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**Adopted unanimously by the Executive Committee
on Wednesday, August 10, 2011**

**RESOLUTION ON A U.S. – CANADIAN SHARED VISION FOR
PERIMETER SECURITY AND ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS**

WHEREAS, Canada and the United States benefit from a cultural, historic, social and economic relationship that spans more than 200 years; and

WHEREAS, the United States and Canada share both the world’s largest border and a unique relationship of governments and people with more than 300,000 business people, tourists and regular commuters traveling between Canada and the United States every day; and

WHEREAS, Canada and the United States enjoy the largest bilateral trading relationship in the world with more than \$1.2 billion in goods and services crossing their shared borders every day; and

WHEREAS, the economies of the United States and Canada are integrated and mutually dependent with trade between the United States and Canada supporting 7.1 million U. S. jobs and 3 million Canadian jobs; and

WHEREAS, the economic health of both nations is dependent on an appropriate balance between security and ensuring the free flow of people and goods; and

WHEREAS, In February 2011 Prime Minister Stephen Harper and U.S. President Barack Obama announced the broad outlines of a new perimeter security agreement called “*Beyond the Border: A Shared Vision for Perimeter Security and Economic Competitiveness*”; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this integrated strategy is to improve border security while easing the flow of cross-border travel and trade; and

WHEREAS, current negotiations on the joint perimeter security approach represent a crucial opportunity to strengthen ties between the two countries, harmonize and improve travel and trade regulations; minimize duplication of cargo inspections and otherwise facilitate commerce between the two nations.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the governments of the United States and Canada move expeditiously to present a joint plan of action on a shared vision for perimeter security and economic competitiveness that meets the security needs of both countries while removing unnecessary barriers to travel and trade; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Secretary of State of the United States, the Secretary of Homeland Security of the United States, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada, the United State Trade Representative, the Minister of International Trade of Canada, and the Premiers and Speakers of the Legislative Assemblies of the Eastern Canadian Provinces and the Governors of the Northeastern States.