

SWEETENER USERS ASSOCIATION

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May 25, 2011

Honorable Michael Scuse
Acting Under Secretary, Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Room 205-E Whitten Building
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Thank you for meeting yesterday with members of the Sweetener Users Association. As we said during the meeting, our members appreciate the actions that the Department and the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative have taken to make additional sugar available to the market.

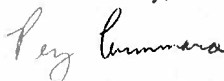
To recap our comments on additional action going forward, we recommend that USDA move expeditiously to –

- Further increase the tariff rate quota (TRQ) for raw sugar by approximately 360,000 short tons, raw value (STRV), in order to achieve an adequate level of stocks in the months ahead, including the early months of 2011/12;
- Provide for entry of the 2010/11 TRQ as late as October 31, 2011, and for entry of the 2011/12 TRQ as early as September 1, 2011, as was done last year; and
- Discuss with colleagues at USTR the possibility of permitting the temporary leasing of sugar quota among quota-holding countries in order to reduce quota shortfalls and provide benefits to small quota-holding countries such as Haiti, Congo, Gabon and others that seldom if ever fill their quotas.

As we noted during the meeting, we feel these actions are appropriate and necessary because virtually all the risks in today's marketplace are associated with lower, not higher, potential supplies. In many cases, these risks have appeared or gotten worse since your April TRQ announcement. Therefore, we urge you to take them under serious consideration. A memorandum from Promar International, the respected economic consulting firm, lays out these factors and is attached.

Once again, thank you for your consideration of our requests.

Sincerely,



Perry Cerminara, Chairman