Empire State Development

March 20, 2009

Dear Consul General Mulyani,

On behalf of New York State Governor David Paterson, the Empire State Development Corporation, and the Foreign Trade Commissioner's Association, it is my pleasure to invite you and all the members of the Society of Foreign Consuls in New York on a two-day trade mission to Buffalo on April 29-30, 2009.

This Buffalo trip will be our second mission following our very successful visit to Albany. Our Albany trade mission took place on February 4-5, 2009, bringing 33 foreign trade officials from 27 countries to the Capital Region. Photos from the event at the Governor's Mansion are attached.

This invitation is to encourage international trade and investment cooperation and opportunities between members of foreign consulates and the leaders of business, political, and academic arenas in the Buffalo area.

Governor Paterson will host a dinner in Buffalo in honor of the trade mission Wednesday evening, April 29th, to which the Buffalo and regional business community will be invited. Empire State Development Corporation CEO Marisa Lago will also be accompanying the mission.

We have planned a series of networking events, business and academic institutional visits and receptions to make your visit fruitful and successful.

We extend our invitation to you as we greatly value your country's economic contributions to New York State. We are, therefore, greatly interested in maintaining and enhancing our productive relationship with you and all the members of the Society of Foreign Consuls in New York.

The program includes strong emphases on renewable energy (visits to the Niagara Falls hydropower plant, a wind farm on a waterfront, and a showpiece Green building under construction), life sciences (a briefing by a Nobel Laureate at the NYS Center of Excellence for Life Sciences and a tour of America's U.S.'s first cancer institute), education (briefings at the University of Buffalo, which is one of the 10 most international universities in the U.S. by the number of foreign students), agriculture, and culture (dinner at the Albright Knox Art Gallery and lunch/sightseeing at the world famous Niagara Falls).

Details and costs of your lodging, transportation, and general arrangements will shortly follow.

If you wish to participate in the Buffalo trade mission and have any questions please contact us at your earliest convenience. Kuni Akasaka (kakasaka@empire.state.ny.us and (212) 803-2345) and Melanie Vander Valk (m'damico@empire.state.ny.us and 212 803 3686) will be pleased to assist you.

I am looking forward to seeing you in Buffalo.

Best regards,

Sam Natapoff

Senior Advisor to the Governor of New York State

For International Commerce and Senior Vice President,

International Economic Development