

Joint Statement on DDA

**From Norihiko Akagi, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries,
and Akira Amari, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry**

JAPAN

June 22nd 2007

- 1. We have noted that the meeting of the G4 trade ministers from Brazil, the European Union, India and the United States held in Potsdam, Germany could not reach convergence on such issues as Agriculture and NAMA, and the meeting came to an end on June 21st.**
- 2. We regret that we could not hold a G6 ministerial as scheduled. We have been proposing such a forum with a notion that, in order to arrive at a convergence, it is an appropriate forum because it has a balanced representation of exporting and importing countries of agricultural products and holds a stake in a wider variety of negotiating areas.**
- 3. As stated in the G6 ministerial communiqué dated April 12th 2007 and the G8 Trade Declaration at Heiligendamm Summit dated June 8th 2007, we will continue to contribute to concluding the DDA successfully by the end of 2007. We will also continue to work together with Mr. Pascal Lamy, the WTO Director General, the Chairs of the Negotiation Groups, the Chair of the General Council and all the WTO Members who support the multilateral negotiating process.**
- 4. We are ready to participate actively in any consultations and negotiations to achieve a successful conclusion of this round. As this round is a development round, we will make the maximum efforts in cooperation with both developing and developed countries in order to ensure positive and balanced outcomes in and among all negotiating areas, including the agricultural sector where a balance should be secured between food exporting and importing countries. We are ready to work as a bridge builder among the Members.**