Dear Member of Congress:

As U.S. trade negotiators seek to conclude a standard-setting new trade and investment pact for the Asia-Pacific region by this October and consider launching another with the European Union, we write on behalf of our combined members and supporters to share our expectations regarding commercial agreements in the 21st Century and the congressional oversight role needed to transform past U.S. trade policy into a tool that helps build a more just and sustainable global economy.

We find it troubling that, even as the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Free Trade Agreement enters its 16th major round of negotiations this March in Singapore, U.S. negotiators still refuse to inform the American public what they have been proposing in our names. Shielding not only proposals, but agreed-upon texts from public view until after negotiations have concluded and the pact is finalized is not consistent with democratic principles. In this regard, the TPP appears to be even less transparent than some past trade negotiations. For example, in 2001, the United States joined with 33 other countries in releasing draft text of the Free Trade Area of the Americans, and draft texts within the World Trade Organization are frequently made available. Issues that must be addressed so that a TPP, a European Union-U.S. Agreement or any other U.S. trade pact actually improves the quality of life for Americans and people throughout the world include:

- ***Prioritization of human and labor rights.*** Too many existing trade policies go to great lengths to protect the rights of investors, while ignoring or glossing over issues of forced labor, child labor, sweatshop working conditions, political violence, environmental degradation, violations of indigenous peoples' sovereignty and government suppression of such basic freedoms as speech, assembly, movement and the rights to form independent trade unions and bargain collectively. Human and labor rights must be front-and-center in any trade agreement if it is to help reverse the global race to the bottom in working conditions and environmental practices.

- ***Respect for local development goals and the procurement policies that deliver on them.*** Trade agreements should not impede governments from spending taxpayer funds in ways that prioritize local development, environmental or social goals. The procurement provisions of trade pacts must maintain existing "Buy American" preferences, as well as prevailing wage requirements, green preferences, sweat-free preferences, human rights preferences and policies designed to address long-standing inequalities.

- ***No elevation of corporations to equal terms with governments.*** Trade agreements should not grant individual corporations and investors special powers to privately enforce agreement terms by challenging laws, regulations and court decisions through tribunals that circumvent domestic judicial systems. The "investor-state" tribunal system that allows panels of three private sector lawyers to order unlimited taxpayer compensation for foreign firms who claim that a country's laws undermine their expected future profits must be eliminated. International investment rules must also be revised to more narrowly define terms including "investment," "expropriation" and "minimum standard of

treatment" in order to safeguard the ability of governments to regulate in the public interest.

- ***Protect food sovereignty.*** Trade agreements should respect governments' ability to implement programs that ensure farmers and other food workers receive fair compensation and that consumers have access to safe and affordable foods. Likewise, nations must be able to protect themselves from dumping and other unfair trade practices that force farmers off their land.

- ***Access to affordable medicine.*** Maintaining access to affordable, generic medications is critical to reducing health care costs in the United States and to saving lives throughout the world. Trade agreements are an inappropriate vehicle for extending the length of drug patents, and U.S. policies should explicitly uphold the standards set forth in the Doha Declaration on access to medicine.

- ***Safeguards against currency manipulation.*** Trade agreements should include measures that allow the United States and other governments to take measures to counteract trade-distorting currency manipulation. Agreements should also include strong rule of origin provisions to ensure that the benefits of the agreement go to those countries that agree to meet its rules.

- ***Space for robust financial regulations and public services.*** Trade pacts should set floors, not ceilings, when it comes to the regulation of banks, insurance companies, hedge funds and other financial service providers. Trade agreements' services provisions should contain clear and specific language stating that nothing in the agreement should be interpreted as requiring deregulation or privatization of any private or public service.

- ***Improved consumer and environmental standards.*** Likewise, trade agreements should set floors, rather than ceilings, when it comes to environmental, food and product safety and consumer right-to-know measures.

We believe a much greater degree of public and congressional oversight is needed if the TPP and other pacts are to achieve these high standards. Before granting the Obama administration any special trade policymaking authority, please request that it make the draft TPP texts public. Instead of delegating Congress' exclusive constitutional authority to "regulate commerce with foreign nations" to the executive branch through the reinstatement of outdated and extreme procedures like Fast Track "Trade Promotion Authority," we urge you to support a new American trade agreement negotiation and approval process that:

- Requires that Office of the U.S. Trade Representative consult with all interested stakeholders, participate in hearings with all committees of jurisdiction over matters affected by trade agreements and provide a thorough and public assessment of what specific job creation and export expansion opportunities each prospective trade partner would provide and how a proposed agreement would impact human and labor rights, the environment, food sovereignty, access to medicine, currency manipulation and balance of

trade among the countries involved — beginning this expanded engagement process with the TPP as soon as possible;
- Sets up an objective process to verify that negotiating objectives set by Congress are actually achieved in the final agreement; and
- Includes a process by which a majority of the Congress must vote to certify that a proposed agreement is in the public interest and that Congress' negotiating objectives have been met *before* the executive branch can sign the agreement and bind the United States to its terms.

Only through this type of robust oversight and public participation can we forge a new national and global consensus on trade policy that works for all.

Sincerely,

National Civil Society Organizations

8th Day Center for Justice
ActionAid USA
Alliance for Democracy
Alliance for Global Justice
Alliance for Retired Americans
American Federation of Government Employees
American Friends Service Committee
American Medical Student Association
American Postal Workers Union
Americans for Democratic Action
Campaign for America's Future
Campaign for Labor Rights and Nicaragua Network
Center for Biological Diversity
Center for Digital Democracy
Center for Policy Analysis on Trade and Health
Citizens Trade Campaign
Coalition for Justice in the Maquiladoras
Coalitions of Mutual Endeavor
Colombia Support Network
Conference of Major Superiors of Men
Corporate Accountability International
Cultural Survival
Democracy for America
Democratic Socialists of America
Earthjustice
Energy Action Coalition
Equal Exchange

Fair World Project
Family Farm Defenders
Food & Water Watch
Foundation for Integrative AIDS Research
Friends of the Earth US
Global Exchange
Global Justice for Animals and the Environment
Grassroots International
Guatemala Human Rights Commission
Health GAP
Holy Cross International Justice Office
Initiative for Medicines, Access & Knowledge
Inlandboatmens Union of the Pacific
Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy
Institute for Global Labour and Human Rights
Institute for Local Self Reliance
Institute for Policy Studies, Global Economy Project
International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers
International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers
International Brotherhood of Boilermakers
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
International Brotherhood of Teamsters
International Labor Rights Forum
International Union of Painters and Allied Trades
Intersect Worldwide
It's Our Economy
Jobs with Justice/American Rights at Work
Just Foreign Policy
League of Rural Voters
MADRE
Maquiladora Health & Safety Support Network
Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns
Medical Mission Sisters' Alliance for Justice
Mingas-NY
Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, Justice, Peace/Integrity of Creation Office
Moana Nui Action Alliance
Move to Amend
National Alliance of Latin American and Caribbean Communities
National Consumers League
National Family Farm Coalition
National Farmers Union
National Legislative Association on Prescription Drug Prices
NETWORK, A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby

New Rules for Global Finance Coalition
North American Intertribal Missions
Pax Christi USA
Peace Action
Peaceroots Alliance
Presbyterian Church USA
Progressive Democrats of America
Public Citizen
Public Knowledge
Rainforest Action Network
School of the Americas Watch
Sheet Metal Air Rail Transportation
Sierra Club
Sister of the Presentation
Sisters of the Holy Cross Congregation Justice Committee
Student Global AIDS Campaign
SweatFree Communities
Take Back America for the People
TenThousandMeans
The Green Party of the United States
Unitarian Universalist Association
United Brotherhood of Carpenters
United Church of Christ Justice and Witness Ministries
United for Peace and Justice
United Methodist Church, General Board of Church and Society
United Mine Workers of America
United Steelworkers
United Students Against Sweatshops
US Human Rights Network
US Labor Education in the Americas Project
USAction
Veterans For Peace
Witness for Peace
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, US Section

Regional and Local Civil Society Organizations

American Federation of Government Employees - Council 220
A. Philip Randolph Institute
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees - Council 5
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees - Local 3214
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees - Local 34
American Federation of Teachers -Wisconsin

Alliance for Democracy - Oregon
Allyship
Amalgamated Transit Union - Local 1005
American Federation of Government Employees - Local 3937
American Federation of Teachers, Seattle Community College - Local 1789
American Friends Service Committee - Pacific NW
American Postal Workers Union, Minneapolis Area Local
American University Student Worker Alliance
Americans for Democratic Action of Northeast Ohio
Association of Western Pulp & Paper Workers
Austin Tan Cerca de la Frontera
Backbone Campaign
Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers - Local 167Gl
Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers - Local 369G
Black Alliance for Just Immigration
Blue Green Alliance
Brooklyn For Peace
Bryn Mawr Peace Coalition
California Dairy Campaign
Capitol City and Minneapolis Metal Workers Lodge - Local 459
United Brotherhood of Carpenters - Local 322
United Brotherhood of Carpenters - Local 361
Catskill Citizens for Safe Energy
Cement Masons and Plasters - Local 633
Center for Community, Democracy and Ecology
Center for Natural Health
Central Co-Op/Madison Market
Central Florida Labor Council
Centro de Trabajadores Unidos en la Lucha
Chicago Fair Trade
Chicago Political Economy Group
Church Council of Greater Seattle
Citizens' Environmental Coalition
Cleveland Jobs with Justice
Columbia-Pacific Alliance for Social Justice
Comite Pro Reforma Migratoria y Justicia Social
Communication Workers of America - District 7
Communication Workers of America - Local 6215
Communication Workers of America State Council
Communications Workers of America - District 4
Community Alliance of Lane County
Community for Earth First Unitarian Church - Portland, Oregon
Community Organizing Center

Community to Community Development
Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes, General Council
Communications Workers of America - Local 7901
Communications Workers of America - Minnesota State Council
Dakota Resource Council
Dakota Rural Action
Dawson Resource Council
DC Time Bank
Delmont Progressive Democrats of America
Democratic Socialists of America, San Diego Local Chapter
Denver Justice & Peace Committee
Doctors Council
Eastern Maine Labor Council
EcoEmm Fair Trade
Eco-Logic, WBAI-FM
Elevator Constructors - Local 9
Eugene-Springfield Solidarity Network, A Jobs with Justice Chapter
FACE Faith Action for Community Equity
Fair Trade Penn State
Fair Trade University at Colorado State University
Faith Action Network
Farms Not Arms
Florida Immigrant Coalition
Green Party of Florida
GrowJobs, Connecticut
Harris County AFL-CIO Council
Hofstra Progressive Student Union
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Minneapolis
Hope Well Menonite Church
International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, Airline - Local 1833
International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers - Local Lodge 623
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers - 3rd District
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers - Local 191
International Longshore and Warehouse Union - Puget Sound District Council
International Longshore and Warehouse Union - Local 23
Inland Boatman's Union
Intercommunity Justice and Peace Center - Cincinnati
Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice
International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, District 751
International Association of Machinists, Minnesota State Council
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers - Local 112
International Longshore and Warehouse Union - Local 23
International Transport Worker's Federation of North America-West Coast

InterReligious Task Force on Central America
Ironworkers - Local 263
Ironworkers - Local 84
International Union of Electronic, Electrical, Salaried, Machine and Furniture Workers - Communications Workers of America - Local 1140
International Union of Electronic, Electrical, Salaried, Machine and Furniture Workers - Communications Workers of America - Local 1140
Jeannette Rankin Peace Center
JOBS NOW Coalition
Jubilee Northwest
Koreatown Immigrant Workers Alliance
Laborers District Council of Minnesota and North Dakota
Land Stewardship Project
League of Rural Voters
Lehigh Valley Gas Truth
Linn-Benton-Lincoln Central Labor Council
International Association of Machinists & Aerospace Workers - Local Lodge 112
Lubbock Central Labor Council
Martin Luther King County Labor Council
Maine Fair Trade Campaign
Maine's People's Alliance
Malama Kauai
Minnesota Association of Professional Employees
Maryland United for Peace and Justice, Inc.
Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation
Minnesota AFL-CIO
Minnesota Building and Construction Trades
Minnesota Fair Trade Coalition
Minnesota Farmers Union
Minnesota Industrial Union Council
Minnesota Nurses Association
Minnesota Public Interest Research Group
Minnesota State Council of Machinists
Missourians Organizing for Reform and Empowerment
Montana Human Rights Network
Move to Amend - Portland
Move to Amend - Rochester
New Hampshire Veterans for Peace
Nicaragua Center for Community Action
North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters
North Coast Veterans for Peace Chapter
North East Area Labor Council
Northern Plains Resource Council

Northwest Oregon Labor Council
NY4WHALES
New York City Friends of Clearwater
Occupy Coachella Valley
Occupy Wall Street Environmental Solidarity
Office and Professional Employees International Union - Local 8
Office and Professional Employees International Union - Local 12
Operative Plasters & Cement Masons - Local 783
Oregon AFL-CIO
Oregon American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees - Council 75
Oregon Alliance for Progress
Oregon Fair Trade Campaign
Oregon Machinist Council
Occupy Wall Street Special Projects Affinity Group
Pennsylvania 12CD Chapter of Progressive Democrats of America
Pennsylvania Fair Trade Coalition
Pennsylvania Progressive Democrats of America
Pennsylvania State Electrical Workers Association
Pax Christi
Peace House
Pennsylvania Alliance for Clean Water and Air
Pennsylvania Council of Churches
Peopletech
Philippine US Solidarity Organization
Pierce County Central Labor Council
Pittsburgh Anti Sweatshop Community Alliance c/o Thomas Merton Center
Portland Central American Solidarity Committee
Portland Jobs with Justice
Presbytery of the Twin Cities
Presentation Sisters, Aberdeen, South Dakota
Professional and Technical Employees Local 17
Racine Dominicans, Wisconsin
Regla De Oro, Minneapolis
Rocky Mountain Peace and Justice Center
Saint Paul Regional Labor Federation, AFL-CIO
San Antonio Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO
Santa Barbara Progressive Coalition
Seattle Committee in Solidarity with People of El Salvador
Seattle Education Association
Service Employees International Union - Local 503
Service Employees International Union - Local 1199NW
Service Employees International Union - Local 6
Service Employees International Union - Local 63

Service Employees International Union - Local 775NW
Service Employees International Union, Minnesota State Council
Sheet Metal Workers - Local 10
Sierra Club Santa Lucia Chapter
Sierra Club Lone Star Chapter
Sierra Club Long Island Group
Sierra Club North Star Chapter
Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers - Sheet Metal Workers' Local Union 68
Snohomish County Labor Council
Sol Fair Trade
South Sound Clean Clothes Campaign
Southeast Minnesota Alliance of Peace Makers
Southeast Minnesota Area Labor Council
Southern Oregon Jobs with Justice
Southwest Pipe Trades Association
Society of Professional Engineering Employees in Aerospace/International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers - Local 2001
Spokane Regional Labor Council
St. Louis Inter-Faith Committee on Latin America
St. Pete for Peace
St. Paul Area Local American Postal Workers Union
St. Paul Regional Labor Federation
St. Paul, Minnesota Area Local American Postal Workers Union
Texas AFL-CIO
Texas American Federation of Teachers
Texas Political & Legislative Committee
Texas State Association of Electrical Workers
Texas State Building and Construction Trades Council
Texas State Council of Machinists
The Chicago Religious Leadership Network on Latin America
The Forest Foundation
Trade Justice New York - Metro
Traditions Fair Trade
United Steelworkers - Local Union 2599-06
United Food and Commercial Workers - Local 1189
UNITE HERE - Local 5
UNITE HERE, Minnesota
United Food and Commercial Workers - Local 21
United Food and Commercial Workers - Local 1189
United Steelworkers - District 11
United Steelworkers - Local 11-75
United Steelworkers - Local 2002

United Steelworkers - Local 264
United Steelworkers - Local 6115
United Steelworkers - Local 7263
United Steelworkers - Local 404
United Steelworkers - Local 1688
United Transportation Union, Minnesota Legislative District
UNITE HERE - Local 8
University of Minnesota Labor Education Service
United Steelworkers - Local 1016
United Steelworkers - Local 1188
United Steelworkers - District 12
United Steelworkers Oregon L&E Committee
United Steelworkers - Steelworkers Organization of Active Retirees, Chapter 10-1
Veterans For Peace - Chapter 071
Veterans for Peace - Chapter 115
Veterans for Peace - Chapter 159
Vocal-NY
Washington Community Action Network
Washington Fair Trade Coalition
Washington State Labor Council
Washington Toxics Coalition
WashTech/Communication Workers of America
Western Organization of Resource Councils
Whatcom County Green Party
Wisconsin Fair Trade Coalition
Witness for Peace, Northwest
Witness for Peace, Southeast
Witness for Peace, Upper Midwest
Women's International League for Peace and Freedom - Portland, Oregon Branch
Worldview