



January 19, 2012

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of Airports Council International North-America (ACI-NA), I am writing in support of your announcement of new initiatives designed to increase travel and tourism to the United States.

In particular, ACI-NA strongly supports your announcement making the Global Entry pilot program into a permanent program, and to expand Global Entry to additional airports beyond the 20 model airports. We believe that Global Entry enhances both passenger facilitation as well as security. Global Entry speeds passengers who have been previously vetted by the U.S. Government through the clearance process at U.S. airports by using kiosks instead of interacting with a U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officer. If it achieves sufficient enrollment levels, Global Entry has the potential to partially mitigate the chronic shortage of CBP officers at airports and thus improve the clearance process for all passengers. We appreciate CBP's efforts in developing and implementing the Global Entry Program.

Additionally, ACI-NA has been advocating for the State Department to improve its visa process so that the United States is positioned to capitalize on increased international travel and tourism by the growing middle class in countries such as Brazil and China. We appreciate the efforts that have been made by the Department in this regard. We strongly support your efforts to make it easier for international tourists in these growing nations to visit the United States.

We look forward to continuing to work with your Administration to develop strategies which will enhance the security and the efficiency of the international arrivals process and attract international visitors to the United States.

Sincerely,

Greg Principato
President
Airports Council International-North America