



CANADIAN AGRI-FOOD TRADE ALLIANCE

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NEWS RELEASE

Failure in Geneva Beyond Disappointing

Geneva, Saturday July 1, 2006 – Canadian export oriented farmers are well beyond disappointment with the failure of the WTO Ministerial negotiations this week in Geneva to make any progress towards a new agreement to government global trade in agriculture.

“It is with disbelief and not a little resentment that we watch yet another set of negotiations accomplish absolutely nothing,” said Liam McCreery, President of the Canadian Agri-Food Trade Alliance (CAFTA). “Ministers continue to say they are committed, but no one is willing to translate the supposed commitment to action. With their intransigence, WTO member countries have once again let down the millions of farmers and others in developed and developing countries, who absolutely need better rules at the WTO.”

“As Ministers move into the now all too familiar game of laying blame, the agriculture and food sectors in Canada and around the world continue to suffer the devastating effects subsidies and access barriers – with diminishing prospects of relief,” said Mr. McCreery. “We can only hope that the shock of yet another failure, combined with the great determination of the WTO Director General over the next month, will motivate WTO members to live up to their promises to create a better trade environment, and to save the Doha Round.”

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The Canadian Agri-Food Trade represents the majority of Canadian producers, as well as processors and exporters of agriculture and agri-food products and 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.



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