



# 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*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
July 20, 2004

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## **Passage of U.S.-Morocco FTA in House & Senate Committees Should Spur Agreement Completion Before August Recess, Business Coalition Says**

**Washington, DC** – The U.S.-Morocco FTA Coalition called on Congress to complete action on the U.S.-Morocco FTA this week, now that members of the Senate Finance and House Ways and Means Committees today approved unanimously the U.S.-Morocco FTA implementing legislation.

“We commend the members of the House Ways and Means and Senate Finance Committees for approving the U.S.-Morocco FTA today with solid bipartisan support and without delay. Clearly, this is thanks to a high-standard trade agreement that strongly benefits both countries and strengthens a strategic and longstanding relationship with a moderate Arab Muslim ally and friend of the United States. We look to the entire Congress to seize the growing momentum in support of the agreement by approving it before adjournment this week for the August recess,” stated Mary Itrace, Vice President for Trade and Export Finance of the National Foreign Trade Council.

“This agreement provides important benefits for U.S. businesses, farmers and workers, and we hope that all Members of Congress will give it their full support in the vote this week,” stated Laura Lane, Vice President, Public Policy of Time Warner and Co-Chairman of the U.S.-Morocco FTA Coalition. Lane added, “From Time Warner’s perspective, the United States has negotiated a great agreement for the entertainment industry; in fact, the copyright commitments are the highest standard ones negotiated to date with any country. We applaud both USTR and the Moroccan government for having committed to these important IP provisions in the agreement.”

In early 2003, the Bush Administration announced the beginning of the FTA talks and the goal of completing them by the end of 2003. The U.S. business community through the U.S.-Morocco FTA Coalition has championed the conclusion of a comprehensive, high-standard FTA with Morocco since the coalition’s formation in early 2003. Currently, the coalition has approximately 100 members.

*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 350 member companies through its offices in Washington and New York.*

*The Business Council for International Understanding (BCIU), a U.S. business association founded in 1959 at White House initiative, is dedicated to promoting dialogue and action between the business and government communities for the purpose of expanding international commerce.*

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