

November 3, 2010

Dear G-20 Leaders:

Our organizations write to request your collective support at the upcoming G-20 Summit in Seoul, Korea, for developing an international consensus regarding the critical issues of ensuring the supply of and open access to rare earth elements. All G-20 Leaders should work together to find pragmatic and sustainable short-term solutions for a stable and secure rare earth supply. Further trade disputes cannot be in the interest of all G-20 nations.

Rare earth elements are essential to the clean energy, automotive, petroleum refining, chemical and electronics industries of today and tomorrow. There is a substantial and growing risk, however, that without adequate supply and open access to such elements, global efforts to address climate change, promote innovation, and advance global growth will be significantly hindered.

To address this global challenge, we request that you and your governments commit at the G-20 Summit to enhanced cooperation based on the following shared principles:

- Refrain from export taxes, quotas or other market-distorting measures on rare earth elements that restrict global supply and unnecessarily contribute to price volatility, including through respect for the rules of the World Trade Organization and commitments resulting from its members' accession protocols.
- Renounce interference with commercial sale of rare earth elements, domestically or internationally, to advance industrial policy or political objectives.
- Enhance collaboration to diversify sources of rare earth elements supply globally.
- Increase information and best practices sharing to promote recycling of rare earth elements and develop substitute materials and technology to reduce the use of rare earth elements.

- Bolster support for basic research and development, and invest in academic activities that develop innovative industrial processes that are less rare-earth intensive.

A shared commitment by the Leaders of the G-20 nations can make a significant contribution to addressing successfully the urgent threat to open access to rare earth elements. The importance of rare earth elements extends to all economies, their citizens, and our collective ability to generate the technologies and products needed to address global climate challenges. We urge you to make achieving formal consensus on these principles a top priority at the G-20 Summit in Seoul.

Sincerely,

Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers  
American Association of Exporters and Importers  
American Automotive Policy Council (AAPC)  
American Chamber of Commerce for Brazil  
American Petroleum Institute (API)  
Association of International Automobile Manufacturers  
BIAC  
Brazil-U.S. Business Council  
BUSINESSEUROPE  
Business Roundtable  
Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters  
Communications and Information Network Association of Japan (CIAJ)  
Confindustria  
Consumer Electronics Association (CEA)  
Edison Electric Institute (EEI)  
Emergency Committee for American Trade (ECAT)  
Emission Control Technology Association (ECTA)  
Federation of German Industries (BDI)  
Information Technology Industry Council (ITI)  
Japan Business Machine and Information System Industries Association (JBMIA)  
Japan Electronics and Information Technology Industries Association (JEITA)  
Korea Automobile Importers & Distributors Association (KAIDA)  
Manufacturers of Emission Controls Association (MECA)  
MEDEF  
National Association of Manufacturers (NAM)  
National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)  
National Foreign Trade Council (NFTC)  
Nippon Keidanren

TechAmerica

The Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM)

The Canadian Chamber of Commerce

The Federation of Korean Industries (FKI)

TransAtlantic Business Dialogue (TABD)

United States Council for International Business (USCIB)

U.S. Chamber of Commerce

U.S.-India Business Council

US Magnetic Materials Association (USMMA)