

**MULTILATERAL TRADE
NEGOTIATIONS
THE URUGUAY ROUND**

RESTRICTED

MTN.GNG/NG5/10
14 September 1988

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Group of Negotiations on Goods (GATT)
Negotiating Group on Agriculture

TENTH MEETING OF THE NEGOTIATING GROUP ON AGRICULTURE

Note by the Chairman

1. The Negotiating Group on Agriculture met on 12 and 13 September 1988 to continue its work under the Subsequent Negotiating Process.
2. The Group further examined the proposals submitted as appropriate and further considered specific elements of these proposals and related working papers or communications under the relevant items of its agenda. In this regard the Group considered and undertook a preliminary exchange of views: on a proposal co-sponsored by Egypt, Jamaica, Mexico, Morocco and Peru (NG5/W/74); on submissions by the United States on the aggregate measurement of support (NG5/W/75) and on health and sanitary measures (NG5/W/76 and 77); and on a statement by Japan (NG5/W/78).
3. The Group considered the establishment of a working group on sanitary and phytosanitary regulations and barriers and the following terms of reference proposed by the Chairman: "It was understood that the working group would consider and report to the Negotiating Group on the scope for a common approach with regard to the following matters: (i) the promotion of greater international harmonization and acceptance of international standards by improving liaison between GATT and the relevant international organizations; and (ii) strengthening of GATT rules and disciplines, in particular Article XX(b), recognizing the need to rely on scientific evidence and to apply the principle of equivalency. A procedure for notification, counter-notification, consultation, conciliation, negotiation and dispute settlement should be included. It was agreed that, inter alia, the IOE, the IPPC and the FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius should be the basis for international harmonization." A number of participants indicated that they did not have instruction on these terms of reference and may wish to revert to the matter. The Group agreed to establish a working group on sanitary and phytosanitary regulations and barriers. The Chairman of the Negotiating Group would consult regarding chairmanship of the working group, the date of its first meeting, and attendance by observers from relevant standards organizations.
4. The Technical Group on AMS was requested to report at an early stage on options for the use of an aggregate measurement in connection with possible commitments which might be adopted at the Mid-Term Review.

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5. The Group agreed that at its next meeting, which would be held from 12 to 14 October 1988, it would continue its work under the Subsequent Negotiating Process on the basis, inter alia, of more specific proposals or discussion papers already submitted or to be submitted in response to the invitation to participants to elaborate specific elements of their proposals in order to facilitate further progress. It was noted that thereafter the Group was scheduled to meet on 14 and 15 November 1988. The Technical Group on AMS will meet on 10 and 11 October 1988.

6. The secretariat would prepare a brief summary of the main points raised in the course of the present meeting.