



News Release
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TPP Ambassadors to the United States welcome Congressional Friends of TPP Caucus

Ambassadors to the United States from the members of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement today strongly welcomed the establishment of the *Congressional Friends of TPP Caucus*.

"The creation of the group is reflective of the momentum gathering in support of the conclusion of the TPP negotiations this year" said Ambassadors at the launch of the Caucus today.

TPP Ambassadors welcomed the leadership of Congressman Charles Boustany (R-LA); Congressman Ron Kind (D-WI); Congressman Gregory Meeks (D-NY); and Congressman Dave Reichert (R-WA) in establishing the Caucus, and expressed their desire to work closely with the Caucus over the coming months.

"I warmly welcome the creation of the Congressional Friends of TPP Caucus. The formation of the group signals commitment to concluding the TPP negotiations; a sentiment shared by Australia. The conclusion of a high quality TPP Agreement will deliver greater economic integration in the Asia-Pacific region, address a range of contemporary commercial challenges and further open our economies to economic gains. I look forward to working closely with the Caucus members towards this outcome." **(Hon Kim Beazley, Ambassador of Australia)**

"Canada respects that any trade agreement negotiated by the administration must ultimately be approved by Congress and we welcome their engagement in the promotion of economic growth with a potential TPP agreement. It is vital that we include congress in our journey to have an expanded trade agreement through the TPP. Together we can

maximise the benefits of supply chains and promote job creation and economic growth on both sides of the Pacific.” **(Gary Doer, Ambassador of Canada)**

“TPP is a framework that ensures the future prosperity of the Asia Pacific region in the 21st century. It means more trade and more jobs for all our economies. It will also serve as the basis of stronger security and strategic relationship among its members. We share the goal of concluding this landmark agreement this year, and will work constructively with others towards that end. I am greatly encouraged by the creation of the Congressional Friends of TPP Caucus, and look forward to working closely with its leaders and members.” **(Kenichiro Sasae, Ambassador of Japan)**

“Mexico welcomes the launching of the Congressional Friends of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Caucus, and we would like to express our gratitude for the efforts that have established this mechanism to support the successful negotiations of the TPP agreement. Mexico recognizes the importance of the dynamic Trans-Pacific relationship, and the establishment of this Caucus is a testament to the commitment of the US Congress towards this historic agreement.” **(Eduardo Medina Mora Icaza, Ambassador of Mexico)**

“Congressional support is vital to conclude any FTA negotiation with the US, and also in the next phase to support passage of an FTA through Congress. I am therefore very pleased that this Caucus has been established and look forward to working with it.” **(Rt Hon Mike Moore, Ambassador of New Zealand)**

“Peru welcomes and highlights the launching of the Congressional Friends of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Caucus, which will play a very important role vis a vis the conclusion of the ongoing negotiation and the approval of the TPP Agreement. Peru is committed at the highest level with the TPP process and to reaching a successful conclusion to these negotiations of a comprehensive and balanced regional agreement which will deepen trade and investment relations with its Asia-Pacific partners and contribute to

the goal of establishing a Free Trade Area of Asia Pacific.” **(Harold Forsyth, Ambassador of Peru)**

“The TPP is an important endeavour for the Asia-Pacific region that is both strategically and economically significant. The TPP now accounts for nearly 40% of global GDP and about one-third of all world trade. It will serve as a catalyst for trade and investment liberalisation in the region, and spur greater economic growth, job creation, and development in all TPP countries and the region as a whole. Singapore looks forward to working with the Friends of TPP Caucus in advancing our shared economic interests through the TPP.” **(Ashok Mirpuri, Ambassador of Singapore)**

“We are of the view that the 21 Century calls for dynamic, globalized supply-chains and value-chains to create jobs and maintain growth. Therefore, Vietnam is strongly committed to the establishment of the Trans-Pacific Partnership, the most ambitious free-trade agreement to date, to lay the foundation for our mutual economic growth in the coming decades. Vietnam welcomes the establishment of the TPP Caucus and the opportunity to enhance the dialogues with Members of the United States Congress to ensure we achieve the goal of creating a well-balanced, high-quality agreement that would bring real benefits to businesses, employers, workers, and consumers of the United States, Vietnam and other TPP countries alike.” **(Nguyen Quoc Cuong, Ambassador of Viet Nam)**

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