

**MULTILATERAL TRADE
NEGOTIATIONS
THE URUGUAY ROUND**

RESTRICTED

MTN.GNG/NG3/20

3 August 1990

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Group of Negotiations on Goods (GATT)

Negotiating Group on Natural
Resource-Based Products

NEGOTIATING GROUP ON NATURAL RESOURCE-BASED PRODUCTS

(Meeting of 19 July 1990)

Note by the Secretariat

The Group, chaired by H.E. Ambassador Lindsay Duthie (Australia), held its eighteenth meeting on 19 July 1990 and adopted the agenda set out in GATT/AIR/3047.

Discussion of issues, submissions and notifications in accordance with paragraph 3 of the procedures for negotiations adopted by the Group on 21 March 1990 (MTN.GNG/NG3/16)

The Group was informed of the status of the submissions received by the secretariat, and recorded in MTN.GNG/NG3/W/36/Rev.2. Since the last meeting of the Group, submissions had been received from Brazil, Zimbabwe, New Zealand, Morocco, Poland and Costa Rica, these last two having been received too late to be included in NG3/W/36/Rev.2. In accordance with paragraph 2 of the agreed procedures, the secretariat had also received a response from Australia (NG3/W/39) to the initial submissions. The Group was also informed that Japan intended to submit a notification soon.

The representative of Australia introduced his country's response (NG3/W/39) which covered an initial offer containing a number of items concerning certain non-tariff barriers relevant to NRBPs, most, but not all, of which had already been presented to NG2. The offer was directed where possible to requests and interests of other participants.

The representative of Canada informed the Group of the ongoing bilateral negotiations with different trading partners, indicating that NRBPs formed an important part of these negotiations. He indicated that his country had put forward a range of requests as concerns tariffs and NTMs but had also made significant offers in respect of tariffs and responded to requests made of his country in the NTM area. He mentioned in particular that his country had pursued questions in relation to production subsidy practices for coal in a number of participating countries, as well as in relation to fishery issues and problems concerning non-ferrous metals.

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GATT SECRETARIAT

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The Chairman concluded this part of the discussion, stressing the need to invigorate the negotiating process considerably in the Group after the summer break. Not much time was left before the conclusion of the negotiations and he urged all participants to use the interim period to pursue bilateral and plurilateral negotiations; to develop their own notifications; those that had not yet submitted any, to consider doing so; and to give responses to notifications.

The Group had an exchange of views on the draft report the Chairman was going to make to the GNG the following week in respect of the status of work in the Negotiating Group (NG3/W/40). The Chairman indicated that he would revise the text in order to reflect the comments made.

The next meeting of the Group is scheduled for 21 September 1990.