

# American

## NEWS & VIEWS

*A Daily Newsletter from Public Affairs, American Embassy*

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## WTO Unable to Agree on Early Doha Deal; Focus Turns to Meeting

By MacKenzie C. Babb | Staff Writer

Washington — World Trade Organization (WTO) members have been unable to negotiate a set of deals to support the world's least developed countries, a package meant to be an "early harvest" ahead of meeting the rest of the Doha Development Agenda, according to U.S. Ambassador to the WTO Michael Punke.

"The only way for a small package to come together was for all major players to be ready to make meaningful contributions," Punke said to the organization's Trade Negotiations Committee in Geneva July 26. "As we feared, participants have proven much more comfortable in talking about what others can give them than in talking about what they can contribute themselves."

Punke, who also serves as U.S. deputy trade representative, said the United States had "spared no effort" in exploring issues and working to create the package. He said despite these efforts, it became clear the deal "is not happening and is not going to happen."

"It is not the conclusion that any of us wanted, but the facts are inescapable," he said, pointing to the "entrenched positions" and "red lines" presented by several members.

Punke said continuing to discuss the package without the prospect of success "comes at a significant cost, crowding out essential work on preparations" for the WTO 8th ministerial conference in December.

"There is a widely shared view that an absolutely essential element of [the conference] will be a discussion of where we go from here on Doha. We urgently need to work together and engage in that discussion," Punke said, adding that member countries will need "virtually all the time that remains" between now and the ministerial to prepare.

The package had at its core a number of issues concerning support for the world's least developed countries, and was part of a broader effort to break the stalemate on Doha trade talks. The Doha Development Agenda, so named for its creation in Qatar's capital city, was negotiated by the World Trade Organization in 2001. The agenda was designed as a global free-trade agreement meant to alleviate poverty and boost the international economy through trade liberalization. However, talks have been stalled since 2006, primarily due to divisions among major trading nations.

Punke said none of the WTO members was happy to end

negotiations on the package, but that the acknowledgment "begins a new process of facing up together to our situation as it exists, and planning a realistic path forward."

The WTO conference will be held in Geneva December 15-17. It will include discussions on Doha and a wide range of other global issues.

## Commerce Secretary Locke Confirmed as U.S. Ambassador to China

By Merle David Kellerhals Jr. | Staff Wr

Washington — The U.S. Senate unanimously confirmed Commerce Secretary Gary Locke as U.S. ambassador to China, the first Chinese American to hold the post in American history.

Locke succeeds Ambassador Jon Huntsman, the former Republican governor of Utah, who recently asked to step down. Locke was nominated by President Obama March 9 at a White House ceremony attended by Locke and Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton.

"As one of the world's fastest-growing economies, our relationship with China is one of the most critical of the 21st century," Obama says. "Continued cooperation between our countries will be good for America, it will be good for China, and it will be good for the world."

"As the grandson of a Chinese immigrant who went on to live the American dream, Gary is the right person to continue this cooperation," the president added.

The Senate confirmed Locke on a voice vote July 27 as the United States and China are working to improve nation-to-nation relations through regular visits and consultations on bilateral, regional and global political, economic and security issues. Clinton just completed a 12-day diplomatic mission across five nations, which included visits to Hong Kong and Shenzhen, where she met with Chinese State Councilor Dai Bingguo on July 25.

Locke's grandfather left China more than 100 years ago aboard a steamship bound for the United States, where he worked as a domestic servant for a family in Washington state in return for the opportunity to learn English. "A century later, his grandson will return to China as America's top diplomat," Obama said at the time of his nomination.

Locke was also the first Chinese-American state governor when he was elected in Washington state in 1996, and he worked as governor to attract jobs and business to his state. Locke joined the Obama administration in 2009 to be the president's chief advocate for America's businesses, specifically its exports abroad. As part of that

assignment, Obama said he asked Locke to continue to make progress on the U.S.-China bilateral relationship.

During the past two years, Locke has overseen an increase in American exports – particularly exports to China, a country the United States recently signed trade deals with that will support 235,000 American jobs. Locke was also the president's lead official for his National Export Initiative, which is designed to make the United States more competitive globally in trade and double U.S. exports of goods and services over five years. In 2010, the United States increased exports to China by 34 percent.

"My father never imagined that one of his children could ever serve as the secretary of commerce in the United States of America," Locke said at the White House announcement. "And he was beaming with pride, Mr. President, the day you presided over my swearing-in ceremony."

Locke said his father, a combat veteran of World War II who served in Europe, died in January, but said "it would be one of his proudest moments to see his son named the United States ambassador to his ancestral homeland."

"I'm going back to the birthplace of my grandfather, my father, my mom and her side of the family, and I'll be doing so as a devoted and passionate advocate for America, the country where I was born and raised," Locke said.

Locke told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee during a confirmation hearing that the protection and the promotion of liberty and freedom are fundamental tenets of U.S. foreign policy, which he will advocate in his capacity as U.S. ambassador. And he told senators that he would fight for U.S. businesses and the protection of intellectual property rights.

### **State Department on Iraqi Police Training in the United States**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Office of the Spokesperson  
July 27, 2011

#### **MEDIA NOTE**

#### **State Department Grant Invites Iraqi Police to United States for Specialized Training**

During the month of July, the State Department's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), through a three-year grant to the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), is funding a three-week training course for nine select Iraqi police in the United States. The course is part of a police education

program that provides Iraqi police officers and judicial investigators the opportunity for enhanced professional development in law enforcement skills and specialized expertise. The first in a series of training courses, senior Iraqi officials are receiving leadership, tactical, and field training at three participating federal, state and local level law enforcement agencies in Vermont, Pittsburgh, and Denver.

In addition to core courses in management and leadership, the State Department-funded program will offer specialized courses in areas such as criminal investigation, forensics, and border enforcement. The program will also seek to establish solid, long-term relationships as Iraqis work alongside U.S. police officers, providing a unique on-the-job experience.

Since 2003, the State Department has partnered with other U.S. Government agencies and international donors to assist the Government of Iraq and the Iraqi people in strengthening criminal justice systems in Iraq. The Police Education Grant will contribute to the goal of the broader Police Development Program, implemented by INL, to foster the development of capabilities needed to sustain internal security operations and support the rule of law in Iraq.

The International Association of Chiefs of Police is the world's oldest and largest association of law enforcement executives. Founded in 1893, the IACP has more than 21,000 members in 100 countries.

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