

Trade talks need support of developing states to succeed

US trade representative says

AFP, Paris

US trade representative Robert Zoellick called Wednesday on big developing countries to play their part in getting stalled global trade liberalisation talks off the ground.

"To take on the challenges of global trade, especially in the Doha negotiations, we will need the support of the developing economies", Zoellick said at a press conference at the French senate.

Ministers from 28 countries are

meeting here Thursday and Friday on the sidelines of the annual meeting of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development in a last chance effort to get the current so-called Doha round of free trade talks back on track by a self-imposed end July deadline.

Zoellick said that rich countries had done much to get their tariff barriers down and that now it was up to developing countries to do the same.

"We have already had a half-

century of success lowering industrial tariffs -- mostly in the developed world. Nevertheless, important opportunities to open trade remain. And in the developing world, barriers remain very high. Tearing down those barriers must be a central element of the Doha agenda".

Ministers meeting here hope to agree by the end of July on the "modalities" -- the broad framework -- for the final burst of negotiations to conclude the Doha round by the end of the year.

The Doha round, which was

launched in the Qatari capital in 2001, stalled after the collapse in September of ministerial level talks at a gathering in Cancun, Mexico owing largely to disputes over government aid to farmers in rich countries.

Negotiations got a boost earlier this week with a proposition from the European Commission to eliminate agriculture export subsidies worth three billion dollars (2.52 billion euros) if other WTO members made similar efforts.



Nahar Jamil, chairperson of Bandbox, an automatic dry-cleaning and laundry service provider, inaugurates a new branch of Bandbox at Kalabagan in Dhaka on Monday. Among others, Bandbox Executive Director Sayeed Ahmed is seen in the picture.



Athar Ali Khan (C), selector of Bangladesh national cricket team, receives a crest from Chairman of Paramount Insurance Company Limited Shakhawat Hossain and Managing Director Sajjad Zahir as he joined the company as corporate marketing director recently.

CURRENCY

Following is Thursday's (May 13, 2004) forex trading statement by Standard Chartered Bank

| Sell | | | Buy | | |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|--------------|-------------|
| TT/ID | BC | Currency | TT Clean | OD Sight Doc | OD Transfer |
| 59.4000 | 59.4500 | USD | 58.5050 | 58.3332 | 58.2633 |
| 71.4701 | 71.5302 | EUR | 68.9598 | 68.7573 | 68.6750 |
| 105.8330 | 105.9221 | GBP | 102.8050 | 102.5030 | 102.3803 |
| 42.0552 | 42.0906 | AUD | 39.9882 | 39.8707 | 39.8230 |
| 0.5295 | 0.5300 | JPY | 0.5112 | 0.5097 | 0.5091 |
| 46.4934 | 46.5326 | CHF | 44.8624 | 44.7306 | 44.6770 |
| 7.7223 | 7.7288 | SEK | 7.1461 | 7.1251 | 7.1166 |
| 43.1122 | 43.1485 | CAD | 41.7565 | 41.6338 | 41.5840 |
| 7.6232 | 7.6296 | HKD | 7.4939 | 7.4719 | 7.4630 |
| 34.6882 | 34.7174 | SGD | 33.6688 | 33.7693 | 33.7289 |
| 16.3043 | 16.3181 | AED | 15.8000 | 15.7538 | 15.7349 |
| 15.9660 | 15.9795 | SAR | 15.4775 | 15.4321 | 15.4136 |
| 9.9002 | 9.9085 | DKK | 9.0078 | 8.9814 | 8.9706 |
| 202.1096 | 202.2797 | KWD | 191.3804 | 190.8183 | 190.5899 |

Exchange rates of some currencies against US dollar

| Indian rupee | Pak rupee | Lankan rupee | Thai bath | Nor kroner | NZ dollar | Malaysian ringgit |
|--------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-------------------|
| 45.31 | 57.45 | 98.71 | 40.635 | 6.8782 | 0.6580 | 3.80 |

SHIPPING

Chittagong Port

Berthing position and performance of vessels as on 13/5/2004

| Berth No. | Name of vessels | Cargo | L. port call | Local agent | Dt of arrival | Leaving | Import disch |
|-----------|-------------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|---------|--------------|
| J/1 | Ocean Pride | Gl (log) | Yang | PSAL | 10/5 | 23/5 | 1269 |
| J/3 | Alexia | Gl (H.R.S.C.) | RSA | 12/5 | 15/5 | 6065 | |
| J/7 | Kota Berjaya | Cont | Sing | Pil(Bd) | 13/5 | --- | --- |
| J/9 | Banga Borat | Cont | Sing | Bdship | 6/5 | 13/5 | 188 |
| J/10 | Orient Excellence | Cont | Sing | PSSL | 11/5 | 14/5 | 286 |
| J/12 | New Blessing | Cont | P. Kel | Everbest | 8/5 | 14/5 | |
| J/13 | Rio Negro | Cont | P. Kel | QCSL | 9/5 | 15/5 | 340 |
| CCT/1 | Banga Lanka | Cont | Sing | Bdship | 11/5 | 14/5 | 50 |
| CCT/2 | Orient Wisdom | Cont | Mala | PSL | 13/5 | 16/5 | |
| CCT/3 | Banga Bonik | Cont | Col | Baridh | 9/5 | --- | 83 |
| TSP: | Power | R. Phos | Egypt | Seacoast | 5/5 | 18/5 | |
| RM/3 | Vanessa | CPO | Indo | BMA | 13/5 | 14/5 | |
| DOJ: | Banglar Shourab | Idle | K. Dia | BSC | R/A | --- | |
| DD: | Jaami | Repair | Col | Everbest | 9/4 | 17/5 | |
| DDJ/1: | Dea Captain | --- | K. Dia | IBSA | R/A | 13/5 | |
| DDJ/2: | Van Dyck | Repair | Indo | BSL | 24/4 | 16/5 | |
| RM/8 | Taraman Bibi | R. Sulp | B. Abb | Seacoast | 25/4 | 18/5 | |
| RM/10 | Salamat-2 | Bitumen | Hald | OLM | 23/4 | 17/5 | |
| Custom: | Tug Sbm-1 | Ballast | Sing | OTL | 9/12 | --- | |

Vessels due at outer anchorage

| Name of vessels | Date of arrival | L. port call | Local agent | Cargo | Load port |
|-------------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| Van Xuan | 13/5 | Sing | PSSL | Cont | Sing |
| Satya | 13/5 | Mumb | Intraport | Scraping | --- |
| Agios Nikolaos | 13/5 | Athen | Ltmnd | --- | --- |
| Zhe Hai-323 | 13/5 | Chin | Unique | TSP/ferf(p) | |
| Budi Aman | 14/5 | Sing | Pil (bd) | Cont | Sing |
| Pavonis | 16/5 | Yang | PML | Gl | Log/pulses |
| Estrella Eterna | 15/5 | Sing | Everett | Vehi | --- |
| Maritime Songkhla | 14/5 | Sing | BSL | Clink | Hcbl |
| Mardios | 14/5 | P. Kel | RSL | Cont | Sing |
| Xpress Resolve | 14/5 | CBO | Everbest | Cont | Col |
| Volga | 15/5 | Hong | ASA | Scraping | --- |
| Banga Bodor | 16/5 | Pkl | Bdship | Cont | Sing/plp |
| Orient Freedom | 15/5 | Pkl | PSSL | Cont | Sing |
| Pergamos | 15/5 | Viet | Rsship | Demolition | --- |
| Merapi | 16/5 | Mala | Rsship | Scraping | |
| Banga Bijoy | 16/5 | Cbo | Baridh | Cont | Col |
| Kota Naga | 17/5 | Sing | Pil (bd) | Cont | Sing |
| Kota Cahaya | 17/5 | Sing | Pil (bd) | Cont | Sing |
| Sibu | 17/5 | Viet | Ahz | Scraping | --- |
| Pac Makassar | 18/5 | Hal | PSSL | Cont | Col |
| Me Linh | 18/5 | Sing | BSC | Cont | Sing |
| Qc Honour | 18/5 | P. Kel | QCSL | Cont | Sing |
| Banga Borti | 18/5 | - | Bdship | Cont | Pt/sing |
| Tiger River | 18/5 | Sing | Pil (bd) | Cont | Sing |
| Bangler Shikha | 19/5 | Sing | BSC | Cont | Sing |
| Pelander | 20/5 | - | Purbachal | Vehi | --- |

Tanker due

| | | | | |
|-----------|------|------|-------|--------|
| Achilleus | 15/5 | Sing | MSTPL | HSD/MS |
|-----------|------|------|-------|--------|

Vessels at Kutubdia

| Name of vessels | Cargo | Last Port call | Local agent | Date of arrival |
|-----------------|-------|----------------|-------------|-----------------|
|-----------------|-------|----------------|-------------|-----------------|

Vessels at outer anchorage vessels ready:

| | | | | |
|---------|------|--------|------|------|
| Qc Star | Cont | P. Kel | QCSL | 13/5 |
|---------|------|--------|------|------|

Vessels not ready:

| | | | | |
|-------------|-----------|-------|----------|------|
| Safinaz | R. Phos | Egypt | Seacoast | 5/5 |
| Santa Maria | Wheat (t) | Viza | Able | 7/5 |
| An Lu Jiang | Fert (p) | Qinz | RSA | 11/5 |
| Al Badiyah | HSD/p-1 | Kuwa | MSTPL | 13/5 |

The above are the shipping position and performance of vessels at Chittagong Port as per berthing sheet of CPA supplied by Family, Dhaka.

STOCK