# Vietnam in the TPP Negotiations: Opportunities, Priorities and Challenges for U.S. Business

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# **Outline**

- **Overview of the TPP Negotiations**
- 11. **U.S. Negotiating Objectives**
- III. Market Access (goods and services)
- IV. **Intellectual Property Rights**
- $V_{-}$ **Pharmaceuticals**
- VI. Trade Facilitation
- VII. Challenges Confronting U.S. Business
- VIII. Conclusions



# Overview of the TPP Negotiations

- 2009: Start of TPP negotiations delayed due to change in administration
- December 2009: USTR notified Congress of intention to enter into the TPP negotiations
- March 2010: Round 1 in Australia (AUS, Chile, Peru, Singapore, Vietnam, U.S., Brunei, and NZ).
- June 2010: Round 2 in U.S.
- October 2010: Round 3 in Brunei (MYL joins)
- December 2010: Round 4 in New Zealand (Vietnam becomes full member)
- January 2011: Exchange of goods offers
- February 2011: Round 5 in Chile
- March/April 2011: Round 6 in Singapore/exchange of services offers
- June 2011: Round 7 in Vietnam
- September 2011: Round 8 in U.S.
- October 2011: Round 9 in Peru
- Notional conclusion Q4 2011; but mid-2012 more likely



# Overview of the TPP Negotiations

- Other countries that may join the TPP negotiations in the future
  - Japan
  - Canada
  - **Thailand**
  - **Philippines**
  - Indonesia



# II. U.S. Negotiating Objectives

- High-standard, high-ambition, comprehensive, "next generation" free trade agreement
- Cross-cutting, horizontal commitments
  - Regulatory coherence \*\*
  - Competitiveness
  - SMFs
  - Supply Chain
  - Development, but not Special & Differential treatment
- Broad-based, flexible and expandable regional agreement



# II. U.S. Negotiating Objectives

- Platform for broader economic integration in the Asia-Pacific Region.
- Advance U.S. economic and foreign policy interests throughout SE Asia.
- Expand U.S. export markets
- Avoid being locked out of fastest growing region because of proliferation of regional FTAs that exclude the U.S.
- Counter China's growing regional and global influence



#### Vietnam in the TPP Negotiations: Opportunities, Priorities and Challenges and for U.S. Business

- A. Goods
  - **Imports**
  - **Exports**
- **Services** B.
  - Outbound
  - Inbound (very limited)



#### Vietnam in the TPP Negotiations: Opportunities, Priorities and Challenges and for U.S. Business: goods

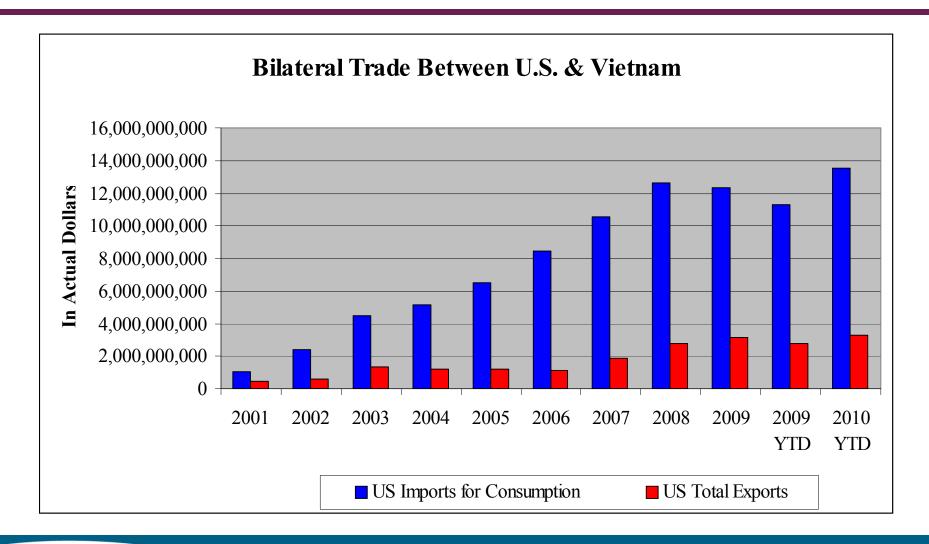
# III. Market Access

#### Goods Α.

- The Big Picture: Bilateral Trade
  - \*\* 2001 \$1.5 billion
  - 2007 \$12.5 billion
  - ❖ 2010 \$17.5 billion
  - **U.S. Imports from Vietnam** 
    - 2001 \$1 billion
    - 2007 \$10.5 billion
    - 2010 \$14 billion
  - **U.S. Exports to Vietnam** 
    - 2001 \$461 million
    - 2007 \$2 billion
    - 2010 \$3.5 billion



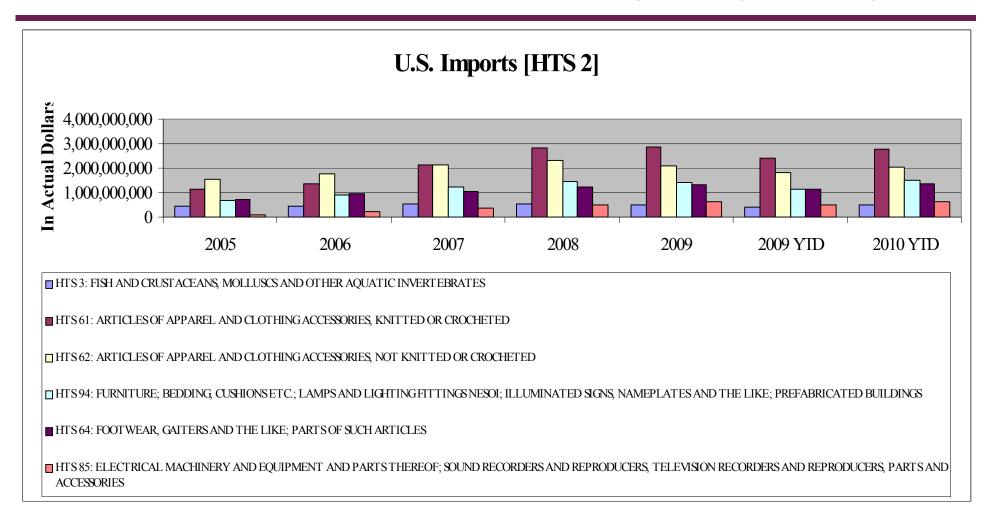
#### **Aggregate Two-Way Trade** Opportunities for U.S. Business: goods



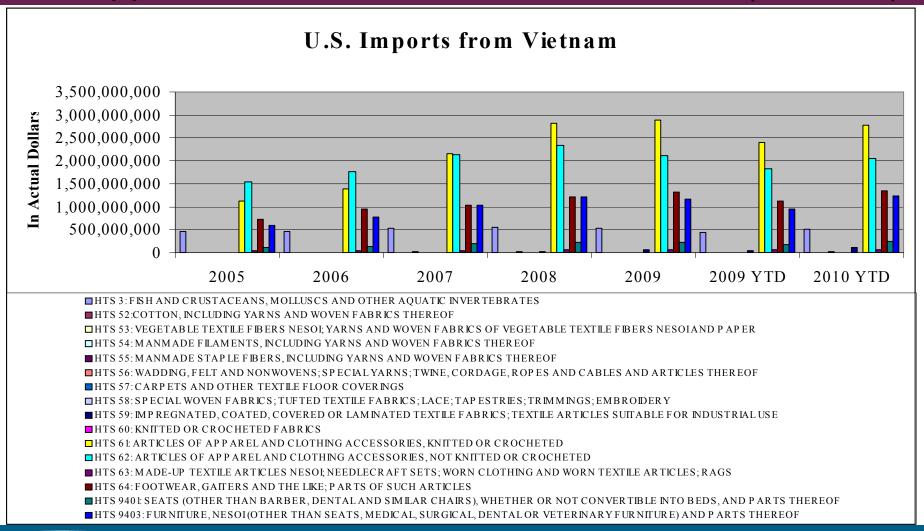


- Goods
- Key Imports from Vietnam (inbound)
  - **Textiles and Apparel**
  - Footwear \*\*
  - Wooden furniture
  - Aquaculture products
  - Consumer electronics
- Near-term import benefits/opportunities for U.S. business in goods sector likely to remain in these categories of goods.











- What do the trade data mean for U.S. Business
  - Apparel (Chs. 61 and 62)
    - Exports from Vietnam: \$5.2 billion in 2010 \*\*
    - Current U.S. tariffs: High tariffs, e.g. 37.5% ad valorem, and/or \*\* specific tariffs per kg.
    - Significant potential tariff benefits/eventual tariff elimination (likely \*\* phased over 10 yrs or more. New market access checked by "yarn forward" rules, limited 3<sup>rd</sup> country fabric exceptions (TPLs), and onerous customs enforcement provisions)
    - Imports likely to increase as tariffs phase-out \*\*



- Apparel (Chs. 61 and 62)
  - U.S. Beneficiaries
    - U.S. importers/retailers (e.g. Wal-Mart, Gap, Levi's, Target, Federated)
    - U.S. Consumers
  - U.S. Opponents
    - U.S.-based textile manufacturers (NCTO)



- Footwear (Chs. 64)
  - Exports from Vietnam: \$1.5 billion in 2010 \*\*
  - Current U.S. tariffs: Duty free to 37.5% ad valorem, and/or specific tariffs.
  - Significant tariff benefits/eventual tariff elimination (likely phased over 10 \*\* yrs or more)
  - Imports likely to increase significantly
  - U.S. Beneficiaries \*\*
    - U.S. importers and retailers (e.g. Nike, Reebok, Wal-Mart, Target)
    - U.S. Consumers
  - U.S. Opponents
    - U.S. manufacturers of protective footwear



- Wooden Furniture (HTS 9403)
  - Exports from Vietnam: \$1.6 billion in 2010 \*\*
  - Current U.S. tariffs: MFN duty free
  - No tariff benefits
  - Imports likely to continue to increase because of China AD order on \*\* WBF. Possible AD/CVD case
  - U.S. Beneficiaries \*\*
    - U.S. importers, retailers (e.g. Ethan Allen, Ikea, furniture importers)
    - U.S. Consumers
  - U.S. Opponents
    - U.S. furniture manufacturers



- **Aquaculture** (catfish fillets, shrimp and prawns, etc.)
  - Exports from Vietnam: \$580 million in 2010 \*\*
  - Current U.S. tariffs: Duty free to 6% ad valorem \*\*
  - TPP will provide minimal tariff benefits \*\*
  - Imports likely to increase
  - Growth in market access impacted by AD orders and USDA labeling regulations
  - U.S. beneficiaries \*\*
    - U.S. importers, processors and consumers
  - U.S. opponents
    - U.S. producers

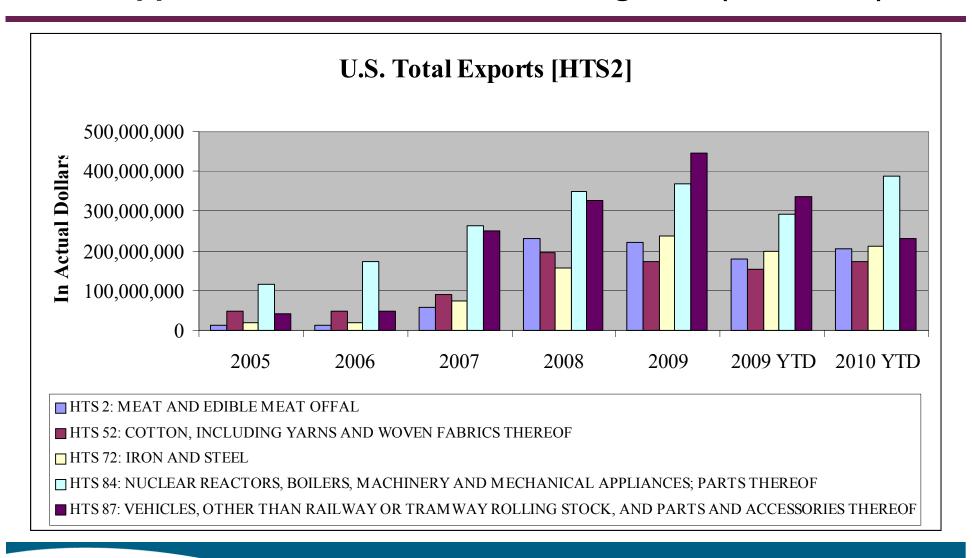


- Consumer Electronics (Ch. 85)
  - Exports from Vietnam: \$720 million in 2010 \*\*
  - Current U.S. tariffs: Duty free to 15% ad valorem, most tariffs are between 2% to 5%
  - TPP will provide modest tariff benefits
  - Imports likely to increase significantly because of tariff advantage over China
  - U.S. beneficiaries
    - U.S. importers, retailers
    - U.S. consumers
  - U.S. opponents
    - None



- Goods
- Key U.S. Exports to Vietnam
  - Vehicles
  - Heavy machinery
  - Iron and steel
  - Meat
  - Cotton







- Goods Α.
- What do the data mean for U.S. Business
  - Vehicles (cars, motor bikes, motorcycles)
    - Exports to Vietnam: \$225 million in 2010 \*
    - Current U.S. tariffs: Mostly 100% ad valorem \*\*
    - Potentially significant tariff benefits
    - Exports likely to increase
    - U.S. Beneficiaries
      - U.S. manufacturers (e.g. Big Three; possibly Japanese and Korean companies assembling in the U.S.; Harley Davidson)
    - Vietnamese Domestic Opponents \*\*
      - Domestic motor bike manufacturers and used motorbike dealers
      - Retailers of used motorbikes



- Heavy Machinery (generators, boilers, turbines, engines, construction machinery, earth movers, excavators)
  - Exports to Vietnam: \$380 million in 2010
  - Current U.S. tariffs: duty free 100% ad valorem
  - Potentially significant tariff benefits
  - Exports likely to increase
  - U.S. Beneficiaries
    - U.S. manufactures and exporters (e.g. GE, CAT, John Deer)
  - Vietnamese Domestic Opponents \*\*
    - No known



# **III. Market Access**

#### Iron and Steel

- Exports to Vietnam: \$235 million in 2010 \*\*
- Current U.S. tariffs: MFN duty free to 40% ad valorem; \*\* mostly MFN duty free.
- Potentially significant tariff benefits •
- Exports likely to increase •
- U.S. Beneficiaries
  - U.S. steel manufacturers and exporters (e.g. U.S. Steel, Nucor, etc.)
- Vietnamese Domestic Opponents
  - Chinese transplants



- Meat (beef and pork)
  - Exports to Vietnam: \$225 million in 2010 \*\*
  - Current U.S. tariffs: 20% 30% ad valorem
  - Potentially significant tariff benefits
  - Exports likely to increase
  - U.S. Beneficiaries
    - U.S. exporters (e.g. beef/pork producers and processors)
  - Vietnamese Domestic Opponents
    - Pork producers
    - Local farmers



- Cotton (varn)
  - Exports to Vietnam: \$200 million in 2010 \*\*
  - Current U.S. tariffs: 20% 40% ad valorem \*\*
  - Potentially significant tariff benefits
  - Exports likely to increase
  - U.S. Beneficiaries
    - U.S. exporters (e.g. yarn extruders, NCTO members)
  - Vietnamese Domestic Opponents
    - Chinese transplants
  - Benefits Vietnam's apparel manufacturers \*\*
  - U.S. insufficient supply to satisfy VN's demand



- Other potential beneficiaries
  - Agriculture (VN tariffs: Dairy 20-30%; vegetables, citrus, fruits, coffee, tea 40-50%; rice 40%; prepared meats 50%; sugar 30-100%; dairy-containing preparations 15-50%, fruit juices 40%; wine and spirits 80%; tobacco 30-100%)
  - Chemicals, polymers and plastics (relatively low tariffs, most are duty free, but some as high as 30%)
  - Pharmaceuticals (relatively low tariffs, most are duty free, none higher than 10%)
  - Cosmetics and personal care (tariffs between 10% and 30%)



# III. Market Access

#### Services: Generally В.

- 80% of U.S. GDP and 80% of U.S. employment are in services.
- U.S. export of services in 2009 in excess of \$450 billion.
- Export of U.S. services key to maximizing benefit of TPP for U.S. business sector and specifically Vietnam.
- TPP already an important market for U.S. exports of services.
- Important opportunity to achieve additional market access for U.S. services sector in Vietnam.
- Vietnam's likely positions, negotiating strategy



- Services: Generally
  - TPP covers all traditional aspects of trade in services in past FTAs:
    - Services
    - Investment
    - **Financial Services**
    - Telecommunications
    - E-commerce
  - Horizontal disciplines
    - Regulatory coherence



# **III.** Market Access

#### Services: Generally

- TPP should provide comprehensive market access in all aspects of trade in services:
  - Cross-border supply \*\*
  - Portfolio investment \*\*
  - \*\* NCMs based on a negative list approach
- TPP will build on Vietnam's WTO Services schedules, high level of liberalization on financial services, telecom, express delivery, professional services, distribution services.
- Further services disciplines and commitments needed across-the-board in order for U.S. services industry to see meaningful benefits from Vietnam's participation in TPP



### **III. Market Access**

#### Services: Generally В.

- **Investor Protections:** 
  - \*\* Crucial for investor confidence
  - Creating a climate to attract high-quality, long-term U.S. \*\* investment in Vietnam
  - Keys to investor protection
    - Investor-state dispute settlement
    - Broad definition of investment, including portfolio investment and cross-border investments
    - Protections against expropriation
    - Liberal transfers provisions



- **Services** В.
  - Outbound
- Chapter-specific issues:
  - Investment
  - **Financial Services**
  - Services
  - Telecommunications
  - E-commerce



- **Investment Chapter Priorities** 
  - Eliminate sections in Vietnam's Investment Law which prohibit or condition foreign investment
  - Liberalize list of conditioned investments
  - • MFN/NT
  - Minimum standard
  - Expropriation • •
  - Free transfers of capital
  - Performance requirements



- **Investment Chapter Priorities** 
  - Negative list of non-conforming measures
  - Investor-state dispute settlement
  - Minimal or no local content requirement



- Financial Services Chapter Priorities
  - Good investor protections, regulatory transparency and good outcome on market access will create a climate that will encourage U.S. services investment
- What's needed to boost financial services investment: \*\*
  - \*\* High-standard text based on KORUS FTA and the Rwanda BIT texts.
  - \*\* Extend the Investment Chapter and Rwanda BIT investor protections to financial services suppliers; subject NT and MFN to ISDS
  - Provisions on portfolio management \*\*
  - \*\* Right to establish and commercial presence
  - \*\* 100% ownership and right to establish in corporate form of choice



- What's needed to boost financial services investment:
  - Right to branch (no limits)
  - \*\* Right to obtain a license (no quotas)
  - Negative list-based NCMs
  - Cross-border services for financial services firms to qualified investors w/o establishment of commercial presence
    - Large-scale commercial risk insurance
    - Banking and brokerage (GATS plus)
  - Greater regulatory transparency
  - Allowance to perform trade and transaction processing abroad



- Services Chapter Priorities
  - Based on KORUS FTA text \*\*
  - GATS-plus market access
  - Disciplines requiring SOEs to operate in commercial manner
  - Narrow NCMs to boost market access
  - Opportunities for U.S. services investment and additional market \*\* access
  - Sector-Specific Issues \*\*
    - **Express Delivery Services**
    - Retail, Distribution and Audiovisual Services
    - **Professional Services**



- What's needed to boost Services investment
  - Broad market access for all professional services (law, accounting, consulting, engineering, architectural, medical, express delivery, etc.)



- **Telecommunications Chapter Priorities:** 
  - Roll back the requirement that an ISP must have a joint \*\* venture with a local commercial supplier in Vietnam
  - Prevent implementation of draft regulation requiring that the purchase and distribution of all foreign programming and foreign channels be sold to VN market through single govt. entity
  - All VN telecoms are SOEs; open-up competition to non-SOE \*\* entities in the telecom market
  - VN nervous about allowing unfiltered content and some \*\* internet services



- What's needed to boost telecom opportunities for U.S. **Business:** 
  - Resist govt. control over the flow of information \*
  - Narrow NCMs to boost market access \*
  - Elimination of equity limitations and caps on joint ventures or 100% foreign \* ownership in telecom sector
  - Eliminate JV requirement for cinema construction; stop film censorship \*\*
  - Eliminate foreign equity limits for facilities-based public telecom services \*\* (services provided by a supplier that does not own its own transmission capacity but contracts for it from a facilities- based supplier).
  - Eliminate requirement that facilities-based operators must be majority state-\* owned; limiting pool of JV partners and reinforces state control over market entry.



- **E-Commerce Chapter Priorities** 
  - Template, KORUS FTA chapter \*\*
  - Electronically delivered goods and services receive no less favorable treatment than like products delivered in physical form
  - Duty free treatment for software, video, and other content on \*\* digital media (CDs, DVDs, etc.)
  - Elimination of equity limitations and caps on joint ventures or \*\* 100% foreign ownership in telecom sector
  - No content monitoring or censorship \*\*
  - Eliminate GOV control over ISP portals



### III. Market Access

#### Services В.

- Inbound
- Vietnam lacks a developed, export-oriented services sector.
- The TPP services' commitments will facilitate the eventual growth and development of an export-focused services industry in Vietnam.
- Years away.



#### Opportunities for U.S. Business: IPR

# IV. Intellectual Property Rights

- Vietnam on Special 301 Watch List, work to do.
- Next generation IPR chapter, based on KORUS FTA text
- Piracy, infringement and lax IPR enforcement are disincentives for U.S. investment, addressing these will be key
- Increase in IP violations over the Internet
- Stepped-up enforcement will boost U.S. investment
- Key IPR Priorities and Elements:
  - Strong provisions protecting famous trademarks
  - Trademark license
  - Promote registration of GIs
  - **Copyright Protections**
  - Extended term of protection to match U.S. law (lifetime+70yrs)
  - Exclusive rights for sound recordings
  - Protection for encrypted signals
  - Enforcement authority to seize infringing intellectual property



#### Opportunities for U.S. Business: Pharmaceuticals

### V. Pharmaceuticals

- U.S. FTA Pharmaceuticals chapters as building-block for TPP chapter to secure greater market access and regulatory transparency for U.S. pharmaceuticals
- Address concerns about Vietnam's discriminatory treatment against foreign firms across a range of product registration requirements for imported pharmaceuticals
- Regulatory transparency on drug approval
- Break-down NTBs in Vietnam, especially those that restrict access to innovative medicines
- Strong protection and enforcement of IPR which is critical to pharmaceutical development



#### Opportunities for U.S. Business: Trade Facilitation

# VI. Trade Facilitation

- **Trade Facilitation** 
  - U.S. exporters and Vietnamese importers and Vietnamese gov. officials will benefit from the TPP TF provisions
  - TF provisions built on existing GATT commitments in Articles V (Transit), VIII (fees and formalities) and X (publication and administration of trade regulations)
  - Based on U.S. FTA template
  - Will help to address systemic concerns about inefficient customs clearance



#### Opportunities for U.S. Business: Trade Facilitation

# VI. Trade Facilitation

- Trade Facilitation
  - **Key Provisions** 
    - \*\* Regulatory transparency and publication
    - Release of goods prior to assessment and payment of duties
    - Use of automation
    - Risk management
    - Cooperation between customs authorities
    - Expedited release for Express Shipments
    - \*\* Independent administrative and judicial appeal
    - \*\* Advance rulings
    - Importer-focused, self-certification



#### Challenges Confronting U.S. Business

# VI. Challenges Confronting U.S. Business

- In Vietnam
  - Corruption \*
  - Bureaucratic inefficiency \*
  - Capacity constraints \*
  - Ineffective regulatory regime
  - Customs delays and customs procedures
  - Poor infrastructure
    - ✓ Ports
    - ✓ Rail
    - ✓ Roads
    - ✓ Distribution
    - ✓ Unreliable electrical grid
  - Internet connectivity \*\*



### Challenges Confronting U.S. Business

# VI. Challenges Confronting U.S. Business

- In the United States
  - Challenge to get a well-balanced agreement that can pass in a Congress controlled by \* either party, and then sell it to Congress. Persuade Congress that Vietnam is a worthy FTA partner
  - Convincing Congressional skeptics of the importance of the agreement and Vietnam's \* participation
    - > Potential for bipartisan opposition
  - Allaying concerns that the TPP negotiations will dilute U.S. trade remedy tools \*
    - > Title VII will remain fully available as it is in the KORUS FTA
  - Respond to concerns about granting permanent preferential market access to a \*\* Communist country, with one party rule and a centrally planned economy.
  - Confront concerns from organized labor/NGOs about Vietnam's labor practices, lack of \*\* civil liberties and political pluralism (multiparty system, right to assembly, collective bargaining, free press, censorship)
  - Colombia FTA analogy. \*



### Challenges Confronting U.S. Business

# VI. Challenges Confronting U.S. Business

- In the United States
  - In the end, if a well-balanced agreement is achieved, Congress will pass the \*\* implementing legislation for the TPP agreement
  - Vietnam-specific concerns won't be the dominant narrative because the TPP is a \* multiparty agreement with ambitions to serve as a spring-board for broader U.S. trade engagement in APEC.



#### Opportunities for U.S. Business: Conclusion

# VII. Conclusion

- Opportunities for U.S. Business (goods)
  - Tariff reduction and eventual elimination on goods from Vietnam \*\* (e.g. apparel, footwear, consumer electronics; aquaculture and furniture already MFN duty free)
  - \*\* Increase imports of aquaculture products, apparel, footwear, consumer electronics and furniture
  - Boost U.S. exports of agriculture products, vehicles, heavy machinery, cotton, meat, chemicals, plastics.
- Opportunities for U.S. Business (services)
  - Market access in Services, Fin. Services, Investment, Telecom \*\* and F-Commerce
  - Investor protections



#### Opportunities for U.S. Business: Conclusion

### VII.Conclusion

- Opportunities for U.S. Business (services)
  - **ISDS** \*\*
  - Narrow NCMs
  - Elimination of Services-based NTBs
- **IPR**
- **Pharmaceuticals**
- Trade Facilitation
- Final thoughts on negotiating with an NME like Vietnam, dealing with SOEs, depth of GOV experience.



#### **Thank You**

Jay L. Eizenstat, Esq. 202-626-1584

jeizenstat@milchev.com

