



CELCAA CALLS FOR A DEAL ON TRADE FACILITATION AT WTO MINISTERIAL IN BALI

PRESS RELEASE

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Ahead of the WTO Ninth Ministerial Conference that will be held in Bali, Indonesia, from 3 to 6 December 2013, CELCAA calls WTO members to make all efforts possible to conclude a deal on Trade Facilitation. Trade facilitation is about simpler, speedier and more reliable border processes, making it easier for goods and services to cross international borders. A successful deal would promote growth for both developed and developing countries, while reducing red tape and administrative burden for traders and their customers.

The WTO ninth Ministerial Conference will open officially on 3rd December, and will conclude on 6th December. At this stage, there are still some discussions between parties to arrive at a deal, including a deal on trade facilitation. CELCAA calls on the WTO members to make all efforts possible to conclude the deal on trade facilitation, which would support growth worldwide. A 15% reduction in overall trading costs for developing countries, and 10% in more advanced countries is possible under through the removal of unnecessary customs barriers as part of a comprehensive WTO reform package according to an OECD global analysis. According to OECD, the measures that would make the biggest impact in terms of reducing costs are: harmonization of documents; streamlining of customs procedures (such as pre-arrival clearance) and predictability in customs regulations (such as advance rulings on what tariffs apply to specific products or clear rules of procedure and availability of trade-related information).

Paul Rooke, President CELCAA, stated: "Trade facilitation is about reducing inefficiencies at borders; inefficiencies at borders tax trade not once but many times over. A deal on trade facilitation will therefore not only benefit traders, but consumers, producers, companies and ultimately global economic growth".

CELCAA is an EU umbrella association representing EU organisations covering the trade in cereals, grains, oil, animal feed, wine, meat and meat products, dairy and dairy products, eggs, poultry and game, tobacco, spices and general produces. Members include COCERAL, UECEBV, EUCOLAIT, CEEV, EUWEP, GAFTA EU, FETRATAB, CIBC. CELCAA's main objectives are to facilitate understanding of European decision-makers and stakeholders on the role played by the European traders in agri-commodities; to act as a platform of dialogue and communication with the European Institutions and to encourage public and general interests in agri-trade issues.

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