



September 29, 2003

VII Americas Business Forum
Miami, Florida
abfpaper@fiu.edu

Dear ABF Workshop Participants:

The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA) is pleased to provide its views on the ongoing negotiations to create the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). These comments are submitted in response to the call for private sector input to be considered by the VII Americas Business Forum (ABF).

This input focuses on the **Chapter on Services** in the draft consolidated FTAA text, which was publicly released last November, and it should be directed to the ABF Workshop on Services. The submission is divided by headings that correspond to the relevant sections of the draft text. We hope that these comments can serve as the basis for consensus-based recommendations by the hemispheric business community to FTAA ministers responsible for trade.

TIA and its members strongly support the creation of a hemispheric free trade area by January 2005. Further, we believe that the recommendations below will help to generate economic growth and equitable market access opportunities for citizens and companies in each of the 34 FTAA countries.


The Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA) represents nearly 700 companies that manufacture and supply the products and services used in global communications. TIA is the leading U.S. non-profit trade association serving the U.S. communications and information technology industry, with proven strengths in domestic and international advocacy, standards development and trade shows. Through our worldwide activities, the association facilitates business development opportunities and a competitive market environment.

Thank you, in advance, for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Meredith Singer'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping 'M' and a long, trailing 'g'.

Meredith Singer
Manager, International Affairs

A large, thick, red swoosh graphic that starts as a thin line on the right side of the page and curves upwards and to the left, ending as a thick line at the bottom left. It is positioned behind the contact information.

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