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MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

to wind up the debate on the statement by the Commission

pursuant to Rule 103(2) of the Rules of Procedure

by Helmuth Markov, Jens Holm, Vittorio Agnoletto, Pedro Guerreiro and
Jacky Hénin

on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group

on the suspension of the WTO Doha Development Agenda

European Parliament resolution on the suspension of the WTO Doha Development Agenda

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Doha Ministerial Declaration of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) of 14 November 2001,
 - having regard to its previous resolutions on the Doha Development Agenda (DDA),
 - having regard to the Outcome Document of the Annual 2008 Session of the Parliamentary Conference on the WTO, adopted by consensus on 12 September 2008 in Geneva,
 - having regard to Rule 103(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the WTO Ministerial talks held in July 2008 collapsed because of the differences between the EU and the US, on one hand, and major developing countries on the other hand, on the essential issue of the special safeguard mechanism (SSM) to protect farmers and to ensure food security of developing countries, and also failed to reach conclusions on such other main outstanding issues as the green box, tariff harmonisation, cotton subsidies, preference erosion, geographical indications and the introduction of new rules with regard to disclosure of origin, prior consent and benefit sharing in intellectual property rights,
- B. whereas this new failure of the WTO, after 7 years of negotiations, is due to the fact that the negotiations, although described as a 'Round for Development', have mainly focused on further liberalisation, deregulation and market access for corporations, while multilateral negotiations are necessary to regulate and build fair trade in order to address problems of poverty, epidemics, joblessness, destruction of the environment and other issues which are now emerging more clearly, such as climate change, the food crisis and the financial crisis,
- C. whereas focusing mainly on market access, deregulation and liberalisation has led to the impasse in the multilateral negotiations and the development of bilateral agreements, Europe being the leader in launching bilateral FTA negotiations with all ACP countries, most South American countries and Asian countries, based on the Commission's free trade agenda laid down in its 'Global Europe' Communication,
1. Takes note of this new failure of the negotiations at the WTO in Geneva, after Seattle and Cancun and after 7 years of the misleading single undertaking concept, and shares the view of developing countries that no deal is better than a bad deal that would further aggravate the situation of the poor worldwide;
 2. Considers that the new failure of the trade negotiations at the WTO indicates that the European Union must review its policy on international trade negotiations, and urges it to bring forward new proposals for future multilateral trade negotiations with a view to

adopting regulative and stabilising mechanisms for a fair international trading system, aimed at tackling global problems such as poverty, lack of development and food sovereignty, epidemics, joblessness and relocations, destruction of the environment and climate change, soaring food prices and food insecurity, and the financial crisis; considers that this requires the EU to issue a new mandate to the Commission;

3. Urges the EU to refrain from imposing new FTAs, to abandon its Global Europe strategy, and to thoroughly review the exclusive orientation of its trade policy towards competitiveness and its one-sided strategic alignment with the United States; reiterates its commitment to the Millennium Development Goals, which should be taken as the basic aim of the multilateral trading system as well as bilateral trade relations;
4. Believes that the difficulties encountered in the negotiations also reveal the need to urgently address the question of WTO reform in order to make the organisation more effective, democratic and transparent and increase its accountability; proposes that a real and broad alliance be built which is based on the core values of human rights, social rights, labour standards and environmental protection, among others, in accordance with the UN Conventions, in order to establish greater coherence between the objectives and rules of the WTO and the commitments given under other international conventions and agreements;
5. Calls on the Commission and the Council to conclude an agreement to ensure full participation by the European Parliament in all the EU's international trade negotiations;
6. Calls on the national Parliaments to follow the development of these important negotiations as actively and closely as possible, in accordance with their legal and constitutional frameworks;
7. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the governments and the parliaments of the Member States and the Director General of the WTO.