



## Race to the April Deadline: Assessing Modalities for the Doha Round's Agricultural Negotiations

A Joint ICTSD-International Food & Agricultural Trade Policy Council  
Informal Roundtable, Geneva, 4 April 2006

Dear Colleague,

I would like to invite you, or the person you would like to designate, to participate in the above Informal Roundtable, which is being convened by the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD) and The International Food & Agricultural Trade Policy Council (IPC) in Geneva, on the 4th of April 2006. The Roundtable will be held at lunch time from 12:30 pm to 3 pm at the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO), Geneva. Please see the draft agenda attached for details.

The WTO's Doha Round negotiations are at a crucial stage. The modalities for an agricultural agreement are still to be decided, and the deadline of April 30 is approaching fast. The modalities, once agreed, will become WTO rules on agriculture and be legally binding commitments for WTO members.

In February 2006, Ambassador Crawford Falconer, Chairperson of the WTO Agricultural Negotiating Committee, circulated a set of questions on the modalities for an agriculture agreement. These questions isolated the main issues on which decisions still have to be taken.

In his presentation, Tim Josling, Professor Emeritus Food Research Institute, Stanford University and member of the International Food & Agricultural Trade Policy Network, will examine the questions posed by the Chair of the Agriculture Committee. Their focus is on the remaining technical and operational aspects relating to the three pillars of the Uruguay Round Agreement - market access, domestic support and export competition - and on the other elements that will be necessary for an agreement, such as a Geographical Indicators, the Peace Clause, a Continuation Clause, monitoring and notification, tariff escalation, and export taxes and restrictions.

We invite you to join us for an in-depth discussion on Tuesday, April 4, 2006, to discuss the policy recommendations. Please contact Cécile de Gardelle at ICTSD to confirm your participation (Tel: +41 22 917 87 92, Fax: +41 22 917 80 93, E-mail [cdegardelle@ictsd.ch](mailto:cdegardelle@ictsd.ch)). We are confident that you will find this Roundtable a rewarding event, and look forward to receiving your confirmation.

Yours sincerely,



Ricardo Meléndez-Ortiz  
Executive Director - ICTSD



## Meeting Programme

### Race to the April Deadline: Assessing Modalities for the Doha Round's Agricultural Negotiations

Venue: World Meteorological Office  
Geneva, 4 April 2006, Room C-2

12:30 – 13:00	Lunch
13:00 – 13:15	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>  Charlotte <b>HEBE BRAND</b> President /CEO, IPC  Ricardo <b>MELÉNDEZ-ORTIZ</b> Executive Director, ICTSD
13:15 – 13:45	<b>ASSESSING MODALITIES</b> Discussion on questions posed by Ambassador Crawford Falconer, Chairperson of the WTO Agricultural Negotiating Committee  Tim <b>JOSLING</b> Professor Emeritus Food Research Institute, Stanford University and member of the International Food & Agricultural Trade Policy Network
13:45 – 14:15	<b>DISCUSSANTS</b>  Manuel <b>TEEHANKEE</b> Ambassador of the Philippines to the WTO  Paulo Estivallet de <b>MESQUITA</b> Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Brazil to the UN  Dr. Cornelius T. <b>MWALWANDA</b> Principal Advisor, ECA Geneva Interregional Advisory Services
14:15 – 15:00	<b>OPEN DISCUSSION</b>

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