



## Co-Chair's Letter

This is the summer of the Great Lakes. Over the past several months, we have made historic advances in our efforts to protect and restore our Great Lakes resources.



Ohio Governor Bob Taft

On June 30, I joined with my fellow Governors and the Premiers from Ontario and Québec in releasing for public comment the revised draft agreements to implement Annex 2001.

This process is one more way in which we recognize that the Great Lakes are critical to our economy, our environment and our way of life. We must use the water wisely to help

ensure that it remains available for these vital roles—today and far into the future.

On July 7, the Great Lakes Governors joined with our partners in the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration to unveil a draft Great Lakes protection and restoration strategy. Following public comment, the strategy will be finalized later this year. The Governors' hope and expectation continues to be that this unprecedented collaboration leads to large-scale, long-term funding.

Separately, in May 2006, the Council will be coordinating a business development mission to Australia. Missions like these are critical to increasing exports from our small and medium sized companies, and ensuring that our region continues to be a special place to live, work and visit.

As a region, we continue to make great strides in developing our economy and protecting our Great Lakes.

-Bob Taft

Co-Chair, Council of Great Lakes Governors  
Governor, State of Ohio



A barge enters the Port of Duluth.

## Public rallies behind protecting and restoring the Great Lakes

Summer 2005 was an unprecedented opportunity for the public to express their support for protecting and restoring the Great Lakes through two important initiatives.

As in past years, the Great Lakes continue to face many challenges. Beach closings, toxic algae blooms and the threat of invasive species such as the Asian carp all illustrate the grave need to actively protect this national treasure.

Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle said, "These are not one State's issues or one agency's issues. They are regional and national issues of significance."

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# Brazil Trade Office Promotes Great Lakes Exports



(Left to Right:) Brazil Trade Office Managers Vânia Zulatto, Claudia Tomaselli, and Magda Völker.

Since 1997, the Council has maintained a presence in Brazil, the world's fifth largest country. Brazil represents half the surface area of South America and 40 percent of all of Latin America. It has the largest Gross Domestic Product in the region at \$604 billion in 2004.

Because the United States is Brazil's major trade partner, Brazil is a terrific market for Great Lakes businesses. In 2004, Brazil imports were worth \$11.5 billion, representing an 18.4 percent increase over 2003.

Currently, Indiana, New York, Ohio and Wisconsin work through the Council's Brazil Trade Office to promote exports of goods and services. Brazil Trade Office Managers Claudia Tomaselli, Magda Völker and Vânia Zulatto bring to the Council extensive trade expertise, including experience with the U.S. Foreign Commercial Service in São Paulo.

The Brazil Trade Office assists

Great Lakes companies wishing to export to Brazil by conducting

customized distributor searches, client searches and market studies. Additionally, the office provides customs and regulatory assistance, acts as a liaison to local government officials and refers Great Lakes companies to lawyers, interpreters, credit companies and other professional service providers as needed.

Twelve Great Lakes companies visited the Brazil Trade Office in 2005. Another seven are expected to visit within the next few months.

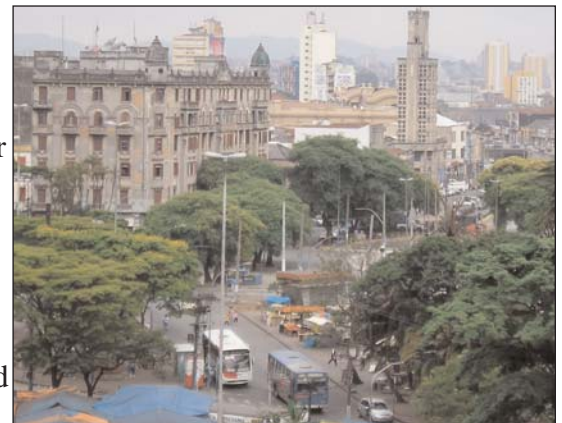
With a population of 184 million, Brazil is one of the most diverse societies on earth, reflecting a unique blend of African, European, Asian and indigenous heritages.

Brazil borders every South American country except Chile and Ecuador but is the only Portuguese speaking country in the region.

With its vast natural resources and a large labor pool, Brazil is South America's largest economy and a

regional power.

As a predominantly urban nation, Brazil has a highly advanced industrial sector that includes automobiles, steel, aircraft, petrochemicals, computers, pulp and paper, food processing, plastics and biotechnology. These industries are fueled by a federal development initiative that encourages industrial modernization, innovation and technological development in order to improve Brazil's economic



Downtown São Paulo.

growth and productivity.

For more information on the Council's Brazil Trade Office, please visit <http://www.cglg.org/projects/trade/index.asp>



## Key Export Opportunities to Brazil:

- \*High-tech machinery, tools and equipment
- \*Parts and components
- \*Testing and quality control instruments
- \*Medical and clinical instrumentation and equipment
- \*Pharmaceuticals products and equipment
- \*Waste management and soil reclamation technologies
- \*Biotechnology



Scott Hassett, Secretary, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, addresses the crowd as Duluth Mayor Herb Bergson looks on.

*(Continued from page 1).*

Recognizing the need for collective action, the Great Lakes Governors joined with representatives from the Administration, the Great Lakes Mayors, Tribal leaders, representatives from Congress and others to release a draft restoration and protection plan for the Great Lakes on July 7th in Duluth, Minnesota.

The plan, developed through the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration, was the result of the work of over 1,500 people who participated on eight different strategy teams.

Each of the eight teams corresponded to one of the Governors' priorities for

Great Lakes restoration and protection.

Public meetings were held throughout the region, and public comments are being welcomed on the plan through September 9.

After all of the public comments are considered, a final action plan will be released on December 12, 2005 in Chicago, Illinois.

Governor Doyle said, "The Lakes provide our municipal and industrial water needs. They support a thriving recreation and tourism industry. They are revered by area Tribes. For these reasons, we ask for the help of all Great Lakes citizens as we move forward with our restoration plans."

Ohio Governor Bob Taft said, "The draft action plan and its recommendations provide hope for restoring and protecting the greatness of our Lakes."

Additional information on the Collaboration and the draft strategy can be found at [www.gllrc.us](http://www.gllrc.us).

Separately, the Great Lakes Governors and Premiers have been working to address the Governors' first priority through Annex 2001 implementation.

On June 30, 2005, the Council released revised draft Annex Implementing Agreements for a 60-day formal public comment period, during which over thirty public meetings were held throughout the region.

Many of the public comments that were received overwhelmingly expressed support for protecting the Great Lakes against the threat of diversions.

Governor Doyle said, "The protection of the Lakes for use by future generations is extremely important to the people living here today, and their voices have been heard loud and clear."

The Governors' and Premiers' staffs will review the comments and discuss revisions to the draft agreements this fall.

For more information, please visit <http://www.cglg.org/projects/water/annex2001Implementing.asp>



A Tribal ceremony begins the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration event on July 7.

# Great Lakes Back on the Map for International Travel

The Great Lakes of North America (GLNA) recently exhibited in New York City at the Travel Industry Association's Pow Wow, the largest international



(Left to right:) Anthony "Toby" McCarrick, GLNA Executive Director; Yolanda Fletcher, UK representative with Cellet Travel Services; Kai Werner, German representative with Travel Marketing Romberg.

tourism trade show in the United States. During Pow Wow, GLNA met with over 50 tour operators and members of the media.

Over 1,300 buyers from 70 countries attended the trade show, which ran from

May 3 through May 7, including 185 new companies. Many tour operators reported healthy increases in business and indicated that they are again open to promoting and selling "secondary destinations," including the Great Lakes. Tour operators have shied away from these destinations over the past several years as they promoted more traditionally popular destinations in an attempt to recover from post-September 11th losses.

Featured speaker General Colin L. Powell (ret.) captivated attendees at the closing luncheon by discussing the importance of the travel industry. Powell stressed the importance of building international alliances to promote democracy and peace and the travel industry's role in that mission.

"The things that pull us together are stronger than the things that pull us apart," Powell told attendees.

He said, "...the essence of our relationship with the rest of the world is trust."

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Fred Kuzel, Director, Great Lakes Biomass State and Regional Partnership

Toby McCarrick, Executive Director, Great Lakes North America

## GLBSRP Impacts National Policy

In addition to working with the National Biomass State and Regional Partnership, the Great Lakes Biomass State and Regional Partnership (GLBSRP) also partners with a number of national organizations working on bioenergy issues. GLBSRP has joined with other regional biomass programs to assist the National Conference of State Legislatures in developing a bioenergy primer to be used as the basis for a workshop for State legislators next summer.

Also, GLBSRP will soon participate in

a series of regional roundtables on national renewable energy policy. The roundtables, which are sponsored by the American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE), will help ACORE develop an energy policy that could be widely accepted by both energy producers and end-users. ACORE's proposal will be presented at a national policy meeting in Washington, D.C. this fall.

Through these and other initiatives, the GLBSRP helps ensure that national bioenergy policies reflect the States' goals and objectives.