

**MULTILATERAL TRADE  
NEGOTIATIONS  
THE URUGUAY ROUND**

RESTRICTED

MTN.GNG/NG6/LT/5  
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Group of Negotiations on Goods (GATT)  
Negotiating Group on Tropical Products

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TROPICAL PRODUCTS

Indicative List Submitted by Sri Lanka, Bangladesh  
Colombia, Cuba and Nicaragua

The following communication dated 20 April 1988 has been received from the delegations of Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Colombia, Cuba and Nicaragua.

This submission is further to the submission made by these countries on 3 July 1987, and is in accordance with paragraph i(a) of the procedures for negotiations adopted by the Negotiating Group on Tropical Products on 29 January 1988. It elaborates on the Negotiating modalities which are proposed with the aim of achieving concrete results before the end of 1988. I shall be pleased if this submission is circulated to the members of the Group.

In their submission of 3/7/87, (Doc.MTN.GNG.NG6/W/8), the above countries stated their intention of seeking the fullest liberalization of tariffs and all non-tariff measures including in their semi-processed and processed forms in the negotiations on Tropical Products. The initial list of products submitted by them is based on the seven product groups covered by the 1982 - 84 consultations. The list was addressed to the eleven developed countries covered by the existing background material and includes the EEC taken as one of them. It provides thus the product coverage and the markets to be addressed.

As agreed to at the start, the seven product groups were and are the basis for work in this Negotiating Group. They do not require any re-classification or re-categorisation. Any attempt to exclude products from them should be avoided. It was further agreed under the procedures adopted that the multilateral consultations proposed would cover all seven product groups. These provide therefore the essential coverage and basis for the negotiations. Additional products could be added to them as and when agreed to in the course of the negotiations.

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The submitting countries wish to propose the following negotiating modalities with the aim of achieving concrete results before the end of 1988 as agreed to in the procedures for negotiations adopted on 29/1/88. The eleven developed countries shall undertake -

1. Tariffs :

- (a) The immediate elimination of any existing tariffs on all unprocessed tropical products and the binding of such products at zero level tariff.
- (b) At the same time, the reduction and phased elimination of all tariffs applied to semi-processed and processed tropical products over a given time-frame to be negotiated.

2. Non-tariff measures :

- (a) The abolition of selective internal taxes, as applied on coffee, tea, cocoa and bananas; the abolition of variable levies applied on tropical products.
- (b) The immediate elimination of prohibitions, quantitative restrictions licensing and other non-tariff measures on all tropical products.

3. Sanitary and phytosanitary measures :

The elimination of those sanitary and phytosanitary measures which represent in their effects essentially non-tariff barriers; the simplification of other measures.

The submitting countries with the exception of the least developed countries reiterate their willingness to making contributions. Such contributions however will not be related to this sector. They will be in the context of the negotiations as a whole.