

Representatives of the G10, a group of major food importing WTO Members, met today in Geneva and strengthened their solidarity in view of pursuing a successful conclusion of the DDA. The meeting was convened by the newly appointed Japanese Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Norihiko Akagi.

1. The participants reaffirmed G10's main priorities in the agricultural negotiations:
 - No tariff capping,
 - acceptable tariff cuts in the top band with flexibilities,
 - reasonable treatment and appropriate number of sensitive products.Provided that these concerns are properly addressed, we are ready to show flexibility in other areas.
2. We recall the Doha Mandate which foresees a gradation between the three pillars: Export Competition: complete elimination; Domestic Support: substantial reductions; Market Access: substantial improvement.
3. This round is a 'single undertaking'. Therefore, parallel progress is necessary in all areas of the negotiations, including NAMA, services, rules, trade facilitation, trade and environment and intellectual property rights.
4. We should not simply compare agricultural negotiations with the NAMA negotiations without taking account of their different negotiating history and the particular multi-functional role of agriculture.
5. Although we are ready to contribute to the Chair's process in a constructive manner, we would by no means accept the Chair's draft modality if it were just a reflection of the outcome of the G4 consultation. We assume that all Members support a real multilateral process.