

WTO trade talks well into the red zone: Lamy

AFP, Geneva

"We are now in the red zone and we are not far from the red part of this red zone," Pascal Lamy told the World Trade Organisation's 149 member countries at a meeting in Geneva.

In late April, the WTO missed one of many self-established deadlines, in this case for a deal on the mathe-

matics of cutting trade barriers, and set a new target for July 31.

Launched in 2001, the Doha round aims to boost world trade in an effort to increase development in poor countries. It was originally meant to end in 2004 but has stumbled because of persistent disputes between rich and poor countries

over the concessions they should make.

An agreement on the trade barrier calculation is key to finalising the round by the end of this year.

But Lamy would like to reach a political accord before the soccer World Cup kicks off on June 9 in Germany because it could prove a major distraction to negotiators.

Zambia's representative to the WTO, Love Mtesa, demanded during the meeting on Monday that talks end by 1600 GMT during the tournament so representatives can follow the world's most widely-watched sports event on television.

Lamy is due in Paris next week for meetings with major trade actors such as the European Union's trade chief Peter Mandelson and outgoing US trade envoy Rob Portman, diplomatic sources said.

No real negotiations are planned between the three representatives however.



PHOTO: HSBC

Mamoon M Shah, manager (Personal Financial Services) of Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC) Ltd in Bangladesh, and Shamsul Alam, chief operating officer and general manager of JUKI Bangladesh Ltd, a garment machinery supplier, exchange documents after signing a Corporate Employee Privilege Scheme (CEPS) agreement recently in Dhaka. Under the deal, employees of JUKI Bangladesh will enjoy a wide variety of privileges including preferential rates and services through HSBC CEPS.



PHOTO: EASTERN BANK

Abdul Noor Ullah, managing director of AN Express International Money Transfer, and Ali Reza Iftekhar, chief operating officer and deputy managing director of Eastern Bank Ltd (EBL), exchange documents after signing an agreement on behalf of their companies recently in London. Under the deal, money sent from the UK can be received at all 22 online EBL branches and also all other locations through EBL's countrywide fund transfer arrangement.



SHIPPING

Chittagong Port

Berthing position and performance of vessels as on 16/5/2006

Berth No.	Name of vessels	Cargo	L. Port call	Local agent	D of arrival	Leaving	Import disch
J1	Cakra Kember	Gl(copra)	Sing	Mutual	26/4	18/5	566
J2	Falcon Trader	Wheat(p)	Suez	Seacom	8/5	21/4	1639
J3	Midas	Slag	Viza	Move	30/4	17/5	2753
J4	Pearl	Wheat(p)	Russ		7/5	22/5	210
J5	OEL Wisdom	Cont	Mong	PSSL	7/5	17/5	—
J6	Banga Biraj	Cont	Sing	Baridhi	11/5	17/5	394
J7	Taurus	Urea	Jubail	PSL	6/5	17/5	496
J8	Helios-II	Gl(PA/ST)	Busa	Prog	15/5	17/5	1211
J9	Bangla Shikha	Cont	P. Kel	BSC	10/5	—	77
J10	Phu My	Cont	P. Kel	RSL	10/5	18/5	366
J11	Western Star	Cont	Sing	Vega	9/5	18/5	274
J12	Oel Freedom	Cont	Col	PSSL	8/5	17/5	201
J13	Eastern Star	Cont	Sin	PML	9/5	16/5	78
CCT/1	OSG Bosstec	Cont	Col	Seacom	11/5	17/5	221

Vessels due at outer anchorage

Name of vessels	Date of arrival	L. Port call	Local agent	Type of cargo	Loading ports
New Blessing	16/5	P. Kel	CEL	Cont	Sing
Banga Bonik	16/5	Col	Baridhi	Cont	Col
Banglar Moni	16/5	Col	BSC	Cont	Col
Santa Suria-ii	16/5	Okandla	AMBL	Sodi Chloride	
Ataraxia	16/5	--	Seacom	C. Clink	Pre/Oly
Raj	16/5	Hald	Rsship	Demolition	--
Sang Thai Venus	16/5	--	A&J	Scraping	--
Al Muzluba	17/5	Chenn	Cla	Sugar(p)	--
Banglar Robi	17/5	Sing	BSC	Cont	Sing
Kota Berjaya	17/5	Sing	Pil(Bd)	Cont	Sing
Xpress Makalu	17/5	Pki	Seacom	Cont	Sing
Coastal Express	18/5	Chenn	BSCA	Cont	Kol
Cape Henry	18/5	Sin	APL	Cont	Sing
QC Dignity	18/5	PTP	CCL	Cont	Sing
Kota Rukun	18/5	Sing	Pil(Bd)	Cont	Mong
Brave Royal	18/5	Krabi	BRSL	C. Clink	Royal

Tanker due

Al Deerah	19/5	Kuwa	MSTPL	HSD/JP-1
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Vessels at Kutubdia

Name of vessels	Cargo call	Last port	Local agent	Date of arrival
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Outside port limit

Wira Keris	--	--	IBSA	R/A (15/5)
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Vessels at outer anchorage

Vessels ready

Kota Ratna	Cont	Sing	Pil(Bd)	11/5
Emily-C	Cont	P. Kel	Seacom	12/5
OEL Excellence	Cont	Col	PSSL	13/5
Banga Bodor	Cont	P. Kel	Baridhi	14/5
QC Honour	Cont	P. Kel	QCSL	14/5

Vessels not ready

Amanat Shah	Sugar	Chenn	Cla	3/5
Zhi Qiang	Y. Pe/WT/RS	Vanc	Litmond	12/5
Kulnatee	Cypsum	Karabi	BSL	14/5
Al Sabiyah	HSD/MS	Kuwa	MSTPL	15/5
Ocean Phoenix	Slag	Kashi	Litmond	15/5

Vessels awaiting employment / instruction

Burn Jaya	--	Visa	Unicorn	10/11/2004
Banga Bara	Ballast	Col	Baridhi	10/3
Banglar Shourab	--	--	BSC	R/A (30/4)
Banglar Jyoti	--	--	BSC	R/A (15/5)

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

STOCK

CURRENCY

Following is Tuesday's (May 16, 2006) forex trading statement by Standard Chartered Bank

Sell	BC	Currency	TT Clean	Buy	OD Sight Doc	OD Transfer
69.5700	69.6000	USD	68.4500	68.4272	68.3816	
90.1418	90.1807	EUR	86.6166	86.5878	86.5300	
131.8143	131.8711	GBP	127.5976	127.5551	127.4700	
54.1672	54.1906	AUD	51.4128	51.3957	51.3614	
0.6393	0.6396	JPY	0.6162	0.6160	0.6156	
58.2273	58.2524	CHF	56.0377	56.0190	55.9816	
9.8786	9.8829	SEK	8.9624	8.9594	8.9534	
63.1765	63.2038	CAD	60.8607	60.8404	60.7998	
8.9939	8.9978	HKD	8.8088	8.8059	8.8000	
44.9419	44.9612	SGD	43.1317	43.1173	43.0866	
19.0969	19.1051	AED	18.4870	18.4808	18.4685	
18.7041	18.7122	SAR	18.1157	18.1096	18.0975	
12.4928	12.4982	DKK	11.2883	11.2845	11.2770	
237.2269	237.3314	KWD	235.0450	234.9690	234.8170	

Exchange rates of some currencies against US dollar

Indian rupee Pak rupee Lankan rupee Thai baht Nokkroner NZ dollar Malaysian ringgit

45.32	60.035	102.9	38.265	6.0813	0.6223	3.62
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