

USTR and TPP

Background

The White House Office of the United States Trade Representative is the lead agency for negotiating the Trans Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA), a trade deal involving more than a dozen countries that have a combined GDP of X trillion dollar (40 percent of World GDP in 2011), which, if concluded in 2014, will be the World's largest regional trade agreement. This survey focus on the intellectual property and pharmaceutical chapters in the agreement, and focuses on the role of four USTR negotiators: Ambassador and USTR head Michael Froman, TPP Chief negotiator Barbara Weisel, Assistant USTR for Intellectual Property and Innovation Stanford McCoy and Deputy Assistant USTR for Intellectual Property and Innovation Probir Mehta.

1. How closely have you followed the TPPA negotiations on intellectual property?

- Closely
- Somewhat
- Not at all

2. Have you attended any of the TPPA negotiating rounds?

- Yes
- No

Ambassador Michael B. Froman, U.S. Trade Representative

Prior to becoming USTR, Ambassador Michael Froman was Assistant to the President of the United States and Deputy National Security Advisor for International Economic Affairs. Before joining the Obama Administration, Froman was a managing director at Citigroup, served as President and Chief Executive Officer of CitilInsurance, and was head of Emerging Markets Strategy at Citigroup.

Ambassador Froman received a bachelor's degree in Public and International Affairs from Princeton University, a doctorate in International Relations from Oxford University and law degree from Harvard Law School, where he was an editor of the Harvard Law Review and a colleague of Barack Obama.

3. Do you have opinions about Ambassador Froman's performance as regards the TPP negotiation?

- Yes
- No

USTR and TPP

4. How well informed about civil society concerns is Ambassador Froman?

- Demonstrates deep and sophisticated understanding of civil society concerns
- Some superficial but shallow or inaccurate understanding of civil society concerns
- No evidence of understanding civil society concerns

Other (please specify)

5. Which terms describe Ambassador Froman's approach to IPR trade policy? (Check all that apply)

- Considers evidence of the impact of policies on people
- Defends the interests of the poor
- Responds to pressure from corporate right holder groups
- Follows the USTR tradition of advocating on behalf of right holders, uncomfortable advocating on behalf of consumers

Barbara Weisel, Chief Negotiator for TransPacific Partnership Agreement

Barbara Weisel is the chief negotiator for the Trans Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA) and the Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Southeast Asia and the Pacific.

Weisel joined the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative in 1994 and led the U.S. Free Trade Agreement negotiations with Malaysia and Thailand, was the deputy lead negotiator on the U.S.-Australia FTA and worked on the Singapore FTA as well as other Southeast Asian and Korean issues. Ms. Weisel has two Masters Degrees from Harvard University and a Bachelor's degree from Connecticut College.

6. How well informed about civil society concerns is Barbara Weisel?

- Demonstrates deep and sophisticated understanding of civil society concerns
- Some superficial but shallow or inaccurate understanding of civil society concerns
- No evidence of understanding civil society concerns

Other (please specify)

7. Which terms describe Barbara Weisel's approach to IPR trade policy? (Check all that apply)

- Considers evidence of the impact of policies on people
- Defends the interests of the poor
- Responds to pressure from corporate right holder groups
- Follows the USTR tradition of advocating on behalf of right holders, uncomfortable advocating on behalf of consumers

USTR and TPP

Stanford McCoy Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Intellectual Propert...

Stan McCoy is Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Intellectual Property and Innovation at the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative. He serves as the chief policy advisor to the United States Trade Representative and the Administration agencies on intellectual property and trade issues, and is responsible for developing and implementing United States trade policy on intellectual property. USTR's Office of Intellectual Property and Innovation also coordinates innovation policy trade issues, such as those related to pharmaceuticals and medical technology, and the intersection between intellectual property trade rules and competition policy.

Stan is the lead U.S. trade negotiator on intellectual property and innovation, including in the WTO TRIPS Council and the U.S. free trade agreements. Before joining USTR, Stan was with the law firm of Covington & Burling in Brussels, Belgium and Washington, D.C., where his practice included international intellectual property enforcement, international trade law, and other matters. He is a graduate of DePauw University and the University of Virginia School of Law.

8. How well informed about civil society concerns is Stan McCoy?

- Demonstrates deep and sophisticated understanding of civil society concerns
- Some superficial but shallow or inaccurate understanding of civil society concerns
- No evidence of understanding civil society concerns

9. Which terms describes Stan McCoy's approach to IPR trade policy? (Check all that apply)

- Considers evidence of the impact of policies on people
- Defends the interests of the poor
- Responds to pressure from corporate right holder groups
- Follows the USTR tradition of advocating on behalf of right holders, uncomfortable advocating on behalf of consumers

Probir J. Mehta, Deputy Assistant USTR for Intellectual Property & Inno...

Probir J. Mehta is Deputy Assistant USTR for Intellectual Property & Innovation in the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, working under Stan McCoy. In his current position, Probir engages in bilateral negotiations with numerous trading partners on a wide variety of intellectual property and innovation issues. Probir serves as lead IP negotiator for the Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations and assists in developing and implementing United States trade policy on intellectual property rights (IPR). Probir was the USTR legal counsel during negotiations for the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA). Prior to joining USTR, Probir was an associate at Covington & Burling LLP in Washington, DC, clerked for US District Court Judge Federico A. Moreno, and was a Visiting Scholar at the West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences in Kolkata, India.

Probir holds a J.D. from the George Washington Law School, an MSc. in Politics of the World Economy from the London School of Economics, and a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Michigan.

USTR and TPP

10. How well informed about civil society concerns is Probir Mehta?

- Demonstrates deep and sophisticated understanding of civil society concerns
- Some superficial but shallow or inaccurate understanding of civil society concerns
- No evidence of understanding civil society concerns

Other (please specify)

11. Which terms describes Probir Mehta's approach to IPR trade policy? (Check all that apply)

- Considers evidence of the impact of policies on people
- Defends the interests of the poor
- Responds to pressure from corporate right holder groups
- Follows the USTR tradition of advocating on behalf of right holders, uncomfortable advocating on behalf of consumers

General Questions

12. Which USTR officials seem to represent President Obama's promise of Hope and Change and concern for the poor? (answer all that apply)

- Ambassador Michael Froman
- Barbara Weisel
- Stan McCoy
- Probir Mehta
- None of the above

13. Most likely to eventually take a job working for PhRMA or its member companies?

- Ambassador Froman
- Barbara Weisel
- Stan McCoy
- Probir Mehta
- None of the above

14. Most likely to eventually take a job working for the MPAA?

- Ambassador Froman
- Barbara Weisel
- Stan McCoy
- Probir Mehta
- None of the above

15. Most likely to eventually take a job working for Oxfam?

- Ambassador Froman
- Barbara Weisel
- Stan McCoy
- Probir Mehta
- None of the above

16. How would you describe Ambassador Froman? (optional)

17. How would you describe Barbara Weisel? (optional)

18. How would you describe Stan McCoy? (optional)

19. How would you describe Probir Mehta? (optional)