

**MULTILATERAL TRADE  
NEGOTIATIONS  
THE URUGUAY ROUND**

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**TURKEY**

Statement by H.E. Mr. Gündüz Aktan  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative

Mr. Chairman, let me join the previous speakers in thanking you, the "Friends of the Chair", the participating countries and the GATT Secretariat for your and their contributions to the successful conclusion of this historical Round. Needless to say, the outcome will have enormous impact on the world economy, and will give further impetus to globalization.

It may be premature to evaluate the overall package and to foresee the potential benefits each and every country will be able to derive from it at this stage.

But the preliminary analysis of the Uruguay Round Agreement by the GATT Secretariat already gives the impression that most of the benefits from this Round will go to industrialized countries.

As far as Turkey is concerned, my country has participated in this Round at a time when very important changes have been occurring in its economy and foreign trade policy. Having left behind a period of almost ten years of unilateral liberalization efforts and consolidating most of them in the multilateral framework, Turkey is now at the threshold of becoming part of a very important customs union.

Having said this, I would like to mention that Turkey still retains some features of a developing economy, although other aspects of its economic outlook are comparable to developed countries.

This somewhat contradictory situation did not allow us always to be active in discussions, especially when conflicting views were expressed between countries having different levels of economic development. Nevertheless, we knew what it was to be a developing country.

Turkey believes that it has fulfilled its obligations vis-à-vis the multilateral trading system by making important contributions, in particular, in the field of services.

Our expectation is that in the coming months work - especially in areas of interest to developing countries - should be continued with the aim of realizing a more balanced and equitable package.

After all, domestic policy concerns and the task of convincing different interest groups for the merits of the results of the Uruguay Round are an exercise to be carried out by all trading partners.