

## Third Protocol to the General Agreement on Trade in Services

Done at Geneva on 6 October 1995

Entry into force: 26 July 1996<sup>229</sup>

Text: WTO Treaty Series No. 5, [WTO BISD 1995 Vol. 1/14](#), [WT/Let/55](#), [WT/Let/99](#),<sup>230</sup> [S/L/12](#)

UN Registration: 27 April 1999, [A-31874](#), [No. 45739](#)

UNTS: [2061 UNTS 190](#)

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### Relevant clauses

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1. The commitments on Movement of Natural Persons annexed to this Protocol relating to a Member shall, upon the entry into force of this Protocol for that Member, replace or supplement the relevant entries on movement of natural persons in the Schedule of Specific Commitments of that Member.

2. This Protocol shall be open for acceptance, by signature or otherwise, by Members concerned until 30th June 1996.<sup>231</sup>

3. This Protocol shall enter into force on the 30th day after 1st January 1996 for those Members which have accepted it by that date, and for those accepting it after that date, which date shall not be beyond 30th June 1996, it shall enter into force on the 30th day following the date of each acceptance. ...

4. This Protocol shall be deposited with the Director-General of the WTO. The Director-General shall promptly furnish to each Member a certified copy of this Protocol and notifications of acceptances thereof pursuant to paragraph 3.

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<sup>229</sup> See [WT/Let/96](#).

<sup>230</sup> A typographical error in the authentic text of the Third Protocol to the General Agreement on Trade in Services was rectified through a *procès-verbal* done on 20 July 1996. The rectification concerned an error in the numbering on page 3 (Spanish version): paragraphs 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 ([WT/Let/92](#); [WT/Let/99](#)).

<sup>231</sup> On 30 July 1996, the Council for Trade in Services extended the deadline for acceptance to 30 November 1996 ([S/L/28](#)).

### Acceptances

	<i>Acceptance</i>	<i>Entry into force</i>	<i>Notification</i>
Australia .....	27 Jun 1996	27 Jul 1996	<a href="#">WT/Let/96</a> <a href="#">WT/Let/127</a>
Austria .....	27 Jun 1996	27 Jul 1996	<a href="#">WT/Let/96</a> <a href="#">WT/Let/127</a>
Belgium <sup>232</sup> (for the Kingdom of Belgium, the Flemish Region of Belgium, the Walloon Region of Belgium and Brussels-Capital Region of Belgium) (Signature subject to ratification).....	30 Jun 1996		<a href="#">WT/Let/96</a>
Belgium's obligations under this Protocol are, in fact, already the subject of application on an autonomous basis. In signing this Protocol, Belgium undertakes to maintain that application in accordance with its domestic legislation in force.			
Ratification.....	1 Sep 1998	1 Sep 1998	<a href="#">WT/Let/241</a>
Canada .....	27 Jun 1996	27 Jul 1996	<a href="#">WT/Let/96</a> <a href="#">WT/Let/127</a>
Denmark .....	28 Jun 1996	28 Jul 1996	<a href="#">WT/Let/96</a> <a href="#">WT/Let/127</a>
European Union <sup>233</sup> .....	26 Jun 1996	26 Jul 1996	<a href="#">WT/Let/96</a> <a href="#">WT/Let/127</a>
Finland .....	26 Jun 1996	26 Jul 1996	<a href="#">WT/Let/96</a> <a href="#">WT/Let/127</a>
France .....	28 Jun 1996	28 Jul 1996	<a href="#">WT/Let/96</a> <a href="#">WT/Let/127</a>
Germany .....	27 Jun 1996	27 Jul 1996	<a href="#">WT/Let/96</a> <a href="#">WT/Let/127</a>

<sup>232</sup> On 23 July 1998, the Council for Trade in Services decided to reopen the Protocol for acceptance by Belgium until 30 September 1998 ([S/L/59](#)).

<sup>233</sup> On 1 December 2009, the European Union succeeded the European Community ([WT/Let/679](#)).

	<i>Acceptance</i>	<i>Entry into force</i>	<i>Notification</i>
Greece (Signature subject to internal approval) .....	28 Jun 1996		<a href="#">WT/Let/96</a>
Until the completion of the internal approval procedures, Greece will apply the commitments taken on its behalf in the European Communities and their Member States Schedule of Specific Commitments, annexed to the Third Protocol to the General Agreement on Trade in Services, from the date of its entry into force.			
Approval .....	28 Nov 1996	28 Dec 1996	<a href="#">WT/Let/127</a>
India .....	27 Jun 1996	27 Jul 1996	<a href="#">WT/Let/96</a> <a href="#">WT/Let/127</a>
Ireland .....	27 Jun 1996	27 Jul 1996	<a href="#">WT/Let/96</a> <a href="#">WT/Let/127</a>
Italy (Signature subject to ratification) .....	3 Apr 1996		<a href="#">WT/Let/74</a>
Ratification .....	28 Jun 1996	28 Jul 1996	<a href="#">WT/Let/96</a> <a href="#">WT/Let/127</a>
Luxembourg .....	29 Jun 1996	29 Jul 1996	<a href="#">WT/Let/96</a> <a href="#">WT/Let/127</a>
Netherlands (for the Kingdom in Europe) .....	28 Jun 1996	28 Jul 1996	<a href="#">WT/Let/96</a> <a href="#">WT/Let/127</a>
Norway .....	28 Jun 1996	28 Jul 1996	<a href="#">WT/Let/96</a> <a href="#">WT/Let/127</a>
Portugal (Signature subject to internal approval)..	28 Jun 1996		<a href="#">WT/Let/96</a>
Until the completion of the internal approval procedures, Portugal will apply the commitments taken on its behalf in the European Communities and their Member States Schedule of Specific Commitments, annexed to the Third Protocol annexed to the General Agreement on Trade in Services, from the date of its entry into force.			
Approval .....	29 Nov 1996	29 Dec 1996	<a href="#">WT/Let/127</a>

	<i>Acceptance</i>	<i>Entry into force</i>	<i>Notification</i>
Spain .....	28 Jun 1996		<a href="#">WT/Let/96</a>
Signature subject to subsequent authorization by Parliament of the declaration of Spain's agreement to assume the obligations.			
Statement withdrawn.....	25 Nov 1996	25 Dec 1996	<a href="#">WT/Let/124</a>
Sweden .....	30 Jun 1996	30 Jul 1996	<a href="#">WT/Let/96</a> <a href="#">WT/Let/127</a>
Switzerland .....	29 Nov 1996	29 Dec 1996	<a href="#">WT/Let/96</a> <a href="#">WT/Let/127</a>
United Kingdom .....	27 Jun 1996	27 Jul 1996	<a href="#">WT/Let/96</a> <a href="#">WT/Let/127</a>