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## **LEADERS OF NAM, UNICE URGE BOLD STEPS TO MOVE DOHA ROUND FORWARD**

### *European and American Business are United in Insisting on an Ambitious Outcome*

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 14, 2006 – The leaders of the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) and the Confederation of European Business (UNICE), the world’s largest industrial groups with a combined membership accounting for over half of the world’s manufacturing production, called on trade negotiators to make a bold move to bring the Doha Round of World Trade Organization (WTO) negotiations to a successful conclusion by the end of this year.

“Only a few weeks are left to lay the groundwork needed to enable the detailed work to conclude the round by the end of the year,” said NAM President John Engler. “Failure to conclude by December makes it nearly impossible that the round can be completed under current U.S. Trade Promotion Authority (TPA), meaning the negotiations would probably go into hibernation for several years – or simply collapse. It is time for WTO members to stand up and be counted or we risk teetering on the brink of failure.”

“The time for a decisive move is now, and only the United States and the European Union, working together, can induce others to put their cards on the table in the short time left,” said UNICE President Ernest-Antoine Seillière, who is leading a European business delegation to Washington. “While services, trade facilitation and rules are business priorities, the key decisions for the coming months lie in agriculture and in manufacturing, and this is where we need to see the United States and the European Union act now.”

“There is absolutely no point in an industrial nation-only round in which the emerging nations contribute little or nothing in the Doha Round. Such an outcome would not stimulate global economic growth, would not benefit the poorest countries, and would not be politically saleable in the industrialized world,” Engler concluded. “A result that fails to provide new market opportunities to industrial countries but also to developing countries would be unacceptable.”

The NAM-UNICE Joint Statement on the Doha Round can be found at:

<http://www.nam.org/namunicestatement>