

**PROTOCOL TO THE 2007 TRADE AND INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE
ORIENTAL REPUBLIC OF URUGUAY
CONCERNING TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay (individually a “Party” and collectively the “Parties”), having entered into the Trade and Investment Framework Agreement Between the United States of America and the Oriental Republic of Uruguay at Montevideo on January 25, 2007 (hereinafter referred to as the Agreement):

Recognizing that meaningful public participation in the development and implementation of their trade and environmental laws and policies is an important element in ensuring that those laws and policies are mutually supportive;

Desiring to contribute to each Party’s efforts to ensure that trade and environmental laws and policies are mutually supportive and promote the optimal use of resources in accordance with the objective of sustainable development; and

Seeking to strengthen the links between each Party’s trade and environmental decision-makers, policies, and practices,

HAVE AGREED as follows:

Article 1

Each Party shall promote public awareness of its trade and environmental laws and policies by ensuring that information is readily available to the public regarding those laws and policies, including information regarding environmental enforcement and compliance procedures (e.g., procedures for interested persons to request a Party’s competent authorities to investigate alleged violations of its environmental laws).

Article 2

Each Party shall provide for the receipt and consideration of written submissions from persons of either Party concerning matters related to either Party’s trade and environmental laws or policies. Each Party shall respond in writing, except for good cause, in accordance with domestic procedures to any such submission that the Party receives and that states that it is made pursuant to this Protocol. Each Party shall make such submissions and any responses to those submissions available to the public in a timely manner.

Article 3

Each Party shall, as appropriate, solicit views from the public on matters related to its trade and environmental laws and policies and the implementation of this Protocol and shall make any views it receives in writing available to the public in a timely manner.

Article 4

Each Party shall seek to accommodate requests from persons of either Party for information or to discuss their or the Party's views regarding the Party's trade and environmental laws and policies or implementation of this Protocol.

Article 5

Each Party shall convene and consult a new, or consult an existing, national consultative or advisory committee on trade and the environment, comprising persons of the Party with relevant experience, including experience in trade, business, and environmental matters. Each Party shall solicit the committee's views on matters related to a Party's implementation of this Protocol, including, as appropriate, on issues raised in submissions described in Article 2.

Article 6

The Parties shall encourage their respective trade and environmental policy consultative or advisory committees to exchange information and discuss matters related to the implementation of this Protocol, including through meetings, teleconferences, and video conferences. The Parties shall endeavor to facilitate such exchanges and discussions as appropriate.

Article 7

Unless the Parties otherwise agree, the United States-Uruguay Council on Trade and Investment shall review at least once a year matters related to the implementation of this Protocol, including any views a Party receives pursuant to this Protocol.

Article 8

For purposes of this Protocol, a **law** or **policy** mean a law or policy of a Party's central level of government.

Article 9

1. This Protocol shall enter into force on signature.
2. This Protocol may be amended by written agreement of the Parties.
3. Either Party may withdraw from this Protocol by providing written notice of withdrawal to the other Party. The withdrawal shall take effect on a date agreed by the Parties or, if the Parties cannot agree on a date, 180 days after the date on which notice of withdrawal is delivered.

Article 10

The English and Spanish texts of this Protocol are equally authentic.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized by their respective governments, have signed this Protocol.

DONE at Washington, in duplicate, this 2nd day of October, 2008.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:



FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ORIENTAL REPUBLIC OF URUGUAY:


