

**BSA** 

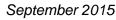












## Global Industry Calls on ITA **Negotiators to Show Restraint on** "Staging"

Over 80 industry associations from around the the world welcome hard-fought agreement achieved in July on the product list to expand the Information Technology Agreement (ITA). Attention now turns to the important work that each ITA expansion party must undertake to finalize their schedules of commitments to eliminate tariffs on a wide range of tech products before the World Trade Organization (WTO) convenes its next ministerial conference in Nairobi in December.

Importantly, the negotiating parties are scheduled to meet in Geneva the week of September 28 to negotiate implementation timeframes ("staging") for the products covered by ITA expansion. While the standard phase-out (or staging) period for tariff elimination under ITA expansion is three years, we urge the negotiators to show as much ambition as possible and embrace the important provision in the formal July 28 WTO declaration on ITA expansion that encourages "autonomous immediate elimination of customs duties or implementation ... "We accelerated trust the negotiating parties will seek to be as faithful as possible to this ambition. Similarly, we urge all negotiating parties to show restraint in seeking staging periods longer than three years, given the short innovation cycles for high-technology products.

The agreed product expansion of the ITA -- and expansion of its geographic scope -- will yield immediate substantial and economic benefits. Rapid removal of tariffs on a vast array of tech products will bolster global growth, innovation, accelerate productivity, create countless jobs, lower consumer prices, and help bridge communities the world over in ways unimagined 19





















years ago when the agreement came into being. Limited requests for extended staging and more quickly lifting the burden of tariffs on economic growth will intensify the benefits of this historic triumph for global trade. It will also give greater credibility to the WTO by delivering an even stronger outcome at the WTO Ministerial Conference in Nairobi December 15-18.















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Advanced Medical Technology Association (AdvaMed, USA) - American Chamber of Commerce of El Salvador (AmCham El Salvador), El Salvador) - American Chamber of Commerce in Thailand (AmCham India, India) - American Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam (AmCham Vietnam, Vietnam) - Association of Electronic Industris in Singapore (AEIS, Singapore) - Association of Thai ICT Industry (ATCI, Thailand) - Australian Information Industry Association (AIIA, Australia) - Brazilian Association of IT Companies (ASSEPRO, Brazil) - BSA | The Software (BSA, USA) - Camara de Industrias de Costa Rica) - Coarera & Imaging Products Association (DEIA, Japan) - Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME, Canada) - China Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA, China) - Colmbian Software and IT Industry Association (CEIA, USA) - Computer society of Kenya (Kenya) - Computing Technology Industry Association (CCMA), India) - Computer and Communications Industry Association (CCIA, USA) - Costa Rica) - Consumer Electronics Retailers Coalition (CERC, USA) - Consumer Electronics Association (CEIA, USA) - Costa Rica) - Costa Rica) - Consumer Telectorines Retailers Coalition (CEIA, USA) - Costa Rica) - Costa Rica) - Costa Rica) - Consumer Telectorines Retailers Coalition (CEIA, USA) - Costa Rica) - Costa Rica) - Costa Rica) - Consumer Electronics Retailers Coalition (CEIA, USA) - Costa Rica) - Costa Rica) - Costa Rica) - Consumer Electronics Retailers Coalition (CEIA, USA) - Costa Rica) - Consumer Electronics Retailers Coalition (CEIA, USA) - Costa Rica) - Costa Rica) - Costa Rica) - Consumer Electronics Retailers Coalition (CEIA, USA) - Costa Rica) - Costa Rica) - Costa Rica) - Consumer Electronics Retailers Coalition (CEIA, USA) - Costa Rica) - Costa Rica) - Reteration of Industris Association (RGALIME, EU) - Entertianment Software Association Canada (ESA, CGA) - The European Engineering Industris Association (RGALIME, EU) - Entertianment Software Association o Canada (ESA, CGA) - Rederation of He USA) - Telecommunication is industry Association (TIA, USA) - Transatlantic Business Council (TEC, USA-EU) - United States Council for International Business (USCB), USA) - United States Information Technology Office (USITO, USA) - Vietnam Electronics Industry Association (VEIA, Vietnam) - Verdinational Business (USCB), USA) - United States Information Technology Office (USITO, USA) - Vietnam Electronics Industry Association (VEIA, Vietnam) - Verdinational Business (USCB), USA) - United States Information Technology Office (USITO, USA) - Vietnam Electronics Industry Association (VEIA, Vietnam) - Verdinational Business (USCB), USA) - United States Information Technology Office (USITO, USA) - Vietnam Electronics Industry Association (VEIA, Vietnam) - Verdination Technology and Services Alliance (WITSA, USA) – World Semiconductor Council (WSC) World Semiconductor Council (WSC) For more information, contact deleter@semiconductors.org