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[Home](#) / [Document Library](#) / [Press Releases](#) / [2007](#) / [October](#) / [10/08/2007](#) | [Ambassador Schwab statement regarding the outcome of the CAFTA referendum](#)

Ambassador Schwab statement regarding the outcome of the CAFTA referendum

10/08/2007

"The United States welcomes the outcome of the Costa Rican referendum on the free trade agreement that Costa Rica signed with the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and the United States (CAFTA-DR).

"We believe, and history confirms, that countries that open their markets have greater success in generating economic growth and development. We are pleased that Costa Rica will be joining the other CAFTA-DR countries in reaping the benefits of greater regional economic integration and market opportunities that the CAFTA-DR provides.

"We look forward to working with the Government of Costa Rica as it completes the necessary steps to implement the agreement, so that the CAFTA-DR can enter into force for Costa Rica as soon as possible."

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