

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

W.40/6

28 November 1984

Limited Distribution

CONTRACTING PARTIES
Fortieth Session

Original: English

REQUEST FOR A WORKING PARTY ON SERVICES

The following communication has been received by the delegation of the United States:

In pursuance of the 1982 Ministerial Decision on services and in order to facilitate the consideration by the CONTRACTING PARTIES, at its next session, called for in Paragraph 3 of the 1982 Decision;

The CONTRACTING PARTIES decide:

1. To establish a Working Party to exchange information on services. Such information would include (1) national studies, (2) regulations affecting trade in services, (3) international agreements affecting trade in services, (4) concepts which are or could be used in regulating trade in services, (5) other information which could assist the CONTRACTING PARTIES in considering this question.
2. That, to assist the Working Party, the GATT secretariat will:
 - (a) service and report on meetings;
 - (b) prepare documentation on the national examinations and prepare a synthesis and analysis of these examinations, together with the information and comments of other relevant international organizations, to be distributed to the Working Party for its consideration sufficiently in advance of the next session; and
 - (c) undertake additional tasks in the light of the further evolution of the work of the Working Party.
3. To invite interested contracting parties and the secretariat to submit their views on whether any multilateral action on trade in services is appropriate and desirable, in light of the above synthesis and analysis, prior to the next session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES so as to permit consideration of the issues by that time.
4. To invite contracting parties which have an interest in services but have not yet submitted their national studies to do so expeditiously so that the consideration mandated by the Ministerial Decision may be as representative as possible.
5. That the Chairman of the Working Party will keep the Council informed of the progress made under these arrangements.