



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 25, 2008

Glickman Lauds Increased Focus on IP Protections Online *US Government Issues 301 Report on International Copyright Protections*

WASHINGTON— An annual report on worldwide intellectual property rights released today provides important guidance for dealing with the global scourge of piracy according to Dan Glickman, Chairman and CEO of the Motion Picture Association of America, Inc. (MPAA). The report, issued by the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), outlines the Administration's priorities over the coming year for addressing intellectual property (IP) concerns and identifies countries particularly lacking in adequate and effective IP rights and enforcement.

The report indicates the scope of global piracy and highlights the mounting challenges of protecting intellectual property online, particularly in Spain, which is a new addition to the list from previous years, and Canada. The United States motion picture industry is continually seeking new and innovative ways to deliver entertainment to consumers, including on the Internet. It is important, therefore, that effective IP protections are in place to make these options available to consumers.

"I fully agree with the USTR's decision to add Spain to the Watch List," Glickman said. "Internet piracy in Spain has reached an epidemic level, damaging both U.S. and Spanish creators. There is strong local support in Spain for increased cooperation with Internet service providers and I hope that the new government will respond favorably."

Canada's dearth of protections in the digital environment also seriously concerns the MPAA and its members. Creating a legal framework that enables a legitimate market for digital content to develop requires amendments to the *Copyright Act* to permit ratification of the World Intellectual Property Organization "Internet" treaties and clarification of Internet Service Providers' obligations.

MPAA concurs with USTR's decision to keep both China and Russia on the Priority Watch List. While Russia has made some progress on implementation of its obligations under the IPR Bilateral Agreement, much work remains before Russia should be permitted to accede to the World Trade Organization (WTO). China continues to be one of the world's largest

suppliers of, and marketplaces for, pirated goods. MPAA hopes that through the WTO process, the Chinese will reform their legal system so that it may effectively deter piracy by providing meaningful criminal remedies against those who engage in piracy on a commercial scale.

“MPAA remains encouraged by the Administration’s recognition of the serious problems that result from the rampant theft of intellectual property,” Glickman added, expressing appreciation for the hard work and dedication of Washington agencies and U.S. embassy officials. “We look forward to continued cooperation with the U.S. government to raise awareness of the contribution of intellectual property to global competitiveness and to augment IP enforcement efforts around the world.”

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Background -- The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative released today its “Special 301” annual report on the adequacy and effectiveness of intellectual property rights (IPR) protection in countries around the world. The report identifies those countries that fail to adequately and effectively protect IPR and that deny fair and equitable market access for persons that rely on IPR protection, pursuant to the Trade Act of 1974. Special 301 also provides for the imposition of trade sanctions and the removal of trade preferences where countries do not remedy such deficiencies.

About the MPAA

The Motion Picture Association of America, Inc. (MPAA) serves as the voice and advocate of the American motion picture, home video and television industries from its offices in Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. Its members include: Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures; Paramount Pictures; Sony Pictures Entertainment; Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation; Universal City Studios LLLP; and Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc.

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