



TECHNICAL RESOURCES INTERNATIONAL, INC.

TRI Manages and Provides Technical, Logistical, and Communications Support to the USTDA DR-CAFTA Telecommunications Regulatory Workshop: Laying a Path for Growth and Innovation

Guatemala City, Guatemala – November 20-21, 2008, TRI manages and provides technical, logistical, and communications support to the U.S. Trade Development Agency (USTDA) DR-CAFTA Telecommunications Regulatory Workshop: Laying a Path for Growth and Innovation. The Central America-Dominican Republic-United States Free Trade Agreement was designed to eliminate tariffs and trade barriers and to expand regional opportunities for the workers, manufacturers, consumers, farmers, ranchers and service providers of all the countries. Originally, the agreement encompassed the United States (U.S.) and the Central American countries of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua, and was called CAFTA. In 2004, the Dominican Republic joined the negotiations, and the agreement was renamed DR-CAFTA. The goal of the agreement was to create a free trade area, similar to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) which encompasses the U.S., Canada, and Mexico. DR-CAFTA seeks to eliminate tariffs on U.S. exports of consumer and industrial products, as well as the telecommunications sector.

DR-CAFTA opened three key telecom sectors to competition: closed user group services (or private network services); internet services; and mobile wireless services. A liberalized telecom market in Central America and the Dominican Republic represents a tremendous opportunity for American telecommunications firms to wield a competitive advantage over their Asian and European competition in gaining a foothold in the rapidly developing Latin American telecom market. By providing the DRCAFTA nations with competitively priced telecommunication services, consumers at various points of the economic scale will gain access to information, a critical component to social and economic progress. This workshop provides an opportunity for the DR-CAFTA signatory nations to work together to create a regional telecommunications market that is truly open and meets the free trade agreement's requirements.

About TRI: Technical Resources International, Inc. is a certified minority-owned full-service contract research and communications organization. We offer health and communications services to government agencies, the private sector, and non-profit organizations. Our areas of expertise include clinical trials management: site investigator selection & monitoring, data management, regulatory affairs & medical writing, quality assurance, safety & pharmacovigilance; health & environmental assessment, database design & support, web site development, event management, and marketing & public outreach. Headquartered in Bethesda, Maryland, TRI has been repeatedly recognized among the Top 50 women-owned businesses in the Washington area.

For more information, please visit our website at: <http://www.tech-res.com> or contact our Business Development Specialist, Vanessa Lee at vlee@tech-res.com.

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