

WTO Public Forum 2006 – What WTO for the XXIst Century?

The Evian Group Session on *Trade and Development post non-Doha: Let's get real*

11:30-13:00 on Tuesday 26 September at the WTO, Geneva

The WTO and the multi-lateral trading system are at a crossroad, while the prospects for development in many parts of the world remain uncertain, at best. The Doha Round was meant to bring the North and South closer together. Five years later the divisions between the two are deep and bitter, while the Doha Round lies in ruins.

The Doha Round's collapse falls onto a global landscape already riddled with turmoil, not least from devastating conflicts, growing economic nationalism, and persisting dismal poverty. Its success was sorely needed and represents a dramatic setback to the process of building a more prosperous global market and a more peaceful world.

There was also, however, an element of illusion about the Doha Round and specifically in relation to development. Thus the challenge now is to explore new ways to increase public awareness of the multi-lateral trading system and its benefits, simultaneously seeking to explode some of the myths abounding the international trading system and globalisation, and retain, indeed advocate and widely disseminate the realities of development in the context of both the limits and opportunities that trade provides. This may be considered the most imperative action to be taken in the wake of the Doha Round's demise. Where do we go now post non-Doha?

To address this question, the Evian Group has brought together a remarkable team of panellists representing the developing world's key regions. The goal will be to have a very open and constructive discussion.

Moderator:

Professor Jean-Pierre Lehmann, Professor of International Political Economy, IMD, Switzerland and Founding Director, The Evian Group

Panel:

Shuaihua Cheng (PR of China), *Young Professional Officer – China Programme, International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD), Switzerland*

Franklin Cudjoe (Ghana), *Executive Director, Imani: The Centre for Humane Education, Ghana*

Ximena Escobar Nogales (Columbia), *Center for Applied Studies in Negotiations (CASIN), Switzerland*

Huma Fakhar (Pakistan), *Founder and Chairperson of Market @ccess Promotion (M@P), Pakistan*

Pranav Kumar (India), *Policy Analyst, Consumer Unity and Trust Society International (CUTS International), India*