WASHINGTON – United States Trade Representative Susan C. Schwab today applauded the entry into force
of the U.S.-Uruguay Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT). “This agreement will strengthen commercial ties between
Uruguay and the United States. It will bolster Uruguay’s economy, and provide protection for U.S. investors,”
Ambassador Schwab said. “The BIT also represents a concrete and important demonstration of our
willingness to strengthen trade and investment ties with reform-oriented countries in Latin America.”

Ambassador Schwab said, “We are especially pleased to be concluding our first BIT in several years with
Uruguay, a negotiating partner that has played a leading role in multilateral trade liberalization in the World
Trade Organization and in the Western Hemisphere.”

Background:

On Wednesday, November 1, 2006, the United States-Uruguay Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) entered into
force, thirty days after the exchange of the instruments of ratification in Montevideo, Uruguay on October 2,
2006. The countries signed the treaty on November 4, 2005. Uruguay completed its domestic ratification
procedures at the end of 2005, and the U.S. Senate approved a resolution granting its advice and consent for
the treaty on September 12, 2006.

The U.S.-Uruguay BIT is the first BIT the United States has concluded since 1999, and is the first BIT
concluded on the basis of the U.S. model BIT text, which was finalized in 2004. The model BIT text
incorporates provisions also found in the investment chapters of U.S. free trade agreements and responds to
investment negotiating objectives established by Congress in the Trade Promotion Act of 2002.

The investment protections in the U.S.-Uruguay BIT will offer increased protection for current and future U.S.
investors in Uruguay by providing for a more stable and predictable legal and regulatory environment. The
BIT will also promote increased investment in Uruguay, which will expand economic growth and prosperity in
Uruguay and greater two-way trade.

The United States is Uruguay’s largest trading partner, and the stock of U.S. foreign direct investment in
Uruguay was $533 million in 2004 (latest data available).

Responsibility for BIT policy and negotiations in the U.S. government is shared by the Department of State
and the Office of the United States Trade Representative.