

Mandelson: update on the Doha Round to the European Parliament INTA Committee - Brussels, 29 May 2006

Speaking to the European Parliament today the EU Trade Commission Peter Mandelson updated the INTA Trade Committee on the Doha Round of Trade talks saying: "I believe we now know more or less where each of us stands on the key issues. I made clear at the OECD meeting in Paris last week that the EU is prepared to find ways to improve our offer on agriculture market access, to bring it closer to the requests made by the G20 group while staying within our mandate from the Council. But we will only take a new offer if, at the same time, others come with satisfactory offers in agriculture domestic support and industrial tariffs."

Mandelson called on trading partners for an ambitious but realistic deal: "We understand the pressures on, and aspirations, of our partners. All major players need to undergo a difficult but necessary adjustment of their positions so that they can converge on a middle way that brings sufficient gain to all. This round will succeed only if we manage to create genuine new business opportunities in agricultural and industrial products and services, in developed and advanced developing countries alike."

Mandelson also drew attention to the European Commission's newly finalised global Sustainability Impact Assessment on the Doha Round and the annual report on market access to the EU for developing countries.

[Read the full speech](#)