

**MULTILATERAL TRADE
NEGOTIATIONS
THE URUGUAY ROUND**

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TANZANIA

Statement by the Hon. C.D. Msuya
Minister for Industries and Trade

On behalf of my delegation and on my own behalf, I should like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to His Majesty King Hassan II and the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco for hosting this important meeting. The excellent facilities provided and the generous hospitality extended to us together with the warm reception by the people of Morocco and the historic city of Marrakesh, will remain a memorable rejoinder to the historic conclusion of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations and the birth of a new era of international trading system which we will be sanctioning by signing the Final Act.

I am grateful to you, Mr. Chairman, for the role that you and your country have played throughout the negotiating process of the Uruguay Round. My delegation is also indebted to the Director-General of GATT and his team of dedicated colleagues and associates for having been the driving force at the crucial moment of the negotiations and for the efficient manner in which the preparations for this Ministerial meeting have been accomplished.

The Final Act and the other documents we shall sign in Marrakesh embody the results of seven years of intensive multilateral negotiations. This package should be viewed as a consensus that would, despite its shortcomings, facilitate the opening of markets worldwide, stimulate growth of world trade and economic development. The rule based multilateral trading system and the improved dispute settlement machinery should be beneficial to the world economy by increasing liberal trading and market access and development prospects. It gives hope for member States and is a choice for better opportunities in the multilateral trading system and a rejection of protectionism and inward nationalistic trading policies.

I have come to Marrakesh on behalf of the Tanzanian Government, to join other countries which shall sign the Final Act. As a small country, we support the multilateral trading system which is embodied in the outcome of seven years of negotiations. Notwithstanding its shortcomings, we shall join the other member States to ratify the agreements, to negotiate the outstanding issues, and to engage in constructive negotiations and in dialogue on effective implementation and monitoring, and where necessary, engage in search of gap-filling measures to rectify the shortcomings that shall be identified in the course of such implementation.

In this context, I wish to observe the full impact of the Uruguay Round Agreements, Declarations and Decisions cannot be fully and accurately assessed now by the developing countries including my own.

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However, the preliminary evaluation that has been made reveals that for individual countries the effects, gains or losses depend quite decisively on the structure of their exports and imports. Given Tanzania's situation as a least-developed country, my delegation has all the reason to believe that without truly multilateral efforts and solutions which recognize the divergent interests of all parties, the adverse impact of the Uruguay Round Agreement could be considerable. I therefore wish to add my delegation's support to the statement made by the Honourable Minister from Bangladesh on the special needs of the least-developed countries. Secondly, we welcome the opportunity during the implementation phase to examine in detail the special needs of countries like mine and negotiate for possible support measures that could be implemented to minimize the adverse effects.

There are several ways in which this can be done. The Uruguay Round Agreements provide mechanisms which we strongly recommend that should be employed fully to continually assess the impact of the Round on individual countries' economies and to take positive adjustment measures including trade and side agreements to redress the imbalance. This should also include measures linked to market access aid programmes to help poor countries build export capacity and diversify their products and market outlets.

Furthermore, in view of the fact that the new rules under GATT and resultant obligations in the areas of services, TRIPS, TRIMs and other relevant Agreements would impose additional obligations of a technical and institutional character to a country like mine, I would propose that adequate technical assistance should be provided by the new World Trade Organization to assist us in institutional and capacity building and training.

In conclusion, on our part as a country we shall undertake a comprehensive assessment of the outcome of the Uruguay Round and to the extent possibly adopt measures necessary to derive benefits from it. My country has already put some of these measures in place. We have progressively liberalized our economy and trade programmes. Tariffs for both agricultural and industrial products have been lowered progressively while non-tariff measures have been largely removed. Various incentives for exporters have been introduced and a national investment policy establishing very attractive incentives has been put in place. We are determined to maintain a stable political environment based on democratic principles of transparency and good governance.

It is our hope therefore that the foundation of the new international trading system which will be laid here in Marrakesh will, with determined implementation and worldwide support, provide enabling environment for the national initiatives to yield the expected results. The multilateral trading system, which we have ourselves, in Marrakesh, committed to uphold will no doubt meet the expectations and aspirations of the people we represent.