



WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DU COMMERCE
ORGANIZACIÓN MUNDIAL DEL COMERCIO



**HIGH-LEVEL ROUNDTABLE ON GLOBALIZATION AND ENVIRONMENT: ENSURING COHERENCE
BETWEEN THE TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT REGIMES**

5 FEBRUARY 2007, 1:00-3:00 P.M.

The WTO and UNEP will be organizing jointly a High-Level Roundtable on the theme "Globalization and Environment: Ensuring Coherence Between the Trade and Environment Regimes" at the 24th Session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum (GC/GMEF) in Nairobi. The event will take place on 5 February 2007 from 1.00-3.00 p.m. at the UN Headquarters. It will be open to all government representatives, observers and NGOs attending the GC/GMEF meeting. The discussion is scheduled back-to-back with the Plenary Session of the Governing Council that will address the topic of "Globalization and the Environment".

The panel for this High-Level Roundtable will include:

H.E. Giancarlo Piatti, Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Environment, Land and Sea of Italy

H.E. Dr. Mukhisa Kituyi, Minister of Trade and Industry of Kenya (TBC)

Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director of UNEP

Mr. Pascal Lamy, Director-General of WTO

This High-Level Roundtable aims to provide a forum for addressing key challenges arising from the complex linkages between the trade and environment regimes. The nexus between international trade and environmental sustainability has developed significantly in recent years. On the one hand, trade measures are being used as a tool to foster the objectives of multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs). On the other hand, environment is an integral part of the WTO agenda and an important feature of the Doha Round negotiations. In this context, promoting greater coherence and reinforcing mutual supportiveness between trade and environmental policies can make a substantial contribution towards meeting sustainable development objectives.

The Roundtable will further address opportunities for creating positive synergies between the trade and environment agendas. The Doha mandate provides a unique opportunity in this regard to deliver "win-win" results for trade and the environment, for instance by eliminating environmentally-harmful subsidies, or by improving market access conditions for goods and services that can benefit the environment. The discussion will also explore concrete options for strengthening collaboration between the WTO, UNEP and MEAs in support of their respective goals.