

Background Information On the WTO

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MEMBERSHIP OF THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION
as of December 12, 2000 (140 Members)

Government	Entry into Force	Government	Entry into Force
Albania	8 September 2000	Croatia	30 November 2000
Angola	23 November 1996	Cuba	20 April 1995
Antigua and Barbuda	1 January 1995	Cyprus	30 July 1995
Argentina	1 January 1995	Czech Republic	1 January 1995
Australia	1 January 1995	Democratic Republic of Congo	1 January 1997
Austria	1 January 1995	Denmark	1 January 1995
Bahrain	1 January 1995	Djibouti	31 May 1995
Bangladesh	1 January 1995	Dominica	1 January 1995
Barbados	1 January 1995	Dominican Republic	9 March 1995
Belgium	1 January 1995	Ecuador	21 January 1996
Belize	1 January 1995	Egypt	30 June 1995
Benin	22 February 1996	El Salvador	7 May 1995
Bolivia	12 September 1995	Estonia	13 November 1999
Botswana	31 May 1995	European Community	1 January 1995
Brazil	1 January 1995	Fiji	14 January 1996
Brunei Darussalam	1 January 1995	Finland	1 January 1995
Bulgaria	1 December 1996	France	1 January 1995
Burkina Faso	3 June 1995	Gabon	1 January 1995
Burundi	23 July 1995	Gambia	23 October 1996
Cameroon	13 December 1995	Georgia	14 June 2000
Canada	1 January 1995	Germany	1 January 1995
Central African Republic	31 May 1995	Ghana	1 January 1995
Chad	19 October 1996	Greece	1 January 1995
Chile	1 January 1995	Grenada	22 February 1996
Colombia	30 April 1995	Guatemala	21 July 1995
Congo	27 March 1997	Guinea Bissau	31 May 1995
Costa Rica	1 January 1995	Guinea	25 October 1995
Côte d'Ivoire	1 January 1995	Guyana	1 January 1995

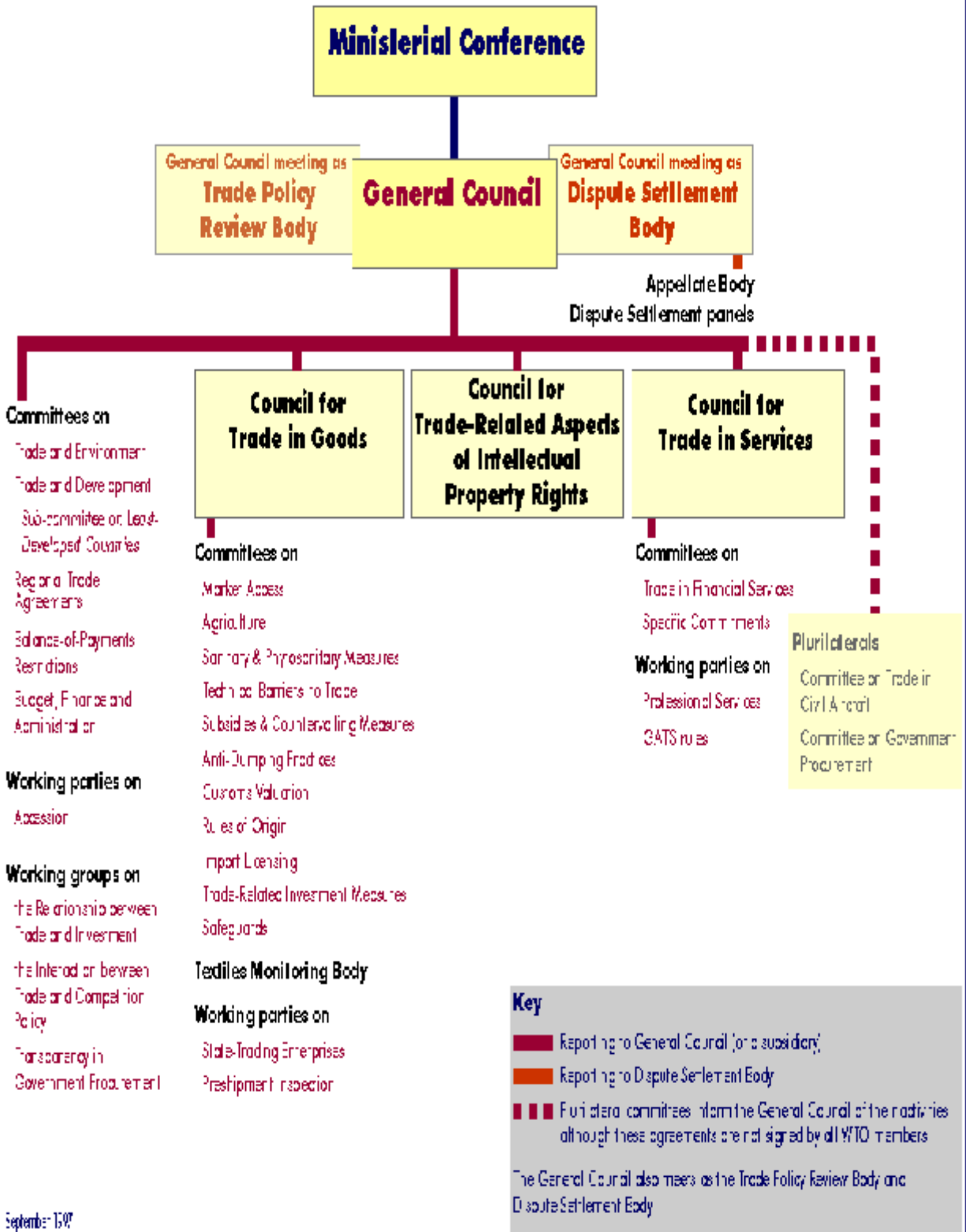
Government	Entry into Force	Government	Entry into Force
Haiti	30 January 1996	Mauritius	1 January 1995
Honduras	1 January 1995	Mexico	1 January 1995
Hong Kong, China	1 January 1995	Mongolia	29 January 1997
Hungary	1 January 1995	Morocco	1 January 1995
Iceland	1 January 1995	Mozambique	26 August 1995
India	1 January 1995	Myanmar	1 January 1995
Indonesia	1 January 1995	Namibia	1 January 1995
Ireland	1 January 1995	Netherlands - For the Kingdom and for the Netherlands Antilles	1 January 1995
Israel	21 April 1995	New Zealand	1 January 1995
Italy	1 January 1995	Nicaragua	3 September 1995
Jamaica	9 March 1995	Niger	13 December 1996
Japan	1 January 1995	Nigeria	1 January 1995
Jordan	11 April 2000	Norway	1 January 1995
Kenya	1 January 1995	Oman	9 November 2000
Korea	1 January 1995	Pakistan	1 January 1995
Kuwait	1 January 1995	Panama	6 September 1997
Kyrgyz Republic	20 December 1998	Papua New Guinea	9 June 1996
Latvia	10 February 1999	Paraguay	1 January 1995
Lesotho	31 May 1995	Peru	1 January 1995
Liechtenstein	1 September 1995	Philippines	1 January 1995
Luxembourg	1 January 1995	Poland	1 July 1995
Macau	1 January 1995	Portugal	1 January 1995
Madagascar	17 November 1995	Qatar	13 January 1996
Malawi	31 May 1995	Romania	1 January 1995
Malaysia	1 January 1995	Rwanda	22 May 1996
Maldives	31 May 1995	Saint Kitts and Nevis	21 February 1996
Mali	31 May 1995	Saint Lucia	1 January 1995
Malta	1 January 1995	Saint Vincent & the Grenadines	1 January 1995
Mauritania	31 May 1995	Senegal	1 January 1995
Sierra Leone	23 July 1995	Thailand	1 January 1995

Government	Entry into Force	Government	Entry into Force
Singapore	1 January 1995	Togo	1 January 1995
Slovak Republic	1 January 1995	Trinidad and Tobago	1 March 1995
Slovenia	30 July 1995	Tunisia	29 March 1995
Solomon Islands	26 July 1996	Turkey	26 March 1995
South Africa	1 January 1995	Uganda	1 January 1995
Spain	1 January 1995	United Arab Emirates	10 April 1996
Sri Lanka	1 January 1995	United Kingdom	1 January 1995
Suriname	1 January 1995	United States	1 January 1995
Swaziland	1 January 1995	Uruguay	1 January 1995
Sweden	1 January 1995	Venezuela	1 January 1995
Switzerland	1 July 1995	Zambia	1 January 1995
Tanzania	1 January 1995	Zimbabwe	5 March 1995

Source: WTO Secretariat

WTO structure

All WTO members may participate in all councils, committees, etc. except Appellate Body, Dispute Settlement panels
 Textiles Monitoring Body and plurilateral committees



The Plurilateral Agreements and Membership

For the most part, all WTO members subscribe to all WTO agreements. There remain, however, two agreements, originally negotiated in the Tokyo Round, which have a narrower group of signatories and are known therefore as "plurilateral agreements."

The Agreement on Government Procurement

The Agreement on Government Procurement, the successor to the plurilateral "Government Procurement Code" of the Tokyo Round, entered into force on January 1, 1996. The following WTO Members are Parties to the Agreement: Canada; the European Community and its fifteen member States; Hong Kong, China; Israel; Japan; Korea; Liechtenstein; the Kingdom of the Netherlands with respect to Aruba; Norway; Singapore; Switzerland; and the United States. Eighteen WTO Members have observer status: Argentina, Australia, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Iceland [submitted application to the Committee and ratification is anticipated within the year], Jordan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Latvia, Mongolia, Panama, Poland, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Turkey. Four non-WTO Members, Croatia, Lithuania, Chinese Taipei, and Moldova and three intergovernmental organizations, the IMF, the ITC, and the OECD, also have observer status.

The Agreement on Trade in Civil Aircraft

There are 26 Signatories to the Agreement: Bulgaria, Canada, the European Communities, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom, Egypt, Georgia, Japan, Latvia, Macau, Norway, Romania, Switzerland and the United States. Those WTO Members with observer status in the Committee are: Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Cameroon, Colombia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Gabon, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Israel, Korea, Malta, Mauritius, Nigeria, Poland, Singapore, the Slovak Republic, Sri Lanka, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia and Turkey. In addition, China, Chinese Taipei, the Russian Federation and Saudi Arabia have observer status in the Committee. The IMF and UNCTAD are also observers.

WTO ACCESSION APPLICATION AND STATUS (as of 2-1-00)¹

Applicant	Status of Multilateral and Bilateral Work
Albania (1992)	Albania became the 138 th Member of the WTO on September 8, 2000.
Algeria (1987)	GATT 1947 accession process never activated. One WTO Working Party held in April 1998. Additional documentation provided in early 1999. No market access offers to date.
Andorra (1997)	WP meeting held on October 13, 1999 reviewed legislative implementation schedule and goods and services market access offers. Review of revised documentation and offers expected at second WP meeting in 2001.
Armenia (1993)	WP meeting held on June 24, 1999 reviewed the draft WP report and protocol. Legislative implementation underway and market access negotiations close to completion with all WTO Members. Informal WP meeting to review progress expected in early 2001.
Azerbaijan (1997)	Initial documentation circulated in April 1999 with additional information provided in July 2000. No working party meetings or market access offers to date.
Belarus (1993)	WP meeting held on April 28, 1998 continued review of the foreign trade regime. Market access bilateral negotiations on goods and services held with WTO Members in May 2000. WP meeting likely in 2001.
Bosnia Herzegovina (1999)	Application accepted at July 1999 General Council; has not yet submitted initial documentation to activate the accession negotiations.
Bhutan * (1999)	Application accepted at October 1999 General Council; has not yet submitted initial documentation to activate the accession negotiations.
Cambodia * (1995)	Initial documentation submitted in June 1999. Additional information submitted in January 2001. Initial WP meeting likely in first half of 2001.
Cape Verde * (2000)	Accession application accepted at July 2000 General Council; has not yet submitted initial documentation to activate the accession negotiations.
China (1986)	Negotiations well advanced. Legislative implementation underway. WP reviewing draft WP report and protocol. Market access negotiations completed with virtually all interested WTO Members (including Japan, United States, and the EU).
Croatia (1993)	Croatia became the 140 th Member of the WTO on November 30, 2000.
Georgia (1996)	Georgia became the 137 th Member of the WTO on June 14, 2000.
Jordan (1994)	Jordan became the 136 th Member of the WTO on April 11, 2000.
Kazakhstan (1996)	Last WP meeting held October 1998. Legislative implementation underway. Revised goods and services offers issued in March and May 2000. Further market access negotiations possible, based on revised offers, on margins of next WP meeting.
Laos * (1998)	Has not yet submitted initial documentation to activate the accession negotiations.
Lebanon (1999)	Has not yet submitted initial documentation to activate the accession negotiations.

¹ "Applicant" column Includes date the Working Party was formed. Pre-1995 dates indicate that the original WP was formed under the GATT 1947, but was reformed as a WTO Working Party in 1995.

* Designates "least developed country" applicant.

Applicant	Status of Multilateral and Bilateral Work
Lithuania (1994)	General Council approved the accession package on December 11, 2000. Ratification is expected in first half of 2001, with Membership 30 days after the instrument of ratification is deposited with the WTO.
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (1995)	First WP meeting held July 10, 2000. Initial goods and services market access offers and additional documentation expected in early 2001, with further negotiations on the margins of the next WP, also in 2001.
Moldova (1993)	WP meeting held on December 20, 2000 adopted the WP report and protocol. Legislative implementation and market access negotiations close to completion. Final WP adoption of the accession package and General Council approval expected in early 2001.
Nepal * (1989)	GATT 1947 accession process suspended in 1994. First WTO WP meeting held May 22, 2000. Market access offers circulated in July 2000. Market access negotiations planned on margins of next WP session in 2001.
Oman (1996)	Oman became the 139 th Member of the WTO on November 9, 2000.
Russia (1993)	WP meeting held December 18, 2000 reviewed action plan for legislative implementation. Revised goods and services offers expected to be circulated in early 2001. Bilaterals with U.S. on market access and protocol issues held in September and November 2000.
Samoa * (1998)	Initial documentation submitted in February 2000 with additional information in November 2000. No working party meetings or market access offers to date.
Saudi Arabia (1993)	WP meeting held October 17, 2000 continued review of the draft WP report and protocol, and received updated information on progress of legislative implementation. Bilateral market access discussions held with United States in July and October 2000.
Seychelles (1995)	WP meeting held in March 1998 continued review of the foreign trade regime. Next WP meeting to review status of legislative implementation. Further negotiations on goods and services market access awaiting revised offers.
Sudan * (1995)	Initial documentation circulated in January 1999 with additional information provided in November 2000. No working party meetings or market access offers to date.
Chinese Taipei (Taiwan) (1992)	Negotiations well advanced. Bilateral market access negotiations completed. Legislative implementation underway. Text of draft WP report and protocol agreed in substance, to be adopted with consolidated market access schedules at next Working Party meeting, date to be arranged.
Tonga (1995)	Initial documentation circulated in June 1998 with additional information provided in November 2000. No market access offers to date. Initial WP meeting likely in first half of 2001.
Ukraine (1993)	WP meeting held July 12, 2000 reviewed status of legislative implementation. Bilateral meetings on market access held with U.S. in July and September 2000. IPR issues also under bilateral discussion. Principal focus of bilateral and Working Party discussions in 2001 will be on Ukraine's ability to implement WTO-consistent trade regime and negotiations on revised market access offers.
Uzbekistan (1995)	Initial documentation circulated in October 1998 with additional information provided in September 2000. No working party meetings or market access offers to date.

Applicant	Status of Multilateral and Bilateral Work
Vanuatu * (1995)	WP meeting held October 29, 2000 reviewed status of legislative implementation and Vanuatu's revised offers on outstanding goods, services and protocol issues. Comments by WP Members forwarded in December 2000. Further WP and bilateral negotiations expected in 2001.
Vietnam (1995)	WP meeting held November 30, 2000 completed initial examination of the foreign trade regime and reviewed issues identified for further discussion. Next WP meeting in mid- 2001 will review status of legislative program to implement WTO provisions. No market access offers to date.
Yemen * (2000)	Accession application accepted at July 17, 2000 General Council; has not yet submitted initial documentation to activate the accession negotiations.

PROPOSED REVISED SCALE OF CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2001
(Minimum contribution of 0.015 per cent)

MEMBERS	2000	2001		INTEREST EARNED ¹ CHF	2001 NET CONTRIBUTION CHF
	CONTRIBUTION CHF	%	CONTRIBUTION CHF		
Albania		0.015	19,935	-	19,935
Angola	77,226	0.061	81,069		81,069
Antigua and Barbuda	18,990	0.015	19,935	-	19,935
Argentina	577,296	0.534	709,686	(4)	709,682
Australia	1,648,332	1.292	1,717,068	(4,941)	1,712,127
Austria	1,905,330	1.522	2,022,738	(5,644)	2,017,094
Bahrain	96,216	0.075	99,675	(251)	99,424
Bangladesh	125,334	0.103	136,887	-	136,887
Barbados	24,054	0.020	26,580	(22)	26,558
Belgium	3,608,100	2.774	3,686,646	(9,844)	3,676,802
Belize	18,990	0.015	19,935	(115)	19,820
Benin	18,990	0.015	19,935	(15)	19,920
Bolivia	31,650	0.027	35,883	(5)	35,878
Botswana	49,374	0.039	51,831		51,831
Brazil	1,301,448	1.047	1,391,463		1,391,463
Brunei Darussalam	59,502	0.046	61,134	(99)	61,035
Bulgaria	130,398	0.099	131,571	(95)	131,476
Burkina Faso	18,990	0.015	19,935		19,935
Burundi	18,990	0.015	19,935		19,935
Cameroon	36,714	0.029	38,541	(75)	38,466
Canada	4,938,666	3.892	5,172,468	(15,158)	5,157,310
Central African Republic	18,990	0.015	19,935		19,935
Chad	18,990	0.015	19,935		19,935
Chile	424,110	0.335	445,215	(1,081)	444,134
Colombia	331,692	0.254	337,566	(836)	336,730
Congo	32,916	0.026	34,554		34,554
Costa Rica	87,354	0.095	126,255	(93)	126,162
Côte d'Ivoire	86,088	0.074	98,346	(179)	98,167
Croatia		0.155	205,995		205,995
Cuba	68,364	0.054	71,766	(191)	71,575
Cyprus	74,694	0.069	91,701	(210)	91,491
Czech Republic	641,862	0.532	707,028	(1,900)	705,128
Democratic Republic of the Congo	25,320	0.025	33,225		33,225
Denmark	1,290,054	1.001	1,330,329	(3,830)	1,326,499
Djibouti	18,990	0.015	19,935		19,935
Dominica	18,990	0.015	19,935	(82)	19,853
Dominican Republic	137,994	0.120	159,480		159,480
Ecuador	112,674	0.092	122,268	(36)	122,232
Egypt	335,490	0.271	360,159	(940)	359,219
El Salvador	62,034	0.052	69,108	(97)	69,011
Estonia	78,492	0.062	82,398		82,398
European Communities	0	0.000	0		0
Fiji	22,788	0.018	23,922	(104)	23,818
Finland	910,254	0.711	944,919	(2,495)	942,424
France	7,351,662	5.766	7,663,014	(20,281)	7,642,733
Gabon	46,842	0.036	47,844	(8)	47,836

MEMBERS	2000	2001		INTEREST EARNED ¹ CHF	2001 NET
	CONTRIBUTION CHF	%	CONTRIBUTION CHF		CONTRIBUTION CHF
Gambia	18,990	0.015	19,935		19,935
Georgia		0.016	21,264		21,264
Germany	12,271,338	9.716	12,912,564	(22,030)	12,890,534
Ghana	40,512	0.035	46,515	(119)	46,396
Greece	419,046	0.329	437,241	(431)	436,810
Grenada	18,990	0.015	19,935		19,935
Guatemala	69,630	0.060	79,740	(176)	79,564
Guinea	18,990	0.015	19,935		19,935
Guinea-Bissau	18,990	0.015	19,935		19,935
Guyana	18,990	0.015	19,935	(68)	19,867
Haiti	18,990	0.015	19,935	(55)	19,880
Honduras	43,044	0.038	50,502	(118)	50,384
Hong Kong, China	4,586,718	3.605	4,791,045	(15,110)	4,775,935
Hungary	493,740	0.396	526,284	(1,109)	525,175
Iceland	51,906	0.045	59,805	(154)	59,651
India	1,050,780	0.828	1,100,412		1,100,412
Indonesia	1,214,094	0.929	1,234,641		1,234,641
Ireland	1,216,626	0.952	1,265,208	(3,006)	1,262,202
Israel	696,300	0.554	736,266	(1,842)	734,424
Italy	5,990,712	4.699	6,244,971	(14,130)	6,230,841
Jamaica	72,162	0.060	79,740	(83)	79,657
Japan	9,132,924	7.163	9,519,627	(14,804)	9,504,823
Jordan		0.071	94,359		94,359
Kenya	65,832	0.052	69,108	(124)	68,984
Korea, Republic of	3,358,698	2.549	3,387,621	(4,786)	3,382,835
Kuwait	273,456	0.216	287,064	(811)	286,253
Kyrgyz Republic	18,990	0.015	19,935		19,935
Latvia	65,832	0.051	67,779	(60)	67,719
Lesotho	18,990	0.015	19,935	(42)	19,893
Liechtenstein	35,448	0.028	37,212	(119)	37,093
Luxembourg	360,810	0.297	394,713	(553)	394,160
Macau, China	79,758	0.064	85,056	(221)	84,835
Madagascar	18,990	0.015	19,935	(113)	19,822
Malawi	18,990	0.015	19,935		19,935
Malaysia	1,868,616	1.465	1,946,985	(2,343)	1,944,642
Maldives	18,990	0.015	19,935	(107)	19,828
Mali	18,990	0.015	19,935		19,935
Malta	64,566	0.050	66,450	(143)	66,307
Mauritania	18,990	0.015	19,935		19,935
Mauritius	54,438	0.044	58,476	(146)	58,330
Mexico	2,500,350	1.962	2,607,498	(1,323)	2,606,175
Mongolia	18,990	0.015	19,935		19,935
Morocco	205,092	0.163	216,627	(434)	216,193
Mozambique	18,990	0.015	19,935		19,935
Myanmar, Union of	18,990	0.033	43,857	(90)	43,767
Namibia	37,980	0.031	41,199	(99)	41,100
Netherlands, Kingdom of the	4,366,434	3.440	4,571,760	(10,560)	4,561,200
New Zealand	368,406	0.290	385,410	(1,097)	384,313
Nicaragua	21,522	0.018	23,922	(14)	23,908

MEMBERS	2000	2001		INTEREST EARNED ¹ CHF	2001 NET
	CONTRIBUTION CHF	%	CONTRIBUTION CHF		CONTRIBUTION CHF
Niger	18,990	0.015	19,935		19,935
Nigeria	289,914	0.222	295,038		295,038
Norway	1,181,178	0.927	1,231,983	(3,497)	1,228,486
Oman		0.105	139,545		139,545
Pakistan	249,402	0.196	260,484		260,484
Panama	168,378	0.132	175,428		175,428
Papua New Guinea	53,172	0.039	51,831	(93)	51,738
Paraguay	59,502	0.075	99,675	(42)	99,633
Peru	182,304	0.148	196,692	(50)	196,642
Philippines	844,422	0.663	881,127		881,127
Poland	815,304	0.711	944,919	(2,084)	942,835
Portugal	764,664	0.622	826,638	(1,820)	824,818
Qatar	69,630	0.063	83,727	(129)	83,598
Romania	226,614	0.182	241,878	(519)	241,359
Rwanda	18,990	0.015	19,935		19,935
Saint Lucia	18,990	0.015	19,935	(69)	19,866
Senegal	29,118	0.024	31,896	(119)	31,777
Sierra Leone	18,990	0.015	19,935		19,935
Singapore	3,077,646	2.302	3,059,358	(6,177)	3,053,181
Slovak Republic	270,924	0.213	283,077	(767)	282,310
Slovenia	225,348	0.177	235,233	(654)	234,579
Solomon Islands	18,990	0.015	19,935	(81)	19,854
South Africa	710,226	0.564	749,556	(1,975)	747,581
Spain	3,119,424	2.477	3,291,933	(6,063)	3,285,870
Sri Lanka	116,472	0.096	127,584	(242)	127,342
St. Kitts and Nevis	18,990	0.015	19,935	(69)	19,866
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	18,990	0.015	19,935	(32)	19,903
Suriname	18,990	0.015	19,935		19,935
Swaziland	24,054	0.018	23,922	(110)	23,812
Sweden	1,961,034	1.542	2,049,318	(4,905)	2,044,413
Switzerland	2,249,682	1.621	2,154,309	(5,675)	2,148,634
Tanzania	34,182	0.027	35,883	(1)	35,882
Thailand	1,440,708	1.131	1,503,099	(4,221)	1,498,878
Togo	18,990	0.015	19,935		19,935
Trinidad and Tobago	40,512	0.047	62,463	(23)	62,440
Tunisia	172,176	0.138	183,402	(492)	182,910
Turkey	954,564	0.838	1,113,702	(1,623)	1,112,079
Uganda	24,054	0.019	25,251		25,251
United Arab Emirates	681,108	0.533	708,357	(1,481)	706,876
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	7,640,310	5.991	7,962,039	(19,523)	7,942,516
United States of America	19,897,722	15.631	20,773,599	(2,665)	20,770,934
Uruguay	81,024	0.068	90,372	(7)	90,365
Venezuela	419,046	0.335	445,215		445,215
Zambia	27,852	0.022	29,238		29,238
Zimbabwe	45,576	0.034	45,186	(131)	45,055
TOTAL	126,600,000	100.00	132,900,000	230,390	132,669,610

1 Interest earned in 1999 under the Early Payment Encouragement Scheme (L/6384) and to be deducted from the 2001 contribution

2001 APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE WTO SECRETARIAT
(in Swiss francs)

	SECTION	Original Estimates	Decreases	Enhanced Activities		Revised Estimates
				Translation	Technical Assistance Services	
		CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF	CHF
1	Staff (Work/years)					
	(a) Salary	60,956,400	(767,140)		457,600	60,646,860
	(b) Pensions	11,891,600	(89,360)		89,200	11,891,440
	(c) Other Common Staff costs	10,968,000	(302,000)		280,000	10,946,000
2	Temporary Assistance	11,292,000	(1,579,150)	1,500,000	230,200	11,443,050
3	Communications					
	(a) Telecommunications	568,000				568,000
	(b) Postage charges	1,227,000				1,227,000
4	Building Facilities					
	(a) Rental	39,600				39,600
	(b) Utilities	1,601,000	(3,500)		4,000	1,601,500
	(c) Maintenance and Insurance	927,000	(20,000)			907,000
5	Permanent Equipment	4,288,500	(843,350)		29,600	3,474,750
6	Expendable Equipment	1,324,345	(59,675)			1,264,670
7	Contractual Services					
	(a) Reproduction	1,217,000				1,217,000
	(b) Office Automation / Informatics	2,741,055	(530,515)		3,000	2,213,540
	(c) Other	284,000	(40,000)			244,000
8	Staff Overhead Costs					
	(a) Training	522,000	(114,000)			408,000
	(b) Insurance	1,079,500	(2,000)		2,400	1,079,900
	(c) Joint Services	519,000				519,000
	(d) Miscellaneous	47,500	(5,000)		4,000	46,500
9	Missions					
	(a) Official	1,205,100				1,205,100
	(b) Technical Co-operation	763,200			400,000	1,163,200
10	Trade Policy Training Courses	1,490,000				1,490,000
11	Contribution to ITC	14,761,500	(400,000)			14,361,500
12	Various					
	(a) Representation and Hospitality	258,000				258,000
	(b) Dispute Settlement Panels	1,337,000				1,337,000
	(c) Permanent Group of Experts/ Arbitration under GATS	30,000				30,000
	(d) Appellate Body					
	(e) Library	590,000	(23,000)			567,000
	(f) Publications	298,000	(95,000)			203,000
	(g) Public Information Activities	260,000				260,000
	(h) External Auditors	70,000				70,000
	(i) Ministerial Meeting	400,000				400,000
	(j) ISO	60,000				60,000
	(k) Other	63,000				63,000
13	Unforeseen Expenditure	100,000				100,000
	TOTAL	133,179,300	4,873,690	1,500,000	1,500,000	131,305,610

2001 PROPOSED REVISED BUDGET FOR THE APPELLATE BODY AND ITS SECRETARIAT

P A R T	SECTION	ORIGINAL ESTIMATES CHF	DECREASES CHF	REVISED ESTIMATES CHF
A	1. Staff (Work/ years)			
	(a) Salary	1,368,300	(114,400)	1,253,900
	(b) Pensions	267,000	(22,400)	244,600
	(c) Other Common staff costs	483,000	(101,600)	381,400
	2. Temporary Assistance	108,500		108,500
B	3. Communications			
	(a) Telecommunications	6,500		6,500
	(b) Postal Charges			
	4. Building Facilities			
	(a) Rental			
	(b) Utilities	12,000	(1,000)	11,000
	(c) Maintenance and Insurance	10,000		10,000
	5. Permanent Equipment	103,900	(14,800)	89,100
	6. Expendable Equipment	17,700		17,700
	7. Contractual Services			
	(a) Reproduction	15,000		15,000
	(b) Office Automation/Informatics	4,500	(1,500)	3,000
	(c) Other			
C	8. Staff Overhead Costs			
	(a) Training			
	(b) Insurance	3,000	(600)	2,400
	(c) Joint Services			
	(d) Miscellaneous	8,000	(2,000)	6,000
	9. Missions	9,300		9,300
	10. Trade Policy Training Courses			
	11. Contribution to ITC			
	12. Various			
	(a) Representation and Hospitality	1,000		1,000
	(b) Dispute Settlement Panels			
	(c) Permanent Group of Experts/ Arbitration under GATS			
	(d) Appellate Body Members	615,200		615,200
	(e) Library	3,400		3,400
	(f) Publications			
	(g) Public Information Activities			
	(h) External Auditors			
	(i) Ministerial Meeting			
	(j) ISO			
	(k) Other			
	13. Unforeseen Expenditure			
	TOTAL	3,036,300	(258,300)	2,778,000

WTO Secretariat Personnel Statistics

Number of Staff Members by Job Category			
NATIONALITY	PROFESSIONAL	ADMINISTRATIVE	TOTALS BY NATIONALITY
American	21	3	24
Argentine	3	4	7
Australian	8	2	10
Austrian	3	1	4
Belgian	5	0	5
Beninese	1	0	1
Bolivian	1	1	2
Brazilian	2	1	3
British	53	21	74
Burkina Faso	1	0	1
Canadian	21	4	25
Chilean	1	4	5
Colombian	3	2	5
Congolese	1	0	1
Costa Rican	1	0	1
Cuban	0	1	1
Danish	1	1	2
Dutch	7	1	8
Egyptian	3	0	3
Ethiopian	0	1	1
Finnish	1	2	3
French	38	96	134
German	9	4	13
Ghanaian	1	0	1
Greek	3	1	4
Honduran	0	1	1
Hong Kong Chinese	1	0	1
Hungarian	2	0	2
Indian	7	4	11
Irish	3	11	14
Italian	12	4	16
Ivorian	0	1	1
Japanese	3	0	3
Lebanese	1	0	1
Malawian	1	0	1
Malaysian	1	1	2
Mauritian	0	1	1
Mexican	2	0	2
Moroccan	0	1	1

Number of Staff Members by Job Category			
NATIONALITY	PROFESSIONAL	ADMINISTRATIVE	TOTAL BY NATIONALITY
New Zealand	4	1	5
Nigerian	1	0	1
Norwegian	2	1	3
Paraguayan	0	1	1
Peruvian	2	5	7
Philippine	3	2	5
Polish	2	2	4
Portuguese	1	1	2
Republic of Korea	2	0	2
Romanian	2	0	2
Senegalese	0	1	1
Spanish	21	15	36
Sri Lankan	2	2	4
Swedish	5	2	7
Swiss	18	17	35
Thai	2	0	2
Tunisian	3	1	4
Turkish	1	0	1
Uruguayan	4	4	8
Venezuelan	5	0	5
Zimbabwean	1	0	1
TOTAL	302	229	531
Source: WTO Secretariat (as of 12/31/00)			

**INDICATIVE LIST OF GOVERNMENTAL AND
NON-GOVERNMENTAL PANELISTS**

1. To assist in the selection of panelists, the DSU provides in Article 8.4 that the Secretariat shall maintain an indicative list of governmental and non-governmental individuals.
2. In accordance with the proposals for the administration of the indicative list of panelists approved by the DSB on 31 May 1995, the list should be completely updated every two years. For practical purposes, the proposals for the administration of the indicative list approved by the DSB on 31 May 1995 are reproduced as an Annex to this document.
3. The attached is an updated consolidated list of governmental and non-governmental panelists.² The list contains the names included in the previous indicative list (WT/DSB/17) circulated by the Secretariat on 3 November 1999 and takes into account all the modifications made to that list by Members in accordance with the requirement that the list should be updated every two years. The new names approved by the DSB in the period between 28 October 1999 and 20 March 2000 are also included in the attached list.

²Curricula vitae containing more detailed information are available on request from the WTO Secretariat (Council Division – Room 2025). The curricula vitae which have been submitted on diskette are also available on the Document Dissemination Facility.

COUNTRY	NAME	SECTORAL EXPERIENCE
AUSTRALIA	ARNOTT, Mr. R.J.	Trade in Goods
	CHESTER, Mr. D.O.	TRIPS
	CHURCHE, Mr. M.	Trade in Goods
	GASCOINE, Mr. D.F.	Trade in Goods
	HAWES, Mr. D.C.	Trade in Goods and Services
	HIRD, Miss J.M.	Trade in Goods
	HUSSIN, Mr. P.A.	Trade in Goods
	MAY, Mr. P.H.	Trade in Goods
	O'CONNOR, Mr. P.R.	Trade in Goods
	SMITH, Mr. P.A.	TRIPS
	THOMSON, Mr. G.A.	Trade in Goods and Services
	WAINCYMER, Mr. J.	Trade in Goods
	YOUNG, Ms. E.	Trade in Goods
	CANADA	BERNIER, Mr. I.
BRADFORD, Mr. M.V.M.		Trade in Goods and Services
BROWN, Ms. C.A.		Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS
CLARK, Mr. P.J.		Trade in Goods and Services
CLOSE, Ms. P.		Trade in Goods
DE MESTRAL, Mr. A.		Trade in Goods
EYTON, Mr. A.T.		Trade in Goods
GHERSON, Mr. R.		Trade in Goods
GOODWIN, Ms. K.M.		Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS
HALLIDAY, Mr. A.L.		Trade in Goods and Services
HERMAN, Mr. L.L.		Trade in Goods
HINES, Mr. W.R.		Trade in Goods
MACMILLAN, Ms. K.E.		Trade in Goods
MCRAE, Mr. D.		Trade in Goods
OSTRY, Ms. S.		Trade in Goods
RICHIE, Mr. G.		Trade in Goods
THOMAS, Mr. J.C.	Trade in Goods and Services	
WINHAM, Mr. M.M.	Trade in Goods	

CHILE	BIGGS, Mr. G.	Trade in Goods
	JARA, Mr. A.	Trade in Goods and Services
	MATUS, Mr. M.	Trade in Goods
	PEÑA, Ms. G.	Trade in Goods
	SAEZ, Mr. S.	Trade in Goods and Services
	SATELER, Mr. R.	TRIPS
	TIRONI, Mr. E.	Trade in Goods
COLOMBIA	CÁRDENAS, Mr. M.J.	Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS
	IBARRA PARDO, Mr. G.	Trade in Goods
	JARAMILLO, Mr. F.	Trade in Goods and Services
	LEAL ANGARITA, Mr. M.	Trade in Goods and Services
	OROZCO JARAMILLO, Ms. C.Y.	Trade in Goods
CUBA	CABALLERO RODRÍGUEZ, Mr. E.	Trade in Goods and Services
CZECH REP.	JUNG, Mr. Z.	Trade in Goods and Services
	PALEŤKA, Mr. P.	Trade in Goods and Services
	PRAVDA, Mr. M.	Trade in Goods
	ŠRON- K, Mr. I.	TRIPS
EGYPT	ABOUL-ENEIN, Mr. M.I.M.	Trade in Goods and Services
	HATEM, Mr. S.A.	Trade in Goods and Services
	SHAHIN, Ms. M.	Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS
	SHARAFELDIN, Mr. A.	Trade in Goods; TRIPS
	ZAHRAN, Mr. M.M.	Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS
EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES		
AUSTRIA	BENEDEK, Mr. W.	Trade in Goods
	MARTINS, Mr. R.	Trade in Goods
	REITERER, Mr. M.G.K.	Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS
	WEISS, Mr. J.F.	Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS
	ZEHETNER, Mr. F.	Trade in Goods

EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES**(cont'd)**

BELGIUM	DASSESE, Mr. M.P.A.	Trade in Goods and Services
	DIDIER, Mr. P.	Trade in Goods
	VANDER SCHUEREN, Ms. P.	Trade in Goods and Services
DENMARK	BOESGAARD, Mr. H.	Trade in Goods
FINLAND	BERGHOLM, Mr. K.A.	Trade in Goods
	JULIN, Mr. J.K.J.	Trade in Goods and Services
	LUOTONEN, Mr. Y.K.D.	Trade in Goods
	PULLINEN, Mr. M.Y.	Trade in Goods
	RANTANEN, Mr. P.I.	Trade in Goods
FRANCE	ARMAIGNAC, Ms. M.-C.	Trade in Services; TRIPS
	BEAURAIN, Mr. C.	Trade in Services
	COMBALDIEU, Mr. J.C.	TRIPS
	DELLEUR, Mr. P.	Trade in Services
	JENNY, Mr. F.Y.	Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS
	METZGER, Mr. J-M.	Trade in Goods
GERMANY	BARTH, Mr. D.	Trade in Services
	BARTKOWSKI, Mr. D.H.H.	Trade in Services
	DELBRÜCK, Mr. K.	Trade in Goods
	HILF, Mr. M.	Trade in Goods and Services
	MENG, Mr. W.	Trade in Goods, TRIPS
	MÖHLER, Mr. R.	Trade in Goods
	von MÜHLEND AHL, Mr. A.	TRIPS
	OPPERMANN, Mr. T.	Trade in Goods; TRIPS
	PETERSMANN, Mr. E-U	Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS
	TANGERMANN, Mr. S.	Trade in Goods
	WITT, Mr. P.J.	Trade in Goods
GREECE	MYROGIANNIS, Mr. G.	Trade in Goods
	STANGOS, Mr. P.N.	Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS
IRELAND	LONG, Mr. R.	Trade in Goods; TRIPS
	MATTHEWS, Mr. A.H.	Trade in Goods
	MOCKLER, Mr. T.F.	Trade in Goods

ITALY	GERBINO, Mr. M.	Trade in Goods
	GIARDINA, Mr. A.	Trade in Goods and Services
	SACERDOTI, Mr. G.	Trade in Goods and Services
	SCHIRATTI, Mr. G.	Trade in Goods
NETHERLANDS	BLOKKER, Mr. N.M.	Trade in Goods
	HOEKMAN, Mr. B.M.	Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS
	van de LOCHT, Mr. P.	Trade in Goods and Services
SPAIN	CASTILLO URRUTIA, Mr. J.A.	Trade in Goods
SWEDEN	ANDERSSON, Mr. T.M.	Trade in Goods
	ANELL, Mr. L.	Trade in Goods; TRIPS
	FALLENIOUS, Mr. C.H.	Trade in Goods
	HÅKANSSON, Mr. G.P.-O.	Trade in Services
	HOLGERSSON, Mr. J.	Trade in Goods and Services
	KLEEN, Mr. P.	Trade in Goods
	LINDSTRÖM, Mr. J.M.	Trade in Goods
	MANHUSEN, Mr. C.	Trade in Goods and Services
	RISINGGÅRD, Mr. A.B.	Trade in Goods
	RODIN, Mr. A.	Trade in Goods; TRIPS
	STÅLBERG, Mr. L.A.	Trade in Goods
UNITED KINGDOM	ARKELL, Mr. J.	Trade in Services
	CROFT, Mr. R.H.F.	Trade in Services
	HINDLEY, Mr. B.V.	Trade in Goods and Services
	JOHNSON, Mr. M.D.C.	Trade in Goods
	MUIR, Mr. T.	Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS
	PLENDER, Mr. R.	Trade in Goods
	ROBERTS, Mr. C.W.	Trade in Goods and Services
TOULMIN, Mr. J.K.	Trade in Services	
HONG KONG, CHINA	CARTLAND, Mr. M.D.	Trade in Goods and Services
	FOOTMAN, Mr. R.	Trade in Goods and Services
	LO, Mr. P.Y.F.	Trade in Goods
	MILLER, Mr. J.A.	Trade in Goods and Services

	SZE, Mr. M.C.C.	Trade in Goods
HUNGARY	FURULYÁS, Mr. F. LAKATOS, Mr. A.	Trade in Goods Trade in Goods and Services
ICELAND	BJÖRGVINSSON, Mr. D.T. JÓHANNSSON, Mr. E.M. SANDHOLT, Mr. B.	Trade in Goods and Services Trade in Goods Trade in Goods
INDIA	AGARWAL, Mr. V.K. BHATTACHARYA, Mr. G.C. CHANDRASEKHAR, Mr. K.M DAS, Mr. B.L. DASGUPTA, Mr. J. GANESAN, Mr. A.V. GOYAL, Mr. A. KUMAR, Mr. M. MOHANTY, Mr. P.K. MUKERJI, Mr. A. PRASAD, Ms. A. RAI, Mr. P. RAMAKRISHNAN, Mr. N. RAO, Mr. P.S. REGE, Mr. N.V. SAJJANHAR, Mr. A. SHARMA, Mr. L. VENUGOPAL, Mr. K. WATAL, Mrs. J. ZUTSHI, Mr. B.K.	Trade in Goods; TRIPS Trade in Goods Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS Trade in Goods Trade in Goods Trade in Goods, Services; TRIPS Trade in Services Trade in Goods and Services Trade in Goods Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS TRIPS Trade in Goods Trade in Goods Trade in Goods Trade in Goods Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS Trade in Goods; TRIPS TRIPS Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS
ISRAEL	ALTUVIA, Mr. M. GABAY, Mr. M. HARAN, Mr. E.F. SEMADAR, Mr. M. SHATON, Mr. M. TALBAR, Mr. M.A. WEILER, Mr. J.	Trade in Goods TRIPS Trade in Services Trade in Goods Trade in Goods and Services Trade in Goods Trade in Goods

JAPAN	ARAKI, Mr. I	Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS
	ASAKURA, Mr. H.	Trade in Goods
	ISHIGURO, Mr. K.	Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS
	IWASAWA, Mr. Y.	Trade in Goods
	KANDA, Mr. H.	Trade in Services
	KEMMOCHI, Mr. N.	Trade in Goods and Services
	KOTERA, Mr. A.	Trade in Goods and Services
	OHARA, Mr. Y.	Trade in Goods; TRIPS
	SHIMIZU, Mr. A.	Trade in Goods
	TAKASE, Mr. T.	Trade in Goods and Services
	TSURUOKA, Mr. K.	Trade in Services
KOREA	CHANG, Mr. S.W.	Trade in Goods
	CHO, Mr. D.Y.	Trade in Goods and Services
	CHO, Mr. T-U	Trade in Goods
	CHOI, Mr. B.I.	Trade in Services
	KIM, Mr. J.B.	Trade in Goods
	LEE, Mr. J.	Trade in Goods
	PARK, Mr. N.	Trade in Goods
	YUN, Mr. Y. G.	Trade in Goods
MADAGASCAR	ANDRIANARIVONY, Mr. M.	Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS
MAURITIUS	BHUGLAH, Mr. A.	Trade in Goods and Services
NEW ZEALAND	ARMSTRONG, Mr. W.M.V.	Trade in Goods; TRIPS
	CARSON, Mr. C.B.	Trade in Goods
	FALCONER, Mr. C.D.	Trade in Goods
	FALCONER, Mr. W.J.	Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS
	GROSER, Mr. T.	Trade in Goods
	HAMILTON, Mr. P.W	Trade in Goods
	HARVEY, Mr. M.W.	Trade in Goods
	HIGGIE, Ms. D.C.	Trade in Goods
	KENNEDY, Mr. P.D.	Trade in Goods
	MACEY, Mr. A.	Trade in Goods; TRIPS
	MCPHAIL, Mr. A.H.	Trade in Goods
	NOTTAGE, Mr. M.J.	Trade in Goods
	SLADE, Ms. M.	Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS
	TRAINOR, Mr. M.J.	Trade in Goods; TRIPS
	WALKER, Mr. D.J.	Trade in Goods and Services

	WOODFIELD, Mr. E.A.	Trade in Goods
NORWAY	LILLERUD, Mr. K.	Trade in Goods
	LUNDBY, Mr. O.	Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS
	SELAND, Mr. H.A.	Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS
	TØNSETH, Mr. D.	Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS
PANAMA	GONZALEZ, Mr. C.E.	Trade in Goods and Services
POLAND	PIETRAS, Mr. J.	Trade in Services
QATAR	MAKKI, Mr. F.	Trade in Goods and Services
SRI LANKA	JAYASEKERA, Mr. D.	Trade in Goods; TRIPS
SWITZERLAND	BALDI, Mr. M.	Trade in Services
	BLATTNER, Mr. N.	Trade in Services
	CHAMBOVEY, Mr. D.	Trade in Goods
	COTTIER, Mr. Th.	Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS
	GETAZ, Mr. H.A.	Trade in Services
	HÄBERLI, Mr. C.	Trade in Goods
	INEICHEN-FLEISCH, Ms. M.-G.	Trade in Goods and Services
	KRAFFT, Mr. M-C.	Trade in Goods
	TRAN, Ms. T.T.-L.	TRIPS
	WASESCHA, Mr. L.	Trade in Goods and Services; TRIPS
	WEBER, Mr. R.	Trade in Services
UNITED STATES	BIRENBAUM, Mr. D.E.	Trade in Goods
	GORDON, Mr. M.W.	Trade in Goods
	GREENWALD, Mr. J.A.	Trade in Goods; TRIPS
	HUDEC, Mr. R.E.	Trade in Goods and Services
	KASSINGER, Mr. T.W.	Trade in Goods and Services
	KIRK, Mr. M.K.	TRIPS
	LICHTENSTEIN, Ms. C.C.	Trade in Services
	PARTAN, Mr. D.G.	Trade in Goods
	REYNA, Mr. J.V.	Trade in Goods and Services
	VERRILL, Jr. Mr. C.O.	Trade in Goods

URUGUAY

AMORÍN, Mr. C.

Trade in Goods; TRIPS

ROSSELLI, Mr. A.O.

Trade in Goods

VANERIO, Mr. G.

Trade in Goods and Services

VENEZUELA

ESCOBAR, Mr. J.B.

Trade in Services

MARQUEZ, Mr. G.

Trade in Services

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

WT/DSB/W/130
8 May 2000
(00-1885)

PROPOSED NOMINATION FOR THE INDICATIVE LIST OF GOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL PANELISTS

The following additional name has been proposed for inclusion on the Indicative List of Governmental and Non-Governmental Panelists in accordance with Article 8.4 of the DSU.¹

COUNTRY	NAME	SECTORAL EXPERIENCE
TURKEY	KAÇAR, Mr. B.	Trade in Goods

¹Curriculum Vitae containing more detailed information is available on request from the WTO Secretariat (Council Division – Room 2025).

ANNEX

Administration of the Indicative List

1. To assist in the selection of panelists, the DSU provides in Article 8.4 that the Secretariat shall maintain an indicative list of qualified governmental and non-governmental individuals. Accordingly, the Chairman of the DSB proposed at the 10 February meeting that WTO Members review the roster of non-governmental panelists established on 30 November 1984 (BISD 31S/9) (hereinafter referred to as the “1984 GATT Roster”) and submit nominations for the indicative list by mid-June 1995. On 14 March, The United States delegation submitted an informal paper discussing, amongst other issues, what information should accompany the nomination of individuals, and how names might be removed from the list. The DSB further discussed the matter in informal consultations on 15 and 24 March, and at the DSB meeting on 29 March. This note puts forward some proposals for the administration of the indicative list, based on the previous discussions in the DSB.

General DSU requirements

2. The DSU requires that the indicative list initially include “the roster of governmental and non-governmental panelists established on 30 November 1984 (BISD 31S/9) and other rosters and indicative lists established under any of the covered agreements, and shall retain names of persons on those rosters and indicative lists at the time of entry into force of the WTO Agreement” (DSU 8.4). Additions to the indicative list are to be made by Members who may “periodically suggest names of governmental and non-governmental individuals for inclusion on the indicative list, providing relevant information on their knowledge of international trade and of the sectors or subject matter of the covered agreements.” The names “shall be added to the list upon approval by the DSB” (DSU 8.4).

Submission of information

3. As a minimum, the information to be submitted regarding each nomination should clearly reflect the requirements of the DSU. These provide that the list “shall indicate specific areas of experience or expertise of the individuals in the sectors or subject matter of the covered agreements” (DSU 8.4). The DSU also requires that panelists be “well-qualified governmental and/or non-governmental individuals, including persons who have served on or presented a case to a panel, served as a representative of a Member or of a contracting party to GATT 1947 or as a representative to the Council or Committee of any covered agreement or its predecessor agreement, or in the Secretariat, taught or published on international trade law or policy, or served as a senior trade policy official of a Member” (DSU 8.1).

4. The basic information required for the indicative list could best be collected by use of a standardized form. Such a form, which could be called a Summary Curriculum Vitae, would be filled out by all nominees to ensure that relevant information is obtained. This would also permit information on the indicative list to be stored in an electronic database, making the list easily updateable and readily available to Members and the Secretariat. As well as supplying a completed Summary Curriculum Vitae form, persons proposed for inclusion on the indicative list could also, if they wished, supply a full Curriculum Vitae. This would not, however, be entered into the electronic part of the database.

Updating of indicative list

5. The DSU does not specifically provide for the regular updating of the indicative list. In order to maintain the credibility of the list, it should however be completely updated every two years. Within the first month of each two-year period, Members would forward updated Curricula Vitae of persons appearing on the indicative list. At any time, Members would be free to modify the indicative list by proposing new names for inclusion, or specifically requesting removal of names of persons proposed by the Member who were no longer in a position to serve, or by updating the summary Curriculum Vitae.

6. Names on the 1984 GATT Roster that are not specifically resubmitted, together with up-to-date summary Curriculum Vitae, by a Member before 31 July 1995 would not appear after that date on the indicative list.

Other rosters

7. The Decision on Certain Dispute Settlement Procedures for the GATS (S/L/2 of 4 April 1995), adopted by the Council for Trade in Services on 1 March 1995, provides for a special roster of panelists with sectoral expertise. It states that "panels for disputes regarding sectoral matters shall have the necessary expertise relevant to the specific services sectors which the dispute concerns." It directs the Secretariat to maintain the roster and "develop procedures for its administration in consultation with the Chairman of the Council." A working document (S/C/W/1 of 15 February 1995) noted by the Council for Trade in Services states that "the roster to be established under the GATS pursuant to this Decision would form part of the indicative list referred to in the DSU." The specialized roster of panelists under the GATS should therefore be integrated into the indicative list, taking care that the latter provides for a mention of any service sectoral expertise of persons on the list.

8. A suggested format for the Summary Curriculum Vitae form for the purposes of maintaining the Indicative List is attached as an Annex.

**Summary Curriculum Vitae
for Persons Proposed for the Indicative List**

- | | | |
|-----|--|--|
| 1. | Name: | full name |
| 2. | Sectoral Experience | |
| | | List here any particular sectors of expertise: (e.g. technical barriers, dumping, financial services, intellectual property, etc.) |
| 3. | Nationality(ies) | all citizenships |
| 4. | Nominating Member: | the nominating Member |
| 5. | Date of birth: | full date of birth |
| 6. | Current occupations: | year beginning, employer, title, responsibilities |
| 7. | Post-secondary education | year, degree, name of institution |
| 8. | Professional qualifications | year, title |
| 9. | Trade-related experience in Geneva in the WTO/GATT system | |
| | a. Served as a panelist | year, dispute name, role as chairperson/member |
| | b. Presented a case to a panel | year, dispute name, representing which party |
| | c. Served as a representative of a contracting party or member to a WTO or GATT body, or as an officer thereof | year, body, role |
| | d. Worked for the WTO or GATT Secretariat | year, title, activity |
| 10. | Other trade-related experience | |
| | a. Government trade work | year, employer, activity |
| | b. Private sector trade work | year, employer, activity |
| 11. | Teaching and publications | |
| | a. Teaching in trade law and policy | year, institution, course title |
| | b. Publications in trade law and policy | year, title, name of periodical/book, author/editor (if book) |

MEMBERSHIP OF THE WTO APPELLATE BODY

The membership of the WTO Appellate Body is as follows:

Mr. G M Abi-Saab (Egypt),	Mr. A V Ganesan (India),
Mr. James Bacchus (United States),	Mr. Julio Lacarte Muro (Uruguay),
Professor Claus-Dieter Ehlermann (Germany),	Mr. Yasuhei Taniguchi (Japan),
Justice Florentino Feliciano (the Philippines),	

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES:

Georges Michel Abi-Saab

Born in Egypt on 3 June 1933, Georges Michel Abi-Saab is Professor of International Law at the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva, Honorary Professor at Cairo University's Faculty of Law, and a Member of the Institute of International Law.

Mr Abi-Saab served as consultant to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for the preparation of two reports on "Respect of Human Rights in Armed Conflicts" (1969 and 1970), and for the report on "Progressive Development of Principles and Norms of International Law relating to the New International Economic Order" (1984). He has also served as a Judge on the Appeals Chamber of the International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and for Rwanda, and as a Member of the Administrative Tribunal of the International Monetary Fund and of various international arbitral tribunals.

Mr Abi-Saab is the author of two courses at the Hague Academy of International Law, and of several books and articles, including "International Crises and the Role of Law: The United Nations Operation in the Congo 1960-1964" (Oxford University Press 1978).

James Bacchus

James Bacchus of the United States, born 1949, is an attorney who has been closely involved with international trade matters in both his public and professional careers for more than twenty years.

During his tenure in the US Congress, where he served two terms of office in the House of Representatives from 1991-1994, he was appointed to the ad hoc Trade Policy Coordinating Committee. From 1979-1981, he had served as Special Assistant to the United States Trade Representative Reubin Askew. Since leaving Congress in January 1995, Mr. Bacchus has returned to the Florida-based private law firm of Greenberg Traurig where he began his legal career before he joined the USTR in 1979. He has practised widely in the areas of corporate banking and international law.

Mr. Bacchus' educational distinctions include Bachelor of Arts with High Honours in History, Vanderbilt University, 1971; Master of Arts in History, Yale University, 1973 and Woodrow Wilson Fellow; and Juris Doctor, Florida State University College of Law, 1978. He has been the Thomas P. Johnson Distinguished Visiting Scholar at Rollins College in Florida, and remains an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Politics at Rollins, where he teaches political philosophy and public policy on a variety of issues including international trade.

Claus-Dieter Ehlermann

Professor Claus-Dieter Ehlermann of Germany, born 1931, is an internationally-recognized authority on international economic law who currently holds the Chair of Economic Law at the European University Institute in Florence and is Honorary Professor at the University of Hamburg. In May 1995, after more than 34 years of service for the European Commission, he retired from his post of Director-General of the Directorate General for Competition to the Commission.

In 1961 Professor Ehlermann joined the Legal Service of the European Commission and rose to become its head in 1977. He served as Director-General of the Legal Service for ten years until 1987 when he was appointed spokesman of the Commission and special adviser of the President on institutional questions. In 1990 he became Director-General of the Directorate-General for Competition, bringing him into close contact with competition authorities in the United States (within the framework of the

bilateral US-EU Cooperation Agreement negotiated in 1990/91) and in Japan, Australia and New Zealand. He also assisted the fledgling competition authorities in the transition economies of Central and Eastern Europe.

Since 1972, Professor Ehlermann has also pursued an academic career, teaching Community Law in Bruges, Brussels, Hamburg, and, since May 1995, in Florence. He has written more than 160 publications which, since 1991, have dealt primarily with competition law and policy, industrial policy and international cooperation. He also serves as a member on several academic advisory bodies, in particular with respect to law reviews.

Florentino Feliciano

Mr. Justice Florentino Feliciano of the Philippines, born 1928, is Senior Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the Philippines and Vice-Chairman of the Academic Council of the Institute of International Business Law and Practice of the International Chamber of Commerce in Paris.

Before joining the Judiciary in 1986, Mr. Feliciano had been a Member since 1962 of the law firm Sycip, Salazar, Feliciano and Hernandez, where he was extremely involved in trade and corporate law cases and transactions concerning anti-dumping, intellectual property rights, banking and insurance services, shipping and telecommunications.

Mr. Feliciano also has extensive experience as an arbitrator in international investment and commercial disputes at the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes in Washington, and at the ICC in Paris. He has been on the Arbitrators Panel of the American Arbitration Association in New York and was also a Member of the Asian Development Bank Administrative Tribunal.

Having graduated in law from the University of the Philippines, Mr. Feliciano went on to earn his Masters and Doctorate Degrees in law from Yale University. He taught in the Faculty of Law of the University of the Philippines and of Yale University. A Member of Institut de Droit International, he has lectured at the Hague Academy of International Law. He has written and published on various aspects of international business law and public international law.

Arumugamangalam Venkatachalam Ganesan

Born in India on 7 June 1935, Arumugamangalam Venkatachalam Ganesan served in the Government of India for 34 years until his retirement on 30 June 1993. During his long career, he held various positions in his Government and at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, including: Commerce Secretary (1991-1993) in charge of India's foreign trade policy and chief negotiator of India in the Uruguay Round; Civil Aviation Secretary (1990-1991); Additional Secretary at the Ministry of Industry (1986-1989) in charge of industrial policies, foreign investment in India, administration of India's laws on patents, designs and trade marks, closely associated with the TRIPS agenda in the Uruguay Round; and Inter-Regional Adviser (1980-1985) at the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations in New York.

Since his retirement from government service, Mr Ganesan has been active as a consultant for the UNDP and for the private and public sectors in India. He was, until recently, a member of the Permanent Group of Experts under the WTO Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures; a member of the Indian Government's Trade Advisory Committee on multilateral trade negotiations; and a member of a WTO dispute settlement panel examining the European Communities' complaint against Section 110(5) of the US Copyright Act.

Mr Ganesan has written numerous newspaper articles and monographs dealing with the Uruguay Round, the WTO and the Seattle Ministerial Conference. He is the author of several papers on trade and investment issues published by various UN agencies such as UNCTAD and UNIDO, and has contributed to many books published in India concerning the Uruguay Round and intellectual property rights.

Julio Lacarte Muro

Mr. Julio Lacarte Muro of Uruguay, born 1918, was a career diplomat who has been involved with the GATT/WTO trading system since its creation almost fifty years ago and has participated in all eight rounds of multilateral trade negotiations under the GATT.

Mr. Lacarte served as the Deputy Executive Secretary of the GATT in 1947-48. He returned to the GATT as Uruguay's Permanent Representative in 1961-66 and 1982-92, during which periods he served as Chairman of the Council, the Contracting Parties, several dispute settlement panels, and the Uruguay Round negotiating groups on dispute settlement and institutional questions.

Mr. Lacarte has also served as the Deputy Director of the International Trade and Balance-of-Payments Division of the United Nations and as the Director of Economic Cooperation among Developing Countries of UNCTAD. He has also been Uruguay's Ambassador to several countries, including the European Communities, India, Japan, the United States and Thailand.

In his academic career, Mr. Lacarte has been a professor at the International Association of Comparative Law and at the University of Comparative Law at Strasbourg University. He has written several publications, including a recently-published book covering all the subject matter of the Uruguay Round from its inception to the Marrakesh Final Act.

Yasuhei Taniguchi

Born in Japan on 26 December 1934, Yasuhei Taniguchi is Professor of Law at Tokyo Keizai University, and an Attorney at Law in Tokyo. He has been a Visiting Professor at several universities, including: University of Hong Kong; Georgetown University Law Center, Washington DC; Stanford Law School, University of California; Murdoch University, Perth; University of Melbourne; Harvard Law School; University of Paris XII; and New York University School of Law.

Mr Taniguchi is affiliated to several legal institutions including the Japan Commercial Arbitration Association; International Council for Commercial Arbitration; the American Law Institute; and the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. He has handled many international arbitration cases and is listed in the arbitrators' panel of the Japan Commercial Arbitration Association; the American Arbitration Association; the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre; the China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission; and the Cairo Regional Centre of Commercial Arbitration.

He has written numerous books and articles in the fields of civil procedure, arbitration, judicial system/legal profession, and comparative/international law. His publications have appeared in Japanese, Chinese, English, French, Italian and German.

Source: WTO Secretariat

RULES OF CONDUCT FOR THE
UNDERSTANDING ON RULES AND PROCEDURES
GOVERNING THE SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

I. Preamble

Members,

Recalling that on 15 April 1994 in Marrakesh, Ministers welcomed the stronger and clearer legal framework they had adopted for the conduct of international trade, including a more effective and reliable dispute settlement mechanism;

Recognizing the importance of full adherence to the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (“DSU”) and the principles for the management of disputes applied under Articles XXII and XXIII of GATT 1947, as further elaborated and modified by the DSU;

Affirming that the operation of the DSU would be strengthened by rules of conduct designed to maintain the integrity, impartiality and confidentiality of proceedings conducted under the DSU thereby enhancing confidence in the new dispute settlement mechanism;

Hereby establish the following Rules of Conduct.

II. Governing Principle

1. Each person covered by these Rules (as defined in paragraph 1 of Section IV below and hereinafter called “covered person”) shall be independent and impartial, shall avoid direct or indirect conflicts of interest and shall respect the confidentiality of proceedings of bodies pursuant to the dispute settlement mechanism, so that through the observance of such standards of conduct the integrity and impartiality of that mechanism are preserved. These Rules shall in no way modify the rights and obligations of Members under the DSU nor the rules and procedures therein.

III. Observance of the Governing Principle

1. To ensure the observance of the Governing Principle of these Rules, each covered person is expected (1) to adhere strictly to the provisions of the DSU; (2) to disclose the existence or development of any interest, relationship or matter that that person could reasonably be expected to know and that is

likely to affect, or give rise to justifiable doubts as to, that person's independence or impartiality; and (3) to take due care in the performance of their duties to fulfil these expectations, including through avoidance of any direct or indirect conflicts of interest in respect of the subject matter of the proceedings.

2. Pursuant to the Governing Principle, each covered person, shall be independent and impartial, and shall maintain confidentiality. Moreover, such persons shall consider only issues raised in, and necessary to fulfil their responsibilities within, the dispute settlement proceeding and shall not delegate this responsibility to any other person. Such person shall not incur any obligation or accept any benefit that would in anyway interfere with, or which could give rise to, justifiable doubts as to the proper performance of that person's dispute settlement duties.

IV. Scope

1. These Rules shall apply, as specified in the text, to each person serving: (a) on a panel; (b) on the Standing Appellate Body; (c) as an arbitrator pursuant to the provisions mentioned in Annex "1a"; or (d) as an expert participating in the dispute settlement mechanism pursuant to the provisions mentioned in Annex "1b". These Rules shall also apply, as specified in this text and the relevant provisions of the Staff Regulations, to those members of the Secretariat called upon to assist the panel in accordance with Article 27.1 of the DSU or to assist in formal arbitration proceedings pursuant to Annex "1a"; to the Chairman of the Textiles Monitoring Body (hereinafter called "TMB") and other members of the TMB Secretariat called upon to assist the TMB in formulating recommendations, findings or observations pursuant to the WTO Agreement on Textiles and Clothing; and to Standing Appellate Body support staff called upon to provide the Standing Appellate Body with administrative or legal support in accordance with Article 17.7 of the DSU (hereinafter "Member of the Secretariat or Standing Appellate Body support staff"), reflecting their acceptance of established norms regulating the conduct of such persons as international civil servants and the Governing Principle of these Rules.

2. The application of these Rules shall not in any way impede the Secretariat's discharge of its responsibility to continue to respond to Members' requests for assistance and information.

3. These Rules shall apply to the members of the TMB to the extent prescribed in Section V.

V. Textiles Monitoring Body

1. Members of the TMB shall discharge their functions on an *ad personam* basis, in accordance with the requirement of Article 8.1 of the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing, as further elaborated in the working procedures of the TMB, so as to preserve the integrity and impartiality of its proceedings.²

² These working procedures, as adopted by the TMB on 26 July 1995 (G/TMB/R/1), currently include, *inter alia*, the following language in paragraph 1.4: "In discharging their functions in accordance with paragraph 1.1 above, the TMB members and alternates shall undertake not to solicit, accept or act upon instructions from governments, nor to be influenced by any other organisations or undue extraneous factors. They shall disclose to the Chairman any information that they may consider likely to impede their capacity to discharge their functions on an *ad personam* basis. Should serious doubts arise during the deliberations of the TMB regarding the ability of a TMB member to act on an *ad personam* basis, they shall be communicated to the Chairman. The Chairman shall deal with the particular matter as necessary".

VI. Self-Disclosure Requirements by Covered Persons

1. (a) Each person requested to serve on a panel, on the Standing Appellate Body, as an arbitrator, or as an expert shall, at the time of the request, receive from the Secretariat these Rules, which include an Illustrative List (Annex 2) of examples of the matters subject to disclosure.

(b) Any member of the Secretariat described in paragraph IV:1, who may expect to be called upon to assist in a dispute, and Standing Appellate Body support staff, shall be familiar with these Rules.

2. As set out in paragraph VI:4 below, all covered persons described in paragraph VI.1(a) and VI.1(b) shall disclose any information that could reasonably be expected to be known to them at the time which, coming within the scope of the Governing Principle of these Rules, is likely to affect or give rise to justifiable doubts as to their independence or impartiality. These disclosures include the type of information described in the Illustrative List, if relevant.

3. These disclosure requirements shall not extend to the identification of matters whose relevance to the issues to be considered in the proceedings would be insignificant. They shall take into account the need to respect the personal privacy of those to whom these Rules apply and shall not be so administratively burdensome as to make it impracticable for otherwise qualified persons to serve on panels, the Standing Appellate Body, or in other dispute settlement roles.

4. (a) All panelists, arbitrators and experts, prior to confirmation of their appointment, shall complete the form at Annex 3 of these Rules. Such information would be disclosed to the Chair of the Dispute Settlement Body (“DSB”) for consideration by the parties to the dispute.

(b) (i) Persons serving on the Standing Appellate Body who, through rotation, are selected to hear the appeal of a particular panel case, shall review the factual portion of the Panel report and complete the form at Annex 3. Such information would be disclosed to the Standing Appellate Body for its consideration whether the member concerned should hear a particular appeal.

(ii) Standing Appellate Body support staff shall disclose any relevant matter to the Standing Appellate Body, for its consideration in deciding on the assignment of staff to assist in a particular appeal.

(c) When considered to assist in a dispute, members of the Secretariat shall disclose to the Director-General of the WTO the information required under paragraph VI:2 of these Rules and any other relevant information required under the Staff Regulations, including the information described in the footnote.^{***}

^{***} Pending adoption of the Staff Regulations, members of the Secretariat shall make disclosures to the Director-General in accordance with the following draft provision to be included in the Staff Regulations:

" When paragraph VI:4(c) of the Rules of Conduct for the DSU is applicable, members of the Secretariat would disclose to the Director-General of the WTO the information required in paragraph VI:2 of those Rules, as well as any information regarding their participation in earlier formal consideration of the specific measure at issue in a dispute under any provisions of the WTO Agreement, including through formal legal advice under Article 27.2 of the DSU, as well as any involvement with the dispute as an official of a WTO Member government or otherwise professionally, before having joined the Secretariat.

The Director-General shall consider any such disclosures in deciding on the assignment of members of the Secretariat to assist in a dispute.

When the Director-General, in the light of his consideration, including of available Secretariat resources, decides that a potential conflict of interest is not sufficiently material to warrant non-assignment of a particular member of the Secretariat to assist in a dispute, the Director-General shall inform the panel of his decision and of the relevant supporting information."

5. During a dispute, each covered person shall also disclose any new information relevant to paragraph VI:2 above at the earliest time they become aware of it.

6. The Chair of the DSB, the Secretariat, parties to the dispute, and other individuals involved in the dispute settlement mechanism shall maintain the confidentiality of any information revealed through this disclosure process, even after the panel process and its enforcement procedures, if any, are completed.

VII. Confidentiality

1. Each covered person shall at all times maintain the confidentiality of dispute settlement deliberations and proceedings together with any information identified by a party as confidential. No covered person shall at any time use such information acquired during such deliberations and proceedings to gain personal advantage or advantage for others.

2. During the proceedings, no covered person shall engage in *ex parte* contacts concerning matters under consideration. Subject to paragraph VII:1, no covered person shall make any statements on such proceedings or the issues in dispute in which that person is participating, until the report of the panel or the Standing Appellate Body has been derestricted.

VIII. Procedures Concerning Subsequent Disclosure and Possible Material Violations

1. Any party to a dispute, conducted pursuant to the WTO Agreement, who possesses or comes into possession of evidence of a material violation of the obligations of independence, impartiality or confidentiality or the avoidance of direct or indirect conflicts of interest by covered persons which may impair the integrity, impartiality or confidentiality of the dispute settlement mechanism, shall at the earliest possible time and on a confidential basis, submit such evidence to the Chair of the DSB, the Director-General or the Standing Appellate Body, as appropriate according to the respective procedures detailed in paragraphs VIII:5 to VIII:17 below, in a written statement specifying the relevant facts and circumstances. Other Members who possess or come into possession of such evidence, may provide such evidence to the parties to the dispute in the interest of maintaining the integrity and impartiality of the dispute settlement mechanism.

2. When evidence as described in paragraph VIII:1 is based on an alleged failure of a covered person to disclose a relevant interest, relationship or matter, that failure to disclose, as such, shall not be a sufficient ground for disqualification unless there is also evidence of a material violation of the obligations of independence, impartiality, confidentiality or the avoidance of direct or indirect conflicts of interests and that the integrity, impartiality or confidentiality of the dispute settlement mechanism would be impaired thereby.

3. When such evidence is not provided at the earliest practicable time, the party submitting the evidence shall explain why it did not do so earlier and this explanation shall be taken into account in the procedures initiated in paragraph VIII:1.

4. Following the submission of such evidence to the Chair of the DSB, the Director-General of the WTO or the Standing Appellate Body, as specified below, the procedures outlined in paragraphs VIII:5 to VIII:17 below shall be completed within fifteen working days.

Panelists, Arbitrators, Experts

5. If the covered person who is the subject of the evidence is a panelist, an arbitrator or an expert, the party shall provide such evidence to the Chair of the DSB.
6. Upon receipt of the evidence referred to in paragraphs VIII:1 and VIII:2, the Chair of the DSB shall forthwith provide the evidence to the person who is the subject of such evidence, for consideration by the latter.
7. If, after having consulted with the person concerned, the matter is not resolved, the Chair of the DSB shall forthwith provide all the evidence, and any additional information from the person concerned, to the parties to the dispute. If the person concerned resigns, the Chair of the DSB shall inform the parties to the dispute and, as the case may be, the panelists, the arbitrator(s) or experts.
8. In all cases, the Chair of the DSB, in consultation with the Director-General and a sufficient number of Chairs of the relevant Council or Councils to provide an odd number, and after having provided a reasonable opportunity for the views of the person concerned and the parties to the dispute to be heard, would decide whether a material violation of these Rules as referred to in paragraphs VIII:1 and VIII:2 above has occurred. Where the parties agree that a material violation of these Rules has occurred, it would be expected that, consistent with maintaining the integrity of the dispute settlement mechanism, the disqualification of the person concerned would be confirmed.
9. The person who is the subject of the evidence shall continue to participate in the consideration of the dispute unless it is decided that a material violation of these Rules has occurred.
10. The Chair of the DSB shall thereafter take the necessary steps for the appointment of the person who is the subject of the evidence to be formally revoked, or excused from the dispute as the case may be, as of that time.

Secretariat

11. If the covered person who is the subject of the evidence is a member of the Secretariat, the party shall only provide the evidence to the Director-General of the WTO, who shall forthwith provide the evidence to the person who is the subject of such evidence and shall further inform the other party or parties to the dispute and the panel.
12. It shall be for the Director-General to take any appropriate action in accordance with the Staff Regulations.****
13. The Director-General shall inform the parties to the dispute, the panel and the Chair of the DSB of his decision, together with relevant supporting information.

Standing Appellate Body

****Pending adoption of the Staff Regulations, the Director-General would act in accordance with the following draft provision for the Staff Regulations: "If paragraph VIII:11 of the Rules of Conduct for the DSU governing the settlement of disputes is invoked, the Director-General shall consult with the person who is the subject of the evidence and the panel and shall, if necessary, take appropriate disciplinary action".

14. If the covered person who is the subject of the evidence is a member of the Standing Appellate Body or of the Standing Appellate Body support staff, the party shall provide the evidence to the other party to the dispute and the evidence shall thereafter be provided to the Standing Appellate Body.

15. Upon receipt of the evidence referred to in paragraphs VIII:1 and VIII:2 above, the Standing Appellate Body shall forthwith provide it to the person who is the subject of such evidence, for consideration by the latter.

16. It shall be for the Standing Appellate Body to take any appropriate action after having provided a reasonable opportunity for the views of the person concerned and the parties to the dispute to be heard.

17. The Standing Appellate Body shall inform the parties to the dispute and the Chair of the DSB of its decision, together with relevant supporting information.

18. Following completion of the procedures in paragraphs VIII:5 to VIII:17, if the appointment of a covered person, other than a member of the Standing Appellate Body, is revoked or that person is excused or resigns, the procedures specified in the DSU for initial appointment shall be followed for appointment of a replacement, but the time periods shall be half those specified in the DSU. ***** The member of the Standing Appellate Body who, under that Body's rules, would next be selected through rotation to consider the dispute, would automatically be assigned to the appeal. The panel, members of the Standing Appellate Body hearing the appeal, or the arbitrator, as the case may be, may then decide after consulting with the parties to the dispute, on any necessary modifications to their working procedures or proposed timetable.

19. All covered persons and Members concerned shall resolve matters involving possible material violations of these Rules as expeditiously as possible so as not to delay the completion of proceedings, as provided in the DSU.

20. Except to the extent strictly necessary to carry out this decision, all information concerning possible or actual material violations of these Rules shall be kept confidential.

IX. Review

1. These Rules of Conduct shall be reviewed within two years of their adoption and a decision shall be taken by the DSB as to whether to continue, modify or terminate these Rules.

Appropriate adjustments would be made in the case of appointments pursuant to the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures.

ANNEX 1a

Arbitrators acting pursuant to the following provisions:

- Articles 21.3(c); 22.6 and 22.7; 26.1(c) and 25 of the DSU;
- Article 8.5 of the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures;
- Articles XXI.3 and XXII.3 of the General Agreement on Trade in Services.

ANNEX 1b

Experts advising or providing information pursuant to the following provisions:

- Article 13.1; 13.2 of the DSU;
- Article 4.5 of the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures;
- Article 11.2 of the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures;
- Article 14.2; 14.3 of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade.

ANNEX 2

ILLUSTRATIVE LIST OF INFORMATION TO BE DISCLOSED

This list contains examples of information of the type that a person called upon to serve in a dispute should disclose pursuant to the Rules of Conduct for the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes.

Each covered person, as defined in Section IV:1 of these Rules of Conduct has a continuing duty to disclose the information described in Section VI:2 of these Rules which may include the following:

- (a) financial interests (e.g. investments, loans, shares, interests, other debts); business interests (e.g. directorship or other contractual interests); and property interests relevant to the dispute in question;
- (b) professional interests (e.g. a past or present relationship with private clients, or any interests the person may have in domestic or international proceedings, and their implications, where these involve issues similar to those addressed in the dispute in question);
- (c) other active interests (e.g. active participation in public interest groups or other organisations which may have a declared agenda relevant to the dispute in question);
- (d) considered statements of personal opinion on issues relevant to the dispute in question (e.g. publications, public statements);
- (e) employment or family interests (e.g. the possibility of any indirect advantage or any likelihood of pressure which could arise from their employer, business associates or immediate family members).

ANNEX 3

Dispute Number: _____

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION
DISCLOSURE FORM

I have read the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU) and the Rules of Conduct for the DSU. I understand my continuing duty, while participating in the dispute settlement mechanism, and until such time as the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) makes a decision on adoption of a report relating to the proceeding or notes its settlement, to disclose herewith and in future any information likely to affect my independence or impartiality, or which could give rise to justifiable doubts as to the integrity and impartiality of the dispute settlement mechanism; and to respect my obligations regarding the confidentiality of dispute settlement proceedings.

Signed:

Dated:

**MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE
Second Session
Geneva, 18 and 20 May 1998**

DECLARATION ON GLOBAL ELECTRONIC COMMERCE

Adopted on 20 May 1998

Ministers,

Recognizing that global electronic commerce is growing and creating new opportunities for trade,

Declare that:

The General Council shall, by its next meeting in special session, establish a comprehensive work programme to examine all trade-related issues relating to global electronic commerce, including those issues identified by Members. The work programme will involve the relevant World Trade Organization ("WTO") bodies, take into account the economic, financial, and development needs of developing countries, and recognize that work is also being undertaken in other international fora. The General Council should produce a report on the progress of the work programme and any recommendations for action to be submitted at our third session. Without prejudice to the outcome of the work programme or the rights and obligations of Members under the WTO Agreements, we also declare that Members will continue their current practice of not imposing customs duties on electronic transmissions. When reporting to our third session, the General Council will review this declaration, the extension of which will be decided by consensus, taking into account the progress of the work programme.

WTO SUBSIDY NOTIFICATIONS REVIEWED IN 2000

WTO MEMBER	1997 Update Notification	1998 Full Notification	1999 Update Notification	2000 Update Notification
AUSTRALIA			X	
BAHRAIN			X	X
BOLIVIA		X	X	
CANADA			X	
CHILE			X	X
COSTA RICA			X	X
CYPRUS		X		
CZECH REPUBLIC	X			
EU (incl. 15 member states)			X (Partial)	X (Partial)
HONG KONG, CHINA				X
JORDAN			X	X
KOREA				X
LATVIA			X	
LIECHTENSTEIN				X
MACAU, CHINA		X	X	X
NORWAY		X (Supplement)	X	X
POLAND			X	
SINGAPORE				X
SLOVENIA			X	X
SWITZERLAND				X
TURKEY			X	
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES		X	X	X
URUGUAY			X	X

**Regional Trade Agreements Notified to the GATT/WTO
and in Force as of 14 July 2000**

Agreements notified under GATT Article XXIV

Parties and Agreements	Date of Entry into Force	Notification Date
Austria/Belgium/Denmark/Finland/France/Germany/Greece/Ireland/Italy/Luxembourg/Netherlands/Portugal/Spain/Sweden/United Kingdom		
Treaty of Rome, establishing the European Communities - EC**	01.01.58	24.04.57
EC/Andorra		
Customs Union	01.07.91	25.02.98
EC/		
Algeria	01.07.76	28.07.76
Bulgaria	31.12.93	23.12.94
Cyprus	01.06.73	13.06.73
Czech Republic	01.03.92	13.05.96
Egypt	01.07.77	15.07.77
Estonia	01.01.95	30.06.95
Faroe Islands	01.01.97	19.02.97
Hungary	01.03.92	03.04.92
Israel	01.07.75	03.07.75
Jordan	01.07.77	15.07.77
Latvia	01.01.95	30.06.95
Lebanon	01.07.77	15.07.77
Lithuania	01.01.95	26.09.95
Malta	01.04.71	24.03.71
Morocco	01.07.76	28.07.76
Palestinian Authority		30.06.97
Poland	01.03.92	03.04.92
Certain Non-European Countries and Territories (PTOM II)	01.01.71	14.12.70
Romania	01.05.93	23.12.94
Slovak Republic	01.03.92	13.05.96
Slovenia	01.01.97	11.11.96
Syria	01.07.77	15.07.77
Tunisia	01.03.98	23.03.99
Turkey***	01.01.96	27.12.95
EC/EFTA Member States:		
Iceland	01.04.73	24.11.72

** Also notified were the accessions of Denmark/Ireland/United Kingdom (1972), Greece (1979), Portugal/Spain (1985), and Austria/Finland/Sweden (1995; currently under examination).

*** See also Ankara Agreement (1986), Additional Protocol (1971), Association Agreement (1973).

Parties and Agreements	Date of Entry into Force	Notification Date
Norway	01.07.73	13.07.73
Switzerland and Liechtenstein	01.01.73	27.10.7
Iceland/Norway/Switzerland/Liechtenstein		
Stockholm Convention, establishing the European Free Trade Association - EFTA****	03.05.60	14.11.59
Faroe Islands/EFTA Member States:		
Iceland	01.07.93	23.01.96
Norway	01.07.93	13.03.96
Switzerland	01.03.95	08.03.96
EFTA/		
Bulgaria	01.07.93	30.06.93
Czech Republic*****	01.07.92	03.07.92
Estonia	01.06.96	25.07.96
Slovak Republic	01.07.92	03.07.92
Hungary	01.10.93	23.12.93
Israel	01.01.93	01.12.92
Latvia	01.06.96	25.07.96
Lithuania	01.08.96	25.07.96
Morocco	01.12.99	20.02.00
Palestinian Authority	01.07.99	21.09.99
Poland	15.11.93	20.10.93
Romania	01.05.93	24.05.93
Slovenia	01.07.95	18.10.95
Turkey	01.04.92	06.03.92
Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan		
Free Trade Area	30.12.94	01.10.99
Czech Republic/Slovak Republic		
Customs Union	01.01.93	30.04.93

**** Accession of Iceland to EFTA (1970)

***** Notified as EFTA/Czech and Slovak Federal Republic. After dissolution of the CSFR in 1993, two separate succession protocols were signed which formed the basis of the continued application of the Agreement between the EFTA states and the Czech and Slovak Republics.

Parties and Agreements	Date of Entry into Force	Notification Date
Bulgaria/Czech Republic/Hungary/Poland/Romania/ Slovak Republic/Slovenia		
Central European Free Trade Area -CEFTA *****	01.03.93	30.06.94
Bulgaria/Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	01.01.00	21.01.00
Czech Republic/Estonia	12.02.96	03.09.98
Czech Republic/Latvia	01.07.97	13.11.97
Czech Republic/Lithuania	01.09.97	13.11.97
Czech Republic/Turkey	01.09.98	24.04.99
Estonia/Faroe Islands	01.12.98	26.01.99
Estonia/Latvia/Lithuania	01.04.94 01.01.97	19.06.99
Hungary/Latvia	01.01.00	20.12.99
Hungary/Lithuania	01.03.00	20.12.99
Israel/Czech Republic	01.12.97	30.03.98
Israel/Hungary	01.02.98	23.02.98
Israel/Poland	01.03.98	25.02.99
Israel/Slovak Republic	01.12.97	30.03.98
Israel/Slovenia	01.09.98	08.03.99
Kyrgyz Republic/Kazakhstan	---	29.09.99
Kyrgyz Republic/Moldova	21.11.96	15.06.99
Kyrgyz Republic/ Russian Federation	24.04.93	15.06.99
Kyrgyz Republic/Ukraine	19.01.98	15.06.99
Kyrgyz Republic/Uzbekistan	20.03.98	15.06.99
Kyrgyz Republic/Russian Federation/Belarus/Kazakhstan CU*****	08.10.97	06.04.99
Poland/Faroe Islands	01.06.99	18.08.99
Poland/Latvia	01.06.99	29.09.99
Poland/Lithuania	01.01.97	30.12.97
Slovak Republic/Estonia	12.02.98	03.08.98
Slovak Republic/Latvia	01.07.97	14.11.97
Slovak Republic/Lithuania	01.07.97	14.11.97
Slovak Republic/Turkey	01.09.98	24.03.99

***** Also notified were the accessions of Slovenia (1996), Romania (1997) and Bulgaria (1998).

***** As appeared in the notification of the accession of the Kyrgyz Republic on 06.04.99.

Parties and Agreements	Date of Entry into Force	Notification Date
Slovenia-Croatia	01.01.98	25.03.98
Slovenia/Estonia	01.01.97	20.02.97
Slovenia/Latvia	01.08.96	20.02.97
Slovenia/Lithuania	01.03.97	20.02.97
Slovenia/Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	01.09.96	20.02.97
Romania/Moldova	01.01.95	24.09.97
Turkey/Israel	01.05.97	18.05.98
Turkey/Romania	01.02.98	18.05.98
Turkey/Hungary	01.04.98	16.04.98
Turkey/Bulgaria	01.01.99	04.05.99
Turkey/Estonia	01.06.98	23.03.99
Turkey/Lithuania	01.03.98	08.06.98
Turkey/Poland	01.05.00	14.05.00
United States/Israel	19.08.85	13.09.85
Canada/Chile	05.07.97	26.08.97
Canada/Israel	01.01.97	23.01.97
Canada/Mexico/United States		
North American Free Trade Agreement - NAFTA	01.01.94	01.02.93
Costa Rica/El Salvador/Guatemala/Honduras/Nicaragua		
Central American Common Market - CACM	12.10.61	24.02.61
Antigua and Barbuda/ Barbados/Belize/Dominica/Grenada/Guyana/Haiti/Jamaica/Montserrat/St. Kitts and Nevis/St. Lucia/ST. Vincent and the Grenadines/Surinam/Trinidad and Tobago		
Caribbean Community and Common Market-CARICOM	01.08.73	14.10.74
Jordan/Kuwait/Morocco/Syria/Egypt		
Arab Common Market	30.04.64	05.03.65
Australia/Papua New Guinea		
Australia-Papua New Guinea Agreement - PATCRA	01.02.77	20.12.76
Australia/New Zealand		
Australia-New Zealand Closer Economic Relations Trade Agreement - ANZCERTA	01.01.83	14.04.83

Regional Integration Agreements (Goods) notified under the Enabling Clause

Parties and Agreements	Date of Entry into Force	Notification Date
Argentina/Bolivia/Brazil/Chile/Colombia/Ecuador/Mexico/Paraguay/Peru/Uruguay/Venezuela		
Montevideo Treaty (1980), establishing the Latin American Integration Association - LAIA	18.03.81	01.07.82
Argentina/Brazil/Paraguay/Uruguay Asunción Treaty - MERCOSUR	29.11.91	05.03.92
Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela		
Cartagena Agreement - Andean Group	25.05.88	(12.10.92)
Egypt/India/Yugoslavia		
Tripartite Agreement	01.04.68	23.02.68
Bahrain/Kuwait/Oman/Qatar/Saudi Arabia/United Arab Emirates		
Unified Economic Agreement among member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council - GCC		11.10.84
Angola, Burundi, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe		
Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)	08.12.94	29.6.95
Iran/Pakistan/Turkey		
Preferential Tariffs among members of the Economic Cooperation Organization - ECO		22.7.92
Bangladesh/Bhutan/India/Maldives/Nepal/ Pakistan/Sri Lanka		
South Asian Preferential Trade Arrangement - SAPTA	07.12.95	22.09.93
Bangladesh/India/Republic of Korea/Sri Lanka/Laos		
Bangkok Agreement	17.06.76	02.11.76
Brunei Darussalam/Indonesia/Malaysia/Philippines/Singapore/Thailand/Laos/Myanmar/Vietnam		
Agreement on ASEAN Preferential Trade Arrangements	31.08.77	01.11.77
Common Effective Preferential Tariff Scheme for the ASEAN Free trade area (AFTA)	28.01.92	30.10.92
Laos/Thailand	20.06.91	29.11.91
Australia and New Zealand / Cook Isl., Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Isl., Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Western Samoa		
South Pacific Regional Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement - SPARTECA	01.01.81	20.02.81
Bangladesh, Brazil, Chile, Egypt, Israel, Mexico, Pakistan, Peru, Republic of Korea, Romania, Tunisia, Turkey, Uruguay		

Parties and Agreements	Date of Entry into Force	Notification Date
Protocol relating to Trade Negotiations among Developing Countries	11.02.73	09.11.71
Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu		
Melanesian Spearhead Group Trade Agreement	---	07.10.99
Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bangladesh, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zaire and Zimbabwe		
Global System of Trade Preferences - GSTP	19.04.89	25.09.89
Benin, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Togo		
West African Economic and Monetary Union	01.01.00	27.10.99

Regional Integration Agreements (Services) notified under GATS Article V

Parties and Agreements	Date of Entry into Force	Notification Date
Austria/Belgium/Denmark/Finland/France/Germany/Greece/Ireland/Italy/Luxembourg/Netherlands/Portugal/Spain/Sweden/United Kingdom		
Treaty of Rome *****	01.01.58	10.11.95
EC/Iceland/Norway/Liechtenstein		
European Economic Area - EEA	01.01.94	10.10.96
Canada/Mexico/United States		
North American Free Trade Agreement - NAFTA	01.04.94	01.07.82
Canada/Chile	05.07.97	13.11.97
EC/		
Bulgaria	01.02.95	25.04.97
Czech Republic	01.02.95	09.10.96
Hungary	01.02.94	27.08.96
Poland	01.02.94	27.08.96
Romania	01.02.95	09.10.96
Slovak Republic	01.02.95	27.08.96
Australia/New Zealand		
ANZCERTA	01.01.89	22.11.95

Source: WTO Secretariat

***** A separate examination is underway for the Enlargement of the European Union, Services (Austria, Sweden, and Finland); consultations on the report are in process.

Waivers Currently in Force

The following waivers, granted under Article IX: 3 of the Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization, are currently in effect. Waivers granted for a period exceeding one year are reviewed annually by the General Council. The General Council may extend, modify or terminate a waiver as part of the annual review process. The last review of multiyear waivers took place on 8 December 2000.

WTO Member/Waiver	Valid Through	Date Granted
<i>Canada - CARIBCAN</i> : To allow Canada to extend tariff preferences to CARIBCAN nations.	31 December 2006	14 October 1996
<i>Cuba - Article XV:6</i> : To Cuba not to have a special exchange arrangement, which is required for those WTO Members that are not IMF members.	31 December 2001	14 October 1996
<i>European Community - Western Balkans</i> : To allow the EC to extend tariff preferences to Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the former Republic of Macedonia	31 December 2006	8 December 2000
<i>Harmonized System (HS) changes</i> : A collective waiver provides 22 members additional time to finalize the conversion of their tariff classification systems to the 1996 HS nomenclature. Zambia, Sri Lanka and Nicaragua were granted individual waivers to finalize conversions from pre-HS tariff systems to the Harmonized System.	30 April 2001	8 December 2000
<i>Hungary-Agricultural export subsidies</i> : To allow Hungary to a transition period to come into compliance with its Uruguay Round agricultural export subsidy commitments.	31 December 2001	22 October 1997
<i>Uruguay-Implementation of Article VII</i> : To allow Uruguay an additional period of one year come into compliance with its Uruguay Round customs valuation commitments.	1 January 2001	3 May 2000
<i>Turkey -Bosnia</i> : To allow Turkey to provide tariff preferences to Bosnia-Herzegovina	31 December 20006	8 December 2000
<i>Preferential Tariff Treatment for Least Developed Countries</i> To allow developing countries to extend unilateral tariff preferences to least developed countries.	30 June 2009	15 June 1999
<i>US - Former Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands</i> : To allow the United States to extend historical tariff preferences to the Mariana Islands, Palau, the Marshall Islands and Micronesia.	31 December 2006	14 October 1996
<i>US - Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act</i> : To allow the United States to extend tariff preferences to eligible Caribbean countries under CBERA.	31 December 2005	15 November 1995
<i>US - ANDEAN Trade Preference Act</i> : To allow the United States to extend tariff preferences to eligible Andean countries under the ATPA.	4 December 2001	14 October 1996

GATS Commitments on Telecommunications Services
All governments which have scheduled telecom commitments

Country and Level of Commitment		
a=basic telecom services listed in schedule annexed to the 4th Protocol; b=basic telecom services taken as a result of Uruguay Round, accession, or unilateral commitments; c=value-added services listed in schedule; d=incorporated all, parts, or modifications to Reference Paper; e=acceptance of 4 th protocol overdue		
Antigua and Barbuda (a,c,d)	Georgia (b,c,d)	Norway (a,c,d)
Albania (b,c,d)	Ghana (a,d)	Oman (b,c,d)
Argentina (a,c,d)	Grenada (a,c,d)	Pakistan (a,c,d)
Australia (a,c,d)	Guatemala (a,d,e)	Panama (c)
Bangladesh (a)	Guyana (c)	Papua New Guinea (a,d,e)
Barbados (b,c,d)	Hong Kong, China (a,c,d)	Peru (a,c,d)
Belize (a, c)	Hungary (a,c,d)	Philippines (a,c,d,e)
Bolivia (a,d)	Iceland (a,c,d)	Poland (a,c,d)
Brazil (a,c,e)	India (a,c,d)	Romania (a,c,d)
Brunei Darussalam (a,c,d)	Indonesia (a,c,d)	Saint Kitts and Nevis (c)
Bulgaria (a,c,d)	Israel (a,d)	Senegal (a,c,d)
Canada (a,c,d)	Jamaica (a,c,d)	Singapore (a,c,d)
Chile (a,c,d)	Japan (a,c,d)	Slovak Republic (a,c,d)
Colombia (a,c,d)	Jordan (b,c,d)	Slovenia (c)
Côte d'Ivoire (a,d)	Kenya (b,c,d)	South Africa (a,c,d)
Croatia (b,c,d)	Korea (a,c,d)	Suriname (b)
Cuba (b)	Kyrgyz Republic (b,c,d)	Sri Lanka (a,d)
Cyprus (b)	Latvia (b,c,d)	Switzerland (a,b,c,d)
Czech Republic (a,c,d)	Lesotho (c)	Thailand (a,c)
Dem. Rep. of Congo (b)	Liechtenstein (b,c)	Trinidad and Tobago (a,c,d)
Djibouti (b,c)	Malaysia (a,c,d)	Tunisia (a)
Dominica (a,c,d,e)	Mauritius (a)	Turkey (a,c)
Dominican Republic (a,d)	Mexico (a,c,d)	Uganda (b,d)
Ecuador (a,c)	Mongolia (c)	United States (a,c,d)
El Salvador (a,d)	Morocco (a,c,d)	Venezuela (a,d)
Estonia (b,c,d)	New Zealand (a,c,d)	Zimbabwe (b,c)
European Community + States (a,c,d)	Nicaragua (b,c)	
Gambia (b)	Nigeria (b,c)	

**WTO MEMBERS WHICH PROVIDED NEW OR IMPROVED COMMITMENTS AS PART
OF THE 1997 FINANCIAL SERVICES AGREEMENT**

**Australia
Bahrain
Bolivia*
Brazil*
Bulgaria
Canada
Chile
Colombia
Costa Rica
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Dominican Republic*
Ecuador
El Salvador
Egypt**

EC Member States

**Austria
Belgium
Denmark
Finland
France
Germany
Greece
Ireland
Italy
Luxembourg
Portugal
The Kingdom of the Netherlands
Spain
Sweden
United Kingdom**

**Ghana
Honduras
Hong Kong, China
Hungary
Iceland**

**India
Indonesia
Israel
Jamaica***

**Japan
Kenya
Republic of Korea
Kuwait
Macau
Malaysia
Malta
Mauritius
Mexico
New Zealand
Nicaragua
Nigeria
Norway
Pakistan
Peru
The Philippines*
Poland*
Romania
Senegal
Singapore
Slovak Republic
Slovenia
South Africa
Sri Lanka
Switzerland
Thailand
Tunisia
Turkey
United States
Uruguay*
Venezuela**

*** awaiting ratification and acceptance of
Fifth Protocol**

General Council

**GENERAL COUNCIL INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON EXTERNAL TRANSPARENCY
OCTOBER 2000**

Submission from the United States

Revision

The following communication, dated 10 October 2000, has been received from the Permanent Mission of the United States.

The United States welcomes continued attention to the issue of transparency and looks forward to consultations planned by the Chairman to make tangible progress in this area. This contribution supplements earlier submissions of the United States*. Earlier discussions in the General Council have addressed communication among Members ("internal transparency") and have resulted in improvements to our daily working environment. We believe that similar efforts are needed to improve communications between the WTO and the public ("external transparency"), given the increasing importance that trade and trade agreements play in the global economy and the commitment to sustainable development. Such efforts are essential to ensuring public understanding and support of the WTO's work. Advances in external transparency will also help internal transparency, particularly for Members with smaller delegations in Geneva. Progress in this area is clearly needed and can be accomplished while preserving the government-to-government character of the WTO, an institution driven by its Members.

The United States intends to work constructively with the Chairman and other WTO Members to build a consensus to improve external transparency. U.S. comments here are focused in two areas: first, ways to enhance timely access to information about the WTO at the national level and by Members acting collectively; and second, important mechanisms to ensure the credibility of the dispute settlement system. These include:

- sharing respective Member experiences of efforts to exchange information and views on developments in the WTO at the national level;

* In particular, see Communication from the United States concerning Preparations for the 1999 Ministerial Conference (WT/GC/W/139, 27 January 1999), page 5. Most recently, see Letter of Ambassador Rita Hayes to Ambassador Kare Bryn, Chairman, General Council, March 22, 2000. This letter is available at www.ustr.gov.

- further building upon the good work of the WTO Secretariat in developing the WTO website;
- begin opening the various WTO council and committee meetings on an experimental basis, including webcasting at least some meetings of the Trade Policy Review Body;
- building upon previous efforts to strengthen the 1996 Derestriction Decision, so that Members may consider experience to date and, as soon as possible, ensure that WTO documents that are most informative of WTO activities are circulated on an unrestricted basis or derestricted more quickly;
- strengthening the 1996 Guidelines on relations with non-governmental organizations, undertaking a regular program of seminars and symposia, and considering the outreach practices of other international organizations, to the extent they may be relevant; and
- in the dispute settlement area, ensuring that all parties' submissions to panels and the Appellate Body are made available to the public, developing a mechanism to permit non-governmental stakeholders to present their views on disputes, and permitting the public to observe WTO panel and appellate proceedings.

I. Access to Information About the WTO

A. National Activity

In the 1996 Guidelines for Arrangements on Relations with Non-Governmental Organizations² Members recognized that closer consultations and cooperation with the public can be met constructively through “appropriate processes at the national level where lies primary responsibility for taking into account the different elements of public interest which are brought to bear on trade policy-making.” While more external transparency in Geneva is essential, many delegations have stressed the importance of efforts at the national level. We share the view that more can and should be done to enhance dialogue at the national level, along with additional collective action by WTO Members.

The U.S. Government employs both informal and formal consultation processes to inform its policies with respect to the WTO. This year, for example, the U.S. Government twice solicited public comment in order to develop U.S. positions in the WTO, the first time with respect to the built-in agenda and the negotiations on services and agriculture, and the second with respect to institutional issues in the WTO, particularly the issues of transparency and outreach. The requests were published in the Federal Register and also circulated through our formal private sector advisory committees established under the Trade Act of 1974. These supplemented the normal U.S. practice of requesting public comment to prepare U.S. positions in WTO dispute settlement proceedings. Every time that the United States submits or receives a request for consultations pursuant to the WTO Dispute Settlement Understanding, the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) solicits comment from the public regarding the matters in dispute. Submissions from the public in connection with all public comment procedures are made available in USTR's public reading room. USTR also recently expanded its website, with links to the WTO. The Uruguay Round Agreements Act, the U.S. implementing legislation for the Uruguay Round, mandated several other requirements, including annual reports on the major activities and work programs of the WTO. These are only some examples of activities at the national level to increase

² Decision adopted by the General Council on 18 July 1996 (WT/L/162) (“1996 Guidelines”).

public understanding of the WTO and ensure that views of interested members of the public are taken into account.

Broad-based domestic discussions of developments in the WTO and the responsibilities flowing from membership can help deepen understanding of the organization. This year, pursuant to Section 125 of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act, the President was required to report to the U.S. Congress on the operation of the WTO over the first five years. The U.S. Congress then undertook a statutory five-year review of U.S. experience in the WTO. The result was an overwhelming vote of support for the continued participation of the United States in the rules-based multilateral trading system. However, the area most singled out for criticism was the lack of transparency in the WTO's operations, particularly dispute settlement, and there was a serious concern that failure to address it would further erode public support for the institution. Accordingly, Congress urged the Administration to seek further transparency in the WTO and improve public outreach.

While there is no one-size-fits-all approach to consultation at the national level, all Members could benefit from an exchange of information on national experiences and approaches. Clearly there is a growing public interest in the work of the WTO, and such a sharing of information will be useful to Members in reflecting on how best to respond. Accordingly, the United States recommends that Members be invited to provide information on their respective approaches to providing their public with information and opportunity for input on developments in the trading system. We note that a number of accession applicants have found it useful to develop national websites focusing on their work to join the WTO. Sharing information in Geneva about respective national experiences should facilitate work at the national level, particularly in providing useful information to small and medium-sized enterprises about trade opportunities and issues of interest in the trade area.

B. WTO Information on Agreements and Ongoing Activities

The WTO made important strides in 1996 when Members improved the process for derestricting some WTO documents after specified time period³ and recognized the importance of contacts with non-governmental organizations⁴. The process initiated by Singapore to advance outreach in preparation for the WTO's first ministerial was an important contribution to WTO Members' collective interaction and outreach efforts with the NGO community.

Subsequent meetings have shown the value of outreach efforts in broadening and informing the debate about the value of the WTO. The Secretariat has done excellent work in disseminating information about the WTO, briefing non-governmental organizations on the WTO's activities and informing Members when documents are received from NGOs. The WTO has also undertaken a series of seminars and outreach programs designed to examine issues on trade and the environment, development, electronic commerce and trade facilitation, to name only a few. Nonetheless, providing timely information about WTO activities to interested members of the public, including small and medium-sized enterprises, remains a challenge. The following are some further immediate steps that could be taken to meet these challenges in the short term.

³ Procedures for the Circulation and Derestriction of WTO Documents (Decision adopted by the General Council on 18 July 1996) (WT/L/160/Rev.1) ("Derestriction Decision").

⁴ 1996 Guidelines (WT/L/162).

Continued Improvements in the WTO Website

We commend the Secretariat for the high quality of the WTO website and the staff's ongoing efforts at further improvement. We see this as a continuing activity to which WTO Members can contribute. The use of electronic means to provide information on issues and developments in the WTO is critical, particularly to the newly emerging economies and the development of small and medium-sized enterprises around the world.

Various WTO documents provide important information about the trade regimes of different Members, and should be of interest to traders around the world. Many are not readily accessed through the WTO website, however. The TPRM reports are currently published as books; making their executive summaries available on the WTO website would help their dissemination. Moreover, to the extent the WTO website does include unrestricted documents on its website, the ease of use could be improved. For example, while the document dissemination facility includes notifications of national legislation or regulations, only those aware of notification requirements in the WTO Agreements will encounter them easily. Improved mechanisms to locate and access such documents would do much to assist small and medium-sized enterprises interested in market access opportunities.

With the same purpose in mind – assistance to small and medium-sized enterprises – the website could also be structured so as to expand the array of information on individual Members' trade regimes (including the bound and applied customs duties for a given product, trade data and the trade agreements to which they are party). This kind of information is critical to traders around the world. We recognize that some of this information is not currently readily available, but at a minimum, the website could provide directories for obtaining information from Member governments or provide hyperlinks to Members' own national websites.

Written Communications from WTO Members and the Secretariat

While the Internet and the WTO's website have accelerated access to unrestricted documents, as a practical matter, many documents pertaining to the WTO's core activities are not made available to the public in a timely manner. The WTO's document policy falls short of what is needed to ensure that the work of the WTO is fully understood – and appreciated. Moreover, excessive restriction of access to WTO documents impairs the ability of Members to consult broadly at the national level.

The General Council agreement to review the potential for improving our 1996 Derestriction Decision permits us to proceed promptly, picking up from efforts over the last year to strengthen the 1996 Derestriction Decision. A great deal of progress has been made, and it is now time to bring this review to a successful conclusion. It should be possible for Members to agree, at a minimum, on the following changes in current practices.

- Minutes of all formal council and committee meetings should be derestricted much more quickly than under the current practice which provides for consideration of derestriction only after 6 months.**
- Secretariat background notes, which provide factual information that is important to understanding issues being considered in the various WTO councils and committees, should normally be issued as non-restricted documents. These papers are often critical to obtaining helpful input in consultations with domestic constituencies in preparation for WTO meetings.**

- Dispute settlement panel reports should be made available to the public on a much more timely basis.

Open Meetings of WTO Bodies

The United States suggests that the General Council explore the convening of some of the WTO council and committee meetings as open to observers, just as the plenary sessions of the Ministerial Conference have been opened to observers. This can readily be accommodated while preserving the government-to-government character of the WTO. It may be helpful, as suggested by some other delegations, to have annual meetings of WTO bodies to which non-governmental organizations are invited, and to which they may make written submissions to contribute or respond to the WTO Body's analytical work. The United States urges the General Council to consider which council and committee meetings would lend themselves to more open practices on an experimental basis.

Perhaps no WTO meetings reveal more of the central mission of the WTO than those of the Trade Policy Review Body. The WTO has already recognized the importance to the public of the Trade Policy Review Mechanism. The final TPRM reports of both the government being reviewed and the WTO Secretariat are currently published in book form, and even the 1996 Derestriction Decision designated the minutes of the Trade Policy Review Body as unrestricted⁵. Neither these reports, however, nor the TPRB minutes, do full justice to the comprehensive and constructive interaction that takes place among the WTO Members in the exchange of views on a Member's trade policies within the framework of the numerous disciplines of the WTO Agreements. The United States very much supports Canada's suggestion that the General Council consider opening Trade Policy Review meetings as a general rule or at the initiative of the Member being reviewed. We welcome the suggestion that we explore use of webcasting these meetings.

Outreach on Current Developments

The General Council should consider how to strengthen the 1996 Guidelines for Arrangements on Relations with Non-Governmental Organizations, consistent with the WTO's government-to-government character. It is important that the WTO build upon experience to date and consider a variety of approaches. This could include greater use of the Internet, to reach small and medium-sized enterprises, and conducting regular symposia involving Members and interested members of the public, covering a broad range of subject matters relevant to the work of the WTO. The WTO should also consider establishing more formal channels of communication between the WTO and non-governmental organizations.

In considering how to strengthen the 1996 Guidelines, some comparative perspectives may be helpful. Aside from reviewing the WTO's own experience to date, Members may wish to consider the practices of other international organizations for guidance, where they may be relevant. Other organizations have a variety of experiences in their approach to outreach. We recommend that the Secretariat survey these organizations so that Members may engage in a more informed discussion of the merits and drawbacks of various approaches to outreach. In addition, as mentioned above, in line with the 1996 Guidelines, which highlight the importance of consultative processes at the national level,

⁵ See also, Appraisal of the Operation of the Trade Policy Review Mechanism (WT/MIN/(99)/2), paras. 4 and 13.

it may be useful for Members to exchange information on, and discuss, their experiences with such processes and the approaches they have found most helpful.

II. Dispute Settlement

During formal and informal discussions among delegations regarding reform of the WTO dispute settlement procedures, the United States has advanced several proposals to improve the transparency of the dispute settlement process.

The WTO dispute settlement procedures should ensure that all parties' submissions to panels and the Appellate Body are made available to the public, include a mechanism to permit non-governmental stakeholders to present their written views on disputes, and permit the public to observe WTO panel and appellate proceedings. The United States has repeatedly proposed that WTO panels and the WTO Appellate Body allow interested persons, on a first-come, first-served basis, to attend their meetings with the parties and listen while the parties make their presentations. This could also be accomplished through alternatives such as audio and video taping and webcasting.

International bodies such as the International Court of Justice and the European Court of Justice have open hearings for government-to-government disputes. National courts also have open hearings. In each case, the court has rules that create and reinforce an atmosphere of decorum and seriousness. WTO panels could do the same. The core caseload of the International Court of Justice consists of matters that are essentially government-to-government in nature: maritime and land boundaries, rights under treaties, and similar disputes about the rights and obligations of governments. The oral phase of ICJ proceedings takes place in open court in the Hague, and the fact that any interested party can attend has presented no interference with the government-to-government nature of the disputes the ICJ handles.

Greater openness in WTO dispute settlement proceedings would also benefit smaller Members and Members that are not frequently parties to disputes, because they could send their delegations to observe any dispute and gain knowledge about the particular dispute and know-how about the dispute settlement process. All WTO Members, as well as the general public, should have this opportunity.

Increased transparency of the dispute settlement process is critical to the future of the WTO. If WTO dispute settlement proceedings are to play the role of ultimate guarantor of the system, they must be open to observation by the public, and open to receiving input from the public. Openness of this sort is essential to ensuring public support for the legitimacy of WTO dispute settlement. As the WTO takes on more complex and controversial cases, there is an ever-increasing need for such transparency. The lack of openness and public access to WTO dispute settlement makes it harder – not easier – to settle disputes between WTO Members.

GENERAL COUNCIL

Implementation-Related Issues and Concerns

Decision of 15 December 2000

The General Council,

***Having regard to* Articles IV.1, IV.2, IV.5 and IX.1 of the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization (WTO);**

***Considering* the importance which Members attach to implementation-related issues and concerns as reflected in paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Geneva Ministerial Declaration, in the preparatory process for the third Ministerial Conference and in numerous subsequent discussions in the General Council;**

***Considering* that the Decision of the General Council of 3 May 2000 provides that the General Council in Special Sessions shall address issues and concerns raised by Members in connection with the implementation of some WTO Agreements and Decisions;**

***Recalling* further that the Decision of 3 May 2000 provides that the General Council shall assess the existing difficulties, identify ways needed to resolve them, and take decisions for appropriate action;**

***Taking into account* the work programme on implementation issues agreed by the General Council at its first Special Session on 22 June 2000 which provides that, in the light of the progress made until then, the third Special Session will take decisions for appropriate action where possible;**

***Recalling* the mandate given to the Chairman of the Council for Trade in Goods and the consultations held on the issue of transition periods under the Agreement on Trade-Related Investment Measures;**

***Taking into consideration* the requests made to the Director-General to work with the relevant international standard-setting organizations and relevant intergovernmental organizations on the issue of the participation of developing countries in their work;**

***Recalling* further that the following implementation-related issues were referred to the relevant WTO bodies at the Special Session held on 18 October 2000:**

- in the area of Agriculture, the development of internationally agreed disciplines to govern the provision of export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes pursuant to Article 10.2 of the Agreement on Agriculture, taking into account the provisions of paragraph 4 of the Decision on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform Programme on Least-Developed and Net Food-Importing Developing Countries;
- in the area of Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures, the concerns of developing countries regarding the equivalence of such measures;
- in the area of Technical Barriers to Trade, the problems faced by developing countries in both international standards and conformity assessment;
- in the area of Customs Valuation, the idea of information exchange between customs administrations on export values in doubtful cases, the addition of the cost of services in Article 8:1(b)(iv) and aspects of the residual method of determining customs value under Article 7 of the Customs Valuation Agreement; and,
- in the area of Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), the issue of the relationship between the TRIPS Agreement and the Convention on Biological Diversity and the issue of the implementation of Article 66.2 of the Agreement on technology transfer.

Noting the reports on the above issues from the Chairpersons of the Council for Trade in Goods, the Council for Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, and the Committees on Agriculture, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Technical Barriers to Trade and Customs Valuation, and from the Director-General;

Decides as follows:

1. Agreement on Agriculture

- 1.1 Members shall ensure that their tariff rate quota regimes (TRQs) are administered in a transparent, equitable and non-discriminatory manner. In that context, they shall ensure that the notifications they provide to the Committee on Agriculture contain all the relevant information including details on guidelines and procedures on the allotment of TRQs. Members administering TRQs shall submit addenda to their notifications to the Committee on Agriculture (Table MA:1) by the time of the second regular meeting of the Committee in 2001.
- 1.2 The Committee on Agriculture shall examine possible means of improving the effectiveness of the implementation of the Decision on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform Programme on Least-Developed and Net Food-Importing Developing Countries and report to the General Council at the second regular meeting of the Council in 2001.

2. Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

In accordance with the request to the Director-General to work with the relevant international standard-setting organizations on the issue of the participation of developing countries in their

work, these organizations are urged to ensure the participation of Members at different levels of development and from all geographic regions, throughout all phases of standard development.

3. **Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade**

In accordance with the request to the Director-General to work with the relevant international standard-setting organizations on the issue of the participation of developing countries in their work, these organizations are urged to ensure the participation of Members at different levels of development and from all geographic regions, throughout all phases of standard development.

4. **Agreement on the Implementation of Article VII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994**

Noting that the process of examination and approval, in the Customs Valuation Committee, of individual requests from Members for extension of the five-year delay period in Article 20.1 is proceeding well, the General Council encourages the Committee to continue this work.

5. **Agreement on Rules of Origin**

Members undertake to expedite the remaining work on the harmonization of non-preferential rules of origin, so as to complete it by the time of the Fourth Ministerial Conference, or by the end of 2001 at the latest. The Chairman of the Committee on Rules of Origin shall report regularly, on his own responsibility, to the General Council on the progress being made. The first such report would be submitted to the Council at its first regular meeting in 2001, and subsequently at each regular meeting until the completion of the work programme.

6. **Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures**

6.1 Taking into account the unique situation of Honduras as the only original Member of the WTO with a GNP per capita of less than US\$ 1000 that was not included in Annex VII(b) to the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (SCM Agreement), Members call upon the Director-General to take appropriate steps, in accordance with WTO usual practice, to rectify the omission of Honduras from the list of Annex VII(b) countries.

6.2 The Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (SCM Committee) shall examine as an important part of its work all issues relating to Articles 27.5 and 27.6 of the SCM Agreement, including the possibility to establish export competitiveness on the basis of a period longer than two years.

6.3 The SCM Committee shall examine as an important part of its work the issues of aggregate and generalized rates of remission of import duties and of the definition of "inputs consumed in the production process", taking into account the particular needs of developing-country Members.

7. **Further Work**

The General Council's Decision of 3 May 2000 on Implementation-Related Issues is reaffirmed. The General Council shall address the outstanding implementation-related issues and concerns, including

those set out in paragraphs 21 and 22 of the revised Draft Ministerial Text dated 19 October 1999 (Job(99)/5868/Rev.1), as well as any other implementation-related issues raised by Members, as envisaged in the Decision of 3 May and the work programme agreed on 22 June 2000, with a view to completing the process no later than the Fourth Session of the Ministerial Conference.

Where to Find More Information on the WTO

A great deal of information about the WTO and trends in international trade is available to the public at the following Internet sites:

- The USTR home page: <http://www.ustr.gov>
- The WTO home page: <http://www.wto.org>

Examples of information available on the WTO home page include:

Descriptions of the Structure and Operations of the WTO, such as:

- WTO Organizational Chart
- Membership
- Biographic backgrounds
- General Council activities

WTO News, such as:

- Status of dispute settlement cases
- Schedules of future WTO meetings
- Press Releases on Appointments to WTO Bodies, Appellate Body Reports and Panel Reports, and others
- Summaries of Trade Policy Review Mechanism reports on individual Members' trade practices

Resources including Official Documents, such as:

- Notifications required by the Uruguay Round Agreements
- On-line document database where one can find and download official documents
- Working Procedures for Appellate Review
- Legal Texts of the WTO agreements
- Special Studies on key WTO issues
- WTO Annual Reports

Community/Forums, such as:

- Media
- General public news and chat rooms
- NGO's

Trade Topics, such as:

- Briefing Papers on WTO activities in individual sectors, including goods, services, intellectual property, and other topics
- Disputes and Dispute Reports

WTO publications may be ordered directly from the following sources:

The World Trade Organization
Publications Services
Centre William Rappard
Rue de Lausanne 154
CH - 1211 Geneva 21
Switzerland

tel: (41 22) 739-5208
fax: (41 22) 739-5792
e-mail: publications@wto.org

Berman Associates
4611-F Assembly Drive
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