



**CHURCH WORLD SERVICE**

June 8, 2009

Dear Representative:

On behalf of Church World Service, I write to ask you to support the 2009 reintroduction of the ***Trade Reform, Accountability, Development and Employment (TRADE) Act***, and add your name as an original cosponsor. First offered in the 110th session by Sen. Sherrod Brown and Rep. Mike Michaud, this bill had significant Congressional support last year, along with the institutional backing of hundreds of diverse organizations from across the country.

Church World Service is enthusiastic about this effort to reshape U.S. trade policy. Much of the debate about the impact of U.S. trade policy on developing countries has focused on the issues of labor rights and environmental protections. While these concerns are vital, we believe that a third dimension of evaluation and implementation is necessary. U.S. trade policies and agreements should contribute to people's livelihoods, sustainable development, and the alleviation of poverty. This serves not only a humanitarian objective, but also the long-term interests of the United States. When our global neighbors experience true human security and a more hopeful future, people in the U.S. will be more secure.

As a faith-based global humanitarian organization working with local partners in poor communities around the world, Church World Service sees the effect of trade policies firsthand. Tragically, the approach to trade pursued by our government over past 20 years has often had a detrimental impact on poor communities in the developing world. These policies have stymied economic development in poor countries and forced millions of family farmers off of their land, creating poverty, despair and mass migration. We are especially pleased that the TRADE Act addresses these concerns.

**Office of the Executive Director**

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Participating Denominations and Communion: African Methodist Episcopal Church African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church Alliance of Baptists American Baptist Churches USA The Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America Armenian Church of America (including Diocese of California) Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Christian Methodist Episcopal Church Church of the Brethren The Coptic Orthodox Church in North America The Episcopal Church Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Friends United Meeting Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America Hungarian Reformed Church in America International Council of Community Churches Korean Presbyterian Church in America Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church Mar Thoma Church Moravian Church in America National Baptist Convention of America National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc. National Missionary Baptist Convention of America Orthodox Church in America Patriarchal Parishes of the Russian Orthodox Church in the U.S.A. Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends Polish National Catholic Church of America Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc. Reformed Church in America Serbian Orthodox Church in the U.S.A. and Canada The Swedenborgian Church Syrian Orthodox Church of Antioch Ukrainian Orthodox Church in America United Church of Christ The United Methodist Church

As a Member of the Interfaith Working Group on Trade and Investment, Church World Service works to ensure that trade policies and agreements put people first and further genuine social and economic development for our neighbors around the world while preserving and creating good jobs here at home.

The TRADE Act supports these goals, and that's why we are asking you to sign on to the 2009 TRADE Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John L. McCullough". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Reverend John L. McCullough  
Executive Director & CEO  
Church World Service