



THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
Washington, D.C. 20230

June 9, 2008

Ms. Nancy Z. Boswell
President and Chief Executive Officer
Transparency International-USA
1023 15th Street, NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Boswell:

Thank you for your letter recommending that the Bush Administration support several steps to improve the impact of the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention. I share your concerns regarding the negative effects on U.S. business competitiveness of other countries' inconsistent enforcement efforts.

I assure you that the Department of Commerce (DOC) is working closely with the Departments of State and Justice to promote the effective enforcement of the Convention. The United States will continue to advocate that the OECD Working Group on Bribery institute regular meetings of prosecutors, establish a permanent peer review monitoring mechanism, and release a yearly report on Convention-related statistics. We are also encouraging OECD accession candidates that are not already parties, as well as China, to take the appropriate steps to accede to the Convention. In addition, we look forward to continued G8 statements of support for both the Convention and other global anti-corruption efforts. Although the Convention is not currently on the formal agenda, we agree that the OECD Ministerial Meeting offers a valuable opportunity to reiterate the importance of vigorous enforcement to current and future parties to the Convention.

Thank you for your continued commitment to promotion of global anti-corruption efforts, which is a high priority for the DOC. Please share this information with the cosigners of your letter. If you have any further questions, please contact me or Skip Jones, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Trade Agreements and Compliance, at (202) 482-5767.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Carlos M. Gutierrez", is written over a printed name.

Carlos M. Gutierrez