

November 6, 2018

The Honorable Michael R. Pompeo  
Secretary of State  
US Department of State  
Harry S. Truman Building  
2201 C Street Northwest  
Room 7226  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Pompeo:

The undersigned associations write to express our strong support for the United States signing and ratifying the Singapore Convention on Mediation. The treaty negotiation was launched by the United States with the aim of developing a cost-effective international legal mechanism for resolving cross-border commercial disputes between private parties.

By encouraging the use of mediation as a viable path to resolving commercial disputes, the Convention reduces cost and eliminates the need for duplicative litigation. The Convention also improves the enforcement process by obliging governments to recognize the legal status of any mediated settlement. As a result, the Singapore Convention helps mitigate risk when entering into a commercial relationship with businesses in foreign markets and raises the standards of fair trade globally.

Our members appreciate the State Department's efforts to negotiate the Singapore Convention on Mediation. We urge the United States to become a signatory, and we look forward to working with you toward future ratification before the United States Senate.

Sincerely,

Coalition of Service Industries  
National Association of Manufacturers  
National Foreign Trade Council  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce  
United States Council for International Business