

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
DEPUTY UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508

June 9, 2020

Mr. Archil Talakvadze  
Chairperson of the Parliament of Georgia

H.E. Maya Tskitishvili  
Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Regional Development and Infrastructure  
Government of Georgia

H.E. Ekaterine Tikaradze  
Minister of IDPs, Labor, Health and Social Affairs  
Government of Georgia

H.E. Natela Turnava  
Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development  
Government of Georgia

Your Excellencies:

I am writing with regard to the ongoing eligibility review of Georgia under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) program of the United States. We appreciate your government's engagement with respect to this review and note your efforts to improve the protection of worker rights in Georgia. As labor inspections and institutions empowered to enforce labor laws are necessary to protect internationally recognized worker rights, our primary concern remains the elimination of the Labor Inspectorate in 2006 and the subsequent lack of labor law enforcement authority.

We understand that the Georgian Parliament may soon consider draft legislation that would provide the labor inspectorate with needed authorities to effectively monitor and enforce labor laws. We encourage timely passage of legislation that ensures that the scope of authority for the labor inspectorate includes the following principles: 1) conducting unannounced inspections in all enterprises; 2) enforcing all labor laws related to internationally recognized worker rights; and 3) sanctioning violators at levels that are sufficient to deter future violations. Passage of legislation consistent with international standards and best practices would strongly support Georgia's continued eligibility under the United States GSP program.

We look forward to continuing our productive dialogue on these issues and our mutual efforts to strengthen the opportunities for trade between our countries.

Sincerely,



Ambassador Jeffrey D. Gerrish  
Deputy United States Trade Representative