



CANADIAN AGRI-FOOD TRADE ALLIANCE

Suite 308 151 Slater Street

Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5H3

Tel: (613) 560-0500 Fax: (613) 236-3590

www.cafta.org email: office@cafta.org

NEWS RELEASE

It's Time for Industry to Drive the Agenda – Renewed Determination Will Get Results

Ottawa: Friday July 28, 2006 – International market dependent farmers, businesses and organizations around the world need to take the lead now, and put Ministers and negotiators back at the negotiating table to finish the Doha Round.

“As they walked away from the table on July 24, I wonder if Ministers gave any thought to what they were doing to the world’s farmers and agri-businesses,” questioned Liam McCreery, President of the Canadian Agri-Food Trade Alliance (CAFTA). “Did they leave the table knowing that they are sentencing us to a world of continued and likely escalated trade distorting subsidies; continued and likely increasing tariffs; a possible resumption of export subsidies; and increased trade remedy measures and challenges? Were they contemplating a future where a plethora of regional and bilateral trade agreements will displace traditional suppliers in important markets, and completely isolate the world’s poorest countries from participating in the international market at all? Well, farmers, processors and others in the agriculture and food industry around the world can’t let that happen.”

At a recent meeting, the CAFTA Board of Directors reinforced its commitment to the WTO, the Doha Round and to a strong role for CAFTA on behalf of Canada’s international market dependent farmers, processors, and others in the agriculture and food industry.

“CAFTA will use its contacts, nationally and internationally to drive Ministers and negotiators back to the table,” said Mr. McCreery. “We will continue to press for Canada to play a leading role to reach compromise. We will urge our allies, as the newest member of the Cairns Group of Farm Leaders and in the Global Alliance for Liberalized Trade in Food and Agriculture, to pressure their governments to get back to the table. CAFTA was formed to work towards a successful conclusion of the Doha Round and our members are committed to do everything possible, for as long as it takes, to make that happen.”

-30-

For Information: Liam McCreery, President: Cell: (519) 532-0202

Alanna Koch, Vice President: Tel: (306) 771-2686 Cell: (306) 537-8313

The Canadian Agri-Food Trade represents producers, processors and exporters of agriculture and agri-food products, as well as suppliers of agricultural inputs. Accounting for over 80% of Canada’s agriculture and food exports, and more than 60% of farm cash receipts, CAFTA’s members are united in their dependence on trade, and in their need for a liberalized international trading environment.

