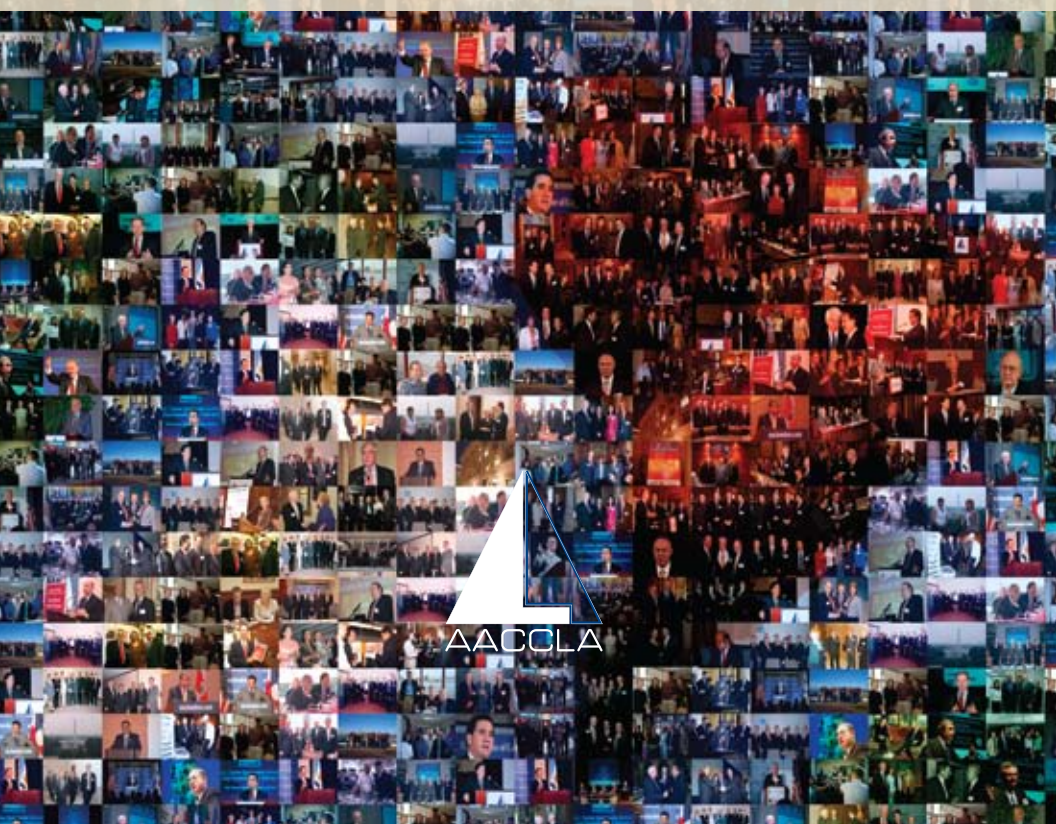




# AACCLA'S CHAIR'S LEADERSHIP CIRCLE



## AACCLA'S CHAIR'S LEADERSHIP CIRCLE

By becoming a member of AACCLA's Chair's Leadership Circle, you are joining an exceptional team of senior executives who meet regularly to define and advance the most important issues facing companies interested in Latin America and the Caribbean.

AACCLA's Chair's Leadership Circle offers senior executives a unique opportunity to interact with the hemisphere's most influential private sector and government officials in forums designed to advance the full range of their professional interests. No other organization provides such high-level access, such broad business development opportunities, nor so many mechanisms for influencing the U.S. and regional political, trade and regulatory agencies. And no other organization offers the ability to do so in such a cost effective manner.





## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Dear colleagues:

In the current environment, the array of items that top the agenda of the Association of American Chambers of Commerce in Latin America (AACCLA) is more complex than at any time in our history. For nearly a century, the 23 American Chambers of Commerce (AmChams) in 21 countries joined together by AACCLA have remained committed to advancing the interests of the business community, promoting growth, removing obstacles to trade, and ensuring that people throughout the Americas recognize the numerous benefits of doing business with U.S. companies. These AmChams represent more than 20,000 companies and more than 80% of U.S. investment in the region. Acting in partnership with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce—the world's largest business federation—AACCLA has become the premier advocate for U.S. business in the Americas.

AACCLA's influence as an advocate for business lies in the unique hemispheric network our organization represents. It is this breadth and depth combined that make AACCLA a powerful voice in shaping trade and investment policies in the United States and throughout the Americas. We are working with key partners, such as the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the Brazil-U.S. Business Council, to advance an international trade and investment agenda that includes efforts to open markets, protect investments, lower the cost of regulation, and assist our member companies with the problems they face whenever—and wherever—they arise.

In these early days of the new U.S. administration and Congress, I am pleased to say that we are hard at work advancing our priorities for 2009. In addition to our efforts to help secure U.S. congressional approval of trade promotion agreements with Colombia and Panama, we are also committed to pressing for the enforcement of existing trade agreements and to ensuring that the benefits of trade and open investment are broadly shared by all. AACCLA is also working to promote trade facilitation measures to make the flow of international commerce faster, cheaper, and more efficient; support regional security while facilitating trade at ports of entry, addressing the movement of people as well as goods; continue to highlight the areas in which U.S. business is contributing to economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean; and press forward with efforts to foster innovation, harness creativity, and champion intellectual property as vital to creating jobs, saving lives, advancing economic growth, and generating breakthrough solutions to challenges in Latin America and the Caribbean.

We are enthusiastic about the future and are committed to advancing those issues that are most important to all of us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mickey Peters". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends across the width of the signature.

Mickey Peters  
Chair, AACCLA

# ABOUT AACCLA

For nearly a century, the American Chambers of Commerce (AmChams) have been the most influential voice of U.S. business in Latin America and the Caribbean. Today, joined together in the Association of American Chambers of Commerce in Latin America, these 23 AmChams represent more than 20,000 companies and over 80 percent of U.S. investment in the region.

Acting in partnership with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce—the world’s largest business federation—AACCLA has become the premier advocate for U.S. business in the Americas. AACCLA’s mission is to promote trade and investment between the United States and the countries of the region through free trade, free markets, and free enterprise.

## AACCLA’S PROGRAMS

AACCLA organizes a variety of programs and services to member AmChams and companies that are looking to the markets of the Latin American and Caribbean region. AACCLA serves as:

- a reliable source of information on regional trade and investment issues;
- a critical point of communication between the AmChams, members of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, as well as governments in the United States and Latin America and the Caribbean; and
- a vehicle for companies based in the United States to access a business network throughout the Hemisphere. AACCLA’s conferences provide an opportunity for face-to-face interaction with executives and government officials across Latin America and the Caribbean. Individual AmCham membership directories also provide detailed information on companies throughout the region. AACCLA’s member AmChams publish business magazines written by experts who provide country-specific analysis of trade and investment opportunities—a valuable source of targeted business intelligence.

# AACLA LEADERSHIP AND STAFF

## **CHAIR**

**Mickey Peters**  
President  
Duke Energy International (Brazil)

## **VICE CHAIR**

**Nicholas Galt**  
Executive Chairman  
TSL Group (Trinidad and Tobago)

## **TREASURER**

**Richard W. Diego**  
Country Manager  
Royal Bank of Canada (Chile)

## **VICE PRESIDENTS**

**Philippe Armand**  
President & CEO  
Groupe Dynamic, S.A. (Haiti)

**Robert Baker**  
President  
Mi Oportunidad (Panama)

**Juan Bruchou**  
Country Corporate Officer  
Citibank (Argentina)

**Rex Canon**  
President and CEO  
The Maple Companies (Peru)

**Gladys M. Coupet**  
Country Corporate Officer  
Citigroup (Haiti)

**Neal R. Goins**  
President  
ExxonMobil Ventures, Mexico Ltd.  
(Mexico)

**José Orive**  
Partner  
F.A. Arias & Muñoz (Guatemala)

**Alejandro Peña Prieto**  
Partner  
Squires, Sanders & Dempsey Peña Prieto Gamundi  
(Dominican Republic)

**Mauricio Robalino**  
General Manager  
La Llave S.A. (Ecuador)

**Rubens Branco da Silva**  
Managing Partner  
Branco Consultores (Brazil)

## **VICE PRESIDENT FOR EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT**

**William Malamud**  
Executive Vice President  
American Chamber of Commerce of the  
Dominican Republic

## **VICE PRESIDENT FOR MEMBERSHIP RELATIONS**

**Jaime Bazán**  
General Manager  
Chilean-American Chamber  
of Commerce

## **EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT**

**Adrean Scheid Rothkopf**  
Vice President, Western Hemisphere Affairs  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce

## **SECRETARIAT**

**Viviane V. Leffingwell**  
Director

**Maria Medrano**  
Director

**Serigio Domingues**  
Western Hemisphere Coordinator



# AACCLA PROGRAM OF WORK FOR 2009

## Part 1: The Policy Agenda

1. Support congressional approval and full implementation of the U.S.-Colombia and U.S. Panama trade agreements, as well as strong enforcement of existing trade agreements. Pursue additional trade initiatives that are comprehensive, ambitious, and commercially significant, including the Doha Development Agenda, the TransPacific Partnership, bilateral tax and investment treaties, and trade preference programs. Underscore the importance of trade liberalization in providing new economic opportunities and support efforts to deepen partnerships and cooperation to ensure that the benefits of free trade and open investment are broadly shared by all. Promote trade and investment openness as central to global economic recovery and reject isolationism in all its forms.
2. Promote the adoption of trade facilitation measures throughout the Western Hemisphere that enhance regional and national competitiveness. These include measures to make the flow of international commerce faster and more efficient and reduce trade transaction costs significantly.
3. Foster innovation, harness creativity, and champion intellectual property (IP) as vital to creating jobs, saving lives, advancing economic growth, and generating breakthrough solutions to challenges in Latin America and the Caribbean.
4. Serve as a resource and a voice for U.S. businesses and their social interests, highlighting areas in which they contribute to economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean.
5. Support regional security while facilitating trade at ports of entry, addressing the movement of goods (customs and port administration) as well as people (visa policy).



## Part 2: The Institutional Agenda

1. **Alternate Dispute Resolution:** Leverage AACCLA's relationship with the American Arbitration Association (AAA) to develop a culture of alternative dispute resolution and training to encourage the use of arbitration and mediation to resolve commercial disputes in Latin America and the Caribbean.
2. **Best Practices:** Identify and share AmCham best practices to strengthen the operations, spirit, profile, and finances of AACCLA's member AmChams.
3. **Leadership Circles:** Continue to work to strengthen the Chair's Leadership Circle program institutionally and bring added value to current members, as well as bring in new member companies.
4. **Pan American Development Foundation (PADF):** Approve, advance, and monitor the work of PADF as it relates to the Memorandum of Understanding signed between AACCLA and PADF in 2000.
5. **Staff Exchanges:** Continue the staff exchanges between the AACCLA Secretariat and member AmChams.

# AACCLA UPCOMING EVENTS:

## **AACCLA's 2009 Mid-Year Meeting**

organized by AACCLA and the  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce  
June 22-24, 2009  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce and  
Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C.

### **June 22 a.m. (U.S. Chamber of Commerce)**

AACCLA Nominating Committee  
AACCLA Governing Board Meeting  
AACCLA General Assembly  
Trade and Investment Outlook in 2009  
AACCLA Administration Policymaker  
Briefing

### **June 22 p.m. (Capitol Hill)**

AmCham Doorknocks

### **June 23 a.m. (U.S. Chamber of Commerce)**

AACCLA Congressional Policymaker  
Briefing

### **June 23 p.m. (Capitol Hill)**

AmCham Doorknocks

### **June 24 (U.S. Chamber of Commerce)**

AmCham CEOs Meeting

## **AACCLA's 42nd Annual Meeting**

including the "Forecast on Latin America  
and the Caribbean" conference,  
organized by AACCLA and the  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce  
October 5-8, 2009  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce and  
Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C.

### **October 5 (U.S. Chamber of Commerce)**

"Forecast on Latin America and  
the Caribbean" Conference  
Gala Reception  
Leadership Circle Dinner

### **October 6 (U.S. Chamber of Commerce)**

AACCLA Nominating Committee  
Meeting  
AACCLA Governing Board Meeting  
AACCLA General Assembly  
AACCLA Policymaker Briefing

### **October 7 a.m. (Capitol Hill)**

AmCham Doorknocks

### **October 7 p.m. (U.S. Chamber of Commerce)**

AmCham CEOs Meeting: Part I

### **October 8 a.m. (U.S. Chamber of Commerce)**

AmCham CEOs Meeting: Part II

### **October 8 p.m. (Capitol Hill)**

AmCham Doorknocks



## AACCLA'S CHAIR'S LEADERSHIP CIRCLE

The Chair's Leadership Circle—our most exclusive level of membership—is comprised primarily of U.S. companies currently doing business in Latin America and the Caribbean. To become a member at this level, your company or its local subsidiary must be a member of at least three of the 23 AACCLA AmChams, be established in the United States, and have over 1,000 employees globally. If the parent company is based in Latin America or the Caribbean, the company must be a member of the local AmCham plus two other member AmChams. The Governing Board of AACCLA must confirm all companies who join the Chair's Leadership Circle.

The Chair's Leadership Circle is designed to provide a wealth of benefits that are tailored to the needs of each individual member. Specific benefits and services include, but are not limited to:

- **AACCLA Strategic Planning and Program of Work:**  
The AACCLA Governing Board meets during the Miami Meeting (in January), the Mid-Year Meeting (in June) and the Annual Meeting (in September / October) for strategic planning and to discuss the program of work. As a member of the Chair's Leadership Circle, your company will be invited for a private meeting with the AACCLA Governing Board to share your company's input on the program of work and appropriate activities for the coming year.

- **Advocacy and Lobbying:**

AACCLA and the member AmChams regularly bring delegations to Washington, D.C., to meet with the U.S. administration and members of Congress on critical issues facing investment in Latin America and the Caribbean. As a member of the Chair's Leadership Circle, your company will be advised of these meetings and invited to share insight on issues important to your company.

- **Access to Exclusive Events:**

As a member of the Chair's Leadership Circle, senior executives from your company will receive priority access to private meetings with senior government officials from the U.S., Latin America, and the Caribbean.

- **Access to Programs:**

In 2008, AACCLA held over one hundred events with heads of state, ministers, and business leaders. During these meetings, specific business agenda items were discussed and developed. As a member of the Chair's Leadership Circle, your company executives will be invited to these events and may be called on to be a speaker, moderator, or panelist at these high profile events.

- **Major Event Benefits:**

Your company logo will be featured on all signage and conference materials of AACCLA's Strategic Planning Retreat (January) and Annual Meeting (September/October). You may also be given priority seating at AACCLA events throughout the year.

- **AACCLA Website:**

A color logo and the name of your company will be listed as a member of the Chair's Leadership Circle on the AACCLA website ([www.aaccla.org](http://www.aaccla.org)). Your company will be given an opportunity to use its presence on the website to direct visitors to its products and services.

- **Marketing and Business Development:**

In order to provide companies with increased access and profile to government leaders, sponsorship opportunities are often available for AACCLA events. Chair's Leadership Circle member companies will receive first right of refusal to sponsor these meetings. Your company's logo is also featured in the monthly newsletter *Business Americas*.



- **Commercial Contacts and Networking:**

As a member of the Chair's Leadership Circle, your company's senior executives will be able to network with the leadership and members of all 23 America Chambers of Commerce in Latin America and the Caribbean and members of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce at the highest level. Each year the leadership of AACCLA member AmChams, and the business community meet in Miami January, in Washington in September or October, and in a rotating location in Latin America in June. Through these networking opportunities, your executives will establish vital contacts with leaders from the public and private sectors from throughout the Western Hemisphere.

- **AACCLA Federation:**

As a member of the Chair's Leadership Circle, your company will have the contact information of the all the CEOs of the AACCLA member AmChams, providing you with access to the most influential network of international executives. In order to receive the extended benefits of membership to a specific AmCham, your company must join the AmCham.

- **Information:**

As a member of the Chair's Leadership Circle, your company's senior executives will receive access to AACCLA's latest published research and commentary, including our monthly newsletter *Business Americas*.

## AACCLA's Chair's Leadership Circle Membership Requirements

1. The company shall complete the admission form with all the necessary information.
2. Each company shall submit the last Annual Report. If you are applying as a new company and do not have an Annual Report, please submit a document certifying the constitution of the company.
3. The AACCLA Governing Board will decide, at the Board's sole discretion, upon the admission of new members during its regular meetings.
4. Only after all necessary application forms have been received by the Governing Board will acceptance be determined and formal notification sent.

## CONFIRMATION FORM

We invite you and your company to become involved in AACCLA's Chair's Leadership Circle. Please see membership requirements above and fill out the confirmation form below.

**Send this form by mail:**

**AACCLA**

**Att. to: Viviane Leffingwell**

**1615 H Street, NW**

**Washington, DC 20062-2000**

**By fax: (202) 463-3126**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Country : \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Option

- Please send invoice
- Check enclosed, made payable to AACCLA
- Credit Card
- Visa MasterCard American Express

Name (exactly as appears on card): \_\_\_\_\_

Card number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



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