



**For Immediate Release**

**Contact:** Dawn Van Dyke  
(703)797-9056 Office  
(703)864-4062 Cell

[dvandyke@apparelandfootwear.org](mailto:dvandyke@apparelandfootwear.org)

## **AAFA WELCOMES TRADE POLICY AGREEMENT, URGES SWIFT APPROVAL OF PENDING TRADE AGREEMENTS**

**ARLINGTON, VA (Friday, May 11, 2007)** – The **American Apparel & Footwear Association** (AAFA) is pleased that trade policy negotiations have yielded a bi-partisan agreement and hopes that all pending trade agreements – Colombia, Peru, Korea and Panama – will be swiftly approved by Congress.

“Important trade agreements have been on hold during these negotiations,” said **Kevin M. Burke, President and CEO, AAFA**. “Now that policy issues have been addressed, it is imperative that Congress approve the U.S./Colombia and U.S./Peru trade promotion agreements immediately.”

“Further, we hope the momentum created by last night’s agreement will lead to an extension of the president’s Trade Promotion Authority (TPA), which is set to expire next month,” added Burke.

“The AAFA applauds the tireless efforts of the Bush administration’s U.S. Trade Representative Susan C. Schwab and Treasury Secretary Henry M. Paulson, Jr., and the congressional leadership on reaching this landmark deal,” continued Burke. Key congressional members involved in the negotiations include: House Ways and Means Committee Chair Charlie Rangel (D-NY), House Ways and Means Trade Subcommittee Chair Sandy Levin (D-MI), House Ways and Means Committee Ranking Republican Jim McCrery (R-CA), House Ways and Means Trade Subcommittee Ranking Republican Wally Herger (R-CA), House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), Senate Finance Committee Chair Max Baucus (D-MT) and Senate Finance Committee Ranking Republican Charles Grassley (R-IA).

AAFA looks forward to studying the details of this trade policy.

###

*The American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA) is the national trade association representing apparel, footwear and other sewn products companies, and their suppliers, which compete in the global market. AAFA's mission is to promote and enhance its members' competitiveness, productivity and profitability in the global market by minimizing regulatory, commercial, political, and trade restraints.*