

**MULTILATERAL TRADE
NEGOTIATIONS
THE URUGUAY ROUND**

RESTRICTED

MTN.GNS/W/43

8 July 1988

Special Distribution

Group of Negotiations on Services

DRAFT GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Introductory note

This document contains a number of terms and expressions that have been employed in the GNS. The terms are presented in alphabetical order. While this draft glossary is not intended to be exhaustive or definitive, an attempt has been made to include terms which have been used frequently and which appear to be important for the purposes of the negotiations. An effort has been made to include terms that appear to require a specific interpretation within the context of the GNS discussions and upon which there may not be sufficient common understanding among participants. The inclusion of a particular term in the draft glossary, however, implies no judgment that it may be appropriately incorporated in any agreement resulting from negotiations.

The procedure that has been followed in the document is first to list summary statements by participants in the GNS that set out the specific ideas they wish to convey through their use of particular terms. Each of the statements is identified on the basis of the summary records of the various GNS meetings or the relevant country submissions but it is possible that not all statements related to a particular term have been listed. The numbering of the paragraphs reflecting the statements by participants does not imply priority or hierarchy and is used only for ease of reference. Following the selected statements, the Secretariat has tried to identify in suitably precise language the basic concepts addressed in the statements to facilitate a common understanding by participants of the meaning that may be given to certain terms and the notions these terms could be used to cover in the context of the GNS negotiations.

The draft glossary is entirely the responsibility of the Secretariat which stands ready to adjust the text on the basis of suggestions for additions, deletions, amendments or corrections.

ACROSS-THE-BORDER-TRADE

Statements by Participants in the GNS:

1. Trade in services means international trade (i.e. trade in services that takes place across national frontiers) and not internal trade, much less production and distribution of services within the national borders. [W/4, para.11]
2. International trade in services is any service or labour activity across national borders to provide satisfaction to the needs of the recipient or consumer other than the satisfaction provided by physical goods (although they might be incorporated in physical goods), or to furnish an input for a producer of goods and/or services other than physical inputs (although the former might be incorporated in the latter). [W/31, para.6]

Basic concept to which the discussion relates:

Across-the-border trade in services shares the traditional attributes of trade in goods where services are provided by a producer in the exporting country to a consumer in the importing country and where the service itself crosses the border. [See also Establishment/Commercial Presence and Trade in Services.]

General comment:

It is not clear to what extent those using the concept intend to cover the movement of production factors in deciding on the types of service activities to be subsumed under the term trade in services for the purpose of the negotiations.

DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT/DEVELOPMENT OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Statements by Participants in the GNS:

1. The development concept implies the achievement of several secondary objectives in the services sector of developing countries including: sustained growth of production and productivity and employment, improvement of international competitiveness, sustained export growth including the "new" producer services, and access to new technologies and information networks. [GNS/15, para.29]
2. A fundamental question is how trade in services could help development. Developing countries should endeavour to achieve benefits from both imports and exports of services. In order to maximize the benefits of imports and to improve export supply capacity, it was also necessary to examine the transfer of technology, development of human resources and restrictive business practices. [GNS/14, para.57]
3. Development compatibility refers to provisions to complement market forces and envisages four main concepts: preferential liberalization of market access for services of particular interest to developing countries; preference for development-promoting forms of trade; exporters' behavioural obligations; comparative advantage reinforcement programme. [W/29]

4. Liberalization of services trade can contribute to the development of developing countries by providing cheaper and more advanced technology and by enabling them to achieve a higher level of service capability not only for their own economies but also for their export potential. [GNS/11, para.30]
5. The establishment of multilateral rules will enable many countries to participate in the rapidly expanding international trade in services. It is not possible to create a multilateral trading system that would guarantee a certain type of development in participating countries. [GNS/14, paras.20,35]
6. For a developing country the concept of "development" goes far beyond mere economic growth: it must reflect not only quantitative progress but also active participation in trade. It is therefore necessary not only to establish and determine the elements which would allow developing countries to have an independent decision-making capacity regarding issues relating to trade in services, but also to ensure those countries a larger share and better integration, in that trade, and the security and capability to adapt to new circumstances in international trade. [W/33, para.3]
7. Each country should define for itself a development concept. A guiding principle for implementation would be to find concepts compatible with the expansion of trade which is the central aim of the framework. [W/29, para.7]
8. Development is a process which goes beyond having a larger share in trade and refers to the structural changes in the economy of a developing country as set out in that country's development objectives. The framework should facilitate such structural changes. [GNS/14, para.17]

9. Economic development should provide means and ways to enhance the process of development in developing countries, while special and differentiated treatment is more a derogation to a given system, providing a certain degree of flexibility in assuming obligations. [GNS/14, para.57]
10. Unless each developing country benefits by increasing productivity and capital formation, and the creation of interlinkages among the different sectors of the economy, its development could be retarded even though output as conventionally measured increased. GATT experience may be helpful, for instance in respect of "special and differential treatment" and of the provisions in a number of articles relating to economic development of economies at early stages of development. [W/28, paras.9,10]

Basic concepts to which the discussion relates:

For the needs of development to be met, it is necessary to introduce notions which go beyond that of development flowing automatically from liberalization of trade in services.

Development of developing countries is a nationally determined concept which goes beyond economic growth and reflects, inter alia, the full participation of developing countries in the international trade system for services.

ESTABLISHMENT/COMMERCIAL PRESENCE

Statements by Participants in the GNS:

1. The framework should apply to the cross-border movement of services as well as to the establishment of foreign branches and subsidiaries for purposes of producing or delivering the service within the host country. [W/24, para.3]
2. There is nothing in the Punta del Este Declaration related to the so-called right of establishment or commercial presence which implies foreign direct investment flows. [W/25, para.3]
3. Commercial presence ranges from temporary presence of individuals (e.g. a representative office) and production facilities to a more permanent presence (e.g. a subsidiary). If a producer is to be permanently present in a market, he has to establish although this should not be considered a right. [GNS/14, para.51]
4. For both establishment and commercial presence it is necessary for investment to take place. In the case of pure establishment there is the ability and the authority on the part of the subsidiary or the branch to produce a service within a host country. With commercial presence the service is in fact produced in the supplier country. Therefore, presence is defined as the ability to have an office which would market and facilitate the sale of the service produced abroad. [GNS/14, para.51]

Basic concept to which the discussion relates:

Establishment/commercial presence implies that services transactions are being carried out on the basis of physical proximity between producer and consumer and the service is not being transported or otherwise

provided across the border. The basic concept implies the movement of production factors at least temporarily across the border. [See also Across-the-border-trade and Trade in Services.]

General comment:

Most statements do not establish any clear distinction between establishment and commercial presence.

EXCEPTIONS/ESCAPE CLAUSES

Statements by Participants in the GNS:

1. Temporary escape clauses to cover market disruption, balance of payments difficulties, and national security considerations should be provided, but with limits on the action which may be based on them. [W/29, para.7]
2. An escape clause for a services agreement would have a different content to the similar GATT provisions. [ALA, GNS/13, para.21]
3. General exceptions under Article XX as well as security exceptions under Article XXI seem to be basically applicable to trade in services. [GNS/10, para.11]
4. Exceptions refer to provisions allowing the parties to adopt or enforce measures to protect public morals, to protect human, animal or plant life or health or to secure compliance with laws or regulations that are not inconsistent with the Agreement. The general exceptions should not allow parties to use such measures to circumvent their commitments with disguised restrictive measures. [W/39, para.16]

5. The framework should include a number of exceptions for developing countries - not to be identified with "special treatment" for them. The exceptions should allow the possibility for these countries to regulate new services or traditional services whose transportability has been enhanced by the new technologies. [W/25, para.6]

Basic concept to which the discussion relates:

In the area of trade in services exceptions should specify the agreed conditions under which departures from otherwise binding rules and commitments are permitted. Escape clauses should be designed to allow temporary derogations from the accepted obligations under agreed conditions.

MARKET ACCESS

Statements by Participants in the GNS:

1. Comparable market access in all countries may be achieved by periodic packages of negotiated liberalization measures, the multilateral nature of the liberalization being ensured through the MFN principle. [W/29, para.5]
2. Access to services markets is typically controlled by non-tariff measures which are entrenched in domestic regulatory frameworks. The services framework agreement will deal both with access barriers and with other measures which impede the liberalization or expansion of services trade. It must be acknowledged that in some services sectors participants in an agreement might not wish to completely open a market because of the nature of the market or because of national policy objectives. [W/12, paras.19-22]

3. The issue of market access must be addressed in the context of various rules for establishment or commercial presence affecting market conditions for services. [W/26, p.2]
4. The practical scope of the Agreement would be determined by the exchange of specific market access undertakings and of trade liberalization measures. The undertakings could potentially be related to any measure used to inhibit trade in services. [W/39, para.21]
5. Specific situations relating to the concept of market access include, but are not limited to: access to local distribution networks, access to local firms and personnel, e.g. on a contractual basis, direct access of foreign service producers to domestic customers, access to licencees and other operating authorizations, right to use brand names. [W/24, pp.5-6]

Basic concept to which the discussion relates:

Market access is the opportunity for producers to sell a service in a foreign market which is affected by entry barriers and/or the special requirements relating to the sale of services abroad. [See Establishment/commercial presence, Across-the-border-trade, Trade in Services.]

MOST-FAVOURED-NATION (MFN) TREATMENT

Statements by Participants in the GNS:

1. MFN treatment is the cornerstone of the GATT and would need to become a correspondingly key element of any agreement on services, i.e. although the exchange of concessions (whether

commitments on existing measures or on future measures) would generally be negotiated bilaterally or plurilaterally, the concessions would be implemented on an MFN basis to all parties to the trade in services agreement. [W/39, para.5]

2. MFN treatment (non-discrimination): the benefits accruing from the framework (including those agreed to bilaterally between participating countries) are equally accorded to all participating countries on an unconditional basis. The participating countries may reserve the application of MFN to the reciprocal international arrangements and the reciprocal measures stipulated by national laws and regulations. [W/40, para.3]
3. Unconditional MFN treatment means that all benefits or privileges exchanged among signatories of the multilateral framework would be extended automatically and immediately to all signatories of the multilateral framework. [W/32, para.6, GNS/14, para.11, W/24, para.4]
4. Unconditional MFN treatment means that all benefits or privileges are automatically and immediately extended to third-parties participating in the framework. This principle would also have to be included in the sector specific regulations or subsidiary understandings. [GNS/9, para.33]
5. Optional MFN means that any third country which deemed it desirable and advantageous would obtain the right to become a party to the agreement, which would thus become applicable to it. The country or countries concerned would in exchange have to offer a counterpart that is formally identical to that furnished by the country or countries parties to the initial agreement. [W/30, p.4]

6. If the MFN concept at the sector or activity level has to be confined to those participants who have accepted higher commitments, it is unclear what the MFN benefit will be for those participating in the general agreement. [GNS/14, para.59]

Basic concept to which the discussion relates:

MFN treatment implies that any measure taken by a participating country which confers a benefit or advantage on another participating country, should be extended to all other participating countries.

General comment:

In some statements a distinction has been introduced between unconditional, conditional and optional MFN in accordance with the level of participation in the services agreement.

NATIONAL TREATMENT

Statements by Participants in the GNS:

1. National treatment means that laws and regulations do not discriminate against actual or potential foreign service suppliers as compared with existing domestic suppliers. [W/29, para.5]
2. National treatment should generally require that foreign service providers receive treatment no less favourable in like circumstances than that accorded to domestic service providers with respect to government measures affecting the service sector in question. The national treatment concept should recognize the inseparability between the service provider and the service itself. [W/24, para.5]

3. The primary objective of national treatment is to prevent discrimination against foreign service providers as compared with their domestic counterparts. National treatment does not imply an obligation to grant unconditional access to the domestic market but it means that once access is granted, treatment in terms of laws, regulations and administrative practices should be no less favourable for the foreign service provider than it was for a domestic provider offering a like service. [GNS/15, para.40]
4. Imported services, foreign service enterprises and sellers, and the agents are accorded treatment no less favourable than that accorded to like domestic services, domestic services enterprises and sellers. [W/40, para.4]
5. National treatment in the services context might not necessarily mean identical treatment but rather equal or equitable treatment taking into account legitimate national policy objectives such as those of national security. [W/26, p.4]
6. National treatment means that domestic and imported services and labour would receive the same treatment but it does not apply to producers or sellers of those services, that is, to foreign direct investment in services. [W/25, para.3; IND]
7. Concepts like national treatment, as applied to trade in goods, cannot be applied to cross-border trade in services as there is no barrier at the border of the same kind as a customs tariff which could be imposed on all services. [W/34, para.3]
8. GATT Article III has been set up for products, not services producers or activities. [GNS/10, para.12]

Basic concept to which the discussion relates:

If trade in services were defined to go beyond cross-border trade, national treatment would require governments to administer domestic laws and regulations on a non-discriminatory basis, so as to afford equivalent treatment to domestic and foreign suppliers of like services.

NEGOTIABLE AND NON-NEGOTIABLE REGULATIONS

Statements by Participants in the GNS:

1. Non-negotiable regulations are regulations which do not impact on trade, should be regarded as appropriate and on which no further action should be taken pursuant to the agreement. Negotiable regulations are those which should be regarded as inappropriate: first, regulations which are designed to achieve agreed national policy objectives and impact negatively on trade, it being necessary to reduce their effect on trade through negotiations. Second, regulations with the specific objective of having a negative impact on trade, the aim being to remove these regulations. [GNS/14, para.25, W/29, p.4]
2. The regulations committee is a permanent body which would have the task of distinguishing between appropriate and inappropriate (non-negotiable and negotiable) regulations. Appropriate rules would have to be developed to define the role of the committee and to ensure practicable procedures. [W/29, para.4]
3. Regarding the notion of appropriate regulation, it is doubtful that an international body such as a regulations committee could reach any consensus. [GNS/13, para.32]

4. It is not clear whether the regulations committee is a negotiating body for bilateral bargaining purposes, an independent judicial body or the first stage of a disputes settlement mechanism. [GNS/13, para.39]
5. It is not feasible to establish whether laws and regulations are legitimate or illegitimate. All laws are legitimate but are open to negotiations in those cases where one can achieve a policy objective by making certain adjustments through negotiations. [GNS/14, para.27]
6. It would be very difficult to accept a judgement 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. [GNS/13, para.37]
7. There is no warrant in the mandate for starting an open-ended scrutiny of all national regulation in services and subjecting it to multilateral determination of its appropriateness or legitimacy. All such regulation, by definition, is appropriate and legitimate. [W/4, para.9]
8. A more preferable concept to appropriate regulation as the central mechanism is to have a general principle according to which governments should ensure that regulations implemented to achieve policy objectives should have a minimal impact on trade. [GNS/13, para.30]

Basic concept to which the discussion relates:

The possibility of identifying regulations which have a negative impact on trade with a view to eliminating them or their effects on trade, without calling into question the continued existence of those regulations which are determined to be essential for the implementation of national objectives or which do not have a significant impact on trade.

NON-DISCRIMINATION

Statements by Participants in the GNS:

1. Any regulations which discriminate on grounds of nationality between different foreign suppliers of services could be regarded a priori as inappropriate. [GNS/9, para.5]
2. The principles of non-discrimination and MFN treatment are not identical. MFN treatment is the most widely used legal device or technique for implementing the principle of non-discrimination or equal treatment, a technique that could clearly be used in the field of trade in services. [GNS/11, para.25]
3. Discriminatory trade agreements are those in which one or more countries provide benefits to, or impose obligations on, certain trading partners that are not applicable to all trading partners. [W/12, para.4]

Basic concept to which the discussion relates:

Non-discrimination implies that a trade restricting measure should not apply to a trading partner if it does not apply to all other trading partners.

PROGRESSIVE LIBERALIZATION

Statements by Participants in the GNS:

1. Liberalization means facilitating and promoting trade across borders and the stimulation of international competition. Sometimes this can only be achieved by dismantling regulations which hamper foreign competition, although liberalization and deregulation do not have the same meaning. [GNS/14, para.6]
2. Nowhere has the mandate put forward liberalization per se as the aim of the negotiations. The reference to liberalization has been qualified by the adjective "progressive" and the whole phrase has been mentioned only as one of the conditions for expansion of trade. [W/4, para.7]
3. Nowhere has progressive liberalization been equated with dismantlement of national regulations. The only reference to national laws and regulations [in the mandate] is with the express purpose of ensuring that any multilateral framework that may emerge shall have to respect the policy objectives of such laws and regulations. It is only in so far as such laws and regulations impinge on cross-border trade in services that one could visualize consideration of how and to what extent they affect expansion of trade. [W/4, paras.8,10]
4. Progressive liberalization in GATT has been achieved through the "binding" of tariff concessions on individual products, and through rules which prohibit or curtail the use of non-tariff measures. No hard and fast conclusions can yet be drawn as to whether the GATT approaches are applicable to services. [W/28, p.6]

5. The principal instrument leading to increasing international competition will be progressive liberalization of market access. [W/29, p.6]
6. Progressive liberalization will provide a more competitive environment within all service markets, enabling local consumers to utilize services bearing the most advanced technology with the lowest possible prices. [W/24, p.3]

Basic concept to which the discussion relates:

The role of progressive liberalization as a means of achieving the objectives of the Punta del Este Declaration means the gradual improvement of market access through the reduction or possible elimination of negotiable barriers to trade in services. Progressive liberalization is a means of increasing international competition and is not to be equated with the simple dismantlement of national regulations. [See also Negotiable and non-negotiable regulations.]

RECIPROCITY

Statements by Participants in the GNS:

1. The term reciprocal refers to the traditional term in the GATT sense of an overall set of benefits among countries. [GNS/15, para.59]
2. Relative reciprocity, a concept yet to be defined, determines both conditional MFN treatment and national treatment. It includes elements such as the development, financial and trade

needs of each developing contracting party to the eventual agreement. It recognizes the fact that there cannot be equal treatment among unequal partners. [W/25, p.5]

3. An agreement on trade in services would need to involve benefits for and contributions from all its participants. [W/39, p.3]

Basic concept to which the discussion relates:

The notion of reciprocity as a means of achieving a balanced outcome in terms of the benefits from the process of negotiation.

RESPECT FOR NATIONAL POLICY OBJECTIVES

Statements by Participants in the GNS:

1. The framework should recognize the sovereign right of every country to regulate its service industries but at the same time must ensure against the adoption or application of measures whose purpose or effect is restrictive or distortive of trade. [W/24, para.2]
2. The multilateral framework should include the general principle that laws and regulations which pursue national policy objectives are not to be questioned. [W/33, para.2]
3. The national laws and regulations applying to services are, in developing countries particularly, for the most part, intended to apply to intra-border activities and transactions. It is because of this that their policy objectives have to be not only taken

for granted but fully respected when we are considering the question of trade in services. It is only in so far as such laws and regulations impinge on cross-border trade in services that one could visualize consideration of how and, to what extent, they affect expansion of trade. It is possible that existence of such laws and regulations makes for expansion of trade rather than restricting it. [W/4, para.10]

Basic concept to which the discussion relates:

This notion would allow for the maintenance of national laws and regulations which are deemed necessary to pursue nationally determined policy goals.

RESTRICTIVE BUSINESS PRACTICES

Statements by Participants in the GNS:

1. Measures which restrain and distort international competition and could have negative consequences for international trade in services include predatory behaviour towards competitors, abusive use of intellectual property rights, discriminatory price practices, mergers, associations or other forms of acquiring control with a view to reaching a dominant market position, the imposition of conditions to supply services, and market sharing agreements. [W/34, para.5]
2. There are recognized restrictive business practices of transnational corporations (TNCs) which amount to serious barriers to trade. Without developing appropriate concepts and provisions to remove such practices and control and moderate the

role of TNCs, a framework for expansion of trade might ultimately become a framework for growth of transnational corporations rather than for development of developing countries. [W/4, para.18]

3. The idea of preservation of international competition is acceptable to the extent that it covers firms with dominant positions. [GNS/13, para.39]
4. The framework should not interfere with a government's sovereignty to provide a service by way of a monopoly. It should however oblige the monopoly entity to provide its service to foreign-based users on a non-discriminatory basis with respect to price, quality and quantity. [W/24, p.7]

Basic concept to which the discussion relates:

Access to markets should not be limited nor competition in trade in services otherwise unduly restricted through the practices of business enterprises.

General comment:

The treatment of state monopolies has also been raised in this context.

TRADE IN SERVICES

(a) International Trade in Services

Statements by Participants in the GNS:

1. International trade in services is any service or labour activity across national borders to provide satisfaction to the needs of the recipient or consumer other than the satisfaction provided by physical goods (although they might be incorporated in physical goods), or to furnish an input for a producer of goods and/or services other than physical inputs (although the former might be incorporated in the latter). The importation of producer services and of labour adds value to national goods and services in an intangible manner. [GNS/12, para.6]
2. Trade in services means international trade, and not internal trade, much less the whole series of operations involving investment, production and distribution of services within national borders. [W/4, para.11]
3. The definition of trade in services covers those transactions which require effective access to a market. Effective access would sometimes require commercial presence. There are a number of different types of commercial presence ranging from the temporary presence of individuals and production facilities to a more permanent presence. [GNS/14, para.51]
4. Trade in services includes not only cross-border sales of service, but also situations where a service could only be provided to customers in a foreign country on the basis of a physical presence in that country of the provider of the service. [GNS/8, para.7]

5. To define international trade in services it is necessary to look at the various ways in which services could be provided to customers abroad, e.g. through a commercial presence for the purpose of delivering a service in the receiving country, through temporary access to a foreign country for the purpose of delivering consulting services or through a telecommunications network. [GNS/8, para.11]

(b) International Service Transactions

Statements by Participants in the GNS:

1. International service transactions are activities which are associated with the direct sale of services by enterprises or individuals residing in a country to enterprises or individuals in another country. Services transactions between enterprises or individuals established in the same country are considered domestic transactions. [GNS/14, para.43]
2. Some international services transactions cover cross-border transactions of information data, voice and images, contractual agreements for the transmission of intellectual property, technology and other services, and the movement of consumers and producers. [GNS/7, para.25]
3. The following types of international transaction in services are identified generally: sale of the services transported across borders; delivery of service by a seller staying temporarily in an importing country, and service transactions through the establishment of enterprises, investment in a service enterprise already established, or commercial link with an established service enterprise. [W/18, para.3]

4. The Ministers have spoken of trade in services, i.e. trade in services that takes place across national frontiers, and not in terms of any service or any kind of service transaction. [W/4, para.11, GNS/15, para.65]
5. Services transactions are transfers of intangible benefits, another dimension being the payment for the service. However, it is difficult to distinguish between an international and an internal transaction in services, e.g. when a service producer goes to a foreign country to produce and deliver a service and expends the income earned from that transaction in that country, both the transfer of the intangible benefit and the payment for the service have taken place in the foreign country. However, if the producer of the service repatriates his earnings it could be said that an international service transaction had taken place. [GNS/8, para.13]

(c) Tradeable Services

Statements by Participants in the GNS:

Tradeable services cover both cross-border trade and establishment in order to achieve effective market access. There is no need for an illustrative list of types of transactions for each sector since such a list would have the potential of restricting future trade not covered in it. [GNS/13, para.21]

Comment on the basic concept to which the discussion relates:

A fuller discussion of the definition of trade in services which serves the purpose of the GNS discussion can be found in the revised Secretariat paper on definitions [MTN.GNS/W/38/Rev.1]. [See also Across-the-border-trade and Establishment/commercial presence.]

TRANSPARENCY

Statements by Participants in the GNS:

1. The general objective of including obligations on transparency in a services framework agreement is to ensure that government measures affecting service industries are developed and maintained in a clear and predictable manner and that information on such measures is readily accessible and is made known to all interested parties on all equal basis. [W/24, para.3]
2. The concept of transparency could apply as an obligation with respect to all national regulations affecting the supply of services by foreign suppliers. This would require rules on the publication of such regulations including the prior publication of new regulations, and a principle of minimum discretionary powers for regulatory authorities. [W/29, para.6]
3. Transparency implies that everyone, foreign governments and national and foreign companies alike, should be aware of the obstacles to trade in services, still to be defined, introduced by regulations in this field. [W/25, para.4]
4. Transparency is a means of monitoring compliance with obligations under the multilateral framework. [W/33, para.7]
5. Greater transparency in the regulatory process is a way of reducing the negative impact of regulation on international service transactions while recognizing each country's need to regulate domestically. It can be viewed both as ancillary concept in services trade liberalization and as an important liberalizing principle in its own right. [W/13, p.2]

6. Transparency entails notifications and multilateral surveillance. It also entails the opportunity for all participants to be party to or to be fully informed of proposed regulatory changes in such a way that any negative impact on international trade of such proposed changes could, through consultation, be minimized while still achieving their domestic regulatory objectives. [W/28, para.7]

Basic concept to which the discussion relates:

The availability of relevant information regarding regulations and practices affecting trade in services and services transactions in the context of a multilateral agreement on services.

General comment:

The specific requirements of information in relation to the adequacy of such information and the feasibility of supplying it have been dealt with differently in different statements.