

**MULTILATERAL TRADE
NEGOTIATIONS
THE URUGUAY ROUND**

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Trade Negotiations Committee

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Montreal (Canada), December 1988

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION

Statement by Mr. François Curchod,
Director of the Office of the Director General

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) is very happy to be present at your meeting, the importance of which is universally recognized.

Among the subjects on the agenda of the Uruguay Round negotiations, WIPO has an interest in intellectual property, since in the United Nations system it is the specialized agency with responsibility for intellectual property matters. In the constructive spirit in which it has collaborated on the subject since the opening of the Uruguay Round, WIPO hopes to continue making a contribution and indeed to intensify its co-operation according to the modalities to be defined in due course.

It seems to us essential that there should be close co-ordination between the ongoing work of WIPO and the negotiations of the Uruguay Round in that a number of proposals that have already been made in the negotiations concern matters that are currently under discussion and negotiation in WIPO. Let me quote as examples the draft Patent Law Harmonization Treaty, which will be discussed next week at Geneva by a WIPO Committee of Experts, and the draft Treaty on the Protection of Intellectual Property in Respect of Integrated Circuits which will be the subject of a diplomatic conference organized by WIPO next May at Washington at the kind invitation of the Government of the United States. These are merely two examples among others.

In conclusion, I would like to express WIPO's hope that, in all areas but especially in that of intellectual property, the solutions that will ultimately be adopted in the framework of the Uruguay Round will reflect the interests of all the participants, and on behalf of WIPO to wish your meeting every success. Thank you for giving me the floor.