

Washington D.C, November 22, 1993

The Honorable Robert Dole  
U.S. Senate  
141 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Dole:

On behalf of the Colombian government, I would like to congratulate you on your vote to approve the North American Free Trade Agreement. Your leadership on this issue has ensured that the United States and Latin America will remain active partners in promoting economic growth and integration throughout the hemisphere.

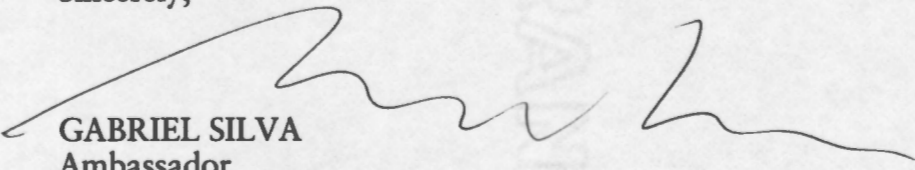
NAFTA's passage holds great meaning to the nations of Latin America that have undertaken difficult political and economic reforms, and have moved aggressively to open their markets to trade and investment.

Because of your courage and vision and that of your Senate colleagues, we can now move forward to create a hemispheric free trade zone of democratic nations, to the mutual benefit of the United States, Colombia and all peoples of the Americas.

Colombia has always viewed NAFTA as a stepping stone toward a hemispheric free trade zone. We have embarked on the opening of our economy, lowering tariffs, modernizing our foreign investment, labor and environmental laws, and negotiating free trade agreements with our neighbors. We have achieved all this without ever abandoning our democratic tradition, the oldest in Latin America. Let me reassure you of our interest in becoming, as soon as possible, a new partner of this free trade alliance.

I applaud your leadership in this matter of great significance for our hemisphere.

Sincerely,



GABRIEL SILVA  
Ambassador