

**MULTILATERAL TRADE  
NEGOTIATIONS  
THE URUGUAY ROUND**

RESTRICTED

MTN.GNS/13/Corr.1

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Special Distribution

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**Group of Negotiations on Services**

NOTE ON THE MEETING OF 27-29 JANUARY 1988

Corrigendum

Paragraph 37 of document MTN.GNS/13 should read as follows:

37. One member, in a preliminary comment, said that the discussion paper had organized the contents of the Punta del Este Declaration in the form of a model which might enable the Group to establish parameters for the negotiation of a multilateral framework agreement on services. This was an interesting approach, but there were some points her delegation could agree with and not others. Bearing in mind that the core concepts would be based on a definition of trade in services, a balance should be reached between the different conditions for its elaboration. The discussion paper proposed the five following key elements: development compatibility, transparency, preservation of international competition, respect for national policy objectives, progressive liberalization of market access. Some supplementary concepts were also mentioned in the document (e.g. dispute settlement, balance of rights and obligations, national responsibility bearing in mind domestic regulations, derogations, exceptions etc.) which would be integrated in the structure of an eventual agreement. Her delegation hoped to be in a position at one of the next meetings of the Group to present views on each of these elements as to how they could be included in an agreement. For her country the acceptability of an agreement following such a model would obviously depend on the determination of the relevant concepts and on their definition. The premises of respect for national policy objectives and of development compatibility for instance were contained in the Ministerial Declaration and took into consideration the preoccupations of developing countries. Once the concepts were clearly established, it might perhaps be possible to reach an agreement on the procedures to achieve a progressive liberalization of market access, bearing in mind transparency and an unconditional m.f.n. clause. She agreed with the discussion paper that not only state monopolies, but also private firms with dominant positions might constitute an obstacle to the expansion of the trade. The inclusion of rules to preserve competition would be an important element to maintain the balance in a multilateral agreement. Clarification was needed about some points, like the suggestion of setting up a multilateral discretionary body for the examination of national regulations. It would be very difficult to accept a judgment on the appropriateness or not of national regulations which might give rise to preoccupations about the possibility of interfering in the national decision-making process.