

Council Highlights



April 2003

NATIONAL FOREIGN TRADE COUNCIL

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

USA*Engage Launches Cuba Project and Renews Fight for Sanctions Reform

As you know, USA*Engage is our organization that fights unilateral sanctions and argues for economic and political engagement as the best means of dealing with hostile governments. Many of you recall our suit against the state of Massachusetts' sanctions on Burma where we argued successfully that the Constitution permits the federal government to have a foreign policy but it does not permit states to have their own.

Following that victory, however, USA*Engage has found itself frequently playing defense as we have fought Congressional efforts to renew the Iran-Libya Sanctions Act and to impose new sanctions on Sudan and Syria. While some of those efforts have been successful, at least for the time being, we are concerned that the parameters of the debate on sanctions are slowly being drawn back to where they were before USA*Engage began, thus threatening to undo much of the organization's work over the past seven years.

For that reason, this year's agenda, in addition to continuing to fight proposed new unilateral sanctions and in addition to our work on alien tort lawsuits, features two areas where we are taking the initiative. First, we are working with Senator Lugar to renew his longstanding fight for sanctions reform legislation. That bill, which came close to passage in the 106th Congress, has been dormant since then. Our recent discussions with Senator Lugar's staff, however, indicate that he continues to be interested in pushing forward with it, and his new position as chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee puts him in an excellent position to do that. Our near term plan is to review the old bill with his office, determine whether changes or updates are needed, and then assist in gathering cosponsors for its introduction. You should be reading more about this in subsequent issues of the Council Highlights.

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CHAIRMAN'S NOTE

In this month's note I want to report briefly on the results of the Council's February Board meeting. Traditionally, the winter meeting is the time when the Board sets the NFTC's goals and priorities for the coming year and reviews the accomplishments of the past year, and this time was no exception.

At the meeting, the Board approved two significant documents: a statement of goals and priorities for 2003 and a new paper on antidumping for the Doha Round of multilateral trade negotiations. The goals and priorities statement appears on the NFTC website, www.nftc.org, and I hope you will take a few moments to review it. It lays out clearly what the Council will be working on this year, and it serves as good evidence of the breadth and depth of our work - from international

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TOP COUNCIL NEWS

NFTC Unveils New Approach in Paper on WTO

Antidumping Negotiations

"In a letter to Ambassador Zoellick and Secretary Evans, on March 21 the NFTC unveiled a major new position paper on how to address antidumping rules in the Doha Development Agenda negotiations."

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NFTC Speaks on the Benefits of a U.S.-Morocco FTA

"Mary Irace, NFTC Vice President for Trade and Export Finance, spoke to the Washington International Trade Association on February 26 about the importance of a U.S.-Morocco FTA, citing three reasons for an FTA..."

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U.S.-South Africa Business Council Leads Coalition on Free Trade Negotiations, Hosts Negotiators

"On March 17, the coalition led by the U.S.-South Africa Business Council to support free trade negotiations with the five countries of the Southern African Customs Union, hosted the 25 negotiators to a welcoming reception at the South African embassy."

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Trade Photos



Secretary of Commerce, Don Evans and Morocco's Trade Negotiator, Minister Fassi Fihri



Ted Austell, Boeing; U.S. Trade Representative Ambassador Robert Zoellick



Business Co-Chairs of the US-Morocco FTA Coalition; Laura Lane, AOL Time Warner; George Pickart, CMS Energy; Bill Reinsch, NFTC President

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A Word from the President

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Our second initiative relates to Cuba - an area where we see a distinctly different Congressional dynamic. Legislation to permit sales of food and medicine to Cuba has passed and become law (Trade Sanctions Reform Act), and legislation to further liberalize those sales and to permit Americans to travel to Cuba continues to pass both Houses by increasing margins, but has not yet ended up on the President's desk. In short, there is considerable - and growing - sentiment for a substantial easing of the embargo and a change in our policy toward Cuba.

For USA*Engage, this is not only welcome news but also no surprise, as the Cuban embargo is the poster child for ineffective sanctions. More than forty years after it began, Castro is still there and, ironically, is probably the embargo's biggest beneficiary, as it has allowed him to blame his economic failures on the U.S. instead of on his own ill-conceived policies. Although the Administration has not yet changed its view, our sense is that the tide has turned on this issue and it's only a matter of time before the embargo is ended, and we try a different approach.

As a result, USA*Engage is working closely with the House Cuba Working Group, composed of 50 Members equally divided between the two parties, to advance their agenda of permitting more food and medicine, opening up travel to Cuba, and fully rectifying U.S. non-compliance with several treaties' provisions on intellectual property.

The latter issue is not well known but important to many of you. There are some 5,000 trademarks owned by some 400 American companies legally registered in Cuba that will be in jeopardy if we cannot solve this problem, including Kraft, Ford, Wrigley, Timex, Kleenex, Heinz, Parkay, Caterpillar, Miracle Whip, and Batman. The U.S. has lost a case in the WTO with respect to section 211 of the 1999 Omnibus Appropriations Act, a provision of law that prohibits the U.S. from honoring trademarks of Cuban origin that were used in connection with businesses that were nationalized by the Cuban government. The provision's immediate effect was to block our courts from applying U.S. trademark law in a specific case, but its long term effects, if not properly corrected, could be to put our trademarks at risk in Cuba and to erode our position as a world leader of intellectual property protection.

The Administration has proposed a solution that would address our WTO problem but still leave us in violation of the Inter-American Convention for Trademark and Commercial Protection. If we do not address that violation as well, Cuba will be in a position to retaliate against U.S. trademarks, and we will also have jeopardized our moral position in numerous international negotiations as a leader in maintaining strong intellectual property protections.

This fight is not going to be easy because the Administration appears determined to focus on the narrow solution. In fighting this battle it is important to demonstrate that our members who have trademarks registered in Cuba are concerned about retaliation and prefer a solution that would prevent it. Accordingly, if you are in this category we very much want to hear from you - and we may be taking the initiative and calling you to build support for this effort.

Both of these efforts are likely to be long term projects, but it's important - and refreshing - for USA*Engage to be back on the offensive.

Doha Round Working Group Planning May Delegation Trip to Geneva and Presence at Cancun Ministerial

The NFTC is planning another delegation visit to Geneva to meet with key WTO decision-makers and WTO Member missions as part of its ongoing special project on the Doha Development Agenda in the WTO negotiations. The trip is scheduled for the week of May 19th and will include 10-15 NFTC members. Several meetings will be scheduled with high-level WTO, U.S. and other WTO Member officials.

The NFTC is also organizing a presence at the WTO Fifth Ministerial Conference in Cancun, Mexico, September 10-14, which will be an important mid-term review of the Doha Agenda. The NFTC is seeking accreditation for the meeting as an NGO and is working with other business NGOs to ensure a sufficient business presence in Cancun. The deadline for written requests to register as an NGO with the WTO is April 30. For more information about the special project, upcoming Geneva visit, or Cancun Ministerial, please contact Mary Irace at mirace@nftc.org.



Trade and Export Finance

(continued from Page 1)

al tax simplification and the development of new treaties to trying to shape the Doha Round to include our members' priorities to reauthorizing the Overseas Private Investment Corporation to breaking the logjam on granting business visas for entry into the U.S. to trying to get a handle on the growing number of U.S. multinationals being sued under the alien tort law to many other important issues that impact companies operating in the world marketplace. Once you have reviewed the goals and priorities, which also have our accomplishments in 2002 listed, I would be happy to hear any comments you might have about the NFTC's future direction.

The other document is the latest in a series of proposals developed by our WTO Special Project working group to try to influence the course of the Doha Round. Our first paper proposed eliminating non-agricultural tariffs, a position that was subsequently adopted by our Administration as well as proposed in the negotiations by the government of New Zealand. This new paper grows out of our view that the negotiation about rules will likely end up as a key element in bringing the Round to a successful conclusion, and the United States will be under great pressure to make concessions in this area that many members of Congress have already declared unacceptable - without knowing exactly what they might be! The NFTC is concerned that this increasingly sterile debate between those who want to change nothing and some developing countries who want to virtually throw out the rules entirely could end up preventing a successful ending to the Round. Since the Council's members cover the spectrum of companies with an interest in this issue - those that use U.S. law to block dumped products, those that are victims of other countries' laws, and those that are disadvantaged by dumping duties on parts and components they need - we are in a unique position to provide some insight on this problem that might move the discussions forward. Our paper, which was made public at the end of March, proposes a simplification of the Agreement on Antidumping and the use of an experts group to develop more transparent, non-politicized procedures, particularly in developing countries. A fuller description of our proposal appears elsewhere in this issue, and, as in the case of our goals and priorities statement, I would welcome your comments.

We hope that this paper will have the same positive impact on the course of the rules negotiations as our previous paper is having on the market access negotiations. Meanwhile, our WTO group will continue its work, including the development of further proposals. If you are not currently part of this project and would like to find out more about it and how to become part of it, please get in touch with Mary Irace of the Council's staff at 202-887-0278 or mirace@nftc.org.

Launch of U.S.-Australia FTA Strongly Endorsed by NFTC

On March 20, formal FTA negotiations were launched between the United States and Australia. The NFTC participated in the business coalition launch of the FTA and is a strong supporter of concluding an agreement with Australia as soon as it is practicable. The NFTC press release on the U.S.-Australia FTA is on the NFTC website: www.nftc.org.

NFTC Unveils New Approach in Paper on WTO Antidumping Negotiations

In a letter to Ambassador Zoellick and Secretary Evans, on March 21 the NFTC unveiled a major new position paper on how to address antidumping rules in the Doha Development Agenda negotiations. The NFTC and its Doha Round Working Group developed the paper over the past several months.

Antidumping remains a contentious issue both in the WTO negotiations and in the United States. A major objective of the paper is to help move the debate on antidumping in a more constructive and less polarized direction by avoiding further micromanagement of an already complex and inconsistent agreement. The paper calls for returning to core principles in the text of the agreement and establishing an experts group process for developing model instruments and greater harmonization of rules among WTO members, particularly in the developing world. Central to the proposal is an effective process for building capacity and providing technical assistance to developing countries to assist them in implementing antidumping regimes consistent with the WTO. The NFTC press release, letters and paper are on the NFTC website: www.nftc.org.



Trade and Export Finance

NFTC New Members

The Gap, Inc. is one of the world's largest specialty retailers with more than 4,250 stores and 165,000 employees supporting three of the most recognized and respected brands in the apparel industry - Gap, Banana Republic and Old Navy. Ms. Tamsin Randlett, Director, Government Affairs, represents the company as a general member of NFTC. www.gapinc.com.

Black Mountain is a leading provider of consulting, outsourcing and vendor management services in the global human resources sector. Founded in New York in 1994, they provide advice, assistance and support to clients and their employees in almost 100 locations around the world - leveraging their presence in New York, London, Zurich, Singapore, Hong Kong and Tokyo. David Kinnear, Vice President, represents them in NFTC's International Human Resources activities. www.blackmountainmgt.com.

Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP, is an international law firm with about 1,400 lawyers practicing on three continents, providing a broad range of services to meet the needs of large businesses, small businesses, governments and individuals across a multitude of industry groups. Daniel M. Price, Partner, represents the firm in its general membership in NFTC. www.sidley.com

Sutherland Asbill & Brennan, LLP is a national law firm with 350 lawyers with offices in Atlanta, Washington, Austin, Houston, New York and Tallahassee. Main practices include corporate and securities, energy and commodities, intellectual property, litigation, real estate, tax and technology. Ms. Giovanna T. Sparagna, Partner, represents the firm's general membership in the NFTC. www.sablaw.com.

UNILEVER is one of the world's largest makers of packaged consumer goods, including deodorants, fragrances, frozen foods, margarine, soap, and tea. Sue Backholer, Head of Executive Remuneration Services, represents Unilever in NFTC's International Human Resources Programs. www.unilever.com

Weichert Relocation is a provider of relocation management and assignment management solutions for companies. Relocation management services range from traditional home marketing and homesale to unique services such as pre-decision and travel management programs. Assignment management services range from conventional destination services and property management to assignment planning and tax equalization. Ms. Jane Malecki, Vice President, International Assignment Solutions represents the company in NFTC's International Human Resources activities. www.wrci.com.

NFTC Re-Establishes Global Staffing and Manpower Development Roundtable

The first meeting was held in New York City on March 19. For information about joining the roundtable, contact Bill Sheridan at wsheridan@nftc.org or 212/399-7128. The next meeting will be held on October 8 in New York City.

"Pensions in Europe: Assessing the Future"

The NFTC and Hewitt Associates will host full day seminars on this important issue in Houston (April 23), Dallas (April 24), and San Francisco (April 25). This program is intended for corporate finance, human resource, and tax professionals. For information about the agenda and registration, contact Denise Schulman at dschulman@nftc.org or 212/399-7128.

NFTC Comments on Harbinson Agriculture Paper in Letter to Ambassador Zoellick

On March 12, 2003, NFTC President Bill Reinsch wrote Ambassador Zoellick and Secretary Veneman providing NFTC comments on the first modalities paper on agriculture which was issued by Stuart Harbinson, the Chairman of the WTO Special Session on Agriculture. The comments urged that the Harbinson paper be revised to ensure bolder tariff cuts and coverage of all commodities, and that no tariff be higher than 25%, along the lines of the U.S. agriculture proposal. Additionally, the paper commends the Harbinson paper's recommended elimination of export subsidies but calls for a shorter phase-out period of eight years for developing countries. It also recommends the elimination of a special safeguard mechanism and suggests bolder liberalization of the tariff rate quota provisions. The letter can be found at www.nftc.org.



Trade and Export Finance

NFTC and CEE Host Reception in Honor of New Ex-Im Chairman and President

In mid-February, the NFTC and CEE co-hosted a reception in honor of Phil Merrill, the new Chairman and President of Ex-Im Bank. The event was well attended by NFTC members and provided an opportunity for Ex-Im Bank's clients to develop closer relationships with the new Ex-Im team. Peter Watson, the President of OPIC, as well as Ex-Im board members, were also in attendance.

National Foreign Trade Council Launches New Interactive Website

Washington D.C. - The National Foreign Trade Council announced the re-launch of its website this week, www.nftc.org, boasting a new look and a full internal overhaul with interactive features and new "members only" services.

The redesigned site allows visitors to search top news stories using the new overall site search function, as well as current and archived press releases and NFTC committee reports. A monthly calendar on the homepage displays a "Calendar of Events," allowing visitors to highlight a chosen date for a detailed description of the event. Tracking and usage statistics are also available for the site. Archives are available for the past 90 days and date back to September 2001.

NFTC members will be able to log into a members' only area, using the website registration tool for verification and validation of membership, as well as register for conferences and meetings. Members can also participate in online surveys, with the ability to automatically display results in bar graphical representation.

Visitors can interface with sister organization, USA*Engage, through the link www.usaengage.org, as well as many other trade groups and organizations.

NFTC Speaks on the Benefits of the a U.S.-Morocco FTA; FTA Coalition Meets with USTR after First Round of Negotiations

In a presentation before the Washington International Trade Association on February 26, Mary Irace, NFTC Vice President for Trade and Export Finance, spoke about the importance of a U.S.-Morocco FTA. She highlighted three important reasons for an FTA: the economic and trade benefits that would result from the elimination of bilateral barriers and closer trade ties; the broader strategic trade objectives of Morocco as a model for other developing countries in pursuing economic reform and trade liberalization, which has particular salience in the Doha Round of WTO negotiations; and the strategic interests of the United States in supporting and strengthening economically an important ally and friend in the Muslim world.

The U.S.-Morocco FTA Coalition, which is co-chaired by AOL Time Warner and CMS Energy and co-led by the NFTC and BCIU, continues to gather new supporters with well over 50 members. The FTA talks are entering their second round of negotiations the last week of March, with the expectation that the FTA will be concluded by the end of the year. Cathy Novelli, Assistant USTR for Europe and Middle East, briefed Coalition members after the first round of negotiations in late January, stating that she found the Moroccan negotiating team one of the best prepared teams she has ever negotiated with.

For more information about the Coalition, please contact Chuck Dittrich at 202/887-0278 or by email at cdittrich@nftc.org.

NFTC Chairman Michael H. Jordan Named Chairman and CEO of EDS

NFTC is pleased to inform its membership that on March 21, 2003 EDS named Michael Jordan as its new Chairman and CEO. Jordan, who formerly served as chairman and CEO of CBS Corporation, replaces Richard H. Brown.

EDS is a leading global services company. EDS, along with its management consulting subsidiary, A.T. Kearney, serves the world's leading companies and governments in 60 countries.



IMPORTANT U.S. TAX TREATY/PROTOCOLS RATIFIED

The tax treaty with the U.K. and protocols with Australia and Mexico were approved by the Senate in unprecedented early consideration, March 13th. The action followed a treaty ratification hearing held by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on March 5th. Bill Reinsch, NFTC President, recommended early ratification of the tax agreements in his March 5th testimony. His remarks followed those of Barbara Angus, International Tax Counsel, Department of the Treasury, and David Noren, Legislative Counsel to the Joint Committee on Taxation.

The treaty/protocols contained important reductions in withholding rates on cross-border transactions including a long awaited reduction in the parent-subsidiary dividend withholding rate to zero. The move sets a precedent for future U.S. treaty negotiations. The agreements also include important provisions that prevent double taxation on stock option income and pension contributions and other important relief for individuals that move from one country to another.

The final phase of the ratification process involves exchanging instruments of ratification with the U.K., Australia and Mexico. It is expected that they will be exchanged shortly, at which time the treaty/protocols will become effective.

Spring Tax Committee Meeting Boasts Excellent Line Up of Confirmed Speakers

Pam Olson, Assistant Secretary, Department of the Treasury for Tax policy has agreed to give the keynote address on the morning of Saturday, May 3rd at the NFTC annual Spring Tax Committee meeting, held in Scottsdale, AZ, May 1-3.

Other confirmed speakers include Carol Dunahoo, Director International, IRS, Large & Mid-size Business Division and Barbara Angus, International Tax Counsel, Department of the Treasury. The meeting will provide an excellent opportunity for NFTC members to discuss issues of interest in an informal setting.

The meeting format will follow that of previous years. Presenters will focus on important recent international tax issues. The meeting begins the morning of Thursday, May 1st and continues until mid-day Saturday, May 3rd at a new location in Scottsdale, AZ, the Scottsdale Plaza Resort. The meeting promises to be interesting and informative. Please plan to attend. For additional information, contact Judy Scarabello, Vice President for Tax Policy, jscarabello@nftc.org or the NFTC website, www.nftc.org.

NFTC Expatriate Management Committee March 2003 Meeting

The EMC held its first meeting of 2003 in Santa Clara, California hosted by Muriel Eason and her colleagues at Intel. Thirty-five member companies made presentations and discussions covered such topics as: "Challenges of Managing a Global Policy," "Globalization of Human Resources Technology," "Policy Simplification," and "Managing Policy Exceptions." The next EMC meeting will be held September 17-19 in Minneapolis. For information about the EMC, contact Grace O'Rourke at gorourke@nftc.org or 212/399-7128.

Ex-Im Bank Focus Group Meeting with NFTC Members on Competitiveness Issues

In an effort to better understand the competitiveness of Ex-Im Bank vis-à-vis its ECA counterparts, Ex-Im Bank policy staff engaged in a focus group session with NFTC members on March 13. Several issues were discussed, including the range of statutory and other policy constraints imposed on Ex-Im Bank that are absent at other ECAs. Some of the more important issues raised during the focus group session included rules and procedures on foreign content and locals costs, MARAD, economic impact, the environment and sanctions. The NFTC, a leader in advocating policy reforms at Ex-Im for several years, provided the policy staff past position papers and recommendations.

Unlike previous years, the proactive outreach this year by Ex-Im was conducted in relation to Ex-Im's annual report to Congress on the agency's competitiveness. The NFTC Export and Project Finance Committee will continue to monitor and advocate reforms to make the Bank more competitive.



OPIC's Annual Private Sector Advisory Committee Meeting Held on March 3 - Reauthorization Legislation and Other Issues Discussed

On March 3, Mary Irace, NFTC Vice President for Trade and Export Finance, represented the NFTC at OPIC's annual Private Market Advisory Group meeting. The meeting, which included Peter Watson and other senior OPIC officials and several private sector firms, provided a good overview of key ongoing developments at OPIC. Among the issues discussed were the implementation of OPIC's new co-insurance policies, as well as some new products that are under consideration at OPIC. OPIC's reauthorization this year was also a topic of discussion. Draft legislation is currently under review at OMB and will be reviewed by a U.S. interagency team before it can be finalized and submitted to Congress. The NFTC expects some welcome reforms to be included in the legislation, particularly with respect to updating OPIC's eligibility criteria.

NFTC International Benefits Committee February Meeting

The International Benefits Committee met on February 26 in New York City. Alissa Cartun of Citigroup presented a multi-country benefit plan review. Carl Hess and Paul Marcotullio of Watson Wyatt reviewed issues and trends for corporate sponsored pension plans related to the impact of the current global economic downturn. Kevin Dent and Clark Tucker of Mercer HR Consulting provided an overview of a trans-Atlantic merger. Francis Coleman and Fernando Jaime of AIG provided an update on developments in Russia regarding their national social security system and income tax changes.

For summary minutes of the February 26 meeting, contact Denise Schulman at dschulman@nftc.org. If interested in joining the IBC, contact Bill Sheridan at wsheridan@nftc.org. The next meeting will be in New York City on May 21, 2003.

USA*Engage Meets with House Cuba Working Group and Assists its New Senate Counterpart; USA*Engage Backs Legislation to Repeal Section 211 Threatening U.S. Trademarks in Cuba

USA*Engage hailed the creation of a new ten member Senate Cuba Working Group to build support for liberalizing U.S. trade with Cuba. This group will proceed on a strictly bipartisan basis, as does the House Cuba Working Group. The Senate group was announced on March 21 with a letter to the Majority and Minority Leaders, putting a priority on repeal of the travel ban. USA*Engage has committed to assist its formation and sponsor a launch event.

On March 6, USA*Engage briefed the House Cuba Working Group about the threat posed by Section 211 of the FY 1999 Omnibus Appropriations to over 5,000 U.S. trademarks in Cuba. For the first time in over forty years, U.S. companies are selling branded products in Cuba, and the continued U.S. breach of the Inter-American Convention via Section 211 invites Cuba to legally remove trademark protection. The coalition is coordinating, with members of both chambers of Congress, the introduction of legislation to repeal this provision, as well as to sunset Helms-Burton. Members interested in joining the Council's work on Cuba should contact Jody Frisch at jfrisch@nftc.org.



U.S. South Africa Business Council

U.S.-South Africa Business Council Leads Coalition on Free Trade Negotiations, Hosts Negotiators; South African Embassy Officials Brief Business Council on 2003 South African Budget

On March 17, the coalition led by the U.S.-South Africa Business Council to support free trade negotiations with the five countries of the Southern African Customs Union, hosted the 25 negotiators to a welcoming reception at the South African embassy. The following day, the Business Council held a luncheon for its member companies with the negotiators and participated in various other events during their week "study tour" of Washington and New York. The purpose of the negotiators' visit was to familiarize them with U.S. government agencies, to meet with the business community, to discuss capacity-building efforts and to exchange views informally on the issues likely to be tabled. Organizations wishing to participate in activities surrounding the free trade negotiations should contact Dan O'Flaherty at doflaherty@nftc.org or Emily Solomon at ussabc@nftc.org.

On March 6 the Business Council held its annual review of the South African economy with the acting South African ambassador and his principal officials. They discussed the February 26 budget speech by Finance Minister Manuel, the country's currently strong economic growth, prospects for 2003-4, the FTA negotiations, prospects for new empowerment legislation and progress in fighting the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Members interested in the free trade negotiations and other work of the Business Council should contact Dan O'Flaherty at doflaherty@nftc.org or Emily Solomon at ussabc@nftc.org.

U.S.-South Africa Business Council to meet on Lawsuits

On April 4, the U.S.-South Africa Business Council will hold a meeting with the lead attorneys representing companies that have been sued under the alien tort law for doing business in South Africa during the apartheid period. The meeting will update member companies on the latest developments in the cases in Federal District Courts for the Southern and Eastern District of New York. Members wishing to attend should contact Dan O'Flaherty at doflaherty@nftc.org or Emily Solomon at ussabc@nftc.org.

U.S.-South Africa Business Council Visit to South Africa in May

The Business Council will hold a series of meetings in Pretoria, Johannesburg and Cape Town between May 4 and May 14 with senior executives of U.S. and South African companies, as well as U.S. embassy officials and members of the South African government. The focus of the visit will be the free trade negotiations and the alien tort lawsuits.

The National Foreign Trade Council is a leading business organization advocating an open rules-based world economy. Founded in 1914 by a group of American companies that supported an open world trading system, the NFTC now serves its companies through its offices in Washington and New York.



Calendar of Events



<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Location</u>
April 4	U.S. South Africa Business Council Meeting	Washington, DC
April 8	Ninth NFTC Policy Conference Call Topic: International Business Travel in an Era of Heightened Security	Washington, DC
April 10	U.S. South Africa Business Council Meeting	Washington, DC
April 16	Export and Project Finance Committee Meeting with Ex-Im Bank Chairman Philip Merrill	Washington, DC
April 17	Agriculture, Development and Deadlines - Perspectives on the Agricultural Component of the Doha Round	Washington, DC
April 23	Seminar: Pensions in Europe - Assessing the Future	Houston, TX
April 24	Trade and Investment Committee Meeting with Dorothy Dwoskin, Assistant USTR for Multilateral Affairs	Washington, DC
April 24	Seminar: Pensions in Europe - Assessing the Future	Dallas, TX
April 25	Seminar: Pensions in Europe - Assessing the Future	San Francisco Airport
May 1-3	Spring Tax Committee Meeting	Scottsdale, AZ
May 2	Global Compensation Committee Meeting	New York City
May 3-14	U.S. South Africa Business Council Trip to South Africa	South Africa
May 12-13	U.S. Commercial Service Senior Officers Conference "Adapting to a New Global Trade Environment"	Reston, VA
May 14	Capitol Hill U.S.-Morocco FTA Rally with Ambassador Zoellick and Members of House Caucus on Morocco	Washington, DC
May 15	Decisions Deferred: The Singapore Issues (Investment, Trade Facilitation, Competition Policy, and Government Procurement).	Washington, DC
May 19-22	Doha Round Working Group delegation visit to Geneva, Switzerland	Geneva
May 21	International Benefits Committee	New York City
June TBA	Board of Directors Meeting	TBD
June 11	Steering Committee Meeting	Washington, DC



Calendar of Events



<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Location</u>
June 11	Tax Lunch Forum	Washington, DC
June 12	Beyond the Barriers: Tariffs and Non-Tariff Barriers in the Trading System.	Washington, DC
July 15	Global Human Resources Strategy Roundtable	New York City
July 16	Tax Steering Committee Meeting	Washington, DC
July 16	Tax Lunch Forum	Washington, DC
July 16-17	Annual International Human Resource Conference: Managing Global HR in Today's Challenging Times	New York City
September TBA	World Trade Dinner and Award Ceremony	New York City
September TBA	Board of Directors Meeting	New York City
September 4	Ready, Set, Go - Goals for the Fifth Ministerial	Washington, DC
September 10	Tax Steering Committee Meeting	Washington, DC
September 10	Tax Lunch Forum	Washington, DC
September 16	Global Mobility Seminar	New York City
September 17-19	Expatriate Management Committee	Minneapolis
September 18	After Act II - An Assessment of the Cancún Ministerial	Washington, DC
September 23	Global Human Resource Conference	Chicago, IL
October 1	Pacific/ China Human Resource Roundtable	New York City
October 2	Latin American Human Resource Roundtable	New York City
October 8	Global Staffing/Manpower Development Roundtable	New York City
October 9	Global Mobility Roundtable	New York City
October 16	International Benefits Committee	New York City
October 17	Global Compensation Committee	New York City
November 5-6	Fall Tax Committee Meeting	Washington DC

Note: The Tax Steering Committee Meetings, Expatriate Management, Global Compensation and International Benefits Committees are by invitation only. For information or to register for the Developing The Doha Round Series, contact Chuck Dittrich, (202) 887-0278, e-mail cdittrich@nftc.org.



National Foreign Trade Council



Current Member?

Update your contact information or add a colleague from your company who doesn't currently participate in NFTC activities.

Join us in securing an Open Global Trading System for U.S. Business!

If you know of a company that we may contact to join the NFTC or if you are not a member and would like information on how to become involved, let us know:

Company: _____
 Contact Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____
 Fax: _____
 Email: _____

NFTC Area of Interest (check all that apply):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> International Trade & Investment | <input type="checkbox"/> Export & Project Finance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International Human Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> International Taxation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> USA*Engage | <input type="checkbox"/> U.S.-South Africa Business Council |

Please mail or fax to:

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