

**MULTILATERAL TRADE  
NEGOTIATIONS  
THE URUGUAY ROUND**

RESTRICTED

MTN.GNG/NG6/W/47  
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Group of Negotiations on Goods (GATT)

Negotiating Group on Tropical Products

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT ON THE STATUS OF WORK  
IN THE NEGOTIATING GROUP

1. In pursuance of the Procedures for the Continuation of Negotiations adopted by the Group on 13 February 1990 (document MTN.GNG/NG6/20) a total number of forty-five participants have thus far submitted offers on tropical products either as separate proposals to the Negotiating Group on Tropical Products or as part of their offers in other market-access areas (see list attached). Requests for improvement of proposals have been made by several participants.
2. The participants which have submitted proposals held a number of meetings for reviewing and assessing these proposals in order to determine whether individual proposals comply with the Mid-Term Review Agreement. In accordance with the above-mentioned procedures the secretariat has prepared documentation on individual proposals as one of the elements to be used in the process of review and assessment. During the assessment meetings participants examined in particular the degree of trade liberalization foreseen in different proposals, possible improvements of offers and the need for greater participation in negotiations. Further such meetings are expected to take place as trade and tariff data become available.
3. The Negotiating Group held three meetings to discuss progress made so far in negotiations in pursuance of the negotiating objective of fullest liberalization of trade in tropical products including in their processed and semi-processed forms on the basis of the relevant provisions of the Punta del Este Declaration and the Mid-Term Review Decision on Tropical Products. The Chairman has identified two basic issues which have a bearing on the negotiating process: the quantity and quality of proposals that have been tabled; and linkages established by participants with negotiations in other related areas.
4. Negotiations are currently being pursued at the bilateral and plurilateral levels with a view to ensuring that the liberalization objectives in this area are adequately met and to reaching positive results as soon as possible in the second half of the year.
5. In order to achieve such results the Chairman has urged delegations to consider the following:

- (i) Participants which have not done so should make contributions in accordance with their trade, development and financial needs;

- (ii) Further efforts should be made to improve proposals in terms of product coverage, elimination or substantial reduction of tariff and non-tariff measures as well as increasing the scope of bindings;
- (iii) Bilateral consultations and negotiations should be intensified among participants and informal plurilateral consultations and negotiations should be organized if necessary;
- (iv) The necessary efforts should be made so that all proposals on tropical products are forthcoming on the basis that this is an area of special attention.

**ANNEX**

**Proposals, Offers and Requests on Tropical Products**

Algeria		Greece		Mexico	*,1
Antigua and Barbuda		Ireland		Morocco	*
Argentina	*	Italy		Myanmar	
Australia	*,1	Luxembourg		New Zealand	*
Austria	*	Netherlands		Nicaragua	*
Bangladesh		Portugal		Niger	
Barbados		Spain		Nigeria	*
Belize		United Kingdom		Norway	*
Benin		Fiji		Pakistan	*
Botswana		Finland	*	Paraguay	
Brazil	*	Gabon		Peru	*
Burkina Faso		Gambia		Philippines	*,1
Burundi		Ghana		Poland	*
Cameroon	*	Guyana		Romania	
Canada	*	Guatemala	*	Rwanda	
Central African Rep.		Haiti		Senegal	*
Chad		Honduras	*	Sierra Leone	
Chile		Hong Kong		Singapore	*,1
China	*,1	Hungary	*	South Africa	
Colombia	*,1	Iceland	*	Sri Lanka	
Congo		India	*	Surinam	
Costa Rica	*,1	Indonesia	*,1	Sweden	*
Côte d'Ivoire	*	Israel	*	Switzerland	*
Cuba	*	Jamaica		Tanzania	
Cyprus		Japan	*	Thailand	*,1
Czechoslovakia	*	Kenya		Togo	
Dominican Republic		Korea, Rep. of	*	Trinidad and Tobago	
El Salvador	*	Kuwait		Tunisia	
Egypt	*	Lesotho		Turkey	*
European Community	*	Madagascar		Uganda	
and its member State		Malawi		United States	*
Belgium		Malaysia	*,1	Uruguay	*,1
Denmark		Maldives		Yugoslavia	
France		Malta		Zaire	
Germany, Fed.Rep.of		Mauritania		Zambia	
		Mauritius		Zimbabwe	*

\* Participants in the Uruguay Round which have made proposals and offers in accordance with the Procedures for the Continuation of Negotiations adopted by the Negotiating Group on 13 February 1990 (MTN.GNG/NG6/20).

<sup>1</sup> Participants which have submitted requests for improvements of offers through the secretariat.

Note: South Africa and Yugoslavia have made autonomous contributions to the Negotiating Group.