



International Chamber of Commerce

The world business organization



INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

MEDIA RELEASE

ICC looks for rapid action on G8 pledge to conclude Doha trade negotiations in 2010

Paris, 10 July 2009 -- The International Chamber of Commerce welcomes the pledge by leaders of the G8 countries to conclude the Doha Round of trade negotiations in 2010. However, the G8 has set many deadlines for these negotiations in the past which have not been met. International business hopes that after so many years of failure governments may now be on the verge of rapid, concrete, and determined action to reach an ambitious agreement.

ICC welcomes the instruction given to trade ministers to meet before the G20 summit in Pittsburgh this September. We hope this will be more than a stock-taking exercise and will make a decisive contribution towards the conclusion of the negotiations.

Despite the difficulties in reaching agreement on Doha, considerable progress has been made on the negotiations, with many hard-won trade-enhancing offers already agreed to. These achievements must not be lost. A successfully concluded Doha Round is the strongest possible signal governments can give that they will not submit to economic nationalism, which will only result in a longer, deeper recession.

ICC welcomes the reaffirmation of the world's most industrialized countries to resist protectionism, not to raise new trade barriers, and to support efforts by the World Trade Organization to monitor compliance with the anti-protectionist pledges.

To read the full ICC statement to the G8 in English, please visit:
www.iccwbo.org/uploadedFiles/ICC/ICC_Home_Page/pages/ICC_L'Aquila_G8_statement_2009.pdf

To read the full ICC statement to the G8 in French, please visit:
www.iccwbo.org/uploadedFiles/ICC/ICC_Home_Page/pages/G8_2009_L'Aquila_Summit_ICC_statement_FR.pdf

To read the full ICC statement to the G8 in Italian, please visit:
www.iccwbo.org/uploadedFiles/ICC/ICC_Home_Page/pages/Dichiarazione_ICC_G8_L'Aquila_ita.pdf

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About ICC

The International Chamber of Commerce is the largest, most representative business organization in the world. Its hundreds of thousands of member companies in over 130 countries have interests spanning every sector of private enterprise.

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A world network of national committees keeps the ICC International Secretariat in Paris informed about national and regional business priorities. More than 2,000 experts drawn from ICC's member companies feed their knowledge and experience into crafting the ICC stance on specific business issues.

The United Nations, the World Trade Organization, and many other intergovernmental bodies, both international and regional, are kept in touch with the views of international business through ICC.

For more information please visit: www.iccwbo.org