

**Joint Statement of the Government Accountability Office
And the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers**

Date July 18, 2007: GAO and the GAO Employees Organization, IFPTE are pleased to announce that they have reached an agreement providing for a representation election. All permanent and probationary Band I, IIA and IIB employees will be eligible to vote. Headquarters employees will vote by manual ballot and Field Office employees will vote by mail ballot. The election process will be completed on September 19, 2007.

IFPTE President Gregory J. Junemann stated that "IFPTE is grateful for the diligent efforts of all the people who had a hand in bringing this agreement about, and we look forward to continued mutual cooperation as we move forward to complete the election process." Comptroller General David M. Walker stated that: "I am very pleased that we have been able to reach an agreement with IFPTE that will result in a timely election. As I have consistently said, GAO recognizes and supports the right of GAO employees to organize if they choose to do so." Both Comptroller General David M. Walker and IFPTE President Gregory J. Junemann praised the agreement as being one that maximizes voting eligibility for GAO employees.

In connection with the settlement, the parties have reached an agreement in principle that will lead to withdrawal of a previously asserted unfair labor practice.

The election process will be conducted by the Personnel Appeals Board, which will issue the formal Election Agreement in the coming days.