



**Sorini  
Samet &  
Associates LLC**

Consulting and Government Affairs Practice  
10 G Street, NE, Suite 710  
Washington, DC 20002  
Telephone: 202.248.5090

January 8, 2008

Mr. Georges Sassine  
Chairman, CMO-HOPE  
Port-au-Prince, Haiti

*Via email:* [georges@agttextilesbl.com](mailto:georges@agttextilesbl.com)

Dear Mr. Sassine:

I want to thank you for your decision to retain Sorini, Samet & Associates (SSA) for purposes of seeking legislative enhancement to HOPE. We look forward to the opportunity to continue our work with CMO-HOPE, and we are optimistic of the prospects for success. It is our great pleasure to present to CMO-HOPE the terms of engagement as outlined below.

Sorini, Samet & Associates (SSA) is a comprehensive international trade services firm, and its professionals use decades of institutional experience in the U.S. Government and private sector to achieve clients' objectives in Washington, DC. As explained, SSA is presently affiliated with the Lee Johnson Group, a political consulting firm in Washington, DC. However, several other law and consulting firms have approached us to discuss the possibility of affiliating with our practice. If we decide to join another firm, the decision will be made in the very near future. Thus, this contract is transferable to whichever firm SSA may join.

While we have started a new venture, Sorini, Samet & Associates LLC (SS&A), the core professionals that were critical to this effort remain part of our team. Thus, we have no doubt that SS&A will provide CMO-HOPE with the high-quality service you require and which we as individuals have provided for a number of years. The team of professionals who would work on this project are listed later in this proposal. We pledge to you and to the members of CMO-HOPE that SS&A possesses the resources and abilities to fulfill your objectives.

Services: Among the services we will provide to CMO-HOPE are:

- a) Continue to develop ideas on specific provisions necessary to improve the current HOPE program to enhance Haiti's position in the U.S. apparel market and attract additional

investment. We will then translate these ideas to legislative language, working with key Congressional staff. As part of this effort we will, as we did during the Congressional passage of the HOPE legislation, we will develop arguments in response to points of opposition to HOPE Enhancements that will inevitably arise, and develop the strategies to overcome such opposition.

- b) Advise and assist with the renewal of CBTPA. We well recognize that without an extension of CBPTA to allow for the duty-free entry of apparel from qualifying countries made for U.S. yarns and U.S. fabrics, the benefits of the HOPE value rule would be greatly diminished. We do not anticipate that the extension of CBTPA will be a controversial matter, and may be able to be part of Hope Enhancements.

As part of the points listed above, we will coordinate with U.S. private sector interests and the press, as appropriate, to develop support for HOPE Enhancements and the extension of CBTPA. We also will respond to any further concerns raised by CBP, and coordinate with key U.S. agencies such as USTR, the NSC, and the Departments of State, Commerce and Treasury. Needless to say, we also will coordinate closely with the Government of Haiti, especially the Embassy of Haiti in Washington, DC.

Term: January 1 through March 31, 2008. This agreement may be extended as agreed between CMO-HOPE and SSA.

Fee: U.S. \$15,000 per month

Expenses:

We will invoice you separately for normal expenses, such as phone calls, taxi fares, etc. incurred in connection with one of our professionals working on this matter.

The SSA Team

SSA professionals and advisers who will work on the project include:

**Ambassador Ronald J. Sorini**

As Co-Founder and Principal of Sorini, Samet & Associates (SSA), Mr. Sorini implements and manages the firm's business development, consulting and lobbying practice on international trade negotiations and legislation. Prior to starting Sorini, Samet & Associated, Mr. Sorini, served as President of the Trade Negotiations and Legislative Affairs practice for eight years at Sandler, Travis and Rosenberg, P.A. (ST&R), where he served on the operating committee. Mr. Sorini also served as Senior Vice President for International Development & Government Relations at Fruit of the Loom for four years. At Fruit of the Loom, Mr. Sorini conducted an intensive study on the Chinese market, identified potential business partners and began negotiations on a manufacturing/marketing joint venture. He developed and advocated company positions on trade, tax and regulatory issues before the U.S. Government.

Mr. Sorini also has more than thirteen years of experience in high-level positions in the Federal government at the U.S. Department of Commerce and the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR). In 1989, Mr. Sorini was appointed by President Bush and confirmed by the Senate as Ambassador & Chief Textile Negotiator for USTR. Mr. Sorini chaired U.S. delegations in the negotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the Uruguay Round and bilateral agreements with more than fifty nations. In addition, Mr. Sorini has provided direct advice and counsel to the governments of El Salvador and the Dominican Republic during the CAFTA-DR negotiations and their implementation processes, to the government of Korea during the KORUS FTA negotiations, and to numerous trade associations throughout FTA negotiations between the United States and Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, Colombia and Jordan.

#### **Andrew J. Samet**

Andrew Samet is a co-founder of Sorini, Samet & Associates (SSA). Mr. Samet represents major U.S. corporations and trade associations before the U.S. Government and Congress on international trade issues and legislation. Prior to Sorini, Samet & Associates, Mr. Samet was Co-Managing Partner of the Sandler Travis & Rosenberg, P.A., Washington, D.C. office. Mr. Samet was an integral part of the Trade Negotiations and Legislative Affairs business, where he developed a world-renowned international labor standards and trade agreements practice. He has advised clients on FTA negotiations involving the DR-CAFTA countries, Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Panama, and Southern African Customs Union.

Mr. Samet has a quarter-century of experience in law practice, government policy development, international negotiations and program implementation related to international trade and labor issues. As Deputy Under Secretary of Labor in the Clinton Administration, Mr. Samet was responsible for all international activities of the Department of Labor, and was a member of the senior sub-cabinet deputies group of the White House National Economic Council for international policy decisions. He worked on issues related to NAFTA, and the Jordan, Chile and Singapore FTAs. He also represented the United States on the Governing Body of the International Labor Organization. Among his accomplishments within the organization was his negotiation of the 1999 ILO Convention 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labor and the 1998 ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work. In addition, he was responsible for the implementation of the North American Agreement on Labor Cooperation and the labor agreement that accompanied NAFTA. Mr. Samet joined the Clinton administration in 1993 after serving on the staff of Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York for six years, primarily as legislative director

#### **Lee Johnson**

Lee Johnson, counsel and public affairs advisor to SSA, is founder and Chief Executive Officer of the Congressional Media Group (CMG). He is a former Chief of Staff of the United States Senate Republican Conference. In his capacity as the Leadership Chief of Staff for the Conference Chairman and Vice Chairman, he was responsible for the communications apparatus of the Republican leadership in the Senate, the "fixed" assets, including its television, radio, and

Internet operations, and in helping to coordinate the "message of the day" from the floor of the Senate.

Mr. Johnson utilizes a core team of current and former colleagues, bound together by years of experience of working together and working in and around the unique spaces of Washington. His communications background includes tours of duty at two of America's preeminent public relations firms; Burson-Marsteller, where he was a Managing Director in the Public Affairs Division, and Golin/Harris, where he was Senior Vice President of Public Affairs. A graduate of Vanderbilt University and the University of Alabama School of Law, he is a member of the Bar of the United States Supreme Court, the State of Florida, and the District of Columbia.

His earlier congressional career was as Chief of Staff and Legal Counsel to two senior members of the United States House of Representatives (E. Clay Shaw, Jr. of Florida and J. Kenneth Robinson of Virginia).

#### **Kevin H. Koonce**

Kevin Koonce is an original member of Sorini, Samet & Associates, where he manages various client projects in the legislative and trade negotiating arena. Prior to joining Sorini Samet & Associates, Mr. Koonce served as Director of Trade and Legislative Affairs at Sandler, Travis and Rosenberg, where he advised clients on a wide range of trade issues including customs classification to agricultural standards, textile and apparel rules, and trade agreement negotiations. Mr. Koonce also served as Vice President of Government Affairs for the American International Automobile Dealers Association, where he represented the association before Congress and the Administration on tax and trade issues.

Mr. Koonce also served as Legislative Director and Counsel to U.S. Senator Judd Gregg, where he was the senior advisor the Senator on legislative and procedural matters. Mr. Koonce also worked for the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) as Special Textile Negotiator where he advised Ambassadors Zoellick and Huntsman on textiles, including WTO obligations and the successful launching of a new WTO round of negotiations. Prior to USTR, he was the Legislative Assistant for Trade, Tax and Textiles for U.S. Senator Jesse Helms for six years. He represented Senator Helms at international trade summits including: 1998 APEC Summit in Kuala Lumpur and the 1999 WTO Ministerial in Seattle.

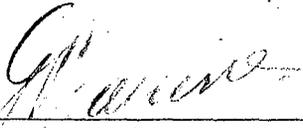
#### **Keith A. Jenkins**

Keith Jenkins, an original member of Sorini, Samet & Associates (SSA), manages trade initiatives on behalf of U.S. and foreign trade associations, foreign governments, and multinational corporations. He provides clients with strategic advice and analysis of U.S. bilateral trade agreements, unilateral preference programs, and multilateral trade negotiations. Prior to joining SSA, he served as a Trade Advisor to Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg where he represented his clients before the U.S. Government and the Congress on international trade policy issues and legislation. He has led successful legislative initiatives on behalf of major U.S. corporations and also worked to expand U.S. market access for developing countries.

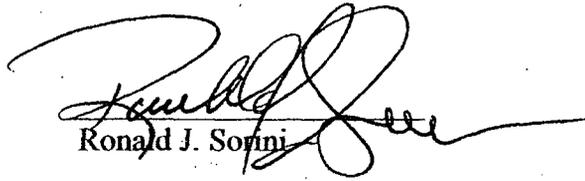
Mr. Jenkins also served on the staff of the U.S. House of Representatives' Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Trade. He was responsible for tracking trade-related legislation in the wake of the failed Dubai Ports World transaction, and managed a portfolio of trade issues from the Middle East, Latin America, and the Former Soviet Union.

Best regards,

**For the CMO-HOPE:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Georges Sassine 01-23-08

**For SSA:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ronald J. Somni