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1 PARAGRAPH D OF THE TRADE POLICY REVIEW MECHANISM

1.1 Text of Paragraph D

D. Reporting

In order to achieve the fullest possible degree of transparency, each Member shall report regularly to the TPRB. Full reports shall describe the trade policies and practices pursued by the Member or Members concerned, based on an agreed format to be decided upon by the TPRB. This format shall initially be based on the Outline Format for Country Reports established by the Decision of 19 July 1989 (BISD 36S/406-409), amended as necessary to extend the coverage of reports to all aspects of trade policies covered by the Multilateral Trade Agreements in Annex 1 and, where applicable, the Plurilateral Trade Agreements. This format may be revised by the TPRB in the light of experience. Between reviews, Members shall provide brief reports when there are any significant changes in their trade policies; an annual update of statistical information will be provided according to the agreed format. Particular account shall be taken of difficulties presented to least-developed country Members in compiling their reports. The Secretariat shall make available technical assistance on request to developing country Members, and in particular to the least-developed country Members. Information contained in reports should to the greatest extent possible be coordinated with notifications made under provisions of the Multilateral Trade Agreements and, where applicable, the Plurilateral Trade Agreements.

1.2 Reports by the Member(s) under review

1.2.1 Format

1. The outline format for the country reports to be submitted under the Trade Policy Review Mechanism (TPRM) was originally agreed by the CONTRACTING PARTIES of 12 April 1989 establishing the TPRM.¹ According to a Decision by the CONTRACTING PARTIES of 19 July 1989 this outline format should be reviewed, and modified as appropriate, in the light of the experience gained.²

2. The 2008 Report of the Trade Policy Review Body (TPRB) on its Third Appraisal of the TPRM stated that "[t]he TPRB thought that Members should remain free to define the structure and coverage of their own reports in accordance with Annex 3 of the Marrakesh Agreement, and Chapter VI of the Rules of Procedure for Meetings of the TPRB."³ The TPRB's Rules of Procedure provide that "Reports by Members under review shall be in the form of policy statements, whose form and length is essentially to be determined by the Member under review."⁴

1.2.2 Timing

3. Members are requested to submit their government reports to the WTO at least five weeks before the TPRB meeting for their review if they choose the current timeline and at least eight weeks in advance if they choose the alternative timeline.⁵

¹ GATT document [L/6490](#).

² GATT document [L/6552](#).

³ [WT/TPR/229](#), para. 13.

⁴ [WT/TPR/6/Rev.4](#), para. 15.

⁵ [WT/TPR/6/Rev.4](#), para. 14.

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