

**MULTILATERAL TRADE  
NEGOTIATIONS  
THE URUGUAY ROUND**

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

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COMMUNICATION FROM CHINA

The following communication, dated 25 April 1990, has been received from the Permanent Mission of China.

Upon instructions of the Government, the Chinese delegation wishes to clarify its basic position regarding the participation in tariff negotiations of the Uruguay Round.

1. China subscribes to the mandate contained in the Punta del Este Declaration for the Negotiating Group on Tariffs. The Chinese delegation appreciates the intention, expressed by a number of countries in the Working Party on China's Status as a contracting party to GATT, to have tariff negotiations with China.
2. Over the past ten years, China has carried out substantial economic and trade reforms. Tariff measures are playing a more and more important rôle in regulating import and export trade. The Government of China has stated its readiness to resume its status as a contracting party to the GATT by negotiating specific terms and conditions including tariff concessions. In pursuance of the long-term national policy of reform and openness, the Government of China has actively participated in the activities of the multilateral trading system. Keeping the agreed procedures of the Negotiating Group on Tariffs reached on 30 January 1990, China submitted on 15 March 1990 its initial offer on a product-by-product basis. In this connection, it has to be emphasized that the tariff contribution to be made by China during the Uruguay Round shall be deemed a component part of China's tariff concessions for purpose of resuming its status as a contracting party to the GATT, and that when the Working Party on China begins negotiations on tariff matters at a later stage, no further concessions will be made on those products eventually listed in the schedule. China believes that the tariff concessions will contribute significantly to the trade liberalization process leading to a more stable, more effective and more predictable multilateral trading system.

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3. To expand foreign trade, promote national economy and development and enhance the living standard of the people, China has, on its own initiative, cut import tariffs covering several dozens of products since September 1986. These contributions should be properly credited.

4. China is a low-income developing country. As is the case with many developing countries, China's current offer and negotiated concessions should be consistent with its development, financial and trade needs.

5. All participants of the Round are entitled to make requests while making concessions. In this connection, China will submit request lists to other relevant trading partners in accordance with established procedures.

6. To facilitate the tariff negotiations, China seeks technical assistance from the GATT secretariat, including access to the Integrated Data Base. China would appreciate the co-operation from the developed trading partners in this respect.