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## IIPA SUPPORTS USTR DECISION TO ELEVATE CHILE TO THE SPECIAL 301 “PRIORITY WATCH LIST”

**Washington** — The International Intellectual Property Alliance (IIPA) supports today’s announcement by U.S. Trade Representative Susan Schwab to elevate Chile to the Special 301 Priority Watch List in light of continuing problems with piracy, inadequate legal protections and poor enforcement present in Chile’s current intellectual property rights system. Ambassador Schwab also expressed concern that political will and a comprehensive strategy by the Chilean government to reverse recent piracy problems appear to be lacking.

Over the past year, the copyright industries in the IIPA report few positive developments to address the numerous copyright law and enforcement issues, including growing piracy problems, in Chile. IIPA recommended to USTR in September 2006 that Chile be elevated to the Priority Watch List, given both the lack of progress on combating piracy and the slow process of legislative copyright reform. The current situation is particularly disturbing given that Chile was the first U.S. trading partner in the Americas to sign a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) which provides a high level of copyright and enforcement obligations.

IIPA and its members hope that continued, close bilateral engagement on copyright issues will produce results in the Chilean laws and enforcement structures such that legitimate copyright markets in Chile can grow. We believe that the Chilean government should engage in several simultaneous measures to improve effective copyright protection, including a public declaration expressing the political will to fight piracy on a national level and announcing specific actions to support such a campaign. We look forward to Chile’s full implementation of its FTA copyright and enforcement obligations (both in-law and in-practice), improved criminal enforcement of piracy cases which result in deterrence, swifter civil litigation practices including an improved civil *ex parte* search remedy, and more effective border measures to intercept pirated and contraband materials.

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The International Intellectual Property Alliance (IIPA) is a coalition of seven trade associations representing U.S. copyright-based industries in bilateral and multilateral efforts to open up foreign markets closed by piracy and other market access barriers. These member associations represent over 1,900 U.S. companies producing and distributing materials protected by copyright laws throughout the world—all types of computer software, including business applications software and entertainment software (such as videogame discs and cartridges, personal computer CD-ROMs, and multimedia products); theatrical films, television programs, DVDs and home video and digital representations of audiovisual works; music, records, CDs, and audiocassettes; and textbooks, trade books, reference and professional publications and journals (in both electronic and print media). IIPA’s September 15, 2006 recommendation to USTR to elevate Chile to the Special 301 “priority watch list” is posted at <http://www.iipa.com/pdf/IIPA%20Chile%20301%20OCR%20submission%20FINAL%2009152006.pdf>