

**MULTILATERAL TRADE
NEGOTIATIONS
THE URUGUAY ROUND**

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Trade Negotiations Committee

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PERU

Statement by H.E. Mr. José Urrutia
Ambassador, Permanent Representative

First of all, the delegation of Peru would like to express its appreciation to you and for the work which you, as Chairman of the Trade Negotiations Committee at the level of high officials, have accomplished with transparency, responsibility and great leadership so that today we can successfully conclude the negotiations which we began seven years ago in Punta del Este. I should also like to express appreciation to Ambassadors Julio Lacarte, David Hawes and Germain Denis, as well as to Michael Cartland, whose indefatigable efforts made it possible to reach this truly promising conclusion.

In addition, I would like to thank the GATT Secretariat and draw attention to the efforts it made; its staff acted most professionally and at all times gave their support to delegations from developing countries.

We are witnessing the birth of a new order in the development of international trade relations. The conclusion of the Uruguay Round involved an unprecedented number of participants and it has brought us to the threshold of a truly new body. It is up to us to meet the important challenge of taking all the steps necessary at the national level to ensure that the rebaptised "World Trade Organization" will become operational in 1995.

In addition to the results of the intensive negotiations on market access and the pioneering commitments in the area of services, I wish to lay particular emphasis on what the strengthening of the rules of international trade as a result of the Round means to my country. For countries such as Peru which are deeply involved in the process of trade liberalization, such strengthening means a guarantee because we can turn to these rules if our rights are disregarded. The strengthening also means stability because, on the principle that the future members of the WTO will respect our rights, our economies will have the advantage of a thoroughly stable framework for their development.

Special mention must be made of the effective confirmation of the principle of special and differential treatment for developing countries in the various texts before us today. This general principle was affirmed in Punta del Este; it is now contained in specific texts such as the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes, and it constitutes the mechanism needed to place all members of the WTO on an equal footing.

As I mentioned, Peru is fully engaged in modernizing its economy. The path is difficult and necessitates sacrifices so it will be difficult to continue if our trade partners do not observe the same rules, particularly if the major economies continue to apply protectionist measures.

The trade measures currently in force in Peru are aimed at transforming it into a modern country determined to achieve full re-integration in the sphere of trade. In this connection, the texts now being finalized represent effective international support and reflect the provisions currently in force in Peru.

Peru therefore endorses the conclusions of the Uruguay Round negotiations and reaffirms the principles to which it has already referred on previous occasions. The results of the negotiations are not 100 per cent satisfactory for all, particularly if one takes into account many of the aspects of market access; nevertheless we believe that they offer a stable and predictable basis for the development of international trade in years to come.

I should like to conclude by expressing once again my gratitude to yourself and I stress the delegation of Peru's willingness to collaborate with you in future.