

**MULTILATERAL TRADE  
NEGOTIATIONS  
THE URUGUAY ROUND**

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Group of Negotiations on Goods (GATT)  
Negotiating Group on Tropical Products

PROCEDURES FOR NEGOTIATIONS

Adopted by the Negotiating Group  
on Tropical Products on 29 January 1988

In pursuance of the objectives of the Punta del Este Ministerial Declaration and in the light of proposals made by delegations the Negotiating Group on Tropical Products agrees to establish the following procedures for negotiations:

- (i) In order to further the negotiating process directed towards the fullest liberalization of trade in tropical products, participants are invited to submit indicative lists which should:
  - (a) elaborate on general approaches, formulae and measures covering both tariffs and all non-tariff measures;
  - (b) and/or contain product/country specific requests which would, where available, usefully build on proposals already tabled.

Participants are invited to submit indicative offers or broad indications of possible individual contributions to a successful outcome of the negotiations taking into account all relevant factors in determining such contributions.

Initial indicative lists shall be submitted by 31 March. It is understood that participants would not be precluded from modifying these lists or submitting lists at subsequent dates.

- (ii) For the purpose of consultations mentioned below, participants may also request or provide additional information on trade policy measures, with assistance from the secretariat as appropriate.
- (iii) The Negotiating Group will meet on 25-26 April to review action taken under (i) and (ii) above, and to deal with any practical questions that may arise; the Group may also consider any new proposals which might be made.

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- (iv) Two rounds of multilateral consultations covering all seven product groups<sup>1</sup> will be organized in the weeks of 30 May and 27 June. These consultations would aim at the fullest liberalization of trade in tropical products in accordance with the Punta del Este Ministerial Declaration and in the light of the different techniques and modalities that have been put forward by participants. The Negotiating Group on Tropical Products will be convened at least once in each round of consultations.
- (v) The Negotiating Group will, at a meeting on 6 to 8 July, review the results of these consultations including any conclusions regarding the applicability of different approaches and make arrangements for the further conduct of negotiations.
- (vi) These negotiations will take place with a view to achieving concrete results before the end of 1988 and their implementation at the earliest possible date in the light of the provisions of Section B(ii) of the Ministerial Declaration. The Negotiating Group will review progress to this end at a meeting to be held during autumn 1988.

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<sup>1</sup> It was understood by the Negotiating Group that the seven product groups selected for its work did not constitute a definition of tropical products nor an exhaustive listing and that other products might be included as negotiations proceed. Additional products may be proposed to the Negotiating Group which would make arrangements for consideration or further action as appropriate.