

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508

The Honorable Shara L. Aranoff
Chairman
U.S. International Trade Commission
500 E Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20436

JUN 30 2008

332-477

Dear Chairman Aranoff:

On July 26, 2006, we requested that the U.S. International Trade Commission (Commission) prepare three annual reports on the factors affecting exports of selected industries in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). The Commission has delivered the first two annual reports, which were extremely useful and provided valuable information. We greatly appreciate the Commission's ongoing work.

As we continue to promote AGOA opportunities in sub-Saharan Africa, it would be helpful to have additional information on the factors affecting the competitiveness of SSA exports to the United States. Therefore, as a supplemental request under authority delegated to me by the President, and pursuant to section 332 (g) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended, I am requesting that the Commission provide in its third report, an analysis of the effect that conditions in key infrastructure sectors have on the export competitiveness of select SSA industries, particularly but not limited to, industries considered in the previous two studies.

The analysis should include a brief overview of the effect of infrastructure conditions generally, and a more indepth analysis of the effect of conditions in infrastructure sectors (land transport, maritime transport, and electricity) that were identified by the Commission staff in the previous two studies as having a significant effect on the export competitiveness of many SSA industries.

Consistent with the request of July 26, 2006, I request that the third annual report be delivered no later than April 3, 2009. I anticipate that the Commission's report will be made available to the public in its entirety. Therefore, the Report should not contain any confidential business or national security information.

Thank you for your valuable advice and assistance. I look forward to reviewing your report.

Sincerely,


Susan C. Schwab

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