

U.S. Department of Justice
 Washington, DC 20530

**Exhibit A to Registration Statement
 Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of
 1938, as amended**

INSTRUCTIONS. Furnish this exhibit for EACH foreign principal listed in an initial statement and for EACH additional foreign principal acquired subsequently. The filing of this document requires the payment of a filing fee as set forth in Rule (d)(1), 28 C.F.R. § 5.5(d)(1). Compliance is accomplished by filing an electronic Exhibit A form at <https://www.fara.gov>.

Privacy Act Statement. The filing of this document is required by the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 *et seq.*, for the purposes of registration under the Act and public disclosure. Provision of the information requested is mandatory, and failure to provide this information is subject to the penalty and enforcement provisions established in Section 8 of the Act. Every registration statement, short form registration statement, supplemental statement, exhibit, amendment, copy of informational materials or other document or information filed with the Attorney General under this Act is a public record open to public examination, inspection and copying during the posted business hours of the FARA Unit in Washington, DC. Statements are also available online at the FARA Unit's webpage: <https://www.fara.gov>. One copy of every such document, other than informational materials, is automatically provided to the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act, and copies of any and all documents are routinely made available to other agencies, departments and Congress pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Act. The Attorney General also transmits a semi-annual report to Congress on the administration of the Act which lists the names of all agents registered under the Act and the foreign principals they represent. This report is available to the public online at: <https://www.fara.gov>.

Public Reporting Burden. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .22 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to Chief, FARA Unit, Counterintelligence and Export Control Section, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530; and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

1. Name of Registrant Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, LLP	2. Registration Number 3492
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3. Primary Address of Registrant 2001 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006

4. Name of Foreign Principal Promotora de Comercio Exterior de Costa Rica (PROCOMER) for the benefit of the Ministry of Foreign Trade of Costa Rica (COMEX)	5. Address of Foreign Principal Plaza Tempo, Lobby B, 3rd Floor, Autopista Próspero Fernández, costado oeste del Ho San José, Escazú COSTA RICA 10203
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6. Country/Region Represented COSTA RICA

7. Indicate whether the foreign principal is one of the following:
- Government of a foreign country¹
 - Foreign political party
 - Foreign or domestic organization: If either, check one of the following:
 - Partnership
 - Corporation
 - Association
 - Committee
 - Voluntary group
 - Other (*specify*) _____
 - Individual-State nationality _____

8. If the foreign principal is a foreign government, state:
- a) Branch or agency represented by the registrant
 Promotora de Comercio Exterior de Costa Rica (PROCOMER) for the benefit of the Ministry of Foreign Trade of Costa Rica (COMEX)
 - b) Name and title of official(s) with whom registrant engages
 Laura Lopez - Chief Executive Officer, PROCOMER; Manuel Tovar Rivera - Minister of Foreign Trade of Costa Rica (COMEX)

¹ "Government of a foreign country," as defined in Section 1(e) of the Act, includes any person or group of persons exercising sovereign de facto or de jure political jurisdiction over any country, other than the United States, or over any part of such country, and includes any subdivision of any such group and any group or agency to which such sovereign de facto or de jure authority or functions are directly or indirectly delegated. Such term shall include any faction or body of insurgents within a country assuming to exercise governmental authority whether such faction or body of insurgents has or has not been recognized by the United States.

9. If the foreign principal is a foreign political party, state:

- a) Name and title of official(s) with whom registrant engages

- b) Aim, mission or objective of foreign political party

10. If the foreign principal is not a foreign government or a foreign political party:

a) State the nature of the business or activity of this foreign principal.

b) Is this foreign principal:

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Supervised by a foreign government, foreign political party, or other foreign principal | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Owned by a foreign government, foreign political party, or other foreign principal | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Directed by a foreign government, foreign political party, or other foreign principal | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Controlled by a foreign government, foreign political party, or other foreign principal | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Financed by a foreign government, foreign political party, or other foreign principal | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Subsidized in part by a foreign government, foreign political party, or other foreign principal | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |

11. Explain fully all items answered "Yes" in Item 10(b).

12. If the foreign principal is an organization and is not owned or controlled by a foreign government, foreign political party or other foreign principal, state who owns and controls it.

EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, and subject to the penalties of 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and 22 U.S.C. § 618, the undersigned swears or affirms under penalty of perjury that he/she has read the information set forth in this statement filed pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 *et seq.*, that he/she is familiar with the contents thereof, and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and belief.

Date	Printed Name	Signature
09/18/2025	Melissa L. Laurenza	Sign /s/Melissa L. Laurenza
_____	_____	Sign _____
_____	_____	Sign _____
_____	_____	Sign _____

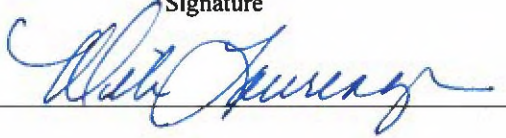
EXECUTION

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Date

Printed Name

Signature

	MELISSA LAURENZA	

U.S. Department of Justice
Washington, DC 20530

**Exhibit B to Registration Statement
Pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of
1938, as amended**

INSTRUCTIONS. A registrant must furnish as an Exhibit B copies of each written agreement and the terms and conditions of each oral agreement with his foreign principal, including all modifications of such agreements, or, where no contract exists, a full statement of all the circumstances by reason of which the registrant is acting as an agent of a foreign principal. Compliance is accomplished by filing an electronic Exhibit B form at <https://www.fara.gov>.

Privacy Act Statement. The filing of this document is required for the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 *et seq.*, for the purposes of registration under the Act and public disclosure. Provision of the information requested is mandatory, and failure to provide the information is subject to the penalty and enforcement provisions established in Section 8 of the Act. Every registration statement, short form registration statement, supplemental statement, exhibit, amendment, copy of informational materials or other document or information filed with the Attorney General under this Act is a public record open to public examination, inspection and copying during the posted business hours of the FARA Unit in Washington, DC. Statements are also available online at the FARA Unit's webpage: <https://www.fara.gov>. One copy of every such document, other than informational materials, is automatically provided to the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 6(b) of the Act, and copies of any and all documents are routinely made available to other agencies, departments and Congress pursuant to Section 6(c) of the Act. The Attorney General also transmits a semi-annual report to Congress on the administration of the Act which lists the names of all agents registered under the Act and the foreign principals they represent. This report is available to the public online at: <https://www.fara.gov>.

Public Reporting Burden. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average .32 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to Chief, FARA Unit, Counterintelligence and Export Control Section, National Security Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530; and to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Washington, DC 20503.

1. Name of Registrant Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, LLP	2. Registration Number 3492
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3. Name of Foreign Principal
Promotora de Comercio Exterior de Costa Rica (PROCOMER) for the benefit of the Ministry of Foreign Trade of Costa Rica (COMEX)

Check Appropriate Box:

- 4. The agreement between the registrant and the above-named foreign principal is a formal written contract. If this box is checked, attach a copy of the contract to this exhibit.
- 5. There is no formal written contract between the registrant and the foreign principal. The agreement with the above-named foreign principal has resulted from an exchange of correspondence. If this box is checked, attach a copy of all pertinent correspondence, including a copy of any initial proposal which has been adopted by reference in such correspondence.
- 6. The agreement or understanding between the registrant and the foreign principal is the result of neither a formal written contract nor an exchange of correspondence between the parties. If this box is checked, give a complete description below of the terms and conditions of the oral agreement or understanding, its duration, and the fees and expenses, if any, to be received.
- 7. What is the date of the contract or agreement with the foreign principal? 09/08/2025
- 8. Describe fully the nature and method of performance of the above indicated agreement or understanding.
Registrant has agreed to provide strategic advice on trade-related issues and government relations support.

9. Describe fully the activities the registrant engages in or proposes to engage in on behalf of the above foreign principal.

Provide strategic advice on trade-related issues and government relations support.

10. Will the activities on behalf of the above foreign principal include political activities as defined in Section 1(o) of the Act.¹

Yes No

If yes, describe all such political activities indicating, among other things, the relations, interests or policies to be influenced together with the means to be employed to achieve this purpose. The response must include, but not be limited to, activities involving lobbying, promotion, perception management, public relations, economic development, and preparation and dissemination of informational materials.

Provide strategic advice on trade-related issues and government relations support.

11. Prior to the date of registration² for this foreign principal has the registrant engaged in any registrable activities, including political activities, for this foreign principal?

Yes No

If yes, describe in full detail all such activities. The response should include, among other things, the relations, interests, and policies sought to be influenced and the means employed to achieve this purpose. If the registrant arranged, sponsored, or delivered speeches, lectures, social media, internet postings, or media broadcasts, give details as to dates, places of delivery, names of speakers, and subject matter. The response must also include, but not be limited to, activities involving lobbying, promotion, perception management, public relations, economic development, and preparation and dissemination of informational materials.

Set forth below a general description of the registrant's activities, including political activities.

Set forth below in the required detail the registrant's political activities.

Date	Contact	Method	Purpose
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12. During the period beginning 60 days prior to the obligation to register³ to the date of registration for this foreign principal, has the registrant received from the foreign principal, or from any other source, for or in the interests of the foreign principal, any contributions, income, money, or thing of value either as compensation, or for disbursement, or otherwise?

Yes No

If yes, set forth below in the required detail an account of such monies or things of value.

Date Received	From Whom	Purpose	Amount/Thing of Value
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13. During the period beginning 60 days prior to the obligation to register⁴ to the date of registration for this foreign principal, has the registrant disbursed or expended monies, or disposed of anything of value other than money, in connection with activity on behalf of the foreign principal or transmitted monies to any such foreign principal?

Yes No

If yes, set forth below in the required detail an account of such monies or things of value.

Date	Recipient	Purpose	Amount/Thing of Value
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¹ "Political activity," as defined in Section 1(o) of the Act, means any activity which the person engaging in believes will, or that the person intends to, in any way influence any agency or official of the Government of the United States or any section of the public within the United States with reference to formulating, adopting, or changing the domestic or foreign policies of the United States or with reference to the political or public interests, policies, or relations of a government of a foreign country or a foreign political party.

^{2,3,4} Pursuant to Section 2(a) of the Act, an agent must register within ten days of becoming an agent, and before acting as such.

EXECUTION

In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1746, and subject to the penalties of 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and 22 U.S.C. § 618, the undersigned swears or affirms under penalty of perjury that he/she has read the information set forth in this statement filed pursuant to the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938, as amended, 22 U.S.C. § 611 *et seq.*, that he/she is familiar with the contents thereof, and that such contents are in their entirety true and accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and belief.

Date	Printed Name	Signature
09/18/2025	Melissa L. Laurenza	<input data-bbox="889 457 959 485" type="text" value="Sign"/> /s/Melissa L. Laurenza
_____	_____	<input data-bbox="889 541 959 581" type="text" value="Sign"/> _____
_____	_____	<input data-bbox="889 630 959 669" type="text" value="Sign"/> _____
_____	_____	<input data-bbox="889 709 959 749" type="text" value="Sign"/> _____

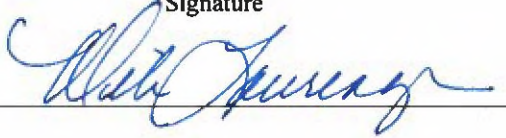
EXECUTION

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Date

Printed Name

Signature

	MELISSA LAURENZA	

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
Robert S. Strauss Tower
2001 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006

T +1 202.887.4000
F +1 202.887.4288
akingump.com



GEOFF K. VERHOFF
+1 202.416.5012/fax: +1 202.887.4288
gverhoff@akingump.com

September 8, 2025

VIA E-MAIL

Laura López Salazar
Chief Executive Officer
Promotora del Comercio Exterior de Costa Rica (PROCOMER)
Plaza Tempo, Lobby B, 3rd Floor
Autopista Próspero Fernández, costado oeste del Hospital CIMA
Escazú, San José, 10203
Costa Rica

Manuel Tovar Rivera
Minister of Foreign Trade of Costa Rica
Ministry of Foreign Trade (COMEX)
Autopista Próspero Fernández, costado oeste del Hospital CIMA
Escazú, San José, 297-1007
Costa Rica

Re: Terms of Engagement

Dear Ms. López and Minister Tovar:

I am pleased to confirm our representation of Promotora de Comercio Exterior de Costa Rica (“PROCOMER”) for the benefit of the Ministry of Foreign Trade of Costa Rica (COMEX) in connection with providing strategic advice on trade-related issues and government relations support. The firm appreciates your confidence in us, and we look forward to working with you.

As you may appreciate, the firm is a large law firm comprised of many practice groups that provide services, both of a legal and non-legal nature, to clients around the world. Our success depends in large part on our ability to leverage our expertise and practice group offerings in client arrangements that align with the matters we are asked to undertake. Most notably, the professionals in our public law and policy practice routinely provide law related services that are distinct from the legal services we provide to the majority of our clients, and therefore not

PROCOMER September 8, 2025

subject to the same lawyer obligations, provided the client has been informed about the implications of a non-legal services engagement and except as otherwise agreed to with the client.

In light of the work you have asked us to undertake on your behalf, we have agreed with you that the firm is being engaged here to provide the services referenced above, and that such services are non legal services. As such, we agree that you are not relying on us for legal advice and that our entering into this arrangement will not create, and will not be deemed to create, a lawyer-client relationship between you and the firm. Notwithstanding our agreement to maintain in confidence your confidential information (in accordance with the terms of this letter or a separate written understanding on confidentiality, which may be entered into contemporaneously herewith and shall be deemed a part hereof), this means that the typical facets of a law firm and client relationship will generally not be applicable here (e.g. conflicts standards under the lawyer rules of professional conduct, attorney-client or work product privileges, etc.). By way of example, you understand that the firm is free to represent other clients in any other legal matters, without seeking your consent.

More specifically, it is possible that the firm has represented, presently represents, or may in the future be asked to represent, other clients in particular matters where their positions or interests are not aligned with yours (e.g. where we are not also representing you in those same identifiable matters). If at any time, you become uncomfortable with continuing our engagement in light of the firm's work for any other client, then you may terminate this engagement at any time for any reason. But you acknowledge and agree that neither this engagement nor our possession of confidential information shall be used against us to disqualify us from any other work.

If at any point you do wish to retain us to act as your lawyers on legal matters, we will confirm with you separately the terms of those legal services to be provided; with the understanding that each such matter and the lawyer-client relationship created thereby will conclude when we have completed the legal work covered in the relevant engagement agreement or other similar writing or your request. You may, for example, ask us to provide legal advice in connection with one or more discrete legal issues related or unrelated to the scope of work contemplated in this engagement, provided that any such work shall not extend or revive the lawyer-client relationship or constitute the performance of legal services beyond the provision of such advice or conclusion of the legal matter.

Representing multiple clients in the same matter is commonly referred to as a "joint representation." Such representations are permissible when the professionals working on the matter can adequately address the interests of each client and each client agrees to the joint representation.

PROCOMER September 8, 2025

We believe that our firm can adequately represent each of you in this matter. Based on the information currently available to us, there appears to be no divergence of interests between you that would preclude joint representation in this matter, and we do not anticipate that such a divergence of interests will arise in the future.

You should be aware that information that you provide us in connection with this matter may be available to the other jointly represented client.

When we begin working for a client, the firm's policy is to describe the manner in which we will bill for our services and disbursements. A clear understanding of those matters helps to maintain a harmonious professional relationship. I encourage you to consider the matters set forth in this letter carefully and to raise with us any question that you may have now or later about its contents.

We refer matters to those individuals in this firm who in our judgment can perform the highest quality work, in a timely and efficient manner, and at the lowest cost.

For this matter, the firm will bill you sixty thousand U.S. dollars (USD \$60,000.00 per month which represents a total amount of seven hundred and twenty thousand U.S. dollars (USD \$720,000.00) in the event that the entire planned twelve (12) month period is executed. The agreement will have a duration of three (3) months, starting from the official notification of its commencement. The contract may be extended for equal periods (of three months each), subject to satisfactory performance evaluation of the contracted firm and budget availability, for a maximum total term of twelve (12) months. Any extension must be formalized in writing before the end of the current term and must be duly authorized by COMEX, in accordance with applicable regulations.

Our standard practice is to bill on a monthly basis. This allows our clients to monitor both current and cumulative fees and expenses. We require that payment of statements be made within 30 days of receipt, and we may suspend or terminate any work in progress if timely payment is not made.

Attached to this letter is our Statement of Firm Policies, as amended, (the "**Statement**") that will apply to this engagement and in each matter agreed to from time to time. In the event of a conflict between the terms of the Statement and the terms of this letter, the terms of this letter shall control. Please review these policies and let me know if you have any questions concerning them. In addition to the Statement, this engagement will also be in accordance with Attachment 1, COMEX's Terms of Reference (the "**Requirements**"), as agreed to herein. Our offer, as required by the Terms of Reference document, will remain valid for 45 business days.

PROCOMER September 8, 2025

If the terms described above and in the attached Statement are satisfactory, please sign the enclosed copy of this letter and return a signed copy. If you choose not to notify us in writing of any objection to these terms, then that will also serve as agreement to these terms, subject, of course, to your right to terminate our engagement at any time.

Sincerely,

AKIN GUMP STRAUSS HAUER & FELD LLP

Geoff Verhoff

Geoff K. Verhoff

Enclosure

cc: Ana Montañez

AGREED:

Promotora de Comercio Exterior de Costa Rica (PROCOMER)

By: LAURA LOPEZ SALAZAR (FIRMA)
Laura Lopez, Chief Executive Officer

Firmado digitalmente por LAURA LOPEZ SALAZAR (FIRMA)
Fecha: 2025.09.17 09:48:29 -06'00'

Date: _____

Ministry of Foreign Trade (COMEX)

By: MANUEL ALEJANDRO TOVAR RIVERA (FIRMA)
Manuel Tovar Rivera
Minister of Foreign Trade of Costa Rica

Firmado digitalmente por MANUEL ALEJANDRO TOVAR RIVERA (FIRMA)
Fecha: 2025.09.17 10:32:57 -06'00'

Date: _____

STATEMENT OF FIRM POLICIES

We appreciate your decision to engage Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP (“**Akin**”) and look forward to developing our relationship with you in the course of our work on your behalf. Except as may be modified by a separate written agreement, the following summarizes our billing practices and certain other terms that will apply to any engagement. If you provide us with outside counsel guidelines, billing requirements, or other similar policies, we will endeavor to abide by them to the extent reasonably practicable and consistent with our obligations to other clients and any applicable rules of professional conduct. However, the terms of our engagement letter together with this Statement cannot be modified in any material respect by the tender of such policies, without a writing signed by us.

1. Determination of Fees

When establishing fees for services that we render, we are guided primarily by the time and labor required, although we also consider other appropriate factors, such as the novelty and difficulty of the issues involved; the skill required to perform the particular assignment; time-saving use of resources (including research, analysis, data and documentation) that we have previously developed and stored electronically or otherwise in quickly retrievable form; the fee customarily charged by comparable firms for similar services; the amount of money involved or at risk and the results obtained; and the time constraints imposed by either the client or the circumstances. The firm generally requires a retainer in an amount which is appropriate with respect to the proposed scope of work. Unless otherwise agreed, the retainer will be applied to statements rendered in connection with the work, with any unused portion being returned to the client.

In determining a reasonable fee for the time and labor required for a particular matter, we consider the ability, experience, and reputation of the professionals in our firm who perform the services. To facilitate this determination, we internally assign to each professional an hourly rate based on these factors. When selecting professionals to perform services for a client, we generally seek to assign professionals having the lowest hourly rates consistent with the skills, time demands, and other factors influencing the professional responsibility required for each matter. Of course, our internal allocation of values for professional time changes periodically (at least annually) to account for increases in our cost of delivering services, other economic factors, and the augmentation of a particular professional’s ability, experience and reputation. Any such changes in hourly rates are applied prospectively. Where applicable, we record and bill our time in one-tenth hour (six-minute) increments.

If applicable, the time for which a client will be charged will include, but will not be limited to, telephone and office conferences between client and firm personnel, consultants and others; conferences among our personnel; factual investigation; research; responding to clients’ requests for us to provide information to their auditors in connection with reviews or audits of financial invoices; drafting of letters, op-eds, articles and other documents; and travel time.

2. Billing

We bill monthly throughout the engagement for a particular matter, and our monthly statements are due within thirty days after your receipt thereof. Our statements contain a concise summary of each matter for which services were rendered and a fee was charged.

We invite our clients to discuss freely with us any questions that they have concerning a fee charged for any matter. We want our clients to be satisfied with both the quality of our services and the reasonableness of the fees that we charge for those services. We will attempt to provide as much billing information as the client requires and in such customary form that it desires, and are willing to discuss with our clients any of the various billing formats we have available that best suits their needs.

If any monthly statement is not paid within 60 days after the original statement date, we reserve the right to discontinue services on all pending matters for you until all of your accounts with us have been brought current. Additionally, if any statement is not paid within 60 days from the date of the original statement, we may, by written notice to you on a subsequent statement or otherwise, declare the overdue account to be delinquent. We have no obligation to declare any account delinquent. If we declare an account to be delinquent, the amount owing on that account will accrue interest at a rate equal to one percent (1%) per month (a 12% annual percentage rate) from the date of our delinquency notice to you until the balance is paid in full, but in no event shall such rate exceed the maximum rate permitted by applicable law. Any payments made on past due statements are applied first to interest, if any, and then to the account balance, beginning with the oldest outstanding statement. In addition, we are entitled to consulting fees and costs if collection activities are necessary.

3. Client and Scope of Engagement

Our engagement is limited to the specific party or parties and matter identified in an engagement letter or similar writing confirming our scope of work. As a result, our engagement with you does not create any relationship with any other persons or entities, including parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, joint venture entities, successors, acquirers, employees, officers, directors, shareholders, partners, members, or trustees, even if such persons or entities control, are controlled by, or are under common control with you.

We will provide services of the kind generally described in the engagement letter that accompanies this attachment. It is understood that you are not relying on us for business, investment, or accounting decisions, or to investigate the character or credit of persons with whom you may be dealing, or to advise you about changes in the law that might affect you unless otherwise specified in the letter. We will keep you advised of developments as necessary to perform our services and will consult with you as necessary to ensure the timely, effective, and efficient completion of our work. Professionals in the firm typically have several client matters pending and are required to coordinate the scheduling of activities required for each pending client matter.

4. Necessary Information

It is anticipated that you and any other entities affiliated with you will furnish us promptly with all information that we deem to be required to perform the services described in our engagement letter, including financial statements from qualified accountants and auditors, as appropriate, and documents prepared by other consultants employed by you in connection with prior or other matters. You will make such business or technical decisions or determinations as are appropriate to carry out our engagement.

Our engagement is premised and conditioned upon your representation that you are not aware of any material facts or current or historical problem (involving without limitation such matters as court orders, injunctions, cease and desist orders, judgments, liabilities, litigation, administrative proceedings, crimes, prosecutions, bankruptcies or securities violations) on the part of any person to be connected with you that you have not fully disclosed to us. You understand that the accuracy and completeness of any document (including securities disclosure documents, litigation pleadings and court filings) prepared by us is dependent upon your alertness to assure that it contains all material facts relating to the subject and purpose of such document and that such document must not contain any misrepresentation of a material fact nor omit information necessary to make the statements therein not misleading. To that end, you agree to review all documents prepared by us for their factual accuracy and completeness prior to any use thereof. You also acknowledge that this responsibility continues through our engagement in the event that such document becomes deficient in this regard. You hereby represent and warrant that any material, information, reports and financial statements, whether rendered orally or in writing, furnished to us by you will be accurate, and that we may rely upon the truth or accuracy of such information.

5. Confidentiality and Conflicts

Akin is a large law firm with multiple offices and a large number of clients around the world. Because of the firm's size and geographic scope, as well as the breadth and diversity of our practice, other present or future clients of the firm inevitably will have contacts with you. Accordingly, to prevent any future misunderstanding and to preserve the firm's ability to work on behalf of you and our other clients, we confirm the following understanding about certain conflicts of interest issues:

Unless we have your agreement that we may do so, we will not work for another client in a matter that is substantially related to a matter in which we are working for you and where the other client is adverse to you. We understand the term "matter" to refer to transactions, negotiations, proceedings and other representations involving specific parties.

At the same time, you agree that we may (i) continue to advise any existing client and (ii) undertake to advise any new or former client, in each case, in any matter that is not substantially related to a matter in which we advise you, even if we advise you in a matter in which the other client is adverse to you or we advise the other client in a matter in which you are adverse to the

other client. By way of example, this would include assisting another client on various types of agreements, financings or restructurings in which you may have an interest in as a counterparty, or advancing another client's position on legislative or regulatory issues with which you may disagree.

We agree to maintain the confidentiality of any client confidences and will not disclose or use them without your consent, unless permitted or required by law. We may obtain nonpublic information about you in the course of our work. We maintain appropriate physical, electronic, and procedural safeguards to protect your nonpublic information. We do not disclose nonpublic information about our clients or former clients to anyone, except as permitted by law and legal process.

We will not disclose to you or use on your behalf any documents or information with respect to which we owe a duty of confidentiality to another client or person.

The fact that we may have your documents and/or information that may be relevant to another matter in which we are representing another client will not prevent us from representing that other client in that matter in reliance upon the foregoing advance waiver. We will maintain appropriate safeguards to ensure that the confidentiality of your documents and/or information is preserved.

Our professional obligations to you and to our other clients will require us to run a conflicts check if there is any change in the parties to the matter or any material change in its nature. We must also run a conflicts check before undertaking any new matters with you.

6. Termination of Engagement

Either party shall have the right at any time to terminate this engagement upon written notice to the other party.

7. Disagreements Regarding Fees

In the event that you believe any statement for our services is erroneous for any reason, you shall notify us of the same within ten business days after receipt of such statement stating the basis for your belief. If agreement cannot be reached with respect to the amount owed, you agree to promptly pay the non-disputed portion of our statement and submit the disputed portion for resolution by an appropriate arbitration forum agreed upon by the parties and located in the city where our office rendering such services is located.

8. Governing Law

OUR ENGAGEMENT SHALL BE GOVERNED BY THE LAWS OF THE JURISDICTION WHERE OUR OFFICE RENDERING OUR SERVICES IS LOCATED AND, EXCEPT FOR DISAGREEMENTS REGARDING FEES SUBMITTED TO ARBITRATION

PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH 8 ABOVE, VENUE FOR ANY OTHER ACTION
HEREUNDER SHALL BE IN THE COUNTY WHERE OUR OFFICE RENDERING SUCH
SERVICES IS LOCATED.

9. Record Retention

Following termination of a matter, any otherwise nonpublic information you have supplied to us that is retained by us will be kept confidential as indicated above. Upon your request, we will return to you documents and materials that you provided to us in connection with our work. You hereby acknowledge and agree that if you do not instruct us to have your client file returned to you, we will retain it for a reasonable time period (presently ten years) pursuant to the Firm's then –current Record Retention Policy, after which, we will be free to destroy at our discretion, without further notice to you, any portion of the file left with us that we are not legally required to preserve. Clients may be charged shipping costs for the return of client files. The responsible firm personnel should determine if it is appropriate depending upon the size of the matter and the extent of the likely cost to the firm. If you instruct us to return your file to you, we reserve the right to retain materials pertaining to each matter, including without limitation administrative and accounting records, conflicts and new business intake materials, internal documents, notes, firm form files, communications, and other materials intended for our internal use or that we are prohibited from providing to you by law, court order or third party agreement. By agreeing to and accepting the terms of this letter, you agree to keep us informed of your most current address during the stated retention period.

10. Miscellaneous

The engagement letter together with this Statement of Firm Policies and any accompanying written understanding on confidentiality (if applicable) constitutes our entire understanding and agreement with respect to the terms of our engagement and supersedes any prior understandings and agreements, written or oral. If any provision of our engagement letter is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void or unenforceable, the remainder of the provisions shall remain in full force and effect. Our engagement letter may only be amended in writing by the parties hereto.

Your agreement to this engagement constitutes your acceptance of the foregoing terms and conditions. If any of them is unacceptable to you, please advise us now so that we can resolve any differences and proceed with a clear, complete, and consistent understanding of our relationship.

ATTACHMENT 1 – COMEX’s Terms of Reference

Terms of reference for the contracting of consulting services by the Ministry of Foreign Trade of Costa Rica to provide strategic support in trade negotiations, through the design, legal analysis, strategic promotion, defense, and positioning of trade and investment proposals and interests before the Government of the United States of America

1. Description of the need to be addressed:

In the current context of changes in international trade policies, Costa Rica faces the challenge of strengthening its strategic positioning and ensuring favorable conditions in its trade relations, particularly with the United States of America, its main trading partner. Given this scenario, it is necessary to have specialized technical support that will allow the country to anticipate, respond to, and effectively adapt to changes in U.S. trade policy that may negatively impact Costa Rican exports, as well as promote its trade and investment interests.

2. Description of the object to be contracted:

The Ministry of Foreign Trade (COMEX) requires the contracting of consulting services for strategic support in trade negotiations, and for technical, legal, and strategic advisory services to the Government of Costa Rica in the processes of design, legal analysis, promotion, and defense of trade and investment proposals and interests before the Government of the United States.

3. Duration of the contract:

The contract will have a duration of three (3) months, starting from the official notification of its commencement. The contract may be extended for equal periods (of three months each), subject to satisfactory performance evaluation of the contracted firm and budget availability, for a maximum total term of twelve (12) months.

Any extension must be formalized in writing before the end of the current term and must be duly authorized by COMEX, in accordance with applicable regulations.

4. Validity of the offer:

The offer must be valid for at least forty-five (45) business days.

5. Estimated contract value:

The estimated value of the contract is sixty thousand U.S. dollars (USD \$60,000.00) per month, which represents a total amount of up to seven hundred and twenty thousand U.S. dollars (USD \$720,000.00) in the event that the entire planned twelve (12) month period is executed.

6. Requirements for the contracted firm:

Commercial presence: Eligible bidders must be consulting firms with a minimum of three (3) years of commercial activity in the United States of America.

Experience: Bidders must have a minimum of three (3) years of verifiable experience in providing services similar to those required under these terms of reference. To validate this information, the firm must submit a corporate presentation detailing its track record, services currently provided, or awards received.

7. Requirements for personnel proposed by the consulting firm:

Place of residence: Assigned personnel must reside in the United States of America.

Academic background: Personnel must hold at least a university degree.

Years of experience: Proposed personnel must have at least three (3) years of experience in business development management in the U.S. market or in roles directly related to the services described in these Terms of Reference.

8. Verification method:

To verify compliance with the aforementioned requirements, bidders must submit the curriculum vitae or résumé of all proposed personnel, demonstrating fulfillment of the above criteria.

The consulting firm must appoint a lead consultant who will serve as the primary point of contact with COMEX.

9. Requirements and responsibilities of the contracted service:

The consulting firm will be responsible for providing strategic support in trade negotiations, as well as technical, legal, and strategic advice services to the Government of Costa Rica, focusing on the following components:

1. Positioning Strategy:

- Design and implement a comprehensive positioning strategy to present Costa Rica as a reliable and strategic partner to U.S. government authorities, agencies, and key stakeholders.

2. Strategic Engagement:

- Identify, map, and monitor relevant stakeholders within the new U.S. Administration and its political and economic environment.
- Develop strategic communication materials, presentations, and documents to support Costa Rica's trade and investment positions and proposals.

3. **Defense and Promotion of National Interests:**

- Implement a proactive strategy to defend and promote Costa Rica's trade interests.
- Establish and strengthen communication channels with government agencies, members of Congress, think tanks, business chambers, and other relevant strategic forums.
- Support the participation or representation of Costa Rican authorities in strategic events and high-level meetings, whether in person or remotely, when required.

4. **Public Policy Advisory and Regulatory Analysis:**

- Provide technical advice to align national public policies with U.S. regulatory and trade policy trends and dynamics.
- Analyze legislative texts, regulations, or public policy proposals in the United States, and provide legal arguments to oppose unfavorable elements.

10. **Deliverables:**

The consulting firm must meet with the representatives designated by COMEX every 15 days. In addition, it must submit the following deliverables:

Initial Positioning Strategy Report (due within the first 15 days), including a diagnosis of the U.S. political and trade environment, risk and opportunity analysis for Costa Rica, recommended roadmap, and mapping of key stakeholders (government, Congress, think tanks, business chambers, etc.), including profiles, influence levels, and engagement strategies.

Monthly Progress Reports, detailing the activities carried out, participation in events, executive presentations to promote Costa Rica's positions to various stakeholders, and key messages for use by Costa Rican authorities.

Monthly Reports on U.S. Public and Trade Policy Analysis, including legal opinions on legislative or regulatory proposals that may affect Costa Rica, and alignment or defense recommendations.

Final Consulting Report, including an evaluation of results, lessons learned, and strategic recommendations for the future.

11. Other relevant considerations:

The consulting firm must adhere to all principles of ethics and transparency required for the execution of the contract.

The contractor must obtain all necessary legal, labor, or other permits required to provide the service in the United States of America.

If the contractor requires additional resources to meet its objectives and projects, it must assume all related costs. Consequently, the offered price must include an estimate of any reasonable associated costs, including, among others, required registration fees and travel expenses such as hotel, airfare, transportation services, and meals.

The consulting firm must appoint a representative for contract administration purposes. Firm personnel may participate in virtual coordination meetings with COMEX as agreed between the parties and within the framework of the agreed deliverables.

In the event of a change or replacement of the individual designated to provide the service and act as the point of contact for COMEX, the service provider must notify COMEX in advance to obtain proper authorization and ensure continuity by appointing a new consultant.

12. Payment Method:

Payment will be made at the end of each month, subject to approval of the report and verification of compliance by the contract execution officer.

13. Contracting officer:

The person responsible for the contracting process will be the Special Envoy at the Washington, D.C. Office, Jose Carlos Quirce.

14. Required documents:

Please submit your financial proposal including the following:

- A. Detailed service offering, which must meet the specifications described above.
- B. Validity period of your offer, which must be no less than 45 business days.
- C. Total monthly service price, and the full cost for 12 months if applicable.
- D. Documentation of experience, commercial presence, and personnel information.
- E. Service cancellation policies.
- F. Draft contract.

Please send your proposal by **September 2nd, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.** to the following email address:

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us at the above email address.