Subsidies

The following position was developed in connection with the ongoing WTO negotiations and was first adopted in Santiago, Chile in 1999. It was subsequently re-iterated at the following meetings:

- New Zealand: Queenstown, 27-29 February, 2000
- Australia: Adelaide, 9-11 April, 2001
- Canada: Toronto, 16-19 December, 2001

On each occasion, the industry members of the Wine Trade Group request their governments to:

*Eliminate grape and wine production and export subsidies in all of their forms.*

At its meeting in Auckland, New Zealand (2 March 2005), this statement was elaborated further as follows:

*In view of the ongoing Doha Round negotiations on the WTO Agreements, we reaffirm our strong concerns about the effects on the international wine trade of domestic and export subsidies for the grape and wine industry. We reaffirm our Statements of 10-11 April 2001 and 18-19 December 2001 requesting Governments to encourage WTO members to eliminate grape growing and wine production subsidies that distort trade or otherwise give a competitive advantage to a producer, and to eliminate export subsidies in all their forms. We urge Governments to adopt a strong and coordinated position on these issues in consultation with industry. In order to assist Governments in this regard, we will explore the possibility of research being undertaken into identifying all direct and indirect subsidies for wine production within the European Union and the impact of those subsidies on the international wine trade.*