

# SWEETENER USERS ASSOCIATION

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## **Sweetener Users to Ambassador Froman: ‘Push for Commercially Meaningful Liberalization of Sugar Trade’ in TPP**

Washington, DC (July 30, 2015) – As trade ministers and chief trade negotiators from the 12 Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) countries continue talks in Maui, today the [Sweetener Users Association](#) (SUA) sent a letter to U.S. Trade Representative Michael Froman, urging him to push for commercially meaningful liberalization of sugar trade between TPP member countries.

SUA wrote:

*“At this critical juncture for market-opening trade talks, one single U.S. commodity – minor in relation to other American-grown products – should not be allowed to compromise an entire trade agreement. The United States needs to grant Australia commercially meaningful access for sugar, in the same way that American negotiators are – properly – insisting that other TPP countries give market access for our exports.*

*“... Access to additional sugar from Canada would also benefit the United States. A TPP that includes significant sugar access will increase competition in the U.S. market, enhancing efficiency and benefiting industrial and retail consumers. A more competitive sugar market will help reverse the disturbing trend of job losses in the U.S. sugar-using sector, which has experienced a loss of 120,000 jobs over 15 years, according to U.S. Census Bureau data.*

*“... Perhaps the strongest case for allowing additional access to our sugar market is the fact that U.S. sugar prices are now double world prices and there is no relief in sight for much-needed sugar stocks. Diversification of sources is a key principle of supply chain management and the TPP offers the only real opportunity to increase U.S. access to sugar from other countries. For the U.S. sugar-using sector to remain competitive, it needs adequate supplies of sugar at reasonable prices.”*

Click [here](#) for the full text of the letter.

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