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US and UK should continue their bilateral trade talks despite concerns that both nations are moving too quickly

London/New York – Efforts to lay the groundwork for a trade agreement between the United Kingdom and the United States are proceeding smoothly and deliberately, as they should, according to a trade organization representing large, medium, and small businesses on both sides of the Atlantic, despite concerns that the UK may be "rushing" into any formal trade agreement.

The statement, released by <u>BritishAmerican Business</u> (BAB), an exclusive network of some 500 UK and US companies across 22 business sectors and the voice of transatlantic trade and investment, came in response to a report released today by the International Trade Committee of the UK Parliament, which warns of the "temptation to achieve a quick trade deal with the world's largest economy will be high, but the complexities of the regulatory environment and US's federal system will need careful navigation."

Duncan Edwards, CEO of BritishAmerican Business, said both governments have in fact chosen a careful approach to enhance the trading relationship between both nations; a relationship that is valued at over £160bn with \$1tr invested in one another's economies and has led to the creation of millions of jobs across both sides of the Atlantic.

"We have been encouraged by the careful steps the UK Government has taken with their counterparts in the US to establish an approach through which any future transatlantic relationship can be built," Edwards said. "We welcomed the creation of the UK-US Trade and Investment Working Group and are encouraged by the momentum derived from its process.

"There are clearly some politically sensitive issues that will need to be negotiated but the movement towards greater mutual market access, increased regulatory harmonization, and a reduction in financial and non-financial barriers has to be supported," Edwards concluded.

About BritishAmerican Business

BritishAmerican Business is an exclusive members' organization; we create networking opportunities for our members, which often lead to business opportunities, through the events and programming that we run, as well as the chance to meet, and discuss policy with, government, their representatives, and other NGOs. As a policy and advocacy organization we are the voice of transatlantic business; we support policies and action that will protect and enhance the environment for trade and investment between the US and UK through research, published reports and discussion with legislators and the executive branch of both governments. For more information, please visit www.babinc.org