



canadian apparel federation
fédération canadienne du vêtement



UNITED STATES
FASHION INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION



JOINT INDUSTRY STATEMENT TO TPP NEGOTIATORS

On behalf of the textile and apparel producers, brands, and retailers in the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) countries, we express our strong support for conclusion of a 21st century TPP agreement that will generate trade and investment between our countries. To achieve this goal, we believe the TPP must include more commercially meaningful market access and flexibilities in the rules for the apparel industry that recognize the importance of global value chains to the competitiveness of the apparel supply chain.

In an effort to move forward in these negotiations, the undersigned associations ask the TPP negotiators to focus on the critical elements necessary for a successful TPP for the apparel sector. Key features of such a TPP should include:

- Additional flexibilities in the rules of origin for apparel, including more single transformation categories and/or Tariff Preference Levels;
- More immediate and reciprocal duty-free access for qualifying apparel; and
- Fair customs procedures that facilitate trade and reflect smart enforcement strategies based on risk.

We look forward to working with all TPP negotiators to finalize an agreement that supports the fashion industry global value chains and the millions of jobs that are sustained by them for apparel brands, manufacturers, retailers and consumers.

Sincerely,

Australian Retailers Association
Russell Zimmerman, Executive Director

American Apparel & Footwear Association (United States)
Steve Lamar, Executive Vice President

Canadian Apparel Federation
Bob Kirke, Executive Director

Council of Textile & Fashion Industries of Australia Limited
Kiri Delly, CEO

Malaysian Knitting Manufacturers Association
Kung Beng Lee, President

Malaysian Textile Manufacturers Association
Tan Thian Poh, President

National Retail Association (Australia)
Trevor Evans, CEO

National Retail Federation (United States)
Jonathan Gold, Vice President of Supply Chain & Customs Policy

Retail Council of Canada
Erik Autor, International Counsel

Retail Industry Leaders Association (United States)
Joe Rinzel, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs

Textile & Fashion Federation (Singapore)
Lynette Lee, CEO

United States Fashion Industry Association
Julia K. Hughes, President

Vietnam Textile & Apparel Association
Dang Phuong Dung, Vice Chairwoman – Secretary General