

# Sign-on letter to Lamy on End to Doha

Monday 9 July 2007, by [Collective / Multiple signers](#), [Our World Is Not For Sale Network](#) (Date first published: 6 July 2007).

**Please find below a sign on letter, calling for an end of the WTO Doha round of negotiations. That has been worked out in the "Our World is not for sale" Network, a network which regroups social movements, trade unions and ngos working against corporate driven trade liberalization.**

**Please see below the details as regards what to send to sign the letter. The deadline is July 13<sup>th</sup>, the signature should be sent to Margrete Strand: [Margrete.strand@sierraclub.org](mailto:Margrete.strand@sierraclub.org)**

**The letter also exists in Spanish, to get it, please contact Alexandra Strickner: [astrickner@iatp.org](mailto:astrickner@iatp.org)**

Mr. Pascal Lamy July 14, 2007  
Director General

World Trade Organization

cc. Chairs of the WTO Negotiating Committees

cc. WTO Members' Heads of Delegations in Geneva

Dear Director General Lamy,

As civil society organizations and social movements committed to building a multilateral trade system that is just, sustainable and democratic, we believe that the time has come to officially declare the Doha Round of the WTO negotiations dead and to provide the necessary space to re-think the kind of multilateral trade rules that are needed to create employment and achieve sustainable development.

It is now almost six years since the Doha Agenda was launched in November 2001. What has followed since then is a litany of setbacks and/or failures --- from the collapse of the Cancun ministerial in 2003, followed by the July framework cobbled together in 2004, then the desperate moves of the 2005 Hong Kong ministerial to breathe new life into the Doha agenda, which led to the suspension of the WTO negotiations in 2006 and now the recent breakdown of the G-4 talks in Potsdam.

Doha was supposed to be the 'development' round. But what has transpired over the intervening six years has been quite the opposite. Instead of coming up with a set of multilateral trade rules designed to increase the capacities of developing countries to create new jobs, eliminate poverty and build sustainable economies, the Doha Agenda has been manipulated to primarily serve the interests of the northern industrialized powers to expand market access for their transnational corporations.

All the studies that have come out since 2005 ---from the World Bank, UNCTAD, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Tufts University and the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) --- demonstrate that the current proposals for the Doha Agenda make developing countries, and particularly the poorest countries, the biggest losers.

Millions of people all over the world, including farmers, fisherfolk, workers and trade unionists, environmentalists, faith-based groups and other civil society organizations, have been denouncing the Doha talks as promoting a "corporate-driven" model of trade that pays little attention to peoples' rights and needs. Now, more than ever, world leaders must face up to the fact that the global trade regime has marginalized a vast array of communities and interests who have finally united to stop any further expansion of the system.

The Doha Agenda and Model have failed to increase the trust of WTO's membership, let alone the public it is supposed to serve. Around the world, people have informed themselves and popular opinion has changed to the point where the WTO is suffocating from a crisis of legitimacy. And, no effort by free trade champions to "better educate" the public or adopt "quick fixes" can reverse this reality. Declaring the death of Doha does not mean the end of world trading system. Another multilateralism is possible, but not one that prioritizes the rights of corporations over the rights of people and the planet while reducing the power to self-govern.

We urge you to stop pushing countries to make further concessions and to acknowledge the failure of the Doha Round now. Furthermore, we call on you to institute a two year moratorium to provide the time and space necessary to re-think the model and process of global trade negotiations. It's time to let governments go back home, and start a process of reflection and consultation with their peoples that can pave the way for a new and different model of multilateral trade. The only credible option now is to stimulate public discussion and debate with governments and civil society and social movements about creating alternative trade regimes that are people-development-environment centered.

Sincerely,

Co-signed:

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### **To sign the statement:**

Please fill in the quick form below to sign the statement:

Yes, we sign the statement!

Name of organization (This is an organizational sign-on statement only!):

Country (international or regional groups should state this):

Area of focus (labor union, peasant group, environmental etc):

Number of people your organization represents:

Contact person (NOTE - this is an organizational sign-on statement and individuals will not be listed).

Sign-ons should be sent to Margrete Strand:

Margrete.strand sierraclub.org