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WIPP Announces Export Program at Clinton Global Initiative America

CHICAGO (June 8, 2012) – At the 2012 Clinton Global Initiative (CGI America) meeting, the nation's largest women's business group, <u>Women Impacting Public Policy</u> (WIPP) announced *Building a Worldwide Strategy for Small Business Global Expansion*.

WIPP pledges to reach out to 5,000 businesses to promote export growth. WIPP will develop and implement an export program through education and consultation, designed to help small and midsize businesses expand their markets. According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, 97 percent of all U.S. exporters are small to midsize businesses. These companies comprise 70 percent of new job creation.

"We know that small businesses are looking to the export market to grow." WIPP President Barbara Kasoff further stated. "We want to help them reach that potential."

Michelle Thompson-Dolberry, WIPP Director of Strategic Initiatives, stated, "Through our 61 strategic relationships and partnerships, we will work to further export capabilities for current exporters and help others find successful strategies to expand their business through exports."

WIPP's announcement at CGI America will be available live at http://live.cgiamerica.org at approximately 4:00 P.M. CDT. For live updates through Twitter, please follow @ClintonGlobal and @WIPPWeDecide.

Women Impacting Public Policy (WIPP)

WIPP is a national nonpartisan public policy organization, advocating on behalf of nearly 1 million women-owned businesses and representing 61 business organizations. For more information, please visit www.wipp.org.

About the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI)

Established in 2005 by President Bill Clinton, the Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) convenes global leaders to create and implement innovative solutions to the world's most pressing challenges. CGI Annual Meetings have brought together more than 150 heads of state, 20 Nobel Prize laureates, and hundreds of leading CEOs, heads of foundations and NGOs, major philanthropists, and members of the media. To date CGI members have made more than 2,100 commitments, which are already improving the lives of nearly 400 million people in more than 180 countries. When fully funded and

implemented, these commitments will be valued at \$69.2 billion.

CGI's Annual Meeting is held each September in New York City. CGI also convenes CGI America, a meeting focused on collaborative solutions to economic recovery in the United States, and CGI University (CGI U), which brings together undergraduate and graduate students to address pressing challenges in their community or around the world. For more information, visit clintonglobalinitiative.org and follow us on Twitter @Clintonglobal and Facebook at facebook.com/clintonglobalinitiative.

About CGI America

President Clinton established the Clinton Global Initiative America (CGI America) to address economic recovery in the United States. CGI America brings together leaders in business, government, and civil society to generate and implement commitments to create jobs, stimulate economic growth, foster innovation, and support workforce development in the United States. Since its first meeting in June 2011, CGI America participants have made more than 100 commitments valued at \$11.8 billion. When fully funded and implemented, these commitments will improve the lives of three million people, create or fill more than 150,000 jobs, and invest and loan \$354 million to small and medium enterprises in the United States. The 2012 CGI America meeting will take place June 7-8 in Chicago. To learn more, visit www.cgiamerica.org.