

markets, spelled out to the full 148-state membership proposals already floated in talks with a small group in Paris late last month.

The EU detailed its ideas on domestic support, or subsidies, but the United States gave no indication of what it was prepared to do in an area in which it is under pressure to make concessions.

The chairman of the farm talks, New Zealand ambassador Crawford Falconer, told members that he was heartened by the way states were talking numbers, but that much needed to be done to secure an accord in Hong Kong, trade officials said.

The farm negotiations are a crucial part of the WTO's Doha Round, with member states aiming for a broad draft deal at a ministerial conference set for Hong Kong in December.

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