



COUNCIL OF THE **Americas**

**We cordially invite you to participate in the  
U.S. Section of the North American Competitiveness Council (NACC)**

**Membership Guidelines and Selection Criteria for 2008**

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**OVERVIEW AND BACKGROUND**

In March 2005, the Leaders of Canada, Mexico, and the United States launched the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America (SPP) as a trilateral effort to increase security and enhance prosperity among the three countries through greater cooperation and information sharing.

At their 2006 Summit, the North American Leaders recognized that to accelerate progress under the SPP they would benefit from direct engagement with the private sector. So they encouraged business leaders from all three countries to form the North American Competitiveness Council (NACC), which was launched in June 2006. In the United States, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the Council of the Americas jointly serve as the Secretariat. The Canadian Council of Chief Executives (CCCE) serves as the Secretariat in Canada and the Instituto Mexicano para la Competitividad (IMCO) serves as the Secretariat in Mexico.

While the NACC was expected to primarily develop recommendations on issues concerning North American competitiveness to be addressed by governments, the NACC was also challenged to provide suggestions on how the private sector might itself be able to be part of the solution.

In February 2007, the trilateral NACC submitted an initial report to security and prosperity ministers, making a total of 51 recommendations for actions in three areas, both within and building upon the SPP: border crossing facilitation; standards and regulatory cooperation; and energy integration. These recommendations were organized into three time frames: those that can be accomplished immediately, those that can be accomplished before the end of 2008, and those that will require additional time to address, with a goal of completion by 2010.

These trilateral recommendations were the product of many months of consultations and deliberations by hundreds of companies, sectoral associations and chambers of commerce throughout North America.

The NACC met with Prime Minister Harper, President Calderón, and President Bush during the North American Leaders' Summit in Montebello, Quebec on August 21. The first Report to Leaders was presented, outlining the work that the NACC has done in its first year and a half, offering reflections on the progress that has been made to date, and on next steps.

The North American Leaders Bush, Harper, and Calderón announced that the three countries have taken action on a number of their recommendations and have completed a North American Plan for Avian and Pandemic Influenza; a Regulatory Cooperation Framework; an Intellectual Property Action Strategy; and a Trilateral Agreement for Cooperation in Energy, Science and Technology. Tangible results or an agreement to cooperate have also been seen in a number of other areas highlighted in the NACC recommendations, including rules-of-origin requirements, movement of people, emergency management and preparedness, and air cargo shipments, among others.

The NACC was also encouraged by the commitment of the Leaders to continuing the dialogue and by the fact that they directed their ministers to review the SPP process, focus on priorities, and deliver results.

The NACC will continue to engage with the three governments to encourage them to make further progress to ensure that decisions about security and about economic policy are mutually reinforcing and that our people are more secure and our enterprises are more competitive globally. For more information visit our websites:

[www.uschamber.com](http://www.uschamber.com)

[www.counciloftheamericas.org](http://www.counciloftheamericas.org)

## MEMBERSHIP

The trilateral NACC is comprised of 30 members with equal representation from each country, with each country determining its own members and the membership selection process being at each country's discretion. Accordingly, Canada, Mexico, and the United States all employed different methods for selecting their members. For more information on Canada and Mexico, please contact the appropriate Secretariat directly.

The U.S. Section of the NACC is composed of a Secretariat, an Executive Committee, and an Advisory Committee.

Candidates are currently being sought for membership on the U.S. Executive Committee and Advisory Committee of the NACC. Once applications have been received, the U.S. Secretariat will select members from those that meet the selection criteria.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

Please submit the appropriate application form, along with an optional statement briefly explaining the company's operations or interest in North America.

Applications must be received no later than **Friday December 14, 2007**. Please send applications to BOTH U.S. Secretariat Organizations at:

**U.S. Chamber of Commerce**                      **202-463-3126**

**Council of the Americas**                      **202-659-7755**

## U.S. SECTION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The U.S. Section Executive Committee is made up of 15 companies. From these 15 companies, only 10 can send a senior executive to represent the U.S. Section of the NACC at each trilateral meeting.

### **Selection Criteria**

1. The companies represented on the U.S. Section Executive Committee must be headquartered in the United States.
2. U.S. Section Executive Committee member companies should have significant business operations in at least two of the three North American countries and should trade in all three.
3. U.S. Section Executive Committee member companies are charged with representing the sectors in which their business operates, not simply the interests of their individual company.
4. U.S. Section Executive Committee will be limited to a one (1) year term. Upon re-application, member companies may be re-appointed to a limited number of consecutive terms at the discretion of the U.S. Secretariat.
5. Once the U.S. Section Executive Committee members are selected, they will select the U.S. Section Co-Chair.

## Required Commitments

1. Each Executive Committee member must appoint at least one working-level contact (preferably a representative who is based in or frequently travels to Washington) who will regularly participate in U.S. Section activities, including:
  - Regular planning meetings and conference call discussions with Executive Committee members and the U.S. Secretariat.
  - Regular meetings and conference call discussions with Advisory Committee members.
  - Executive Committee meetings with U.S., Canadian, and Mexican government officials (approximately 6 per year).
  - Meetings with trilateral Secretariats and private sectors (approximately 2 per year).
  - Public debriefings following Ministerial and Leaders' meetings.
  - Regular brainstorming and working meetings on specific issues and recommendations.
2. The working-level contact will liaise with the U.S. Secretariat to develop information and language to be included in reports, updates, and briefings to Ministers and Leaders.
3. The working-level contact will assist the U.S. Secretariat in reviewing reports and recommendations and provide updates and feedback as required.
4. The Executive Committee member must make their CEO or head of North American operations available to represent their industry at Ministerial meetings, which take place on a rotating basis in Canada, Mexico, or the United States. As only 10 of the 15 Executive Committee members may represent the U.S. Section of the NACC at each trilateral meeting, priority will be given to more senior representatives with demonstrated commitment to the NACC process. The dates and location for the meetings are established and agreed by the governments of Canada, Mexico and the United States. The U.S. Secretariat communicates specific dates soon as they become available.
5. Leaders' meetings are attended by CEOs from all three Sections. The individual with primary responsibility for North America will be considered on a case-by-case basis and must comply with protocol requirements of all three countries. As only 10 of the 15 Executive Committee members may represent the U.S. Section of the NACC at each trilateral meeting, priority will be given to more senior representatives with demonstrated commitment to the NACC process. The dates and location for the meetings are established and agreed by the governments of Canada, Mexico and the United States. The U.S. Secretariat communicates specific dates soon as they become available.
6. Other responsibilities as deemed necessary and appropriate.



## APPLICATION FORM

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER U.S. SECTION OF THE NORTH AMERICAN COMPETITIVENESS COUNCIL (NACC)

*The information will be used to determine the eligibility of your company to be considered for Executive Committee membership on the U.S. Section of the North American Competitiveness Council. Please type or print in block letters.*

COMPANY NAME		
WORKING-LEVEL CONTACT INFORMATION		
LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	
JOB TITLE		
ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	POSTAL CODE
TELEPHONE ( )	FAX ( )	
E-MAIL		
HEAD OF NORTH AMERICA OR HEAD OF THE AMERICAS CONTACT INFORMATION		
LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	
JOB TITLE		
ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	POSTAL CODE
TELEPHONE ( )	FAX ( )	
E-MAIL		
PRESIDENT AND CEO CONTACT INFORMATION		
LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	
JOB TITLE		
ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	POSTAL CODE
TELEPHONE ( )	FAX ( )	
E-MAIL		

*I have read the selection criteria and required commitments to apply for status as an Executive Committee Member of the U.S. Section of the North American Competitiveness Council. I understand that selection is at the discretion of the U.S. Secretariat.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND FAX IT TO BOTH NUMBERS:  
COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAS: (202) 659-7755 U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: (202) 463-3126**

## U.S. SECTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The U.S. Section Advisory Committee advises the Secretariat and the Executive Committee on all issues in an open and participatory process.

### **Selection Criteria**

1. The U.S. Section Advisory Committee is formed by U.S. companies, sectoral associations, and local chambers of commerce that represent U.S. businesses and have an interest and a stake in the process.
2. U.S. Section Advisory Committee members are charged with representing the sectors in which their business, association, or chamber operates and may not represent the interests of an individual company.
3. U.S. Section Advisory Committee will be limited to a one (1) year term. Upon re-application, members may be re-appointed to consecutive terms at the discretion of the U.S. Secretariat.

### **Required Commitments**

1. Each Advisory Committee member must appoint at least one working-level contact (preferably a representative who is based in or frequently travels to Washington) who will regularly participate in U.S. Section activities, including:
  - Regular planning meetings and conference call discussions with Executive Committee members and the U.S. Secretariat.
  - Regular meetings and conference call discussions with Advisory Committee members.
  - Public debriefings following Ministerial and Leader meetings.
  - Regular brainstorming and working meetings on specific issues and recommendations.
2. The working-level contact will liaison with the U.S. Secretariat and the Executive Committee to develop information and language to be included in reports, updates, and briefings to Ministers and Leaders.
3. The working-level contact will assist the U.S. Secretariat and the Executive Committee in reviewing reports and recommendations and provide updates and feedback as required.
4. Other responsibilities as deemed necessary and appropriate.



## APPLICATION FORM

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER

### U.S. SECTION OF THE NORTH AMERICAN COMPETITIVENESS COUNCIL (NACC)

*The information will be used to determine the eligibility of your company, association, or local chamber for membership on the Advisory Committee of the U.S. Section of the North American Competitiveness Council. Please type or print in block letters.*

COMPANY/ORGANIZATION NAME		
WORKING CONTACT INFORMATION		
LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	
JOB TITLE		
ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	POSTAL CODE
TELEPHONE ( )	FAX ( )	
E-MAIL		

*I have read the selection criteria and required commitments to apply for status as an Advisory Committee Member of the U.S. Section of the North American Competitiveness Council. I understand that selection is at the discretion of the U.S. Secretariat.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND FAX IT TO BOTH NUMBERS:  
COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAS: (202) 659-7755      U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: (202) 463-3126**