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**Southern Shrimp Alliance**  
**955 East MLK Drive, Suite D**  
**Tarpon Springs, FL 34689**  
**727/934-5090**

September 9, 2008

Ambassador Susan C. Schwab  
Office of the United States Trade Representative  
600 17<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Ambassador Schwab:

The Southern Shrimp Alliance ("SSA"), on behalf of the domestic shrimp industry, urges you to afford U.S. Customs and Border Protection ("CBP") a full and complete opportunity to consider all possible means of preventing the substantial under-collection of duties that has severely undermined our unfair trade laws and resist pressure to hastily implement the World Trade Organization's ("WTO") recent ruling against the CBP's continuous bond requirement. Further, because the USTR's negotiated timetable for implementation with the government of Ecuador led the U.S. Department of Commerce ("Commerce") to claim that there was insufficient time to consider alternative calculation methodologies in response to the WTO's adverse ruling on the use of zeroing in the antidumping investigation of shrimp from Ecuador, we further request that you provide Commerce, consistent with the WTO rules, a full and complete opportunity to analyze alternative calculation methodologies and, again, resist pressure to provide expedited implementation of the WTO's ruling.

According to recent press and trade reports, the government of India has claimed to have been "disappointed with the U.S. request for a reasonable period of time" to implement the WTO's ruling.<sup>1</sup> The government of Thailand has reported that "it would hold talks with the US soon...to ensure prompt implementation of the WTO ruling."<sup>2</sup> As the USTR is aware, finding acceptable substitutes for these methods will be a complex task that cannot be taken lightly.

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<sup>1</sup> "Japan's 'Byrd' Duties," Washington Trade Daily (Sep. 2, 2008).

<sup>2</sup> "India wants US to effect WTO ruling on shrimp exports soon," Press Trust of India (Sep. 5, 2008).

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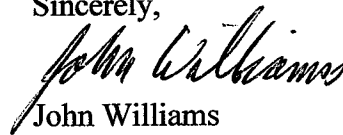
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Thailand and India claim that a delay will injure their industries; but implementing these rulings without full consideration of potentially WTO-compliant alternatives will devastate the U.S. shrimp industry by denying shrimp fishermen and processors a meaningful remedy under the United States' antidumping laws. Commerce will need time to adapt its existing calculation methodology to the zeroing ruling without diminishing the accuracy of dumping margins. Furthermore, CBP will lose an essential tool to ensure that unscrupulous importers cannot evade payment of antidumping duties. As the USTR is aware, the inability of CBP to collect assessed antidumping and countervailing duties has significantly undermined the effectiveness of our trade remedy laws. The enhanced bonding requirement implemented with respect to shrimp imports has led to the successful collection of virtually all antidumping duties assessed on these imports. Removing the enhanced bonding requirement without affording CBP the time to implement a meaningful alternative method for guaranteeing the collection of antidumping duties on shrimp imports will explode an already severe problem to the detriment of everyone in the domestic shrimp industry.

Both zeroing and the enhanced continuous bond were intended to improve enforcement of the United States' antidumping laws, laws that have been consistently undermined by the WTO's overreaching decisions. Further damage will be done if the United States acquiesces to demands that these decisions be implemented prematurely.

The SSA strongly opposes the attempts by Thailand and India to dilute the United States' ability to administer its laws as it sees fit. The USTR must insist that the United States will use the full measure of the "reasonable time period" permitted under WTO rules to implement these rulings and allow Commerce and CBP to conduct a comprehensive analysis of all potential WTO-compliant methods of addressing the issues presented.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Williams".

John Williams

Executive Director