



LIVE L BBC NEWS CHANNEL

News services
Your news when you want it



- News Front Page
- World
- UK
- England
- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Wales
- Business
- Market Data
- Your Money
- Economy
- Companies
- Politics
- Health
- Education
- Science & Environment
- Technology
- Entertainment
- Also in the news

Last Updated: Wednesday, 14 September 2005, 22:10 GMT 23:10 UK

E-mail this to a friend

Printable version

Bush call to end trade barriers

President George W Bush has renewed his pledge that the US will abolish all trade tariffs if others do the same.



Bush says he is committed to seeing the end of subsidies

His comments came as US trade representative Rob Portman and European Union Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson meet for fresh trade talks.

The two are trying to come to agreement on abolishing agricultural subsidies.

The US and Europe's failure to reach agreement on agriculture is the main sticking point which has delayed a wider, new worldwide trade deal.

The World Trade Organisation (WTO) hopes the so-called Doha series of trade talks can be successfully concluded at its forthcoming ministerial meeting in Hong Kong in December.

HAVE YOUR SAY

“ International trade will never be free and fair ”

DW, Chicago USA

Send us your comments

The aim is to deliver a new global deal on free trade by 2006.

Yet the Doha round of talks - which first started in 2001 - have already missed one deadline, mainly due to the ongoing inability of the US and Europe to reach agreement over agriculture.

'Ending poverty'

Both President Bush and WTO director-general Pascal Lamy have called for the US and Europe to secure a deal by the end of the year.

"We must work together in the Doha (WTO) negotiations to eliminate agricultural subsidies that distort trade and stunt development, and to eliminate tariffs and other barriers to open markets for farmers around the world," said President Bush.



Europe and the US have so far failed to reach agreement on agricultural subsidies

"Today, I broaden the challenge by making this pledge: The United States is ready to eliminate all tariffs and subsidies and other barriers to the free flow of goods and services as other nations do the same.

"The elimination of trade barriers could lift hundreds of millions of people out of poverty over the next 15 years."

THE BATTLE OVER TRADE LATEST NEWS

- EU and US reach deal in beef row
- Key EU committee endorses Ashton
- US in '\$4bn cotton row sanction'
- Dismay at collapse of trade talks
- World trade talks end in collapse
- EU seeks key deal on fruit trade

FEATURES AND ANALYSIS



Sweet talk
Chocolate and free trade may not mix for Barack Obama
EU grilling for Ashton
End of a dream

- Trade boss blames deregulation
- Death of Doha

BACKGROUND

- Q&A: Crunch trade talks
- Profile: World Trade Organization
- A Guide to World Trade Blocs

QUIZ

- Beat the world trade system

VIDEO AND AUDIO

Watch Trade talks deal

AT-A-GLANCE GUIDE

Open Poor countries and trade

RELATED INTERNET LINKS:

- European Commission
- World Trade Organization
- Office of the US Trade Representative

The BBC is not responsible for the content of external internet sites

TOP BUSINESS STORIES

- Unemployment dips to 2.47 million
- Credit Suisse offices are raided
- EU gives backing to BA alliance

News feeds

RELATED BBC SITES

- SPORT
- WEATHER
- CBBC NEWSROUND
- ON THIS DAY
- EDITORS' BLOG

Mr Mandelson agrees that agreement between the US and Europe is vital.

"If we cannot agree on basic approaches then nothing will happen. It's as simple as that," he said.

Mr Portman said last week that he will press Mr Mandelson for greater compromise from the EU on farm subsidies.

"We are at the point where we can no longer procrastinate and hope for the best in Hong Kong," he added.

No details were immediately following Mr Portman and Mr Mandelson's Wednesday discussions.

 [E-mail this to a friend](#)

 [Printable version](#)

PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

[E-mail news](#)

[Mobiles](#)

[Alerts](#)

[News feeds](#)

[Interactive TV](#)

[Podcasts](#)

MMIX

[Back to top](#) ^^

[Help](#) | [Privacy and cookies policy](#) | [News sources](#) | [About the BBC](#) | [Contact us](#)