

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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General Council

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SIXTH SESSION OF THE MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

Communication from Hong Kong, China

The following communication, dated 21 August 2003, has been received by the Director-General from the Secretary for Commerce, Industry and Technology of Hong Kong, China.

It is my great honour to inform you, and through you the other Members of the World Trade Organization, that the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region invites the WTO to host the Sixth Session of its Ministerial Conference (MC6) in Hong Kong, China.

Hong Kong, China is aware that negotiations under the Doha Development Agenda will reach a critical juncture in the coming year and Members will need to deliberate carefully on the precise timing of MC6. If Hong Kong, China should have the great pleasure and privilege of our offer to host MC6 meeting with the approval of all WTO Members, we would be prepared to be flexible about the timing of MC6, although judging from experience of previous hosts, we consider that for a successful full-scale Ministerial Conference to be properly organized, around one year's lead-time for preparations will probably be required.

I should be grateful if you would transmit our invitation to all WTO Members and Observers.
