November 17, 2021

Mr. Jake Sullivan
Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Mr. Brian Deese
Director of the National Economic Council of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Dear National Security Advisor Sullivan and Director Deese,

The Information Technology Industry Council (ITI) is the premier global advocate for technology, representing the world's most innovative companies. Founded in 1916, ITI is an international trade association with a team of professionals on four continents. We promote public policies and industry standards that advance competition and innovation worldwide. Our diverse membership and expert staff provide policymakers the broadest perspective and thought leadership from technology, hardware, software, services, and related industries.

Our industry welcomes the upcoming Summit between President Biden, Prime Minister Trudeau, and President López Obrador as an opportunity to further integrate and digitalize the North American economy. As a cornerstone of that economic relationship, the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) includes some of the most forward-thinking and comprehensive digital trade, trade facilitation, and innovation-oriented commitments of any modern trade agreement. It provides a template for worker-friendly policies that facilitates increased economic growth and cooperation, and tackles common concerns.

To advance a common trade and economic agenda in the service of American workers and businesses, we strongly encourage leaders to capitalize on the Summit by affirming commitments to:

- Fully implement and adhere to USMCA, including provisions governing labor rights, digital trade, technical barriers to trade, and customs and trade facilitation;
- Support open digital markets and oppose digital authoritarianism and protectionism;
- Build and deepen competitive and resilient North American supply chains through coordinated policy approaches and eliminating barriers to trade in information and communications technology (ICT) products, parts and components, including semiconductors;

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- Advance ongoing efforts through the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework to address the tax challenges arising from the digitalization of the global economy, including by refraining from introducing new unilateral tax measures and pursuing sensible and administrable approaches in finalizing Pillars One and Two;
- Support private sector-led international technology standards development and base any emerging regulatory requirements on international, industry-driven standards;
- Facilitate inclusive trade, investment opportunities, and the participation of entrepreneurs and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the North American market by promoting regulatory transparency, removing unnecessary burdens like the newly expanded bill of lading complement, cutting customs red tape for firms and individuals leveraging e-commerce, and enabling equitable access to digital tools and services; and
- Facilitate the use of digital systems for government procurement and contracting of services and public works, to ensure disclosure, transparency, citizen oversight, and effective accountability in anti-corruption efforts.

Particularly as the United States prepares to host the Summit for Democracy next month, the global technology sector would view the above commitments as meaningful reflections of shared North American values, including respect for human and labor rights, environmental protection, the rule of law, non-discrimination, market-based commerce, regulatory transparency, and the freedom to innovate and have innovations protected.

ITI welcomes the collaborative engagement of the United States, Mexico, and Canada to date, and we look forward to continuing to partner with you to further these values and advance an open, fair, resilient, and competitive North American market.

Sincerely,

Jason Oxman
President & CEO
Information Technology Industry Council (ITI)

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