



“Voice of the Western Slope Since 1953”

A coalition of individuals, businesses and local governments

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INTERNATIONAL FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS

WHEREAS the United States business community and labor force can compete strongly with other countries when operating within equivalent trade parameters and constraints, and

WHEREAS, when trade parameters and constraints are equivalent, international trade agreements pose a huge opportunity to U.S. businesses because of their proven track record of ingenuity and efficiency, and

WHEREAS the United States’ highly efficient and productive agriculture industry is very dependent upon international trade with 40% of production marketed through exports, and

WHEREAS the U.S. has entered into international free trade agreements that some have argued do NOT provide for equivalent trade parameters and constraints, and such “unlevel playing fields” create an economic disadvantage for U.S. businesses;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Club 20 shall support only those international trade agreements, involving the U.S., that ensure that all trading parameters (including tariffs, government and labor restrictions, food and human safety concerns, and environmental requirements) are roughly equivalent for all parties to the agreement so as not to jeopardize the safety and economic viability of U.S. interests, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Club 20 shall support only those international trade agreements that protect U.S. interests by not allowing foreign interests to challenge U.S. sovereignty within U.S. trade markets, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Club 20 urges the U.S. government to act quickly to correct any alleged imbalances of trade parameters within any existing international trade agreements, and shall urge Congress to approve only those proposed trade agreements that meet the above standards.

Adopted 4/1/05