

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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The Uruguay Round  
Trade Negotiations Committee

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THE URUGUAY ROUND OF MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS  
PROGRAMME OF NEGOTIATIONS  
ORGANISATION

Communication from Jamaica

The following communication dated 10 October 1986, has been received from the delegation of Jamaica.

1. The Uruguay Round is a single political Undertaking covering Negotiations on Goods and on Services.
  2. A Trade Negotiations Committee (TNC) is established to carry out the Negotiations. It is scheduled to meet on 27 October.
  3. A Group of Negotiations on Goods (GNG) is established and a Group of Negotiations on Services (GNS) is also established.
- Both shall report to the TNC.
4. The TNC will decide on the "appropriate mechanisms" to carry out the Surveillance of the Standstill and Rollback commitments.
  5. The first meeting of the TNC is expected to have the following items on the agenda:

(i) Election of Chairman

It is proposed that this post be reserved for a senior Government official as it is provided that the TNC shall meet as appropriate at Ministerial Level.

(ii) Organisation of the Programme of Negotiations

It is proposed that:

- (a) the Chairman of the GNG and GNS should be elected;

- (b) a decision should be taken on the first set of Negotiating Groups to be established. It is agreed that these should include:

1. Agriculture
2. Safeguards
3. Tropical Products
4. Subsidies
5. GATT Articles and MTN Agreements
6. Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights including Trade in Counterfeit Goods and Trade-Related Investment Measures.
7. Tariffs and Non-Tariff Measures including QRs, Natural Resource Products, Textiles and Clothing, etc.

Other subjects such as Functioning of the GATT System and Dispute Settlement could be taken in the GNG initially, until such time as it is agreed to allocate them to Negotiating Groups.

- (c) Calendar of Meetings - detailed negotiating plans should be elaborated prior to December 1986 and consequently every effort should be made to ensure that the GNG begins work promptly. The Negotiating Groups will "put into effect" the detailed trade negotiating plans.

Similarly the GNS should be able to begin work promptly.

(iii) Surveillance Mechanisms for Standstill and Rollback

This should be a separate item on the agenda as it is not a part of the Programme of Negotiations.

There are two aspects:

- (a) the Surveillance of the political commitments by the TNC. This should be carried out by the TNC. However, the delegation of the function to the GNG itself is open for discussion.
- (b) the Rollback measures are to be negotiated "within an agreed time-frame". This is not a part of the Programme of Negotiations and therefore cannot be undertaken by a Negotiating Group as such. However, it is anticipated that a Special Group will need to be established by the GNG to deal with this matter.

The TNC and GNG may of course decide to rely on "appropriate mechanisms" to report to them on what might or might not constitute a breach of these commitments.

6. In summary, it is anticipated that at the first meeting of the TNC there will be:
  1. the election of 3 Chairmen of the TNC, GNG and GNS;
  2. a decision to establish 7 Negotiating Groups;
  3. decisions regarding the appropriate mechanisms for Surveillance and Rollback;
  4. a preliminary Calendar of Meetings established.