

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

TARIFFS AND TRADE

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TRAINING ACTIVITIES

The GATT Trade Policy Courses

Note by the Director-General

1. The GATT Secretariat organized three Trade Policy Courses during 1992. Two of these were regular Courses, of fifteen weeks duration each, in English and in Spanish, while the third was a nine-week Special Course, in English, for officials from Eastern and Central European Countries.

I. Regular Courses

2. The regular Trade Policy Courses are intended for government officials from developing countries (whether contracting parties to the General Agreement or not) who have responsibilities in the field of formulation and implementation of trade policy in their respective governments. With the steady increase in the number of developing countries which have acceded to the GATT in recent years, and of countries which have applied for observer status with a view to eventual accession, and with the increased awareness of trade policy issues engendered by the Uruguay Round negotiations, the utility and importance of the Trade Policy Courses, and interest in participation in the Courses have greatly increased. Applications for participation in the Courses regularly exceed the number of fellowships available.

3. The main purpose of the Trade Policy Courses is to equip the participants with the tools needed to achieve a thorough understanding of trade policy matters, and to provide them with an up-to-date knowledge of the GATT as an institution, the General Agreement and its related instruments, the functioning of the multilateral system, and of trade negotiations in GATT. It is expected that the knowledge and expertise gained by the participating officials will enable them to work more effectively in their own administrations and promote more active participation of their countries in the work of the GATT.

4. The Course programme includes lectures and discussions on the theory and structure of international trade, the formulation and implementation of trade policy, the relationship between international trade and monetary problems, the provisions of the General Agreement and its ancillary instruments, the work of the CONTRACTING PARTIES and the various GATT bodies, the main problems and issues in international trade relations, and multilateral trade negotiations in GATT. Particular attention is given to the issues covered in the Uruguay Round Negotiations, focusing, especially, on the more important sectoral

issues, such as Agriculture and Textiles, and on the new subjects dealt with in the negotiations. The programme also covers other issues which have recently assumed importance in international trade relations, such as global and regional approaches in international trade, and the interaction between trade and environmental policies.

5. GATT officials directly dealing with the subjects give the lectures on most of the topics covered in the Courses. Presentations by a number of outside consultants and guest lecturers, including senior officials from other international organizations and from some of the permanent delegations at Geneva, complement the lectures given by GATT officials. The Courses also include practical work which comprises group discussions, round tables, and the preparation of seminar papers. Participants take part in a workshop on negotiating techniques, organized with the financial support of the Swiss Government. They also take part in a trade negotiations simulation exercise which involves using their knowledge of trade policy and of the functioning of the GATT in a simulated GATT-type situation. A dispute settlement simulation exercise has recently been added as a new element in the programme.

6. Participants are also given the opportunity to attend some official meetings in the GATT, so as to allow them to gain direct knowledge of the methods and procedures followed by the GATT in dealing with specific problems.

7. The Course programme includes two study tours: one in Switzerland and another abroad. The study tours include meetings with senior officials from the host governments involved in the formulation and implementation of trade policies, as well as visits to industrial and commercial centres. They are intended to familiarize the participants with the trade and economic policies of the countries concerned, and the social, economic and political conditions that typically influence the formulation of trade and economic policies, and to introduce them to the operations of some industrial and commercial enterprises engaged in international trade. The study tours are also expected to stimulate mutually beneficial contacts between the participants in a course and the public and private sector institutions and enterprises in the host countries.

8. The first of the two regular Courses organized during 1992, the Seventy-third, was in Spanish, and took place from 27 January to 5 May. The second Course, the Seventy-fourth, in English, began on 24 August and will end on 8 December. As part of the Course programme, participants in the Spanish-speaking Course undertook a study tour in Spain, organized with the cooperation of the Spanish Government. Those in the current English-speaking Course visited Germany and Austria, where arrangements for the study tours were made with the financial support and cooperation of the respective host governments. For each of these courses, a short study tour in Switzerland was also organized.

9. Since 1955, when the GATT Trade Policy Courses started, 1,239 officials from 118 countries and ten regional organizations have attended the regular courses (Annex A). Annex B contains lists of the government officials who participated in the regular GATT Trade Policy Courses in 1992.

II. Special Course

10. The second Special Trade Policy Course for Eastern and Central European Countries, organised with the financial support of the Swiss Government, was held from 25 May to 24 July 1992. In addition to the countries that participated in the first Special Course, the Russian Federation, Albania, and the newly independent countries of Eastern and Central Europe, i.e. Belarus, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Ukraine were represented in the Course. Twenty-four senior officials responsible for dealing with GATT matters and external trade policy from these countries took part in the course (see Annex C).

11. The programme for the Second Special Course was adapted to respond closely to the particular concerns and needs of the Eastern and Central European countries, in transition from centrally planned to market-oriented economies. Inter alia, the programme covered the analysis of trade policy instruments and strategies for their most efficient use considering the particularities of the economies in transition; the need to create and consolidate the institutional framework necessary to carry forward the adjustment process, including trade reforms; the interaction between international monetary policy and international trade policy; and other questions of special interest to the participants, such as accession to the GATT and the dispute settlement mechanism in GATT.

12. As a part of the Course programme, the participants undertook a study tour in Switzerland which gave them the opportunity to meet and have an exchange of views with senior officials in the Swiss Federal Government responsible for the formulation and implementation of trade and economic policies, and to visit some important Swiss industries and institutions connected with foreign trade.

III. Acknowledgements

13. The Director-General wishes to place on record his deep appreciation and gratitude to the Swiss Government for having financed the Second Special Trade Policy Course for Eastern and Central European Countries, and for its continued financing of the workshop on negotiating techniques included in the Course programmes. He would also like to express his warm appreciation and thanks to the Governments of Germany and Austria for their generous cooperation in hosting the study tour for the 74th Trade Policy Course, and to the Government of Spain for its cooperation in organizing the study tour for the 73rd Trade Policy Course. He would also like to acknowledge, with thanks, the cooperation extended and valuable contribution made to the GATT training activities by some of the Permanent Missions, and by other international organizations, namely the UNDP, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT, and the World Intellectual Property Organization.

ANNEX A

Area Distribution of Participants in the Regular Courses
from December 1955 to October 1992

	Fellowship Holders	Non-Fellowship Participants
<u>Africa</u> (Forty-three countries) (Five organizations)	<u>390</u>	<u>4</u>
Algeria	5	
Angola	1	
Benin	12	
Burkina Faso	3	
Burundi	11	
Cameroon	11	
Central African Republic	11	
Chad	3	
Comoros	2	
Congo	12	
Côte d'Ivoire	8	
Egypt	32	1
Equatorial Guinea	3	
Ethiopia	7	
Gabon	7	
Gambia	5	
Ghana	21	1
Guinea	6	
Guinea-Bissau	2	
Kenya	13	
Lesotho	3	
Liberia	1	
Libya	2	
Madagascar	22	
Malawi	15	
Mali	11	
Mauritius	3	
Morocco	9	
Niger	2	
Nigeria	22	1
Rwanda	3	
Senegal	14	
Sierra Leone	5	
Somalia	3	
Sudan	9	
Swaziland	1	
Tanzania	15	
Togo	15	
Tunisia	13	
Uganda	7	
Zaire	15	1
Zambia	8	
Zimbabwe	9	

	Fellowship Holders	Non-Fellowship Participants
<u>Africa</u> (cont'd)		
CEAO	1	
CEPGL	1	
Mano River Union	2	
OAU	1	
UDEAC	3	
<u>Asia</u> (Excluding Middle East) (Twenty-eight countries)	<u>285</u>	<u>20</u>
Afghanistan	1	
Bangladesh	14	
Brunei Darussalam	1	
China	11	
Fiji	3	
Hong Kong	9	15
India	34	
Indonesia	24	
Iran	6	
Japan		3
Kampuchea	3	
Korea	18	
Laos	4	
Macau	1	
Malaysia	17	
Maldives	1	
Mongolia	1	
Myanmar	16	
Nepal	5	
Pakistan	21	
Papua New Guinea	3	
Philippines	24	
Singapore	8	
Sri Lanka	23	
Thailand	21	2
Tonga	2	
Viet Nam	12	
Other	2	
<u>Middle East</u> (Nine countries) (One organization)	<u>76</u>	<u>1</u>
Iraq	3	
Israel	17	1
Jordan	1	
Kuwait	1	
Lebanon	5	
Oman	1	
Saudi Arabia	5	
Syria	12	
Turkey	30	
GCC	1	

	Fellowship Holders	Non-Fellowship Participants
<u>Latin America and Caribbean Area</u>	<u>366</u>	<u>19</u>
(Twenty-five countries)		
(Four organizations)		
Argentina	33	
Bahamas	1	
Barbados	5	
Bolivia	14	
Brazil	30	
Chile	25	1
Colombia	22	
Costa Rica	8	1
Cuba	23	4
Dominican Republic	7	
Ecuador	14	
El Salvador	6	
Guatemala	5	
Haiti	16	
Honduras	8	
Jamaica	12	
Mexico	19	3
Nicaragua	7	1
Panama	6	2
Paraguay	16	1
Peru	26	
Suriname	1	
Trinidad and Tobago	10	2
Uruguay	17	1
Venezuela	16	3
Andean Group	3	
CARICOM	1	
LAIA	9	
SIECA	6	
<u>Europe (Thirteen countries)</u>	<u>121</u>	<u>11</u>
Bulgaria	14	1
Cyprus	2	
Czechoslovakia	1	2
Finland	3	
Germany, Fed. Rep. of		2
Greece	19	
Hungary	11	
Malta	4	1
Poland	17	3
Portugal	7	1
Romania	20	
Spain	1	1
Yugoslavia	22	
TOTAL (One hundred and eighteen countries and ten organizations)	1,239	55

ANNEX B

PARTICIPANTS IN THE REGULAR COURSES IN 1992

1. Trade Policy Course (73rd Course - Spanish) - January-May 1992

Country	Name and Title
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Argentina	Miss Laura E. MARUN, Head, Department of Multilateral Negotiations, Foreign Trade Directorate, Ministry of Economy, San Juan.
Argentina	Mr. Facundo VILA, Secretary of Embassy, General Directorate of International Economic Affairs, Ministry of External Relations, Buenos Aires.
Bolivia	Mr. Rubén D. VIDAURRE ANDRADE, Second Secretary, International Co-operation Section, Ministry of External Relations, La Paz.
Brazil	Miss Neuma G. DUARTE PEREIRA, Adviser, International Organizations and Markets Sector, Foreign Trade Department, Ministry of Economy, Finance and Planning, Brasilia.
Brazil	Mr. Marcelo SAMPAIO FILHO, Tariff Classification Sector, Foreign Trade Department, Ministry of Economy, Finance and Planning, Brasilia.
Chile	Mr. Luis A. PLAZA GENTINA, Head, GATT Department, General Directorate of International Economic Relations, Ministry of External Relations, Santiago.
Colombia	Mr. Alvaro BORDA LEMUS, Professional, Colombian Foreign Trade Institute (INCOMEX), Santa Fé de Bogotá.
Colombia	Mr. Javier Dario HIGUERA ANGEL, Second Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of External Relations, Santa Fé de Bogotá.
Costa Rica	Mr. Ronald SABORIO SOTO, Minister Counsellor, Ministry of External Relations, San José. (At present: Permanent Mission of Costa Rica, Geneva, Switzerland.)
Cuba	Mr. Fernando P. GIL LEON, Trade Policy Specialist, Ministry of Foreign Trade, Havana.
Dominican Republic	Mr. Jorge A. SANTIAGO PEREZ, Minister Counsellor, International Studies Division, Ministry of External Relations, Santo Domingo.
Ecuador	Miss Herlinda SABANDO MUÑOZ, Professional in Foreign Trade, Ministry of Industry, Trade, Integration and Fishery, Quito.

Country	Name and Title
El Salvador	Miss Carmen A. HERNANDEZ ALVARENGA, Director of International Negotiations, Ministry of Economy, San Salvador.
Equatorial Guinea	Mr. Baltasar ESONO-EWORO NFONO, Head of Section, General Secretariat of the Ministry of Economy and Trade, Malabo.
Guatemala	Mr. Luis E. CASTRO PINEDA, Adviser for Economic Affairs, General Secretariat for Economic Planning, Guatemala.
Honduras	Mrs. Sandra I. VILLARS SUAZO, Companies Analyst, Specialist in Trade Policy, General Directorate of Trade Policy, Ministry of Economy and Trade, Tegucigalpa.
Mexico	Mrs. Teresa GARCIA, Specialized Analyst, International Organizations Directorate, Ministry of Trade and Industrial Development, Mexico City.
Mexico	Mr. Alberto RODRIGUEZ, Head, Department of New Affairs and Textiles, Ministry of Trade and Industrial Development, Mexico City.
Paraguay	Mr. Martín ACOSTA CABALLERO, Specialist in Negotiations, Multilateral Relations Division, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Asunción.
Paraguay	Mr. Emigdio J. MARTINEZ VALENZANO, Analyst in International Trade, Foreign Trade Section, Central Bank of Paraguay, Asunción.
Peru	Mrs. Gladys A. CHOY CHONG, Sub-Manager of the Foreign Sector, Economic Research Division, Central Reserve Bank of Peru, Lima.
Peru	Mr. Enrique ROMAN LOPEZ, Professional in International Negotiations, Ministry of Industry, Trade, Tourism and Integration, Lima.
Uruguay	Mrs. Silvia NUÑEZ GIORDANO, Specialist in Foreign Trade, General Directorate of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Montevideo.
Venezuela	Mrs. Elba J. GARCIA TERRERO, Director-General, Trade and Services Sector, Ministry of Development, Caracas.
LAIA	Mr. Hugo P. BAIERLEIN HERMIDA, Assistant Programme Officer, Trade Policy Department, General Secretariat of the Latin American Integration Association (LAIA), Montevideo, Uruguay.

2. Trade Policy Course (74th Course - English) - August-December 1992

Country	Name and Title
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Bangladesh	Mr. Edris Md. ALI, Statistical Officer, Bangladesh Secretariat, International Trade Organizations, Ministry of Commerce, Dhaka.
China	Mr. Baoliang SHENG, Official, Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, Beijing.
Egypt	Mr. Gamal F. ABD ALLAH, Commercial Attaché, International Organizations Department, Ministry of Economy and Foreign Trade, Mohandseen/Cairo.
Ethiopia	Miss Laketch MIKAEL, Senior Economist, Ministry of Planning and Economic Development, Addis Ababa.
Fiji	Mrs. Merewalesi T.T. FALEMAKA, Senior Economic Planning Officer, Ministry of Trade and Commerce, Suva.
Hong Kong	Mr. Hiu-ming LAI, Trade Officer, Industry Department, Hong Kong Government, Hong Kong.
India	Mr. Vijay K. LAKHANPAL, Under Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, New Delhi.
Indonesia	Mr. Bagas HAPSORO, Head of GATT Section, Directorate of Multilateral Economic Cooperation, Department of Foreign Affairs, Jakarta Pusat.
Jamaica	Miss Sandra R. SAMUELS, Foreign Service Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Kingston.
Kenya	Mr. Dishon O. NYANGAU, External Trade Officer, Department of External Trade, Ministry of Commerce, Nairobi.
Korea	Mr. Kyonglim CHOI, Deputy Director, International Trade Division II, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Seoul.
Kuwait	Mr. Naser H. AL BAGHLI, Administrative Researcher, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Safat.
Macau	Mr. Hou Iun LAM, Senior Economist, Macau Government Economic Services, Macau.
Nigeria	Mr. Aliyu M. ABUBAKAR, External Trade Officer, Federal Ministry of Trade and Tourism, Abuja.
Pakistan	Mr. Sohail Mohammad Khan, Assistant Chief (Trade), Ministry of Commerce, Islamabad.

Country	Name and Title
Philippines	Miss Pamela M. SERASPE, Senior Trade and Industry Development Specialist, Bureau of International Trade Relations, Department of Trade and Industry, Metro Manila.
Saudi Arabia	Mr. Saleh F. AL-FOWZAN, Director, International Programs and Conventions Department, Customs Department, Riyadh.
Tanzania	Mr. Harold P. MUSHI, Senior Foreign Trade Officer, Ministry of Industries and Trade, Dar-es-Salaam.
Thailand	Miss Sirirat LIMPONG, Technical Trade Official, Foreign Trade Policy Division, Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, Bangkok.
Trinidad and Tobago	Mr. Bernard C. SYLVESTER, Economist, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism, Port-of-Spain.
Turkey	Mr. Mehmet Aydin SEZER, Director of Section, General Directorate of Agreements, Undersecretariat for Treasury and Foreign Trade, Ankara.
Viet Nam	Mrs. NGUYEN THI Minh Tam, Economic Expert, Economic Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Hanoi.
Zambia	Mr. Oliver SIKUFWIBA, Acting Deputy Director of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry, Lusaka.
Zimbabwe	Mr. Huggins MAPIMBIRO, Senior Administrative Officer, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Harare.

ANNEX C

Second Special Trade Policy Course for Eastern and
Central European Countries (25 May - 24 July 1992)

Country	Name and Title
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Albania	Mr. Leka BEZHANI, GATT Specialist, Ministry of Trade and Economic Relations, Tirana.
Belarus	Mr. Alexander A. MARDOVICH, Deputy Director, Information Centre, State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, Minsk.
Bulgaria	Miss Maya N. DOBREVA, Counsellor, Deputy-Head of Foreign Economic Policy Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sofia. Mr. Petre V. STEFANOV, Head of Section, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Sofia.
Czechoslovakia	Miss Ivona KLABOUCHOVA, Customs Clerk, Federal Central Customs Administration, Federal Ministry of Foreign Trade, Prague. Mr. Peter LOSONSKY, Manager, Department for Foreign Trade Affairs, Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic, Bratislava.
Estonia	Miss Silva AUS, Second Secretary, Foreign Economic Policy Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tallinn. Mr. Lembit VIILUP, Head, Economic Policy Department, Ministry of Trade, Tallinn.
Hungary	Mr. Miklós MAACZ, Head of Section, Department of International Trade Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture, Budapest. Mr. István POKORADI, Chief, GATT Section, Ministry of International Economic Relations, Budapest.
Latvia	Mr. Andrei N. ROUNTSIS, Director, Department of Western Countries, Ministry of Foreign Trade, Riga. Mrs. Iveta SULCA, Chief Specialist/Expert, Department of Western Countries, Ministry of Foreign Trade, Riga.

Country	Name and Title
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Lithuania	Mr. Osvaldas CIUKSYS, Head, Commercial Department, Ministry of International Economic Relations, Vilnius. Miss Diana STATKEVICIUTE, Chief Officer, Commercial Department, Ministry of International Economic Relations, Vilnius.
Poland	Mr. Wieslaw CZYZOWICZ, Director, Division of Customs Policy and Foreign Trade Control, Central Board of Customs, Warsaw. Mr. Wieslaw J. ZAPEDOWSKI, Senior Assistant, Department of Foreign Economic Co-operation, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Economy, Warsaw.
Romania	Mr. Octavian BONTA, Economist, Department of Foreign Trade, Division of Trade Policy, Ministry of Trade and Tourism, Bucharest. Mr. Anton M. PREDA, Third Secretary, Legal Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bucharest.
Russian Federation	Mr. Ivan L. BOLSHAKOV, Senior Expert, Trade Policy Division, Department for Multilateral Economic Cooperation, Ministry of External Economic Relations, Moscow. Mrs. Olga S. DREMKOVA, Expert, Department for Multilateral Economic Cooperation, Ministry of External Economic Relations, Moscow. Mr. Igor V. KUPALOV, Attaché, Department of Regional Co-operation and Economic Problems, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Moscow. Mr. Konstantine E. PANOV, First Secretary, Department of Regional Co-operation and Economic Problems, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Moscow.
Ukraine	Mr. Mikhail B. CHUBUKOV, Head, State Economic Trade Representations Abroad, Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, Kiev. Mr. Vladimir V. MELNITCHOUK, Senior Expert, Fund for Development of Foreign Economic Activity, Kiev.