



Köln, 19.12.2005

Pressemitteilung

German retailers disappointed about results of WTO Ministerial in Hong Kong

„The results of the 6th WTO Ministerial in Hong Kong are disappointing. The focus on agricultural negotiations prevented any progress on those issues which are important for German retail trade. Thus, a positive outcome of the Doha Development Agenda in 2006 is in danger“, says Jan A. Eggert, the Managing Director of the Foreign Trade Association of German Retailers (AVE).

For the WTO negotiations in Hong Kong last week, the AVE had hoped progress on several issues crucial for German retailers such as market access, liberalisation of services, improvement of rules for anti dumping and trade facilitation. Guidelines and a clear timetable for further WTO negotiations would have been a prerequisite for the successful conclusion of the current WTO negotiations, the so called the Doha Development Agenda, within the year 2006. “The focus on agriculture negotiations enforced by some WTO members have prevented substantial negotiations on any other issue“, so Mr. Eggert.

The AVE is also disappointed about the limited results of the so called development package for the least developed countries (LDCs) which includes duty-free, quota-free access for imports from these countries and the elimination of subsidies for cotton.

“The fact that Hong Kong did not fail completely may be regarded as a success“, says Mr. Eggert. “But more ambition and commitment for the multilateral trading system is needed on the side of all major trading partners – industrialised and developing countries - if the DDA shall come a successful conclusion in 2006.”

19 December 2005

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Die Außenhandelsvereinigung des Deutschen Einzelhandels vertritt seit über 50 Jahren die außenwirtschaftlichen Interessen des deutschen Einzelhandels, der im Rahmen seiner weltweiten Einkaufspolitik auf eine reibungslose Einfuhr von Konsumgütern aller Art angewiesen ist. Mit der stetig zunehmenden Internationalisierung des Einzelhandels wächst für die AVE jedoch auch die Bedeutung des Marktzugangs in Ländern außerhalb der Europäischen Union. Darüber hinaus engagiert sich die AVE für eine strikte Einhaltung von Sozialstandards in den Lieferländern.

IMPRESSUM / KONTAKT

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