

MULTILATERAL TRADE
NEGOTIATIONS
THE URUGUAY ROUND

RESTRICTED
MTN.TNC/W/27
15 August 1990
Special Distribution

Original: English

Group of Negotiations on Goods (GATT)

APEC DECLARATION ON THE URUGUAY ROUND

Singapore, 30 July 1990

The following declaration is being circulated to members of the Committee at the request of the delegation of Singapore.

1. Ministers from Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and the United States met in Singapore on 30-31 July 1990 and assessed the progress of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations in the light of the recent meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee. Ministers agreed that a successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round is the single most important issue on the international agenda.

2. Ministers expressed grave concern that greater progress had not been made and reiterated their firm commitment to a timely and successful completion of the Uruguay Round. They agreed that at this juncture of the negotiating process all participants must be prepared urgently to undertake commitments and political decisions to overcome the core difficulties in order that the Uruguay Round would achieve major and substantive results by December 1990. They urged all participants to engage fully and constructively in the intensified work programme accepted at the TNC meeting.

3. Ministers emphasized that a significant outcome in agriculture, and in textiles and clothing, services, and each of the market access groups is crucial to a successful outcome in the Uruguay Round. They noted with concern a lack of progress in these areas of negotiations and called on all participants in the Round to intensify their efforts. They noted that access negotiations in certain sectors could not be further deferred and recommended that negotiations among all participants in the Round should proceed on an urgent basis. They committed themselves to advancing access negotiations in accordance with the deadline as set down by the TNC.

4. Ministers emphasized that the trade rules emerging from the Uruguay Round must enhance open and fair competition. They agreed on the need for a strengthened multilateral trading system. They stressed the importance of achieving a more effective GATT dispute settlement system, which should lead to a commitment to operate only under the multilateral rules.

5. Ministers shared the belief that the results of negotiations in the new areas should meet the concerns of all participants to ensure full participation.

6. Ministers confirmed their intention to meet in Vancouver, Canada on 11 and 12 September 1990 to further assess developments in the Uruguay Round and to consider ways by which they could unblock any obstacles to a comprehensive and ambitious Uruguay Round result. They reaffirmed their intention at that time to achieve progress in all aspects of the negotiations.

7. Ministers also agreed to convene a special meeting of APEC Ministers concerned with trade policy soon after the finish of the Round to assess its results.

List of Ministers and Observers attending the
APEC Ministerial Meeting, Singapore 29-31 July 1990

Australia

1. Senator The Hon. Gareth Evans, QC
Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade
2. The Hon. Neal Blewett, MP
Minister for Trade Negotiations

Brunei Darussalam

3. The Hon. Pehin Dato Abdul Rahman Taib
Minster of Industry and Primary Resources

Canada

4. The Rt. Hon. Joe Clark
Secretary of State for External Affairs

Indonesia

5. Mr. Ali Alatas
Minister of Foreign Affairs
6. Dr. Arifin Siregar
Minister of Trade
7. Mr. Hartarto
Minister of Industry

Japan

8. Dr. Taro Nakayama
Minister for Foreign Affairs
9. The Hon. Kabun Muto
Minister of International Trade and Industry

Malaysia

10. The Hon. Dato' Hj Abu Hassan Bin Hj Omar
Minister of Foreign Affairs
11. The Hon. Dato' Seri Rafidah Aziz
Minister of Trade and Industry

New Zealand

12. The Rt. Hon. Mike Moore
Minister of External Relations and Trade

The Philippines

13. Mr. Raul S. Manglapus
Secretary of Foreign Affairs
14. Mr. Jose Concepcion, Jr.
Secretary of Trade and Industry

Republic of Korea

15. Mr. Ho-Joong Choi
Minister of Foreign Affairs
16. Dr. Pil-Soo Park
Minister of Trade and Industry

Singapore

17. Mr. Wong Kan Seng
Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Community Development
18. BG (Res) Lee Hsien Loong
Minister for Trade and Industry and Second Minister for Defence (Services)
19. Mr. Mah Bow Tan
Minister of State for Communications and Information and Trade and Industry
20. BG (Res) George Yong-Boon Yeo
Minister of State for Finance and Foreign Affairs

Thailand

21. Air Chief Marshal Siddhi Savetsila
Minister of Foreign Affairs
22. Dr. Subin Pinkayan
Minister of Commerce

United States

- 23. The Hon. James A. Baker III
Secretary of State
- 24. The Hon. Robert Mosbacher
Secretary of Commerce

Observers

- 25. Mr. Rusli Noor
Secretary-General, ASEAN Secretariat
- 26. Mr. S. Chandra Das
Chairman, Pacific Economic Cooperation Conference (PECC)
- 27. The Hon. John Giheno
Minister for Trade and Industry, Papua New Guinea, Representative
from the South Pacific Forum