Doha's benefits for Europe… and everyone else

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- Doha would create new trade globally – conservative estimates suggest about €100billion in new trade flows annually - which is an important boost to growth. That has dynamic benefits. When others grow, they create demand which our companies can benefit from. The decisions we make now will help determine how open the global economy is ten years from now.
- Europe would be a big beneficiary of the Doha Round. We are a globalised economy. The more open the global economy, the more opportunities for our companies, the greater the benefits of more competitive goods for our consumers.
- Doha would lower tariffs in some of Europe's most important and growing markets, for example, China, India and Brazil. These are our fastest growing markets.
- Doha would all but eliminate the remaining tariffs in our most important market – the EU-US market. This is good for the tens of thousands of companies who trade across the Atlantic, and especially for the companies that still pay high tariffs in the US – textiles and clothing makers for example.
- Doha would lock in these low tariffs, and all the reductions in tariffs that have been made since the last trade deal in 1994. Because once a tariff is 'bound' by a trade deal it cannot go up again in future. So Doha is like an insurance policy against future protectionism in our trading partners. That certainty has real commercial value for companies.
- Doha will provide new opportunities for our services companies through a new agreement to open services markets. Services are one of Europe's biggest competitive strengths, and still have huge potential to expand as a part of global trade.
- Doha would of course mean lowering some of our own tariffs for both food and industrial goods. But this results in cheaper goods and food for consumers, and cheaper inputs for companies.
- Doha would force the US to reform its farm subsidies the way the EU already has. That means a level playing field for EU farmers.
- Europe has already taken the lead in getting its subsidised food and cotton out of poor country markets. Others have to do the same if we want a long-term solution to the food crisis. Doha is an important way to do this.
- Doha would open new farm markets for our produce abroad. 70% of EU agricultural products are finished processed goods, for which there is a growing market in the world.
- Doha would help secure improved legal protection for what we call 'geographical indications', the special local agricultural

products that are some of Europe's most competitive exports – things like Parma Ham and Roquefort cheese.

- Doha would create a new agreement on removing non-tariff barriers 'behind the border' in our trading partners. These barriers cost EU companies more than €20 billion every year in China alone.
- Doha would include a new 'trade facilitation' agreement standardising customs practice globally. EU companies estimate that this could be worth up to 3% of the value of current EU exports. That is billions of euros every year.
- Doha would include an agreement that would help discipline the use of trade defence instruments against EU exports. This is important because some countries use these instruments irresponsibly.
- Doha would strengthen the WTO system at a moment when it is struggling to adapt to a changing global order. It would bind China, India and the other rising powers into a global trading system based on rules and open markets.
- Doha would boost confidence in a global economy that has been battered by financial crisis. It would also provide a clear message of global cooperation that would serve as an example for the much more difficult negotiations ahead on climate change.
- Doha would include an agreement by all developed and emerging economies to extend duty and quota free market access to all the 50 Least Developed Countries in the way the EU already does. It would also include a big new agreement on aid for trade for developing countries.

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For more information on the Doha Round visit: http://ec.europa.eu/trade/