

**MULTILATERAL TRADE  
NEGOTIATIONS  
THE URUGUAY ROUND**

RESTRICTED

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Special Distribution

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Group of Negotiations on Services

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COMMUNICATION FROM THE NORDIC COUNTRIES

Proposal for a common approach to Maritime Transport Services  
under the GATS Agreement

Addendum

The following communication is circulated at the request of the Nordic countries to the members of the Group of Negotiations on Services.

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Explanatory note to paragraph 6 MTN.GNS/W/135

"- Each Party shall ensure that access to and use of publicly available port infrastructure services (an illustrative list is attached) offered within or from its territory is accorded to maritime transport services and suppliers of such services of other Parties on reasonable and non-discriminatory terms and conditions. In this view, Parties shall ensure that when such services are supplied by monopolies or exclusive service providers, these providers operate in accordance with commercial considerations and shall not act in a manner inconsistent with the Parties' commitments under this agreement.

- When port infrastructure services for the provision of maritime transport services are supplied by private operators, Parties shall not prevent any services supplier under its jurisdiction from acting in accordance with the principle set out above, nor prevent maritime transport service suppliers of other Parties to choose freely among [available] service suppliers.

- Reasonable terms and conditions commit each Party to ensure that rules and practices governing access to and use of such facilities shall be administered in an objective, impartial and transparent manner, including as regard the charges collected for the use of these services. However, Parties will not be required to construct new or expand existing port infrastructure services in order to meet the commitments referred to above.

- Non-discriminatory terms and conditions commit each Party to accord to services and service providers of any other Party, in respect of all measures affecting the access to and use of port infrastructure services treatment no less favourable than it accords to its own like services and like service providers."

Illustrative list of Maritime Transport Auxiliary Services (paragraph 6)

MTN.GNS/W/135

- [- Towing and tug assistance, including for and by sea-going vessels;]
- [Pilotage,] anchorage and berths, and berthing services;
- Lightering and water taxi services;
- Provisioning, fuelling and watering;
- Garbage collection and ballast waste disposal;
- Stevedoring and terminal services, including warehousing and storage;
- Port captains' services attached to specific foreign vessels;
- [- Navigation aid services;]
- Freight transport agency services;
- Cargo handling services (container and other cargo);
- Shore based operational services essential to ship operations including communications and electronic data interchange networks and water and electrical services;
- Marine surveys and classification societies for the purpose of providing accurate documentation and certification of cargo and vessels;
- [- Container repair services;]
- [- Access to onward transport services;]
- Customs agencies services.