MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS THE URUGUAY ROUND

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Trade Negotiations Committee

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Montreal (Canada), December 1988

BURMA

Statement by H.E. U. Myo Aung Ambassador to Canada

Two years have elapsed after the Ministerial Meeting of the GATT contracting parties in Punta del Este (Uruguay) in 1986. The most complex and ambitious programme of negotiations ever undertaken by GATT was adopted and group negotiations followed immediately.

It cannot be denied that negotiations aim to bring about further liberalization and expansion of world trade to the benefit of all countries, especially less-developed contracting parties, including the improvement of access to markets by the reduction and elimination of tariffs, quantitative restrictions and other non-tariff measures and obstacles.

Concrete proposals have been tabled by the participants in each negotiating group for consideration and exchange of views have also been made constructively on each submission. In both formal and informal sessions, delegates continued their examination of possible approaches for negotiations. Looking back at what we have done in the past two years, one can come to the conclusion that a fairly good collection of data, formulae, techniques and modalities has been gathered. Negotiations will have to proceed based on them.

The delegation of the Union of Burma attaches great importance to the outcome of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations in general and to the end results of the negotiations on natural resource-based products, agricultural products, tropical products, trade-related investment, textiles and clothing, tariffs and non-tariff measures in particular.

As mentioned in paragraph II(vii) of the general principles governing the Uruguay Round on negotiations, we would like to call upon to incorporate concrete measures for special and more favourable treatment for the least-developed contracting parties in any agreements or arrangements resulting from the Uruguay Round.

Before I conclude, please allow me to express our deep appreciation and profound thanks to the Director General of GATT and his staff for their tireless efforts and valuable contribution to the ongoing Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations.

GATT SECRETARIAT

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