



Third Part Submission Summary (Wallman)

Document Title: Turn Around America: AFL-CIO Recommendations for the Obama Administration

Party Submitting: AFL-CIO

The **overall goal** of the Administration should be to put in “place a coherent national economic strategy encompassing both deep reform of international economic policy and increased domestic investments in education and skills, infrastructure, clean renewable energy, and a healthy manufacturing sector.”

First priorities – mitigate the “unsustainable” current account deficit by (1) improving enforcement of trade laws; (2) engaging with China “over our enormously imbalanced and unfair trade relationship” including the distortions caused by (a) currency manipulation, (b) exploitation of workers and the environment and (c) illegal subsidies; (3) reforming tax policy “to eliminate incentives to offshore production” and (4) using “our government procurement policy more strategically to support the creation of good jobs domestically”, especially with respect to defense procurement.

Adjusting to Renewable Energy and Cleaner Fuels: This transition needs to be carefully managed to avoid handicapping US manufacturers and their employees or creating unintended incentives to “shift production offshore”.

Trade Agreement Moratorium: There should be a moratorium on new trade agreements while the Administration reviews and repairs the problems with existing ones.

Caution on Pending FTAs: The Administration should announce priorities and criteria for these agreements. No action should occur with respect to the proposed Colombia or Korea FTAs unless serious labor rights issues in each country are addressed.

Doha: The agreement must address “worker rights, currency manipulation, climate change, and tax issues.” In addition “current Doha proposals with respect to services, immigration rules, procurement, and non-agricultural market access issues should be revisited”. AFL-CIO also urges more transparency in the WTO negotiations process for NGOs representing workers and other key stakeholders in civil society.

Enforcement: The existing trade agreement provisions addressing worker rights and environmental issues have not been adequately addressed. Future trade agreements must do a better job of addressing these issues in the first place.

Trade Adjustment Assistance: The Administration should urge adoption of HR 3920, introduced by Rep. Rangel in 2007. Protections should be broadened, and extended to service and public sector employees.

Advisory Committees: The USTR Advisory Committee structure needs to be overhauled to allow a greater voice for workers and needs to be made more transparent.