THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC – CENTRAL AMERICA – UNITED STATES FREE TRADE AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Consistent with the provisions of section 2105(a)(1)(A) and (B) of the Trade Act of 2002 (19 U.S.C. § 3805(a)(1)(A) and (B)) ("the Act"):

- On February 20, 2004, the President notified the House of Representatives and the Senate of the President's intention to enter into a free trade agreement with Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua ("Central America")(40 Wkly. Comp. of Pres. Docs. 263 (2004)). On March 24, 2004, the President notified the House of Representatives and the Senate of the President's intention to enter into a free trade agreement with the Dominican Republic (40 Wkly. Comp. of Pres. Docs. 462 (2004)).
- On February 24, 2004, the President published in the *Federal Register* a notice of the President's intention to enter into a free trade agreement with Central America (69 <u>Fed. Reg.</u> 8543 (2004)). On March 26, 2004, the President published in the *Federal Register* a notice of the President's intention to enter into a free trade agreement with the Dominican Republic (69 <u>Fed. Reg.</u> 16161 (2004)).
- On August 5, 2004, the United States Trade Representative entered into a free trade agreement with Central America and the Dominican Republic ("Agreement").
- On October 4, 2004, the United States Trade Representative transmitted to the Congress a description of changes to existing U.S. laws required to comply with the Agreement.

The following documents are submitted to the Congress under section 2105 of the Act. Submitted herewith or within these documents are:

- a copy of the final legal text of the Agreement (Tab 1);
- a draft of an implementing bill described in section 2103(b)(3) of the Act (Tab 2);
- a statement of any administrative action proposed to implement the Agreement, which includes an explanation as to how the implementing bill and proposed administrative action will change or affect existing law, whether and how the Agreement changes provisions of an agreement previously negotiated, and how the implementing bill meets the standards set forth in section 2103(b)(3) of the Act (Tab 3);
- a statement setting forth the reasons of the President regarding how and to what extent the Agreement makes progress in achieving the applicable purposes, policies, objectives, and priorities of the Act (Tab 4); and
- a statement setting forth the reasons of the President regarding how the Agreement serves the interest of U.S. commerce (Tab 5).

Additionally, a summary of the Agreement (Tab 6), as required by section 162 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. § 2212), and 30 letters and three Understandings related to the Agreement are submitted herewith to the Congress.