



U.S.–Morocco FTA Coalition

The U.S.–Morocco FTA Coalition supports the negotiation and passage of a comprehensive and commercially meaningful U.S. – Morocco Free Trade Agreement

Co-Chairs

Laura Lane
Time Warner Inc.

George Pickart
CMS Energy

Secretariat

**Business Council for
International Understanding**
1133 15th Street, N.W.
Suite 900
Washington, DC 20005
Tel. 202-775-6074
www.bciu.org

**National Foreign Trade
Council**
1625 K Street NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20006
Tel. 202-887-0278
www.nftc.org

April 6, 2004

The Honorable Max Baucus
United States Senate
511 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-2602

Dear Senator Baucus:

The U.S.–Morocco FTA Coalition applauds the U.S. Government for concluding a high standard, commercially meaningful Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with the Kingdom of Morocco. We strongly endorse this historic agreement between our two countries and urge you to act early this year to approve the U.S.–Morocco FTA.

The proposed U.S.–Morocco FTA advances the interests of America's workers, manufacturers and services companies, and farmers. In addition, Morocco has been one of our staunchest allies in the war against terrorism and through this agreement has undertaken commitments that will make it an ally in promoting open markets and high-standard rules for global trade. The FTA is also an essential building block towards the establishment of a Middle East Free Trade Area.

The agreement includes the best market access package of any U.S. FTA with a developing country -- granting more than 95% of bilateral trade in consumer and industrial products immediate duty-free access in Morocco. It will provide major new opportunities in Morocco's agricultural markets for U.S. farmers and ranchers. It will accord substantial market access across the entire services regime (including important commitments in America's leading sectors such as audio-visual, information technology, express delivery, financial services, energy services, insurance, and telecommunications). Lastly, it will afford sterling protections for U.S. intellectual property rights owners and establish strong commitments in a range of other important areas, including transparency, investment, government procurement, labor and the environment.

Importantly, the U.S.-Morocco FTA will level the playing field and enhance the competitive position of U.S. farmers, manufacturers, and service companies vis-à-vis the European Union, which currently has a free trade agreement with Morocco. Furthermore, passage of the agreement will reinforce the political and economic reforms undertaken by Morocco, a critical ally in the war on terrorism, and will embolden other U.S. partners in the region to forge ahead with similar reforms.

The U.S.–Morocco FTA Coalition represents more than 80 business associations and companies employing millions of American workers and farmers. We are committed to building bipartisan support for the U.S.-Morocco FTA. The agreement is in America's fundamental economic and foreign policy interests, and we urge you to push for its consideration and passage this year and to support it with your vote.

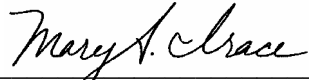
Sincerely,



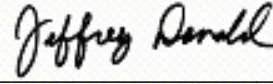
Laura Lane
Vice President, Intl. Public Policy
Time Warner



George Pickart
Director, Federal and Intl. Affairs
CMS Energy



Mary Grace
Vice President
National Foreign Trade Council



Jeffrey Donald
Vice President
Business Council for Intl. Understanding

