

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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Trade Negotiations Committee

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OPEN LETTER ON THE WTO DOHA ROUND NEGOTIATIONS

15 April 2011

The attached letter has been received from the delegation of Australia on behalf of the delegations of Australia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Hong Kong China, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, Switzerland with the request that it be circulated to all WTO members.

We represent a group of WTO Members at varied stages of development, from different regions of the globe. We are united, however, in our determination that for the sake of all countries the Round now needs to be brought quickly to a successful conclusion.

We are deeply concerned that despite the great deal of effort and energy through intensified work in the last few months, there has been very little progress in the Doha negotiations.

We are now in a very difficult situation and our ability to conclude the Round this year might seriously be in question.

We want to work with all Members to ensure that every effort is made to conclude the Round. We believe that a deal is achievable. We believe a deal is also worth fighting for, both in its own right, and in the longer-term interests of the multilateral trading system upon which we all so heavily rely. The Round's significant contribution to development must also be at the forefront of our thinking.

We are not prepared to stand by with such important stakes in play. We are committed to continue to work across all areas of the negotiations and with all Members to bring an ambitious and balanced conclusion to the negotiations. We are prepared to show further flexibility and to contribute to the successful conclusion of the Round this year. We call on all Members to do the same.

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Australia

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Minister for Trade, Industry and Tourism
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