

**Committee on Agriculture
Special Session**

**SCHEDULE FOR THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF EXPORT SUBSIDIES
JOINT G-20 - CAIRNS GROUP CONTRIBUTION**

The following communication, dated 18 May 2006, is being circulated at the request of the G-20 and the Cairns Group.

1. According to paragraph 6 of the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration, we have agreed to ensure the parallel elimination of all forms of export subsidies and disciplines on all export measures with equivalent effect to be completed by the end of 2013. This will be achieved in a progressive and parallel manner, to be specified in the modalities, so that a substantial part is realized by the end of the first half of the implementation period.

2. In this regard, export subsidies as specified in each Member's schedule, according to Article 9.1 of the Agreement on Agriculture will be eliminated by the end of 2013, based on values and quantities on a product-specific basis. Elimination commitments shall be undertaken on an annual basis for each product. For this purpose, we propose the following steps:

- At least 50% in the first year;
- At least an additional 30% to be progressively implemented over the period to 2010; and
- The remainder to be progressively implemented by the end of 2013.

On the basis of the above criteria, the following schedule is proposed:

Year of implementation period	Reduction as % of UR bound budgetary outlay for each product as scheduled	Reduction as % of UR bound volume for each product as scheduled	Total reduction (in each of budgetary outlay and volume)
1 January 2008	50%	50%	50%
1 January 2009	10%	10%	60%
31 December 2009	10%	10%	70%
31 December 2010	10%	10%	80%
31 December 2011	6.7%	6.7%	86.7%
31 December 2012	6.7%	6.7%	93.4%
31 December 2013	6.6%	6.6%	100%

3. On food aid, some new disciplines will be implemented immediately, including the prohibition of:

- Food aid tied directly or indirectly to commercial exports of all goods and services to recipient countries. Food aid provided by developing countries should be addressed in a way not to hinder further contributions.
- Food aid linked to market development objectives of the donor Member; and
- Commercial re-exports.

Fully grant form food aid will be implemented early in the implementation period. All other disciplines on food aid will be implemented at the latest by 2013.

4. As export credits, export credit guarantees and insurance programmes are an outstanding issue of the Uruguay Round:

- (i) Additional and specific disciplines shall be phased in from the first day of the implementation period of the Doha Round.
- (ii) Non-conforming export credits, export credit guarantees and insurance programmes shall be eliminated within the binding levels of Members' export subsidies elimination schedules.

5. Any additional disciplines on exporting STEs according to the July Framework and the Hong Kong Declaration will be phased in over the implementation period.

6. To be consistent with the ongoing reform process a standstill on all forms of export subsidies by developed countries shall be established. Under the standstill developed Members should not exceed the level of the applied volume and value of subsidies in their schedules, nor alter any export subsidies to circumvent commitments.

7. Consistent with paragraph 22 of the July Framework, developing country Members will benefit from longer implementation periods for the phasing out of all forms of export subsidies. Other S&D measures and the concerns of NFIDCs and LDCs, as relevant, will be appropriately addressed in accordance with the Mandates.
