

News Release**November 10, 2011****For Immediate Release****Contact: Stephanie Henry****202-659-5147****ECAT WELCOMES AGREEMENT ON RUSSIA WTO ACCESSION PACKAGE*****Acceding on Strong Commercial Terms Will Provide Important Benefits to U.S. Farmers,
Manufacturers and Service Providers***

Washington, D.C., November 10, 2011: Calman Cohen, President of the Emergency Committee for American Trade (ECAT), issued the following statement upon the adoption of Russia's accession package by the World Trade Organization (WTO) Working Party, opening the door to full WTO approval of Russia's entry as early as December:

"ECAT welcomes the finalization of Russia's accession package by the WTO Working Party, which opens the door for full WTO approval of Russia's entry as early as December. ECAT understands that Russia has agreed to provide important new market access across all sectors and adhere to the rules of the WTO upon accession. ECAT looks forward to reviewing and commenting on the details of Russia's accession commitments as soon as they are made public. ECAT strongly supports Russia's timely and full implementation of all its Working Party commitments, including on market access, intellectual-property protection and its obligation to join the Information Technology Agreement (ITA) upon accession, so that it will join the WTO on strong commercial terms.

"Russia's accession to the WTO will provide an important avenue to promote Russia's respect for the core rules of the international trading system and to open markets to U.S. farmers, manufacturers and service providers. As with other WTO members, ECAT believes that it is also important to continue to work to strengthen the U.S.-Russia commercial relationship, including to ensure Russia's full respect for intellectual-property protection and transparent, fair and science-based sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures.

"As Russia moves to complete its WTO accession, ECAT also believes that it is imperative for Congress to approve Permanent Normal Trade Relations (PNTR) with Russia to ensure that U.S. exporters and all segments of the U.S. economy receive the full benefits of Russia's membership, including expanded commitments on intellectual property and other core disciplines and access to binding dispute settlement. ECAT looks forward to working with Congress and the Administration so that PNTR legislation moves forward in a timely manner before Russia formally joins the WTO."

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Founded in 1967, ECAT is an organization of the heads of leading U.S. international business enterprises representing all major sectors of the American economy. Their annual worldwide sales exceed \$2.7 trillion and they employ more than 6.2 million persons. ECAT's purpose is to promote economic growth through the expansion of international trade and investment.