

**MULTILATERAL TRADE  
NEGOTIATIONS  
THE URUGUAY ROUND**

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**Group of Negotiations on Services**

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**COMMUNICATION FROM THE PHILIPPINES**

**Revised MFN Exemption List of The Philippines**

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

1. The Philippines hereby submits its MFN Exemption List in accordance with Article II:2 and the Annex on Article II Exemptions of the General Agreement on Trade in Services.
2. The Philippines reserves the right to modify this list, at any time prior to the conclusion of the negotiations in services, in the light of the nature and extent of MFN exemptions taken by other countries particularly in the financial services sector.
3. The Philippines has not sought MFN exemption for measures on binding international arbitration for dispute settlement stipulated in bilateral Agreements on Protection and Promotion of Investments which the Philippines has concluded with several countries.

The Philippines reserves the right to examine these measures in the light of the approach taken by other countries on these measures.

4. Finally, the Philippines reserves the right to make technical changes in this list to correct omissions, inaccuracies, and other errors.

LIST OF ARTICLE II EXEMPTIONS FOR THE PHILIPPINES

Sector or Sub-Sector	Description of Measure Indicating its Inconsistency with Article II	Countries to which the Measure Applies	Intended Duration	Conditions Creating the Need for the Exemption
ALL SECTORS  Entry and temporary stay of natural persons	A special visa category is provided for traders and investors of countries with which the Philippines has concluded treaties on entry rights for traders and investors.  Under this special category, the labour market test is waived and simplified entry procedures are provided.	All countries*  Expiry date or termination of bilateral treaties on entry rights for traders and investors.		To facilitate entry into the Philippines, on the basis of reciprocity, of foreign nationals for purposes of trade, investment and related activities.

\*For transparency purposes, the existing bilateral agreements of the Philippines on entry rights for traders and investors are with the United States and Japan.

Sector or Sub-Sector	Description of Measure Indicating its Inconsistency with Article II	Countries to which the Measure Applies	Intended Duration	Conditions Creating the Need for the Exemption
Maritime Transport Services  <u>Liner cargo trade</u>	Executive Order 769 provides for a cargo sharing arrangement with countries which are parties to the UNCTAD Liner Code.  Under the above-mentioned arrangement, a Party to the UNCTAD Liner Code effectively implementing the Code is assured of carriage of at least 40% of its bilateral export and import liner cargo trade with the Philippines.	All countries which have acceded to the UNCTAD Liner Code.*	Indefinite	Ensure effective participation of Philippine ocean-going fleet in the Philippines' liner cargo trade.

\*For transparency purposes, the only existing bilateral shipping agreement with provision for cargo sharing concluded by the Philippines is with Bangladesh.

Sector or Sub-Sector	Description of Measure Indicating its Inconsistency with Article II	Countries to which the Measure Applies	Intended Duration	Conditions Creating the Need for the Exemption
Maritime Transport Services (cont'd)	<p><u>Cabotage transport</u></p> <p>Access to domestic shipping is reserved for Philippine owned or registered vessels.</p> <p>However, limited access to domestic shipping is granted to countries with which the Philippines has concluded agreements on Amity, Commerce and Navigation.</p>	All countries*	Expiry date or termination of bilateral agreements on Amity, Commerce and Navigation.	Allow limited access to cabotage transport on a reciprocal basis.

\*For transparency purposes, the only existing bilateral agreement with provision for limited access to domestic shipping concluded by the Philippines is with Japan.