

U.S., China to Discuss New Support for Free Trade

Associate Foreign Press
July 28, 2009

The United States and China will discuss new ways to support free trade to restore growth to the ailing global economy in high-level talks Tuesday, senior officials said.

US Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner said the two sides at the Strategic and Economic Dialogue would explore further measures to open up trade and curb protectionism.

"We will discuss additional measures that our two countries can take to support an open trading system, discourage protectionist policies, and seize the opportunities that trade and investment offer for creating jobs and bringing benefits to our firms and workers," Geithner said in opening remarks on the second day of the talks.

Chinese Vice Premier Wang Qishan said the two sides would work together to obtain "an early success" in the Doha Round international trade talks.

"We call on China and the United States to refrain from taking any protectionist measures," Wang said before the economic track session convened behind closed doors.

The United States a month ago complained to the World Trade Organization about Beijing's restrictions on exports of certain raw materials.

Last week China upped the ante in a dispute with Washington over poultry exports, calling on WTO to rule on its complaint against US "discriminatory" legislation.