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FOR THE
WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION**

RESTRICTED

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SUB-COMMITTEE ON INSTITUTIONAL
PROCEDURAL AND LEGAL MATTERS

THE WTO AND OTHER INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Note by the Secretariat

Under the mandate assigned to it by the Preparatory Committee, the Sub-Committee on Institutional, Procedural and Legal Matters is required, *inter alia*, to make recommendations concerning the appropriate arrangements with respect to relations with other organizations referred to in Article V of the WTO Agreement.

To assist it in this task, the Sub-Committee, at its meeting on 13 June 1994, requested the Secretariat to compile a list of inter-governmental organizations mentioned in the Uruguay Round Final Act texts together with the provisions therein that provided parameters for cooperation with these organizations, as well as of other inter-governmental organizations whose work might be relevant to the WTO.

This Note has been prepared in response to that request. Section I lists the inter-governmental organizations mentioned in the Final Act texts together with provisions in those texts that provide parameters for cooperation with these organizations. The main functions and activities of these organizations are described in Section II. Other inter-governmental organizations not mentioned in the Final Act texts and whose work might be of relevance to the WTO, are listed in Section III together with their main functions and activities. The list in Section III is not intended to be comprehensive, and includes only organizations that are global in nature and that have open-ended membership.

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I. Inter-governmental organizations mentioned in the Final Act texts, together with the provisions therein that provide parameters for cooperation with these organizations¹

(a) United Nations (UN)

1. This Agreement shall be registered in accordance with the provisions of Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations (WTO Agreement, Article XVI:6).
2. The General Council shall make appropriate arrangements for consultation and cooperation with the United Nations and its specialized agencies as well as with other inter-governmental organizations concerned with services (GATS, Article XXVI).

(b) Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Members donors of international food aid shall ensure that international food aid transactions, including bilateral food aid which is monetized, shall be carried out in accordance with the FAO "Principles of Surplus Disposal and Consultative Obligations", including, where appropriate, the system of Usual Marketing Requirements (UMRs) (Agreement on Agriculture, Article 10:4(b)).²

(c) Codex Alimentarius Commission³

1. Members shall play a full part, within the limits of their resources, in the relevant international organizations and their subsidiary bodies, in particular the Codex Alimentarius Commission, to promote within these organizations the development and periodic review of standards, guidelines and recommendations with respect to all aspects of sanitary and phytosanitary measures (Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Article 3:4).
2. The Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures shall maintain close contact with the relevant international organizations in the field of sanitary and phytosanitary protection, especially with the Codex Alimentarius Commission, with the objective of securing the best available scientific and technical advice for the administration of this Agreement and in order to ensure that unnecessary duplication of effort is avoided (Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Article 12:3).
3. In order to avoid unnecessary duplication, the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures may decide, as appropriate, to use the information generated by the procedures, particularly for notification, which are in operation in the relevant international organizations (Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Article 12:5).
4. For food safety, the standards, guidelines and recommendations established by the Codex Alimentarius Commission relating to food additives, veterinary drug and pesticide residues, contaminants, methods of analysis and sampling, and codes and guidelines of hygienic practice [are to be used as reference standards under the Agreement] (Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Annex A, paragraph 3(a)).

¹The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), although non-governmental international organizations, are included in this Section because of their mention in the Final Act texts.

² Although the FAO is not referred to as such in this provision, the "Principles of Surplus Disposal" are administered by an FAO Sub-Committee, which reports to the FAO Committee on Commodity Problems.

³The Commission was established in 1962 to implement the joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme. The Codex Secretariat is provided by FAO and WHO.

(d) International Office of Epizootics (OIE)

1. Members shall play a full part, within the limits of their resources, in the relevant international organizations and their subsidiary bodies, in particular the International Office of Epizootics, to promote within these organizations the development and periodic review of standards, guidelines and recommendations with respect to all aspects of sanitary and phytosanitary measures (Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Article 3:4).
2. The Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures shall maintain close contact with the relevant international organizations in the field of sanitary and phytosanitary protection, especially with the International Office of Epizootics, with the objective of securing the best available scientific and technical advice for the administration of this Agreement and in order to ensure that unnecessary duplication of effort is avoided (Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Article 12:3).
3. In order to avoid unnecessary duplication, the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures may decide, as appropriate, to use the information generated by the procedures, particularly for notification, which are in operation in the relevant international organizations (Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Article 12:5).
4. For animal health and zoonoses, the standards, guidelines and recommendations developed under the auspices of the International Office of Epizootics [are to be used as reference standards under the Agreement] (Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Annex A, paragraph 3(b)).

(e) Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)

1. Members shall play a full part, within the limits of their resources, in the relevant international organizations and their subsidiary bodies, in particular the international and regional organizations operating within the framework of the International Plant Protection Convention, to promote within these organizations the development and periodic review of standards, guidelines and recommendations with respect to all aspects of sanitary and phytosanitary measures (Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Article 3:4).
2. The Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures shall maintain close contact with the relevant international organizations in the field of sanitary and phytosanitary protection, especially with the Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention, with the objective of securing the best available scientific and technical advice for the administration of this Agreement and in order to ensure that unnecessary duplication of effort is avoided (Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Article 12:3).
3. In order to avoid unnecessary duplication, the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures may decide, as appropriate, to use the information generated by the procedures, particularly for notification, which are in operation in the relevant international organizations (Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Article 12:5).
4. For plant health, the international standards, guidelines and recommendations developed under the auspices of the Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention in cooperation with regional organizations operating within the framework of the International Plant Protection Convention [are to be used as reference standards under the Agreement] (Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Annex A, paragraph 3(c)).

(f) International Wheat Council (IWC)

1. Members donors of international food aid shall ensure that such aid shall be provided to the extent possible in fully grant form or on terms no less concessional than those provided for in Article IV of the Food Aid Convention 1986 (Agreement on Agriculture, Article 10:4(c)).⁴
2. *Ministers agree:*
 - (i) to review the level of food aid established periodically by the Committee on Food Aid under the Food Aid Convention 1986 and to initiate negotiations in the appropriate forum to establish a level of food aid commitments sufficient to meet the legitimate needs of developing countries during the reform programme;
 - (ii) to adopt guidelines to ensure that an increasing proportion of basic foodstuffs is provided to least-developed and net food-importing developing countries in fully grant form and/or on appropriate concessional terms in line with Article IV of the Food Aid Convention 1986 (Decision on Measures Concerning Effects of the Reform Programme on the Least-Developed and Net Food-Importing Countries, paragraph 3 (i) and (ii)).

(g) International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)/
International Monetary Fund (IMF)

Coherence in global economic policy-making

1. With a view to achieving greater coherence in global economic policy-making, the WTO shall cooperate, as appropriate, with the International Monetary Fund and with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and its affiliated agencies (WTO Agreement, Article III:5).
2. Successful cooperation in each area of economic policy contributes to progress in other areas. Greater exchange rate stability, based on more orderly underlying economic and financial conditions, should contribute towards the expansion of trade, sustainable growth and development, and the correction of external imbalances. There is also a need for an adequate and timely flow of concessional and non-concessional financial and real investment resources to developing countries and for further efforts to address debt problems, to help ensure economic growth and development. Trade liberalization forms an increasingly important component in the success of the adjustment programmes that many countries are undertaking, often involving significant transitional social costs. In this connection, Ministers note the role of the World Bank and the IMF in supporting adjustment to trade liberalization, including support to net food-importing developing countries facing short-term costs arising from agricultural trade reforms (Declaration on Contribution of WTO to Greater Coherence in Global Economic Policy-Making, paragraph 2).
3. The interlinkages between the different aspects of economic policy require that the international institutions with responsibilities in each of these areas follow consistent and mutually supportive policies. The WTO should therefore pursue and develop cooperation with the international organizations responsible for monetary and financial matters, while respecting the mandate, the confidentiality requirements and the necessary autonomy in decision-making procedures of each institution, and avoiding the imposition on governments of cross-conditionality or

⁴Although the International Wheat Council is not referred to as such in this and in the following provision, the Food Aid Convention is administered by the International Wheat Council as part of the International Wheat Agreement 1986.

additional conditions. Ministers further invite the Director-General of the WTO to review with the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund and the President of the World Bank, the implications of the WTO's responsibilities for its cooperation with the Bretton Woods institutions, as well as the forms such cooperation might take, with a view to achieving greater coherence in global economic policy-making (Declaration on Contribution of WTO to Greater Coherence in Global Economic Policy-Making, paragraph 5).

Financing of food imports

4. *Ministers recognize* that as a result of the Uruguay Round certain developing countries may experience short-term difficulties in financing normal levels of commercial imports and that these countries may be eligible to draw on the resources of international financial institutions under existing facilities, or such facilities as may be established, in the context of adjustment programmes, in order to address such financing difficulties. In this regard Ministers take note of paragraph 37 of the report of the Director-General to the CONTRACTING PARTIES to GATT 1947 on his consultations with the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund and the President of the World Bank (MTN.GNG/NG14/W/35) (Decision on Measures Concerning Effects of the Reform Programme on the Least-Developed and Net Food-Importing Countries, paragraph 5).

(h) International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)

Members recognize that an efficient, advanced telecommunications infrastructure in countries, particularly developing countries, is essential to the expansion of their trade in services. To this end, Members endorse and encourage the participation, to the fullest extent practicable, of developed and developing countries and their suppliers of public telecommunications transport networks and services and other entities in the development programmes of international and regional organizations, including the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (GATS, Annex on Telecommunications, paragraph 6(a)).

(i) International Monetary Fund (IMF)

Article XV arrangements⁵

1. Under paragraph 2 of Article XV, the WTO is required to consult with the IMF on the points specified in that paragraph. As soon as the programme of consultations for the year is drawn up and taken note of by the Council, the Director-General should send a communication to invite the IMF to consult with the WTO in connection with each of the GATT consultations. In each case the WTO-IMF consultations will take place in the Committee on Balance-of-Payments Restrictions prior to the WTO consultation (Paragraph 8 of the 1970 Balance-of-Payments consultation procedures referred to in paragraph 5 of the Understanding on Balance-of-Payments Procedures).

⁵The texts of Articles XIV and XV of GATT 1994, although relevant in the context of this Note, are not reproduced here. Article XV calls on the WTO, *inter alia*, to seek cooperation with the IMF with a view to pursuing a co-ordinated policy with regard to exchange questions and also to consult fully with the IMF when considering problems concerning monetary reserves, balances of payments, or foreign exchange arrangements. Article XIV, which deals exceptions to the rule of non-discrimination, specifies, *inter alia*, that a Member may (a) deviate from GATT Article XIII provisions concerning the non-discriminatory administration of quantitative restrictions, in a manner having equivalent effect to restrictions on payments and transfers for current international transactions that that Member may be applying under the relevant Articles of Agreement of the IMF, or (b) apply quantitative restrictions having equivalent effect to exchange restrictions authorized under the relevant Articles of Agreement. Other references to the IMF in GATT 1994 are to be found in Articles II:6(a) and (b), VII:4(a) and (c), and in the Notes to Articles VIII:1, XII:4(b), XV:4 and XVI:B contained in Annex I to GATT 1994.

2. The material supplied by the IMF as part of a consultation between the Fund and WTO should be circulated to the members of the Committee as soon as possible after it is received by the Secretariat. A copy may be supplied to any other Member which requests it (Paragraph 9 of the 1970 Balance-of-Payments consultation procedures referred to in paragraph 5 of the Understanding on Balance-of-Payments Procedures).
3. *Noting* the close relationship between the CONTRACTING PARTIES to the GATT 1947 and the International Monetary Fund, and the provisions of the GATT 1947 governing that relationship, in particular Article XV of the GATT 1947;

Recognizing the desire of participants to base the relationship of the World Trade Organization with the International Monetary Fund, with regard to the areas covered by the Multilateral Trade Agreements in Annex 1A of the WTO Agreement, on the provisions that have governed the relationship of the CONTRACTING PARTIES to the GATT 1947 with the International Monetary Fund;

[Ministers] Hereby *reaffirm* that, unless otherwise provided for in the Final Act, the relationship of the WTO with the International Monetary Fund, with regard to the areas covered by the Multilateral Trade Agreements in Annex 1A of the WTO Agreement, will be based on the provisions that have governed the relationship of the CONTRACTING PARTIES to the GATT 1947 with the International Monetary Fund (Declaration on the Relationship of the WTO with the IMF).

BOP related provisions in the area of services

4. In the event of serious balance-of-payments and external financial difficulties or threat thereof, a Member may adopt or maintain restrictions on trade in services on which it has undertaken specific commitments, including on payments or transfers for transactions related to such commitments. It is recognized that particular pressures on the balance of payments of a Member in the process of economic development or economic transition may necessitate the use of restrictions to ensure, *inter alia*, the maintenance of a level of financial reserves adequate for the implementation of its programme of economic development or economic transition.

The restrictions referred to in the above paragraph shall be consistent with the Articles of Agreement of the International Monetary Fund (GATS, Article XII:1 and 2(b)).

5. Members applying the provisions of this Article shall consult promptly with the Committee on Balance-of-Payments Restrictions on restrictions adopted under this Article.

In such consultations, all findings of statistical and other facts presented by the International Monetary Fund relating to foreign exchange, monetary reserves and balance of payments, shall be accepted and conclusions shall be based on the assessment by the Fund of the balance-of-payments and the external financial situation of the consulting Member (GATS, Article XII:5(a) and (e)).

6. If a Member which is not a member of the International Monetary Fund wishes to apply the provisions of this Article, the Ministerial Conference shall establish a review procedure and any other procedures necessary (GATS, Article XII: 6).

(j) World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

1. Members [Desire] to establish a mutually supportive relationship between the WTO and the World Intellectual Property Organization (referred to in this Agreement as "WIPO") as well as other relevant international organizations (Agreement on TRIPS, Preamble).
2. The obligations under Articles 3 and 4 [on national treatment and m.f.n. treatment] do not apply to procedures provided in multilateral agreements concluded under the auspices of WIPO relating to the acquisition or maintenance of intellectual property rights (Agreement on TRIPS, Article 5).
3. Members shall notify the laws and regulations referred to in paragraph 1 to the Council for TRIPS in order to assist that Council in its review of the operation of this Agreement. The Council shall attempt to minimize the burden on Members in carrying out this obligation and may decide to waive the obligations to notify such laws and regulations directly to the Council if consultations with WIPO on the establishment of a common register containing these laws and regulations are successful. The Council shall also consider in this connection any action required regarding notifications pursuant to the obligations under this Agreement stemming from the provisions of Article 6~~ter~~ of the Paris Convention (1967) (Agreement on TRIPS, Article 63:2).
4. The Council for TRIPS shall monitor the operation of this Agreement and, in particular, Members' compliance with their obligations hereunder, and shall afford Members the opportunity of consulting on matters relating to the trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights. It shall carry out such other responsibilities as assigned to it by the Members, and it shall, in particular, provide any assistance requested by them in the context of dispute settlement procedures. In carrying out its functions, the Council for TRIPS may consult with and seek information from any source it deems appropriate. In consultation with WIPO, the Council shall seek to establish, within one year of its first meeting, appropriate arrangements for cooperation with bodies of that Organization (Agreement on TRIPS, Article 68).

(k) International Organization for Standardization (ISO)

1. Members recognize the importance of international standards for global compatibility and inter-operability of telecommunication networks and services and undertake to promote such standards through the work of relevant international bodies, including the International Telecommunication Union (GATS, Annex on Telecommunications, paragraph 7(a)).
2. *Ministers decide* to recommend that the Secretariat of the World Trade Organization reach an understanding with the International Organization for Standardization ("ISO") to establish an information system under which:
 - ISONET members shall transmit to the ISO/IEC Information Centre in Geneva the notifications referred to in paragraphs C and J of the Code of Good Practice for the Preparation, Adoption and Application of Standards in Annex 3 to the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade, in the manner indicated there;
 - the ISO/IEC Information Centre shall promptly convey to the Secretariat copies of any notifications referred to in paragraph C of the Code of Good Practice;
 - the ISO/IEC Information Centre shall regularly publish the information received in the notifications made to it under paragraphs C and J of the Code of Good Practice;

this publication, for which a reasonable fee may be charged, shall be available to ISONET members and through the Secretariat to the Members of the WTO (Decision on Proposed Understanding on WTO-ISO Standards Information System, Preamble, paragraphs 1, 3 and 4).

- (l) International Organization for Standardization (ISO)/
International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)
1. The terms presented in the sixth edition of the ISO/IEC Guide 2: 1991, General Terms and Their Definitions Concerning Standardization and Related Activities, shall, when used in this Agreement, have the same meaning as given in the definitions in the said Guide taking into account that services are excluded from the coverage of this Agreement [and the terms and their definitions indicated in Annex 1] (Agreement on Technical Barriers, Annex 1).
 2. Standardizing bodies that have accepted or withdrawn from this Code shall notify this fact to the ISO/IEC Information Centre in Geneva. The notification shall include the name and address of the body concerned and the scope of its current and expected standardization activities. The notification may be sent either directly to the ISO/IEC Information Centre, or through the national member body of ISO/IEC or, preferably, through the relevant national member or international affiliate of ISONET, as appropriate (Agreement on Technical Barriers, Annex 3, paragraph C).
 3. The work programme shall for each standard indicate, in accordance with any ISONET rules, the classification relevant to the subject matter, the stage attained in the standard's development, and the references of any international standards taken as a basis. No later than at the time of publication of its work programme, the standardizing body shall notify the existence thereof to the ISO/IEC Information Centre in Geneva.

The notification shall contain the name and address of the standardizing body, the name and issue of the publication in which the work programme is published, the period to which the work programme applies, its price (if any), and how and where it can be obtained. The notification may be sent directly to the ISO/IEC Information Centre, or, preferably, through the relevant national member or international affiliate of ISONET, as appropriate (Agreement on Technical Barriers, Annex 3, paragraph J).
 4. The national member of ISO/IEC shall make every effort to become a member of ISONET or to appoint another body to become a member as well as to acquire the most advanced membership type possible for the ISONET member. Other standardizing bodies shall make every effort to associate themselves with the ISONET member (Agreement on Technical Barriers, Annex 3, paragraph K).
 5. *Ministers decide* that in conformity with paragraph 1 of Article 13 of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade in Annex 1A of the Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization, the Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade established thereunder shall, without prejudice to provisions on consultation and dispute settlement, at least once a year review the publication provided by the ISO/IEC Information Centre on information received according to the Code of Good Practice for the Preparation, Adoption and Application of Standards in Annex 3 of the Agreement, for the purpose of affording Members opportunity of discussing any matters relating to the operation of that Code.

The Secretariat shall also distribute promptly to the Members copies of the notifications it receives from the ISO/IEC Information Centre (Decision on Review of the ISO/IEC Information Centre Publication).

(m) Customs Co-operation Council (CCC)

Customs valuation

1. There shall be established a Technical Committee on Customs Valuation (referred to in this Agreement as "the Technical Committee") under the auspices of the Customs Co-operation Council (referred to in this Agreement as "the CCC"), which shall carry out the responsibilities described in Annex II to this Agreement and shall operate in accordance with the rules of procedure contained therein (Agreement on Implementation of Article VII, Article 18:2)
2. In accordance with Article 18 of this Agreement, the Technical Committee shall be established under the auspices of the CCC with a view to ensuring, at the technical level, uniformity in interpretation and application of this Agreement (Agreement on Implementation of Article VII, Annex II, paragraph 1).
3. The Technical Committee shall be assisted as appropriate in its activities by the CCC Secretariat (Agreement on Implementation of Article VII, Annex II, paragraph 4).
4. Each Member shall have the right to be represented on the Technical Committee. The WTO Secretariat may also attend such meetings with observer status (Agreement on Implementation of Article VII, Annex II, paragraph 5).
5. Members of the CCC which are not Members of the WTO may be represented at meetings of the Technical Committee by one delegate and one or more alternates. Such representatives shall attend meetings of the Technical Committee as observers (Agreement on Implementation of Article VII, Annex II, paragraph 6).
6. Subject to the approval of the Chairman of the Technical Committee, the Secretary-General of the CCC (referred to in this Annex as "the Secretary-General") may invite representatives of governments which are neither Members of the WTO nor members of the CCC and representatives of international governmental and trade organizations to attend meetings of the Technical Committee as observers (Agreement on Implementation of Article VII, Annex II, paragraph 7).
7. Nominations of delegates, alternates and advisers to meetings of the Technical Committee shall be made to the Secretary-General (Agreement on Implementation of Article VII, Annex II, paragraph 8).
8. The Chairman of the Technical Committee or a designee of the Chairman shall report on the work of the Technical Committee at each meeting of the Committee and at each meeting of the CCC (Agreement on Implementation of Article VII, Annex II, paragraph 23).

Rules of origin

9. There shall be established a Technical Committee on Rules of Origin (referred to in this Agreement as "the Technical Committee") under the auspices of the Customs Co-operation Council (CCC) as set out in Annex I. The CCC Secretariat shall act as the secretariat to the Technical Committee (Agreement on Rules of Origin, Article 4:2).

10. With the objectives of harmonizing rules of origin and, *inter alia*, providing more certainty in the conduct of world trade, the Ministerial Conference shall undertake the work programme set out below [in Article 9] in conjunction with the CCC (Agreement on Rules of Origin, Article 9:1).
11. To provide for detailed input by the CCC, the Committee on Rules of Origin shall request the Technical Committee to provide its interpretations and opinions resulting from the work described below [in Article 9:2] on the basis of the principles listed in paragraph 1 (Agreement on Rules of Origin, Article 9:2(c)).
12. Each Member shall have the right to be represented on the Technical Committee. The WTO Secretariat may also attend such meetings with observer status (Agreement on Rules of Origin, Annex I, paragraph 4).
13. Members of the CCC which are not Members of the WTO may be represented at meetings of the Technical Committee by one delegate and one or more alternates. Such representatives shall attend meetings of the Technical Committee as observers (Agreement on Rules of Origin, Annex I, paragraph 5).
14. Subject to the approval of the Chairman of the Technical Committee, the Secretary-General of the CCC (referred to in this Annex as "the Secretary-General") may invite representatives of governments which are neither Members of the WTO nor members of the CCC and representatives of international governmental and trade organizations to attend meetings of the Technical Committee as observers (Agreement on Rules of Origin, Annex I, paragraph 6).
15. Nominations of delegates, alternates and advisers to meetings of the Technical Committee shall be made to the Secretary-General (Agreement on Rules of Origin, Annex I, paragraph 7).

(n) International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

1. Members recognize that an efficient, advanced telecommunications infrastructure in countries, particularly developing countries, is essential to the expansion of their trade in services. To this end, Members endorse and encourage the participation, to the fullest extent practicable, of developed and developing countries and their suppliers of public telecommunications transport networks and services and other entities in the development programmes of international and regional organizations, including the International Telecommunication Union (GATS, Annex on Telecommunications, paragraph 6(a)).
2. Members recognize the importance of international standards for global compatibility and inter-operability of telecommunication networks and services and undertake to promote such standards through the work of relevant international bodies, including the International Telecommunication Union (GATS, Annex on Telecommunications, paragraph 7(a)).
3. Members recognize the role played by intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and agreements in ensuring the efficient operation of domestic and global telecommunications services, in particular the International Telecommunication Union. Members shall make appropriate arrangements, where relevant, for consultation with such organizations on matters arising from the implementation of this Annex (GATS, Annex on Telecommunications, paragraph 7(b)).

(o) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Members recognize that an efficient, advanced telecommunications infrastructure in countries, particularly developing countries, is essential to the expansion of their trade in services. To this end, Members endorse and encourage the participation, to the fullest extent practicable, of developed and developing countries and their suppliers of public telecommunications transport networks and services and other entities in the development programmes of international and regional organizations, including the United Nations Development Programme (GATS, Annex on Telecommunications, paragraph 6(a)).

II. Main functions and activities of the organizations mentioned in the Final Act texts

(a) United Nations (UN)

The aims of the UN are contained in the Preamble to its Charter. The UN is charged by its Charter with promoting in the economic and social fields, *inter alia*, higher standards of living, full employment, and conditions of economic and social progress and development; solutions to international economic, social, health and related problems; international cultural and educational cooperation; and universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms. Responsibility for discharging these functions is vested in the General Assembly and, under its authority, in the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). The ECOSOC makes or initiates studies and reports with respect to international economic, social, cultural, educational, health and related matters. It makes recommendations on such matters to the Assembly, to the members of the UN, and to the specialized agencies concerned. It also makes recommendations for the purpose of promoting respect for, and observance of human rights. It prepares draft conventions for submission to the Assembly on matters within its competence and calls international conferences on such matters. It enters into agreements with specialized agencies and makes arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations. In February 1993, the ECOSOC established a Commission on Sustainable Development with functions relating broadly to monitoring progress in the implementation of Agenda 21 agreed at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED).

(b) Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

The FAO, a specialized agency of the UN reporting annually to ECOSOC, was established in 1945 for the purposes of raising levels of nutrition and standards of living of the peoples in member countries; securing improvements in the efficiency of the production and distribution of all food and agricultural products; bettering the condition of rural populations; and thus contributing toward an expanding world economy and ensuring humanity's freedom from hunger. The FAO has five major committees covering its activities, namely the Committee on Commodity Problems, Committee on Fisheries, Committee on Forestry, Committee on Agriculture and the Committee on World Food Security. The Committee on Commodity Problems, which keeps under review international commodity problems, has a Sub-Committee on Surplus Disposals to deal with effects on commercial markets of the disposal of surplus agricultural products as aid or at concessional prices. The FAO has a wide range of other inter-governmental and expert bodies, of both a global and regional nature, dealing with aspects of agriculture, fisheries and food.

(c) Codex Alimentarius Commission

The Commission was established by the governing bodies of FAO and the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1962 to implement the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme. The Programme's purpose is to protect the health of consumers and ensure fair practices in the food trade

by initiating and guiding the preparation, finalization, publication and revision of international food standards and by promoting the coordination of all food standards work undertaken by international organizations. Membership of the Commission is open to members and associate members of FAO and WHO. The Commission's standards, codes of practice and recommendations and guidelines are published together with details of governments' acceptances in the Codex Alimentarius. This publication is intended to promote the harmonization of requirements for foods and, in so doing, to facilitate international trade. The Commission has under it a number of subsidiary inter-governmental bodies, general subject committees and commodity committees.

(d) International Office of Epizootics (OIE)

The OIE was created in 1924 to improve international coordination of actions against epizootic diseases, and to collect and disseminate information on contagious animal diseases. The organization studies animal diseases and their prevention; informs member countries of the evolution of epizootic diseases and methods to combat them; harmonizes diagnostic methods and international animal health regulations; coordinates international action in facing an epizootic threat; and organizes conferences of Regional Commissions, specialist conferences and meetings.

(e) Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)

The IPPC was established in 1951 within the framework of the FAO for the purpose of securing common and effective action to prevent the introduction and spread of pests and diseases of plants and plant products and to promote measures for their control, through legislative, technical and administrative measures specified in the Convention. Governments undertake to take action under the Convention in such a way as to minimize interference with international trade. In 1989, the FAO created an IPPC Secretariat, and in 1991 an International Committee of Experts on Phytosanitary Measures (CEPM) was established.

(f) International Wheat Council (IWC)

The IWC administers the Wheat Trade Convention of the International Wheat Agreement 1986, the objectives of which include: furthering international cooperation in all aspects of the trade in wheat and other grains; promoting expansion of international trade in grains, and securing its freest possible flow in the interests of members, particularly developing members; contributing to the stability of international grain markets and enhancing world food security; providing a forum for the exchange of information and discussion of members' concerns regarding trade in grains; and providing a framework for the possible negotiation of a future agreement with economic provisions. The Food Aid Committee of the IWC administers the Food Aid Convention 1986, which is the other legal instrument comprising the International Wheat Agreement.

(g) International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)

The IBRD, a specialized agency of the UN established in 1945, aims to promote the economic development of member countries by making loans to governments below conventional rates of interest for high-priority productive projects in cases where capital is not obtainable from other sources on reasonable terms; provide member countries with technical assistance on matters relating to their economic development; try to increase the effectiveness of the international development effort by fostering cooperation with and among other donors of financial and technical assistance.

(h) International Monetary Fund (IMF)

The IMF, established in 1944, encourages international monetary cooperation and the balanced expansion of world trade by (a) promoting exchange stability and orderly exchange arrangements; (b) promoting international consultation and collaboration on international monetary issues; (c) working toward the removal of exchange restrictions; (d) making financial resources temporarily available to members so as to permit them to correct payment imbalances; and (e) seeking reduction of both duration and magnitude of payments imbalances.

(i) World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

The WIPO, a specialized agency of the UN established in 1967, is responsible for the promotion of the protection of intellectual property throughout the world. WIPO administers various international treaties, of which the most important are the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property of 1883 and the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works of 1886. WIPO also carries out a programme of activities in the field of intellectual property to promote creative intellectual activity, protection of intellectual property, international cooperation and the transfer of technology, especially to and among developing countries.

(j) International Organization for Standardization (ISO)

The ISO, established in 1947, aims to promote the development of standardization and related activities in the world with a view to facilitating international exchange of goods and services and to developing cooperation in the sphere of intellectual, scientific, technological and economic activity. The ISO Information Network (ISONET) coordinates and systematizes the exchange of information on standards and standard-type documents both internationally and nationally, by linking the information centres of most ISO members and the ISO/IEC Information Centre at the Central Secretariat into a coherent information system. The ISO is a non-governmental organization with national standards bodies as members.

(k) International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)

The IEC, established in 1904, aims to promote international cooperation on all questions of electric and electronic standards, including reliability, safety, interchangeability and mutual compatibility of equipment, and elimination of unnecessary diversity of components. The IEC issues standards expressing international consensus of opinion to assist National Committees in harmonizing national standards with IEC standards insofar as national conditions permit. The IEC cooperates closely with the ISO, which produces standards in the non-electrical fields. The IEC is a non-governmental organization composed of representatives of technical and scientific organizations which deal with questions of electrical standardization at the national level.

(l) Customs Co-operation Council (CCC)

The CCC, established in 1950, aims: (1) to encourage harmonization and simplification of customs procedures and to promote cooperation among customs administrations by promoting the widest application of the Harmonized System for Customs tariffs; promoting the widest adoption and implementation of the Customs Valuation Code of GATT by providing technical assistance and advice to members while ensuring uniform application of the Brussels Definition of Value by those countries still applying it; developing and promoting standard customs documents for multiple customs procedures and standardized data systems permitting automated exchange of data; studying modern customs processes, developing standardized and simplified customs procedures and intensifying promotion of the Kyoto Convention and other documents which advocate such processes and procedures; actively

identifying new techniques and disseminating information about them among members, with practical implementation measures; (2) to develop improved control and enforcement capabilities by working in collaboration with members and interested organizations in developing techniques and systems of relevance to the customs; studying new Customs control methods to ensure adequacy of enforcement while simplifying and speeding up customs processes; promoting greater cooperation in the enforcement area by developing programmes and strategies to fully implement the Brussels Declaration, particularly to fight more efficiently against the illicit traffic of drugs; (3) to improve the human resources, organization and management of customs administrations by promoting regional programmes and regional initiatives in training of customs officers and officer exchange programmes; providing a forum for management-level discussions on topical customs questions; developing programmes and strategies for the development of model training programmes and the provision of expert assistance, particularly in relation to the Harmonized System and the Customs Valuation Code.

(m) International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

The ITU, a specialized agency of the UN established in 1865, has the following aims: to maintain and extend international cooperation between all members of the union for the improvement and rational use of telecommunications of all kinds, as well as to promote and to offer technical assistance to developing countries in the field of telecommunications; to promote the development of technical facilities and their most efficient operation with a view to improving the efficiency of telecommunication services, increasing their usefulness and making them, so far as possible, generally available to the public; to promote the use of telecommunication services with the objective of facilitating peaceful relations; to harmonize the actions of members in the attainment of those ends.

(n) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

The UNDP, an organ of the UN linked to the General Assembly and to ECOSOC, was established in 1965. The UNDP administers and coordinates the majority of technical assistance provided through the UN system. Its objective is to assist developing countries to accelerate their economic and social development by providing assistance geared to their development objectives, with special attention to the needs of least-developed countries. Most of the projects funded by the programme are executed by agencies and organizations within the UN system.

III. Other inter-governmental organizations whose work might be relevant to the WTO, and their main functions and activities

(a) Related organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations

The following related organs and specialized agencies of the United Nations may be of relevance to the activities of the WTO, both generally as well as in particular areas. In addition to some of the organs and specialized agencies of mentioned in Sections I and II above, the UNCTAD and UNESCO were associated with the work of the Uruguay Round in the capacity of observers, and made specific contributions to particular negotiating groups.

(i) United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

The UNCTAD, an organ of the General Assembly, was established by Resolution 1995 (XIX) of 1964, with the following mandate: to help restructure the traditional patterns of international trade to enable developing countries to play their part in world commerce; to promote international trade, particularly between countries at different stages of development; to formulate and implement principles and policies on international trade and related problems of economic development; to review and

facilitate coordination of activities of other UN bodies in the area of trade and related problems of economic development; to initiate action for negotiation and adoption of multilateral instruments in the field of trade; and to act as a centre for harmonization of trade and related development policies of governments and regional economic groups.

In institutional reform measures adopted at UNCTAD's Eighth Session at Cartagena in 1992, it was agreed that, in line with this mandate, the functions of UNCTAD would henceforth comprise of policy analysis; inter-governmental deliberation, consensus building and negotiation; monitoring, implementation and follow-up; and technical cooperation. In endorsing the Cartagena Commitment, the General Assembly, in December 1992, reaffirmed the rôle of UNCTAD as the principal organ of the Assembly in the field of trade and development and as the most appropriate focal point, within the United Nations proper, for the integrated treatment of development and interrelated issues in key areas including trade, commodities, finance, investment, services and technology.

A series of negotiations held over the years under the auspices of UNCTAD have resulted in a number of multilateral agreements or arrangements in its areas of responsibility, such as the Generalized System of Preferences, the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices, and the UN Convention on Liner Conferences. International commodity conferences, held under UNCTAD auspices, have resulted in the negotiation of international agreements on individual commodities such as cocoa, olive oil and table olives, jute, natural rubber, sugar and tropical timber. Negotiations leading to the establishment of study groups have been held in respect of certain ores and metals, namely, iron and steel, bauxite, tungsten, copper and nickel. These study groups provide the basis for exchange of information on production and trade in these commodities.

In recent years, UNCTAD has addressed the subject of sustainable development. In October 1990, the Trade and Development Board decided that the objective of sustainable development, particularly the reduction of poverty, should be incorporated into all areas of UNCTAD's work at the inter-governmental level and, in October 1991, requested the UNCTAD Secretary-General to study the impact on trade of national and international environmental measures. In March 1993, the Board decided that it would henceforth consider a topic under the theme "Trade and Environment" at the first part of each of its annual sessions, and that at its spring sessions it would consider another theme or themes on sustainable development. The UNCTAD has recently established a Working Group on Trade, Environment and Sustainable Development, and is carrying out a joint work programme with UNEP on trade and environment.

(ii) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

The UNEP, an organ of the UN linked to the General Assembly and to ECOSOC, was established in 1972. It has the following main functions: to promote international cooperation in the environment field and recommend policies to this end; to provide policy guidance for direction and coordination of environmental programmes within the UN system; to keep under review the world environmental situation; to maintain continuing review of the impact of national and international environmental policies and measures on developing countries, including the problem of additional costs that may be incurred by such countries in their implementation of environmental programmes, and to ensure that such programmes shall be compatible with development plans and priorities of those countries.

(iii) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

The aims of UNESCO, a specialized agency of the UN established in 1945, are "to contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among the nations through education, science and culture in order to further universal respect for justice, for the rule of law, and for the human rights and fundamental freedoms which are affirmed for the peoples of the world, without distinction of race,

sex, language or religion, by the Charter of the United Nations; give fresh impulse to popular education and to the spread of culture; maintain, increase and diffuse knowledge; encourage cooperation among nations in all branches of intellectual activity; and initiate methods of international cooperation to give people of all countries access to printed and published materials produced by any of them. Among UNESCO's current programmes of activities are principles, methods and strategies of action for development, and the human environment and terrestrial and marine resources. UNESCO's activities in copyright aim primarily to stimulate intellectual creativity by protecting authors' interests; encourage the application of international instruments on copyright and neighbouring rights; contribute to the safeguarding of the heritage belonging to the public domain and of folklore; encourage the establishment or strengthening of national infrastructures in the copyright field; and develop training activities particularly in developing countries. The UNESCO administers the Universal Copyright Convention and, jointly with ILO and WIPO, the International Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organizations (the "Rome Convention").

(iv) United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

The purposes of the UNIDO, a specialized agency of the UN established in 1985, are to encourage and extend assistance to developing countries for the development, expansion and modernization of their industries; to assist such countries in the establishment and operation of industries to achieve full utilization of locally-available resources and contribute to self-reliance; to provide a forum to serve the developing and industrialized countries in their contacts, consultations and negotiations; to coordinate all activities of the UN system related to industrial development. Since 1975, special attention has been given to efforts aimed at raising the developing countries' share in world manufacturing production. Among the special programmes of UNIDO are the UNIDO Investment Promotion Services which provide developing countries direct access to technological, managerial and financial resources in industrialized countries.

(v) World Health Organization (WHO)

The principal objective of the WHO, a specialized agency of the UN established in 1946, is: "the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health". The WHO has an interest in respect of the protection of pharmaceutical inventions and the use of trademarks on, and counterfeiting of, pharmaceuticals.

(vi) International Labour Office (ILO)

The ILO, a specialized agency of the UN, seeks to raise working and living standards through the adoption of international labour conventions and recommendations setting minimum standards in such fields as wages, hours of work and conditions of employment, and social security. It also conducts research and technical cooperation activities. Its activities focus on the following major themes: standard-setting and human rights; employment promotion; training; industrial relations and labour administration; working conditions and environment; industrial sectoral activities; social security; and services to employers' and workers' organizations. The ILO jointly administers the International Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organizations (the "Rome Convention").

(vii) International Maritime Organization (IMO)

The main objective of IMO, a specialized agency of the UN established in 1948, is to facilitate cooperation among governments on technical matters affecting international shipping, in order to achieve the highest practicable standards of maritime safety and efficiency in navigation. IMO has a special responsibility for safety of life at sea, and for the protection of the marine environment through

prevention of pollution of the sea by ships and other craft. IMO also deals with legal matters connected with international shipping, with the facilitation of international shipping services, and is responsible for providing technical assistance in maritime matters to developing countries. IMO is responsible also for convening international conferences on shipping, and for drafting international conventions or agreements on this subject. The IMO is the depositary of various maritime conventions and instruments.

(viii) International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

The ICAO, a specialized agency of the UN, was established in 1947 following the entry into force of the Convention on International Civil Aviation, also known as the Chicago Convention. The Convention is the basic legal instrument for the provision of services in international civil aviation. The specific aims of the ICAO are to develop the principles and techniques of international air navigation and to foster the planning and development of international air transport so as to (a) insure the safe and orderly growth of international civil aviation throughout the world; (b) encourage the arts of aircraft design and operation for peaceful purposes; (c) encourage the development of airways, airports, and air navigation facilities for international civil aviation; (d) meet the needs of the peoples of the world for safe, regular, efficient and economical air transport; (e) prevent economic waste caused by unreasonable competition; (f) insure that the rights of contracting States are fully respected and that every contracting State has a fair opportunity to operate international airlines; (h) promote safety of flight in international air navigation; (i) promote generally the development of all aspects of international civil aeronautics.

(b) International Trade Centre (UNCTAD/GATT)⁶

The International Trade Centre (ITC) was created in 1964 by the GATT to provide trade information, trade promotion advice and trade promotion publications to developing countries. In 1968, following a UN General Assembly resolution, the UNCTAD joined GATT as co-sponsor of the ITC "on a continuing basis and in equal partnership". The legal status of ITC was formally confirmed by the General Assembly as that of a "joint subsidiary organ of the GATT and the UN, the latter acting through the UNCTAD". In 1973, ITC was designated as the focal point in the UN system for technical cooperation with developing countries in trade promotion. In 1984, it became an executing agency of the UNDP. Because of its legal status, ITC does not have a membership of its own, and its *de facto* members are the contracting parties to GATT and the member states of UNCTAD.

The ITC works with developing countries to set up effective national trade promotion programmes for expanding their exports and improving their import operations. The ITC also provides market development services aimed at identifying new export opportunities, adapting products for sale abroad and promoting these goods on the international market. The ITC also works with import management organizations to improve their import operations and techniques and organizes training for government officials, business executives and instructors on a broad range of export and import subjects. In addition to these main areas, the ITC deals with the special trade promotion needs of the least-developed countries.

⁶The Sub-Committee on Budget, Finance and Administration is mandated to examine, under Paragraph 8(a)(vi) of the Decision Establishing the Preparatory Committee, "the relationship between the International Trade Centre and the WTO".

(c) Other inter-governmental organizations of relevance in specific areas of the activities of the WTO

(i) Trade in Services

In addition to the organizations which have been described in earlier Sections of the Note, such as the IBRD, IOS, UNIDO, ICAO, IMF, ILO, IMO, UNCTAD and ITU, the following other organizations may also be relevant to the work of the WTO:

- World Tourism Organization

The fundamental aim of the World Tourism Organization is to promote and develop tourism with a view to contributing to economic development, international understanding, peace, prosperity and universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion. In order to carry out the rôle entrusted to it by the UN General Assembly, the World Tourism Organization assists developing countries to promote tourism as a fundamental component of economic, social and cultural development. The World Tourism Organization also seeks progressively to remove obstacles to tourist travel, and aims to eliminate protectionist barriers to trade in tourism services to ensure fair treatment in international competition.

- International Organization for Migration (IOM)

The aims of the IOM are to provide orderly and planned migration to meet the specific needs of emigration and immigration countries; organize and supervise the processing and movement of refugees, displaced persons and other persons in need of international migration services, to countries offering them a new future; contribute to the transfer of technology through migration in order to promote the economic, educational and social advancement of countries in the process of development; act as a forum for discussion of migration issues.

(ii) Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS)

In addition to the organizations which have been described in earlier Sections of the Note, such as the FAO, ILO, UNESCO, WHO and UNEP, the following other organizations may also be relevant to the work of the WTO:

- International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV)

The UPOV aims to promote protection of rights of plant breeders in new varieties of plants and to harmonize national legislation and practices in the field of plant breeders rights. The UPOV's Secretariat is in the same building as the headquarters of WIPO, and its Secretary-General is also Director-General of WIPO.

- International Vine and Wine Office (OIV)

The aims of the OIV are to collect, study and publish scientific, technical, economic and legal documentation on vine cultivation and derivative products, namely wine, grapes, raisins, grape juice; to contribute to the development of scientific research in the field; and to formulate a rational world policy as regards viticulture and make recommendations to member Governments.

(d) Other inter-governmental organizations

Some of the activities of the following organizations may be relevant to the work of the WTO: Regional development banks, such as the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Asian Development Bank, the African Development Bank, and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), as well as UN Economic Commissions for Africa (ECA), Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Western Asia (ESCWA), Europe (ECE) and Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).