



TO: Kareem Dale
Special Assistant to the President

CC: Melody Barnes
Director, Domestic Policy Council

Re: Director of Accessibility

February 19, 2009

I am writing to support the appointment of a Director of Accessibility within the Obama Administration. The EABC represents 65 US and European-based global companies and is dedicated to advancing Trans-Atlantic economic investment, innovation and integration. Many of our companies provide the solutions which make technology accessible to all. Our primary goal for eAccessibility is to see the adoption of global standards, beginning with a single Trans-Atlantic standard.

Achieving this goal will require the involvement of a dedicated, high-level appointee who is able to combine managerial leadership with technical expertise and an intricate understanding of policy. To this end, we would call on the appointment of an individual with the following capabilities:

- Detailed knowledge of the technical challenges faced by the industry, as well as the solutions it provides.
- A comprehensive understanding of the needs and requirements of people with disabilities when using information and communications technologies.
- The ability to build bridges and work closely with all stakeholders, including consumers, government and industry.

We very much look forward to working closely with you and the eventual Director of Accessibility. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

Michael C. Maibach
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