



# STRENGTHENING THE U.S.-COLOMBIA TRADE ALLIANCE

April 14, 2011

## **Bilateral Action Plan – A Welcome Path Forward to Advance the U.S.-Colombia Free Trade Agreement**

### **Congress Must Pass Trade Pact with Colombia (Editorial)**

*April 11, 2011*

“This pact will help U.S. firms and farmers remain competitive by eliminating taxes on key exports and allowing corn, rice and other agricultural products to enter Colombia duty free. Right now, Colombian products enter the U.S. without paying any tariffs, but U.S. products face high taxes there. The International Trade Commission has estimated the agreement will increase exports of U.S. goods by \$1.1 billion.” <http://tinyurl.com/6arcp9p>

### **Move Forward on Colombia FTA (Editorial)**

*April 8, 2011*

“This is huge, or potentially so, for U.S. exporters and importers — particularly for the South Florida economy. It also represents a major victory for U.S. foreign policy in Latin America, a region that has long felt neglected by Washington. South Florida: Colombia is South Florida’s second-largest trade partner (after Brazil), with \$6.86 billion in total trade in 2010. A free trade agreement facilitates commerce between the two countries and will have a positive economic impact on this community.” <http://tinyurl.com/3g5e75g>

### **Mr. Obama’s Free-trade Deal with Colombia (Editorial)**

*April 7, 2011*

“... [W]hen the Colombia treaty is approved, U.S. sales to the country may increase by \$1 billion annually — a tiny step toward Mr. Obama’s goal of doubling U.S. exports by 2015. But the political benefits will be far more significant. Mr. Obama will send a message that the United States is serious about forging closer partnerships with Latin America’s rapidly growing economies; he will end a debate that for five years has bedeviled relations with a close ally; and he will show that his administration can make real progress on trade.” <http://tinyurl.com/4xx3g74>

### **A Win For Free Trade — At Last (Editorial)**

*April 7, 2011*

“...Wednesday’s announcement about a plan to pass the long-languishing U.S.-Colombia Free Trade Agreement...brought a unanimous chorus of approval. “This is an important market for U.S. farmers and we do not want to watch this market slip away to our largest competitors,” Bart Schott, president of the National Corn Grower’s Association told the Des Moines Register....Manufacturers agreed....Wall Street? It was glad, too.” <http://tinyurl.com/4y5w6a8>