

2008 USCIB Policy Advocacy Priorities

1. Expand Trade and Investment

- Push for completion of the WTO Doha Round with key business goals achieved.
- Develop post-Doha initiatives to increase trade and investment opportunities.
- Secure passage of pending U.S. FTAs and renewal of trade negotiating authority.
- Counter investment protectionism both in the United States and abroad.
- Engage on the range of issues raised by the US-China trade and investment relationship.
- Promote international cooperation on customs, trade facilitation, and efficient supply chains.

2. Press for Market-Based Approaches to Regulation

- Advocate a science-based approach to regulation, e.g. of nanotechnology.
- Promote self-regulation in marketing and advertising, especially in key emerging markets.
- Resist regulation that undercuts growth of telecommunications and e-commerce.
- Lead efforts to balance regulatory versus market-based approaches to corporate governance.
- Press for global competition policies favoring open markets.

3. Advance Sustainable Development

- Advocate climate/energy policies supporting long-term investment, innovation and growth.
- Promote risk and science-based outcomes in life-cycle management of chemicals.
- Encourage greater harmonization of product-based environmental and health regulations.
- Promote business solutions to the achievement of UN Millenium Development Goals.
- Foster international coordination to ensure a safe food and secure supply.

4. Ensure Strong Intellectual Property Protection

- Ensure robust IP protection through engagement with an array of international organizations.
- Contribute a rightsholders' perspective to ongoing OECD work on counterfeiting.
- Engage with the U.S. government on the proposed Anticounterfeiting Free Trade Agreement.
- Provide leadership in ICC BASCAP (Business Action to Stop Counterfeiting and Piracy).

5. Champion ICT-Enabled Growth and a Stable and Secure Internet

- Provide business input to multistakeholder and intergovernmental discussions on the Internet.
- Promote a competitive climate for services resulting from industry convergence.
- Urge a global solution for transborder data transfers of personal information.
- Support the Domain Name System and facilitate greater business involvement in ICANN.

6. Promote Economically Sound Taxation Policies

- Ensure strong business input to OECD work on transfer pricing and the model tax convention.
- Help to shape OECD projects on permanent establishment, business restructuring, collective investment vehicles, consumption taxes on services, tax intermediaries, and dispute resolution.
- Support policies to eliminate double taxation.

7. Promote Sensible Labor and Corporate Responsibility Policies

- Promote voluntary approaches to corporate responsibility in international policy discussions, and ensure that any ISO guidance on social responsibility is not used for certification.
- Promote voluntary approaches to human rights issues, including support for better enforcement of national laws to improve supply chain practices.
- Promote business interests in the ILO, including more focus on improving working conditions.
- Promote OECD work in support of flexible labor markets and pro-growth labor policies.