

Doha Draft Outcome Document

U.S. Suggested Edits – International trade as an engine for development

Paragraph 22:

1st Sentence: Add “s” to end of “rule.”

“Rules-based” is the agreed terminology.

Paragraph 23:

Suggest editing the paragraph as follows:

A major challenge persists. The Doha Round of multilateral trade negotiations has not been concluded, jeopardizing a continued dynamic expansion in the exports of developing and transition economy countries, as well as adding to the risk of a slowdown in the global economy. We will strive for a successful ~~and~~ early ~~and truly development-oriented~~ conclusion of the Doha Round that ensures fair, balanced, and equitable market-opening commitments. To generate the kind of economic growth, development and poverty alleviation that we committed to when we launched the Doha Round in 2001, and reaffirmed in the Monterrey Consensus in 2002, major trading nations, both developed and developing, must contribute on a level commensurate with their role and participation in the global economy and make commitments that result in new trade flows, not new trade barriers.

Market-opening commitments must come from major trading nations. A large proportion of future economic growth will come from major developing countries.

Paragraph 24:

Suggest editing the paragraph as follows:

We recognize the need to make progress in key areas of the Doha Development Agenda that can promote sustained development, are of interest to developing countries, inter alia: increased market access for manufactures and agricultural products, substantial reduction and elimination of subsidies, facilitating technology transfer, effective provisions for special and preferential treatment, and opening of markets to services from developing countries, and affording sufficient policy space.

As drafted the document did not reflect an accurate listing of “key areas of the DDA.”

Paragraph 25:

Suggest editing the paragraph as follows:

We recognize that trade liberalization, combined with pro-market development domestic reforms, enhances the growth potential of developing countries. We acknowledge that the optimum pace and sequence of liberalization depends on the specific circumstances of each country, and that that each country will make this decision based on its own evaluation of the ~~its~~ costs and benefits ~~must be weighed carefully in each case.~~ It ~~Liberalization can~~ ~~must be~~ complemented by expansion of productive capacities, development of human resources and basic infrastructure, ~~access to~~ application of appropriate technology and adequate safety nets. A positive impact of liberalization on development also depends to a large extent on appropriate actions, including predictable access to markets, eliminating abuse of anti-dumping measures, reduction of tariffs and non-tariff barriers and avoidance of measures that distort trade.

Paragraph 26:

Suggest deletion of this paragraph.

This paragraph goes in to too much detail and deals with sensitive areas that are key to the ongoing WTO Doha Round negotiations.

Paragraph 27:

Suggest editing the paragraph as follows:

Trade in the

~~Aid for Trade is an important vital component of the measures that can help required for developing countries to effectively benefit from the Doha Round take advantage of the opportunities offered by the international trading system. Aid for Trade is not a substitute for a successful outcome of the DDA. Aid for Trade is a shared effort between donor and recipient countries. Success will require recipient countries to prioritize their development programs. We will strive to substantially enhance Aid for Trade to support efforts of recipient countries to take advantage of new trade opportunities and assist them in addressing trade liberalization adjustment measures. A critical aim of Aid for Trade should be to enhance competitiveness and ownership while aligning it with the respective national development strategy. The commitments by individual donors relating to Aid for Trade should be fully implemented.~~

Aid for Trade is a partnership, and this paragraph must reflect the balance of that partnership.

Paragraph 28:

Suggest editing the paragraph as follows:

Broader and effective participation of countries in the international trade regime is a key objective of the Monterrey Consensus. We welcome progress in this area since Monterrey, as evidenced by the countries that have acceded to the WTO, the countries that have newly engaged in WTO accession and the countries that have made progress toward WTO accession over the past six years. ~~We will endeavour to facilitate the accession of developing countries and countries with economies in transition that apply for membership in WTO.~~

The additional language takes note of progress made in this area since Monterrey.

Paragraph 29:

Suggest editing the paragraph as follows:

We recognize that regional integration as well as bilateral trade agreements can be important instruments to expand trade. We should ensure that these agreements promote long-term development and advance the goals of the WTO ~~become "building blocks"~~ in the multilateral trading system. International support to South-South and North-South cooperation in trade and other areas can be catalytic in strengthening and consolidating regional and sub-regional integration. We will seek to enhance that support, including through triangular cooperation.

Support of North-South cooperation can also contribute to consolidating regional and sub-regional integration.

Paragraph 30:

Suggest deletion of this paragraph.

This paragraph is superfluous and unnecessary.