

# NEWS RELEASE



## **IPC Statement on the Doha Round IPC Plenary Meeting in Lusaka, Zambia**

Washington, DC—June 7, 2007

IPC members are encouraged by the momentum that has been reestablished during the last months in the Doha Round Negotiations, which were suspended in July 2006. We encourage the G-4 to make concrete advances and the WTO membership as a whole to make progress towards workable compromises.

We continue to believe that a Round can be successfully concluded if countries demonstrate a sufficient amount of political will. Remaining steps to be taken by all sides would not only help to bring about a conclusion of the negotiations, but would also represent sensible reforms that should be undertaken unilaterally.

We strongly believe that the best time to reach a conclusion is now – the feasibility of reaching an agreement worthwhile for all parties will not improve with another hibernation of the talks. Therefore, political leaders need to take advantage of the renewed momentum to reach a deal.

A concluded Doha Round will not only promote economic growth in all countries – developed and developing alike - but it will help to safeguard the multilateral trading system. While bilateral and regional trade agreements are on the rise, in this era of globalization it is also of vital importance to continue strengthening the rules-based multilateral trade system.

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**About IPC:** The International Food & Agricultural Trade Policy Council (IPC) pursues pragmatic trade and development policies in food and agriculture to meet the world's growing needs. IPC accomplishes its mission by convening influential policymakers, agribusiness executives, farm leaders, and academics from developed and developing countries to clarify complex issues, build consensus, and to advocate policies to decision-makers.