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THE DOHA ROUND AND THE FUTURE OF THE WTO

KEY MESSAGES

- 1 BUSINESSSEUROPE is a strong supporter of the multilateral trading system.
- 2 A renewed approach for trade liberalisation is needed, with the WTO focusing on its core functions.
- 3 A case-by-case approach will allow the development of new trade rules and restart comprehensive market access negotiations.

WHAT DOES BUSINESSSEUROPE AIM FOR?

- The initial high level of ambition of the Doha Round, launched in 2001, has not been confirmed resulting in the current deadlock of negotiations. The WTO should take concrete steps towards further trade liberalisation on specific issues, rules and sectors.
- Ambitious agreements on trade facilitation and non-tariff barriers should be concluded quickly.
- Plurilateral sectoral agreements should be negotiated.
- The WTO should work towards clearer WTO guidelines on the coherence between bilateral / regional trade agreements and the WTO system.
- The WTO should explore topical issues which are of great interest to business, such as the relationship between trade and investment, competition, energy or raw materials.

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES
