Mexico and the United States will consider sharing experience and information on border enforcement recordation databases, as well as access to them where feasible and appropriate, to facilitate identification of pirated and counterfeit goods.
- Industry has committed to support these efforts by providing training for enforcement officials, manuals (in French, Spanish and English) designed to assist enforcement officials in detecting counterfeit products and information based upon their own IP protection efforts.
- Finally, industry has also agreed to create a rights holders point of contact list that can be provided to law enforcement officials to support prompt enforcement actions.

Lead Agency: US: Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Canada: Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) and RCMP, Mexico: PGR, AGA and IMPI

Public Awareness and Outreach to Our Domestic Stakeholders

Goal: Develop a public-private initiative to tackle piracy and counterfeiting. Encourage the private sector to take a greater role in preventing counterfeiting and piracy and assisting enforcement actions by building private sector awareness of the enforcement systems in Canada, Mexico and the United States. Reduce demand for pirated and counterfeit goods through public awareness campaigns.

Enhancing Domestic Industry/Government Cooperation and Information-Sharing: Establishing domestic joint industry/government anti-counterfeiting and anti-piracy groups will provide regular access to government, create opportunities to share information and work together to fight against IP theft, and help ensure that overall efforts are complementary. Governments could also partner with private sector organizations to publish online comprehensive information on securing and protecting IP rights to assist domestic rights holders in navigating their own government's resources, and to provide greater transparency for foreign rights holders. The United States www.StopFakes.gov is a possible example.

Actions:

- The United States, Canada and Mexico will identify and share existing resources that educate companies and individuals about how to obtain and enforce their IP in Canada, Mexico and the United States (e.g., www.stopfakes.gov and IPR toolkits).
- Industry has undertaken to develop a code of ethics for online transactions in French, Spanish and English and develop a database which includes information and studies related to the economic contribution of IP and the dangers of counterfeiting and piracy.

Lead Agency: US: Commerce/Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) and International Trade Administration (ITA), Canada: DFAIT, Mexico: IMPI, PGR and INDA

International Business Coalitions: Raising public-private sector collaboration to new levels by engagement by private sector stakeholders directly with their international counterparts will ensure a comprehensive cross-border solution to addressing the trade in fakes. The U.S. Coalition Against Counterfeiting and Piracy, the Canadian Anti-Counterfeiting Network and the Alianza contra la Pirateria will work together to conduct joint seminars on best practices and enforcement efforts among other activities. Regular communication with governments will also enhance this process.

- Consider whether to focus on particular sectors, and if so, each government could propose a sector (e.g., autos, foodstuffs, entertainment, software, pharmaceuticals, etc.) for roundtables in which there is mutual interest.
- Encourage our companies to share more information and intelligence with relevant authorities, lodge well-developed and defined requests for assistance, follow-through on complaints and support measures taken.
- Consider participation in private-sector training being offered related to IP and whether to invite the private sector to participate in government-sponsored training. Where appropriate, the three governments will also look for opportunities to cooperate on training and technical assistance.

Public Awareness Campaigns: Sharing information on public awareness campaigns will help all three countries project a consistent message on piracy and counterfeiting.

- One recent example of such a campaign was undertaken by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, in collaboration with the Canadian Anti-Counterfeiting Coalition, a private stakeholders group.

Actions:

- Canada, Mexico, and the United States will name a contact and regularly update each other on public awareness campaigns already underway and share materials created for them for use as appropriate.
- The three countries agree that they will examine the feasibility of additional resources for public awareness and/or explore opportunities to work more closely with the private sector to run additional campaigns in line with SPP priorities.
- Where available, the three governments and industry have committed to share materials designed for teachers and other educational authorities for use in educating students on the importance of intellectual property rights and the importance of innovation and creativity.
- The governments will also collaborate on public awareness campaigns to educate the general public on how to acquire intellectual property rights as well as the dangers of piracy and counterfeiting.

Lead Agency: U.S.: Commerce/PTO, Canada: DFAIT, Mexico: IMPI, PGR and INDAUTOR

Global Enforcement Actions Website: Mexico, Canada and the United States will participate in the development of a website that will post press articles and information about intellectual property enforcement actions that take place across the world. The website will track the intellectual property information currently posted about U.S. cases at www.cybercrime.gov and disseminate information about successful criminal investigations and prosecutions of intellectual property cases to the public, affected segments of the intellectual property industry and other government agencies. Posting this information is an effective, low cost means to spread the deterrent message that the government vigorously pursues intellectual property crimes. We expect that the site will also post links to any law enforcement website from the originating country as a source for further information.

Actions:

Canada, Mexico, and the United States will discuss the logistics involved in implementing this system in order to accommodate current practices in each country and will consider coordination with other similar proposed initiatives in other international forums, such as the G8 and APEC.

Lead Agency: US: DOJ, Canada: RCMP; Mexico: IMPI, PGR, AGA and INDAUTOR

Measuring Piracy and Counterfeiting

Goal: Develop relevant information regarding the effects of piracy and counterfeiting to better understand the scope of the problem, inform development and implementation of public and public-private strategies, and to measure progress.

Government and industry stakeholders recognize that measuring the scope and magnitude of counterfeiting and piracy is challenging. There are no single indicators or methodologies that can be used to fully assess the problem. Different indicators for different sectors and populations may be needed to better understand the problem and be able to set baselines to measure progress in the future.

Actions:

- Canada, Mexico and the United States will develop baseline data from which to measure progress in reducing the scope and level of piracy and counterfeiting in the future;
- Examine ways to highlight the positive effect of IPRs on each country's economy;
- Examine polls and studies commissioned by industry and academia;
- Encourage collaboration between governments, industry and academia;

Lead Agency: US: Commerce/ITA/PTO, Canada: DFAIT ; Mexico: IMPI, PGR, AGA and INDAUTOR

Goal: Facilitate the ongoing OECD study by providing data and considering other necessary and available resources, recognizing that current, independent and reliable information on the scope and effect of counterfeiting and piracy will help in communicating the extent of the problem to consumers and governments world wide and in focusing governmental action. Generate accurate information

regarding the scope and effects of piracy and counterfeiting to inform development and implementation of public and public-private strategies for combating IP theft.

The OECD's Committee on Industry and Business Environment has been charged with updating the OECD's 1998 study on the economic impact of counterfeiting. We continue to firmly believe that a successful study would help us all - OECD and non-OECD countries – to make the case for strong action against intellectual property theft. Canada, the United States and Mexico could work to coordinate their contribution to the OECD study based on the North American and SPP context, including by providing information and offering guidance to the OECD with respect to methodology and indicators.

Action: The United States, Canada and Mexico will:

- Encourage industry and other stakeholders to provide data to the OECD so the current study will be as comprehensive and useful as possible. Governments will share comments they provide on interim drafts.
- Assess results of the OECD study to determine their implications for targeted efforts in the SPP IPR context.
- Explore opportunities to enhance the strategic value of the study results based on the SPP experience through further examination of region-specific and sector-specific piracy and counterfeiting.

Lead Agency: US: Commerce/ITA, Canada: DFAIT, Mexico: IMPI and PGR

Next Steps

The United States, Canada and Mexico will regularly review this action strategy in the SPP IPR working group and consider additional action items as appropriate. Governments agreed that regular meetings together with representatives of the private sector will be an important feature in helping to achieve progress and will consider holding informal meetings in various formats. To that end, such meetings will rotate among the three countries; the U.S. and Mexico have each hosted working group meetings and private sector consultations. Canada will host the next SPP IPR working group meeting.

August 2007

Joint Statement by North American Leaders, August 2009

Published August 10, 2009

Speakers: Felipe Calderon

Stephen Harper

Barack Obama

President Obama, President Calderon of Mexico, and Prime Minister Harper of Canada gave this statement on August 10, 2009 during the North American Leaders Summit in Guadalajara, Mexico.

We, the leaders of North America, have come together in Guadalajara to promote the global competitiveness of our region, foster the well-being of our citizens, and make our countries more secure. We build our collaboration on the understanding that our deepening ties are a source of strength and that challenges and opportunities in one North American country can and do affect us all. North American cooperation is rooted in shared values, complementary strengths, and the dynamism of our peoples. We are confident that working together we can help our societies thrive in the challenging, competitive, and promising century ahead.

North America's coordinated response to the initial outbreak of the H1N1 flu virus has proven to be a global example of cooperation. We set an example of a joint, responsible, and transparent response, enabling other regions to react quickly to protect their populations. Through planning and foresight, we were quickly able to put effective health measures in place. We will remain vigilant and commit ourselves to continued and deepened cooperation. We will work together to learn from recent experiences and prepare North America for the upcoming influenza season, including building up our public health capacities and facilitating efficient information sharing among our countries.

Promoting recovery from the current global economic crisis is a priority for each of us. By working together, we will accelerate recovery and job creation, and build a strong base for long-term prosperity. We look forward to the coming G20 Summit in Pittsburgh and will join efforts to ensure that the G20 continues to advance effective global responses to the crisis, including working to strengthen international financial institutions that are vital to assisting countries to restore economic vibrancy. The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) plays a crucial role in mitigating the effects of the crisis in the Americas, particularly for the most vulnerable citizens of our Hemisphere. We support an accelerated review of the IDB to ensure it has sufficient short-term lending capacity.

Our integrated economies are an engine of growth. We are investing in border infrastructure, including advanced technology, to create truly modern borders to facilitate trade and the smooth operation of supply chains, while protecting our security. Building on these investments, we will work together to strengthen the resilience of our critical infrastructure, which transcends borders and sustains the well-being of our communities and economies. We will cooperate in the protection of intellectual property rights to facilitate the development of innovative economies. We commend the progress achieved on reducing unnecessary regulatory differences and have instructed our respective Ministers to continue this work by building on the previous efforts, developing focused priorities and a specific timeline.

North American trade is a vital component of our economic well-being and we pledge to abide by our international responsibilities and avoid protectionist measures. We reiterate our commitment to reinvigorate our trading relationship and to ensure that the benefits of our economic relationship are widely shared and sustainable. We will seek to promote respect for labour rights and protection of the environment with a continuing dialogue to address the functioning of the Labor and Environmental side agreements. This dialogue must result in mutually agreeable and cooperative activities with the aim to enhance the well-being and prosperity of our citizens and the economic recovery of our countries.

We recognize climate change as one of the most daunting and pressing challenges of our time and a solution requires ambitious and coordinated efforts by all nations. Building on our respective national efforts, we will show leadership by working swiftly and responsibly to combat climate change as a region and to achieve a successful outcome at the 15th Conference of the Parties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. We also recognize that the competitiveness of our region and our sustainable growth requires a greater reliance on clean energy technologies and secure and reliable energy supplies across North America. Today, in agreeing to the "North American Leaders' Declaration on Climate Change and Clean Energy", we reaffirm our political commitment to work collaboratively to combat climate change.

Transnational criminal networks threaten all three of our countries. To dismantle them and to make our populations more secure, we will continue to deepen cooperation built upon the principles of shared responsibility, the strengthening of national institutions, and respect for our respective national legal frameworks. Canada and the United States recognize the commitment and the sacrifices of the Mexican people and Government as they confront the cartels threatening society, and we pledge to them our continued support. Our three governments recognize that we cannot limit our efforts to North America alone, and we have agreed to instruct our respective Ministers to strive for greater cooperation and coordination as we work to promote security and institutional development with our neighbors in Central America and the Caribbean.

We are deeply committed to helping strengthen democratic institutions and the rule of law throughout the Americas. We support a leading role for the Organization of American States (OAS) as we work together to strengthen implementation of the Inter-American Democratic Charter. We have thoroughly discussed the coup in Honduras and reaffirm our support for the San José Accord and the ongoing OAS effort to seek a peaceful resolution of the political crisis - a resolution which restores democratic governance and the rule of law and respects the rights of all Hondurans.

We recognize and embrace citizen participation as an integral part of our work together in North America. We welcome the contributions of businesses, both large and small, and those of civil society groups, non-governmental organizations, academics, experts, and others. We have asked our Ministers to engage in such consultations as they work to realize the goals we have set for ourselves here in Guadalajara.

- **Competitiveness:** Continue to implement the strategy to combat piracy and counterfeiting, and build on the Regulatory Cooperation Framework by pursuing collaboration through sectoral initiatives, with an emphasis on the automotive sector;
- **Safe Food & Products:** Strengthen cooperation to better identify, assess and manage unsafe food and products before they enter North America, and collaborate to promote the compatibility of our related regulatory and inspection regimes;
- **Energy and Environment:** Develop projects under the newly signed Agreement on Science and Technology; and cooperate on moving new technologies to the marketplace, auto fuel efficiency and energy efficiency standards ;
- **Smart & Secure Borders:** Strengthen cooperation protocols and create new mechanisms to secure our common borders while facilitating legitimate travel and trade in the North American region ;
- **Emergency Management and Preparedness:** Strengthen emergency management cooperation capacity in the North American region before, during and after disasters.

We, the leaders of North America, have come together in Guadalajara to promote the global competitiveness of our region, foster the well-being of our citizens, and make our countries more secure.

We build our collaboration on the understanding that our deepening ties are a source of strength and that challenges and opportunities in one North American country can and do affect us all. North American cooperation is rooted in shared values, complementary strengths, and the dynamism of our peoples. We are confident that working together we can help our societies thrive in the challenging, competitive, and promising century ahead.

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EVASION OF CONGRESSIONAL SCRUTINY

STATEMENT

Democratic Senator Takes White House to Task Over 'Czars'

Sen. Russell Feingold, D-Wis., said Congress needs to know whether some of the czars make policy but have no obligation to submit to congressional questioning.

AP

Tuesday, October 06, 2009

WASHINGTON — A liberal Democratic senator questioned the roles of administration policy "czars" Tuesday, but the White House denied it is using these officials to evade congressional scrutiny.

Sen. Russell Feingold, D-Wis., said Congress needs to know whether some of the czars make policy but have no obligation to submit to congressional questioning.

While the Obama administration is hardly the first to name high-level advisers to handle issues like health care and climate change, Feingold said, "It's not good enough to simply say, 'Well, George Bush did it too.'"

Prior to a Senate Judiciary subcommittee hearing that featured academic experts, Feingold released a letter from White House counsel Gregory Craig that defended the officials.

Craig said some presidents have used such special advisers, or czars, to undermine Congress, but "that is simply not the case in the current administration."

Feingold also was critical of the administration for declining to send a witness to the hearing.

"The White House decided not to accept my invitation ... to explain its position on the constitutional issues we will address today," Feingold said, referring to the Senate's role in confirming top officials.

"That's unfortunate. It's also a bit ironic since one of the concerns that has been raised about these officials is that they will thwart congressional oversight of the executive branch."

Eight are in federal agencies whose employees testify regularly before Congress. This group includes Richard Holbrooke, the Afghanistan czar and Ron Bloom, the car czar.

Four more are in the National Security Council, individuals who have no independent authority and whose sole function is to advise the president.

Another four are in the president's and vice president's offices and function as senior White House advisers on health, energy and environment, urban affairs and domestic violence. They are Lynn Rosenthal, domestic violence; Carol Browner, energy and environment; Adolfo Carrion Jr., urban affairs and Nancy-Ann DeParle, health.

**TREATIES AND AGREEMENTS APPROVED
WITHOUT CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT:
THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT**

From: Michael Coffman

Subject: RE: Concurrent Resolution Memorializing The Congress of The United States

There are numerous examples of treaties and agreements being approved without congressional oversight, but perhaps one of the more onerous ones is the Endangered Species Act. The origin of this legislation is from five international treaties. This is explained starting on p. 13 of the pamphlet entitled "The Problems With The Endangered Species Act" (attached). The most obvious one today is the cap and trade legislation that has passed in the House and may be considered this fall by the Senate. The entire effort is a response to the Kyoto Protocol of 1997 and is justified by the fraudulent science of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate change. The premise that there is a consensus of 2500 scientists that man is causing global warming was exposed as a complete fraud last winter when a Freedom of Information Act request forced the UN to provide the data on exactly how many scientists agreed with the premise that there is a 90 percent certainty that man is causing global warming. Instead of a consensus of 2500 scientists in agreement, there were only 4 proponents of man-caused global warming.

Almost every environmental law (and probably other law as well) in the past 40 years has its roots in international treaties and agreements. Certainly, there was need for some of these laws, but most of them were far more expansive in their scope so as to expand the powers of the federal government as required by these numerous treaties, agreements. Sometimes these laws were nothing more than an international agenda for control. The Convention on Biological Diversity is one of these. Although I played a key role in stopping the ratification of the treaty in the United States Senate in 1994, federal agencies have worked with environmental organizations to implant The Wildlands Project that was central to the goals of the treaty. The Wildlands Project called for setting aside one-half of the United States into Wilderness areas and interconnecting wilderness corridors.

But then there is the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, which set aside millions of acres in wilderness, and essentially locks up much of the shale oil (and gas) deposits in Colorado, Utah and Wyoming; a 500 year supply of oil and natural gas for the United States, the largest deposit in the world! Also, there is the Northern Rockies Ecosystem Act of 2009 working its way through Congress right now. This bill proposes to set aside nearly 23 million acres of wilderness in Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon. I drew a map in the early 1990s that was used on the Senate floor to stop the ratification of the Convention on Biological Diversity in 1994. Based entirely on descriptions found in the treaty and the Wildlands Project, the 1994 map clearly depicts how the treaty demands match exactly what the bills in 2009 demand.

The justification for federal agencies to work to accomplish these goals came from the United Nations via Agenda 21 (which Bush signed in 1992) and put into effect via President Clinton's Council on Sustainable Development (PCSD). Sustainable America, plus a series of sub documents were printed as outcomes of the PCSD. What is little known is the new goals published in these documents redirected the goals of the federal agencies to no longer serve the people of the United States, but to protect nature from the people of the United States. All this occurred without one hearing in Congress and totally without the knowledge of the people of the United States. Tens of thousands of rural landowners, especially in the West, have been seriously harmed, had their lives destroyed, or even gone to prison because of these laws and/or new policies.

Michael Coffman, Ph.D

The Problems with
the Endangered Species Act



by Michael S. Coffman, Ph.D.
American Land Foundation

Origins and Problems of the Endangered Species Act

The Endangered Species Act of 1973, is the quintessence of all anti-human, anti-property rights laws. It derives its authority and power from five principle international treaties administered by the UN, the most prominent being the Convention on Nature Protection And Wildlife Preservation in the Western Hemisphere. Section 2, paragraph (4) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 states; "the United States has pledged itself as a sovereign state in the international community to conserve to the extent practicable the various species of fish or wildlife and plants facing extinction, pursuant to:

- A. migratory bird treaties with Canada and Mexico;
- B. the Migratory and Endangered Bird Treaty with Japan;
- C. the Convention on Nature Protection and Wildlife Preservation in the Western Hemisphere (Western Convention);
- D. the International Convention for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries;
- E. the International Convention for the High Seas Fisheries of the North Pacific Ocean;
- F. the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora;
- G. other international agreements.

The ESA even extols the fact that it cedes sovereignty to the international community by saying its purpose is to "develop and maintain conservation programs which meet national and international standards." In turn, these programs are "key to meeting the Nation's international commitments."

In a very real way, U.S. citizens are going to prison, paying thousands of dollars in fines and, in some cases, losing their life savings because of international treaties that are not in the best interests of the American people.

The Western Convention and the ESA

Even if they do not know of the existence of the Western Convention, most Americans who live in rural America will recognize with alarm some of the key language of the treaty because they have witnessed its application in their area through the ESA. The Western Convention requires the United States to pass "suitable laws and regulations for the protection and preservation of flora and fauna within their national boundaries but not included in the national parks, national reserves, nature monuments, or strict wilderness reserves." Consequently, the treaty requires the U.S. to protect endangered species over all private as well as public land.

The goal of Western Convention is to: "protect and preserve in their *natural habitat* representatives of all species and genera of their native flora and fauna...in *sufficient numbers and over areas extensive enough* to assure them from becoming extinct through any agency within man's control..." (Italics added). Section 4 of the ESA, designed to meet this requirement, states: "Secretary [of the Interior]," upon determining "that a species is an endangered species or a threatened species, to the maximum extent prudent and determinable shall...designate any habitat of such species which is then considered to be critical habitat." Both the treaty and the ESA require that the appropriate natural habitat be identified and protected for the species — regardless of who owns the land.

Section 4 also defines the requirements of "whether any species is an endangered species or a threatened species" by any of the following factors:

- (A) the present or threatened destruction, modification, or curtailment of its habitat or range;
- (B) overutilization for commercial, recreational, scientific, or educational purposes;
- (C) disease or predation;
- (D) the inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms;
- (E) other natural or manmade factors affecting its continued existence.

These rather nebulous criteria for listing are only limited by Section 4(b) (1) (A), which calls for the Secretary's decision to be made "solely on the basis of the best scientific and commercial data available to him after conducting a review of the status of the species." Of course, the USFWS uses conservation biology to justify their need to list the species and eventually to establish a recovery plan. Land use restrictions on private property are the inevitable result. And, according to Section 4(b)(3)(A) of the Endangered Species Act and Title 5, Section 553e of the U.S. Code, any person can petition for a listing and the Secretary of Interior has to respond within "90 days after receiving the petition." If the Secretary of Interior fails to respond within that time, the citizen can file a lawsuit charging the Secretary with non-compliance of a federal law.

The ESA is the perfect tool for environmental groups to stop the use of any private land that they want by simply finding a species that is declining or is relatively rare, and petition the Secretary of the Interior. The petition costs the environmentalist or environmental group almost nothing. The private landowner and USFWS, on the other hand, have to spend hundreds of thousands, if not millions of dollars proving the species is not endangered. This is often impossible because the species may truly be in decline for reasons totally unrelated to the use of the private land, but the Klamath River example, the USFWS will nonetheless impose a recovery plan to affect it.

Many citizens have experienced the ESA horror as it has dramatically restricted or even stripped them personally of their right to use their own land, without a dime of compensation. Under Section 4 of the ESA, the federal government can condemn private property to create the needed habitat, or possibly could be needed at some future date, by an endangered fly, sucker fish or beetle, as well as more glamorous species like the bald eagle.

According to Article VIII of the Western Convention, all endangered species "shall be protected as completely as possible, and their hunting, killing, capturing, or *taking*, shall be allowed only with the permission of the appropriate government authorities in the country." (Italics added) Not surprisingly, the concept of full protection and *takings* is also found in Section 9 the ESA where it is unlawful to "*take any*" endangered "species within the United States or the territorial sea of States," or "*take any such species upon the high seas.*" Since this includes the species' habitat, the rights of the landowner are usurped by the endangered species.

**TREATIES HAVING THE EFFECT OF LAW
WITHOUT CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT**

Treaties Having The Effect of Law Without Congressional Oversight

Law Of The Sea Treaty

The Natural Resource Defense Council (NRDC) has cited the Law of the Sea Treaty's environmental provisions as an argument in its challenge of the Navy's use of so-called "intense active sonar" several years ago. The NRDC said, in part, "The United Nations Law of the Sea Convention... requires States 'to assess the potential effects... on marine environment'... of systems such as high intensity active sonar, and to take all measures 'necessary to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment from any source'... The danger to marine life from... sonar... is clearly documented." The Navy ultimately agreed to scale back its use of this sonar technology.

The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), also called the Law of the Sea Convention or the Law of the Sea Treaty, is the international agreement that resulted from the third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS III), which took place from 1973 through 1982. The Law of the Sea Convention defines the rights and responsibilities of nations in their use of the world's oceans, establishing guidelines for businesses, the environment, and the management of marine natural resources. The Convention, concluded in 1982, replaced four 1958 treaties. UNCLOS came into force in 1994, a year after Guyana became the 60th state to sign the treaty. To date, 158 countries and the European Community have joined in the Convention. However, it is now regarded as a codification of the customary international law on the issue.

Opponents of the customary law concept have cited the provisional application process in this instance as one through which the United States has "committed ... to the terms of the Law of the Sea Treaty for up to four years -- even if the Senate never ratifies the Treaty. This may violate the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 USC 2672)." (Representative Fields, Current Status of the Convention on the Law of the Sea, Hearings, August 11, 1994, p. 5.) The State Department cites Section 5(a) of the same Act, as amended, as authorizing U.S. participation in "international activities ... for which provision has not been made by ... treaty", with the proviso that such authority is not granted for more than one year without approval of Congress. The Department further states that section 5(a) "has been construed to allow participation on a provisional basis in succeeding years if the Congress approves a budget submission containing a line item covering the activity in question for each such year."

The assumption that the international aid agencies are a wise method of ending poverty is wrong. Equally as flawed is the idea that individuals and companies should have to abide by the dictates of a centrally planned distribution mechanism — global government, a virtually unaccountable group of handpicked individuals who answer to the bureaucratic elites who put them in power. There is no chance that in the long-term, or even the short-term, these elites will do what's in the best interests of the middle-class and poor citizens of the world, or that their judgments can take into account the literally uncountable variables (trillions of variables would fall far short) that affect individual businesses doing what businesses do: creating, buying, and selling.

The Wildlands Project

The Mission

The mission of the Wildlands Project is to protect and restore the natural heritage of North America through the establishment of a connected system of wildlands. The idea is simple. To stem the disappearance of wildlife and wilderness we must allow the recovery of whole ecosystems and landscapes in every region of North America. Recovery on this scale will take time—100 years or more in some places. This vision for continental renewal rests on the spirit of social responsibility that has built so many great institutions in the past and acknowledges that the health of our society and its institutions depends on wildness. The land has given much to us; now it is time to give something back—to allow nature to thrive once more and to restore the links that will sustain both wilderness and the foundations of human communities.

During the past several years, resource industries, state and local governments and communities nationwide have been buried under an avalanche of new species listings; appeals and litigation to stop water development, logging, mining, grazing and recreational activities. There have been vast amounts of legislation proposing new wilderness areas, heritage areas, scenic rivers, biological corridors, state and national parks or wildlife refuges, as well as management plans involving critical habitat, watersheds or ecosystems. While many of these actions seem to be isolated incidence, a review of Wildlands Project documents suggests that the actions are often well coordinated activities aimed according to the Project's text at establishing a "regional reserve system which will ultimately tie the North American continent into a single Biodiversity Reserve". Wildland Project documents from 1993 and 1994 identify 35 different groups as members of the project.

A large percentage of the appeals and litigation initiated against natural resource dependent industries during the past three years have been initiated by one or more of these member groups. The project calls on the establishment of systems of core wilderness areas of more than a million acres, where human activity is prohibited, linked with biological corridors. Around these core reserve areas and their interlinking corridors, buffers are to be established. The buffer areas are to be managed to restore ecological health. Human activity associated with civilization -- agriculture, industrial production, urban centers -- will be allowed to continue outside these buffered regions

United Nations documentation, identified by Sovereignty International, proved the Wildlands Project concept was based on the UN Convention on Biological Diversity. This documentation and a related map, produced by Dr. Michael Coffman, of Sovereignty International, halted the ratification of the treaty an hour before its scheduled cloture and ratification vote. (See Congressional Record S13790), but has not stopped the setting aside millions of acres of public and private land by executive order.

It is vital to understand that the Wildlands Project is just one of many elements of control that are being put into place to control the population. Relocation of wildlife, large wilderness and roadless areas, and the relocation of populations into "sustainable communities" are all a part of the goal of implementing **Agenda 21**, or the United Nations Agenda for the 21st Century.

Born out of the 1992 Earth Summit II in Rio de Janeiro, **Agenda 21** serves as the comprehensive blueprint for achieving "sustainable development". Its many initiatives are being put into place by the agencies of the U.S. government such as the State Department, the Department of Energy, the Forest Service, Fish and Wildlife, Bureau of Land Management, etc. It is also being aided along by countless non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

The **Agenda 21** document contains 40 chapters which address issues that range from controlling water, land, air, and minerals, to policy recommendations for disposal of toxic and hazardous wastes, to technology management and transfer. There are many other facets of the program including managing the role of women and children, and the role of indigenous people in the process. In short, it is an all-encompassing, revolutionary plan for controlling the entire population of earth, marketed under the slick packaging of environmental and ecological necessity, with environmental measures addressing transborder or global environmental problems should, as far as possible, be based on international consensus.

One only has to read the first couple of chapters to begin to get the sense of the roots of the plan. It calls on all "developed" countries, such as the United States, to come to the aid of "developing" countries. In other words, the playing field is to be leveled. The rich, industrialized countries will help fund the destitute, impoverished countries, transferring the technology and wealth necessary to achieve sustainable development. The contention is that we are destroying everything around us. If this process is not stopped by curtailing or controlling human activity, they contend, future generations will be doomed to live in world-wide poverty, while not being able to enjoy a vast ecosystem, clean air, clean water, etc.

Examples of Congressional Oversight (or lack thereof)

In the last days of the 106th Congress, the U.S. Senate ratified 34 treaties - without debate, without a vote, and almost without notice. Most of the treaties were between the U.S. and a single other nation, having to do with treatment of criminals, stolen vehicles, and other single-issue matters. Two of the treaties, however, have much broader implications: the International Plant Protection Convention, adopted at the World Conference on Food and Agriculture in Rome in 1997, and the Convention on Desertification, adopted in Paris, in 1994.

These two treaties are an integral part of the global environmental agenda contained in **Agenda 21**. The Convention on Climate Change, and the Convention on Biological Diversity, are also a part of the process through which the non-binding, "soft-law" Agenda 21, is converted into legally binding international law. These two newly ratified treaties further entangle the United States in the United Nations' web of environmental policy.

The ill-advised ratification of these two U.N. treaties - without review, comment, debate, or even a recorded vote - makes a mockery of the advise and consent responsibility placed upon the Senate by our Constitution.

Voting Sheets

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HCR 29 continued

BILL TITLE: requiring the Congress of the United States of America to reaffirm its adherence to the Constitution of the United States regarding international agreements and treaties.

DATE: February 18, 2010

LOB ROOM: 203

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep. K. Roberts OLS Document #: 2010 0770h

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. K. Roberts

Seconded by Rep. Baldasaro

Vote: 17-0 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by K. Roberts

Seconded by Rep. Baldasaro

Vote: (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

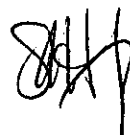
CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE: No

(Vote to place on Consent Calendar must be unanimous.)

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Sarah A. Hutz, Clerk



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HCR 29

BILL TITLE: requiring the Congress of the United States of America to reaffirm its adherence to the Constitution of the United States regarding international agreements and treaties.

DATE: February 18 2010

LOB ROOM: 203

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep. K. Roberts OLS Document #: 2010 - 0770h
Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:
Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Motions: (OTP) OTP/A, I/TL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. K. Roberts

Seconded by Rep. Baldasaro
Vote: 17-0 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, I/TL, Interim Study (Please circle one.) Table

Moved by Rep. ~~Smith~~ K. Roberts

Seconded by Rep. ~~T. Katsiantonis~~ Baldasaro

Vote: (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE: No

(Vote to place on Consent Calendar must be unanimous.)

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,
Rep. Sarah A. Hutz, Clerk



STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Bill #: HCR 29 Title: _____

PH Date: ____/____/____

Exec Session Date: 2/18/10

Motion: OTP on amendment

Amendment #: 2010-0970h

MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS
Garrity, Patrick F, Chairman	X	
Cushing, Robert R, V Chairman	X	
Domingo, Baldwin M	X	
Roberts, Kris E	X	
Haley, Robert J Carr, Daniel	X	
Sweeney, Cynthia P	X	
Hutz, Sarah A, Clerk	X	
Katsiantonis, George O'Brien, Michael	X	
Chininis, Alexis C	X	
Hardy, Valerie S Chandley, Shannon	X	
Katsiantonis, Thomas Rhodes, Brian	X	
Baldasaro, Alfred P	X	
Twombly, James E Weyler, Ken	X	
Priestley, Anne K		absent
Christiansen, Lars T	X	
Emiro, Frank R	X	
Fields, Dennis H	X	
Pepino, Leo P		absent
Smith, Todd P	X	
TOTAL VOTE:	17	0

STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Bill #: HCR 29 Title: _____

PH Date: ____/____/____

Exec Session Date: 2, 18, 10

Motion: OT P/A

Amendment #: _____

MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS
Garrity, Patrick F, Chairman	X	
Cushing, Robert R, V Chairman	X	
Domingo, Baldwin M	X	
Roberts, Kris E	X	
Haley, Robert J Carr, Daniel	X	
Sweeney, Cynthia P	X	
Hutz, Sarah A, Clerk	X	
Katsiantonis, George O'Brien, Michael	X	
Chininis, Alexis C	X	
Hardy, Valerie S Chandley, Shannon	X	
Katsiantonis, Thomas Rhodes, Brian	X	
Baldasaro, Alfred P	X	
Twombly, James E Weyler, Ken	X	
Priestley, Anne K		absent
Christiansen, Lars T	X	
Emiro, Frank R	X	
Fields, Dennis H	X	
Pepino, Leo P		absent
Smith, Todd P	X	
TOTAL VOTE:	17	0

Committee Report

REGULAR CALENDAR

February 18, 2010

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Committee on STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS to which was referred HCR29,

AN ACT requiring the Congress of the United States of America to reaffirm its adherence to the Constitution of the United States regarding international agreements and treaties. Having considered the same, report the same with the following amendment, and the recommendation that the bill OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.

Rep. Kris E Roberts

FOR THE COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS
Bill Number:	HCR29
Title:	requiring the Congress of the United States of America to reaffirm its adherence to the Constitution of the United States regarding international agreements and treaties.
Date:	February 18, 2010
Consent Calendar:	NO
Recommendation:	OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

STATEMENT OF INTENT

Following the Declaration of Independence the thirteen colonies formed the Articles of Confederation which was basically a confederation of thirteen sovereign states. Due to the revolution and disagreements between the states to include differing tariff laws, and trade restrictions it took several years before all the states ratified the Articles. The Articles of Confederation provided that no treaty of commerce shall be made whereby the legislative power of the respective states shall be restrained from imposing such imposts and duties on foreigners as their own people are subjected to, or from prohibiting the exportation or importation of any species of goods or commodities, whatsoever. The Articles ensured that Congress could not force the states to adhere to the terms of the Treaty of Paris of 1783 ending the American Revolution, and could not intervene when some states started their own negotiations with foreign countries. The framers of the Constitution addressed this problem by getting the thirteen sovereign states to give up their sovereign right to enter into treaties, in return Article 2 section 2 of the constitution required that all treaties had to be approved by the United States Senate by a 2/3 vote. This was very important because the constitution also stated that the two United States Senators were to be appointed by each state, which meant that in some respects that the senators were the state's ambassadors to the federal government when it came to treaties. When it comes to controversial treaties, it may take years for the senate to ratify, if at all; as Senators take the necessary time to ensure that the treaty benefits outweigh any potential harm to their states. This due diligence is very important because all treaties become the law of the land. However, to get around the constitutional requirements as stated in Art 2 Section 2 Congress has repeatedly given the President "Fast Track Authority" stripping away the protections afforded to each state. Fast Track Authority limits our Senators to an up or down vote within 45 days and no more than 20 hours of debate while providing the House of Representatives a decision, neither stated, nor implied in the Constitution. While the Committee understands that the constitutionality of prior treaties

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

approved and enacted under Fast Track Authority can only be determined in the court system, HCR 29 clearly states that it is not in the best interest of the State of New Hampshire or its citizens for Congress to reauthorized and or enhance Fast Track Authority.

Vote 17-0.

Rep. Kris E Roberts
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

HCR29, requiring the Congress of the United States of America to reaffirm its adherence to the Constitution of the United States regarding international agreements and treaties. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Kris E Roberts for STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS. Following the Declaration of Independence the thirteen colonies formed the Articles of Confederation which was basically a confederation of thirteen sovereign states. Due to the revolution and disagreements between the states to include differing tariff laws, and trade restrictions it took several years before all the states ratified the Articles. The Articles of Confederation provided that no treaty of commerce shall be made whereby the legislative power of the respective states shall be restrained from imposing such imposts and duties on foreigners as their own people are subjected to, or from prohibiting the exportation or importation of any species of goods or commodities, whatsoever. The Articles ensured that Congress could not force the states to adhere to the terms of the Treaty of Paris of 1783 ending the American Revolution, and could not intervene when some states started their own negotiations with foreign countries. The framers of the Constitution addressed this problem by getting the thirteen sovereign states to give up their sovereign right to entered into treaties, in return Article 2 section 2 of the constitution required that all treaties had to be approved by the United States Senate by a 2/3 vote. This was very important because the constitution also stated that the two United States Senators were to be appointed by each state, which meant that in some respects that the senators were the state's ambassadors to the federal government when it came to treaties. When it comes to controversial treaties, it may take years for the senate to ratify, if at all; as Senators take the necessary time to ensure that the treaty benefits outweigh any potential harm to their states. This due diligent is very important because all treaties become the law of the land. However, to get around the constitutional requirements as stated in Art 2 Section 2 Congress has repeatedly given the President "Fast Track Authority" stripping away the protections afford to each state. Fast Track Authority limits our Senators to an up or do vote within 45 day and no more than 20 hours of debate while providing the House of Representatives a decision, neither stated, nor implied in the Constitution. While the Committee understands that the constitutionality of prior treaties approved and enacted under Fast Track Authority can only be determined in the court system, HCR 29 clearly states that it is not in the best interest of the State of New Hampshire or its citizens for Congress to reauthorized and or enhance Fast Track Authority. **Vote 17-0.**

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

HCR 29

Following the Declaration of Independence the thirteen colonies formed the Articles of Confederation which was basically a confederation of thirteen sovereign states. Due to the revolution and disagreements between the states to include differing tariff laws, and trade restrictions it took several years before all the states ratified the Articles. The Articles of Confederation provided that no treaty of commerce shall be made whereby the legislative power of the respective states shall be restrained from imposing such imposts and duties on foreigners as their own people are subjected to, or from prohibiting the exportation or importation of any species of goods or commodities, whatsoever. The Articles ensured that Congress could not force the states to adhere to the terms of the Treaty of Paris of 1783 ending the American Revolution, and could not intervene when some states started their own negotiations with foreign countries. The framers of the Constitution addressed this problem by getting the thirteen sovereign states to give up their sovereign right to entered into treaties, in return Article 2 section 2 of the constitution required that all treaties had to be approved by the United States Senate by a 2/3 vote. This was very important because the constitution also stated that the two United States Senators were to be appointed by each state, which meant that in some respects that the senators were the state's ambassadors to the federal government when it came to treaties. When it comes to controversial treaties, it may take years for the senate to ratify, if at all; as Senators take the necessary time to ensure that the treaty benefits outweigh any potential harm to their states. This due diligence is very important because all treaties become the law of the land. However, to get around the constitutional requirements as stated in Art 2 Section 2 Congress has repeatedly given the President "Fast Track Authority" stripping away the protections afforded to each state. Fast Track Authority limits our Senators to an up or down vote within 45 days and no more than 20 hours of debate while providing the House of Representatives a decision, neither stated, nor implied in the Constitution. While the Committee understands that the constitutionality of prior treaties approved and enacted under Fast Track Authority can only be determined in the court system, HCR 29 clearly states that it is not in the best interest of the State of New Hampshire or its citizens for Congress to reauthorize and or enhance Fast Track Authority.

DFFG

