

**MULTILATERAL TRADE
NEGOTIATIONS
THE URUGUAY ROUND**

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INDONESIA

Statement by Mr. Bachrum Harahap
Assistant Co-ordinating Minister for
Industry and Trade

On behalf of my government, may I take this opportunity to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, for your wise guidance which has enabled us to complete the Uruguay Round negotiations.

All of us are of course happy that after seven long years of negotiations we have finally achieved the completion of the Round.

None of us are of course fully satisfied with everything in the package. But with good will and wise compromise we have made the necessary exchange of concession which has led to a balanced outcome. Indeed, on balance, the package we have negotiated constitutes the most realistic that we could achieve under the circumstances.

Nevertheless, Indonesia would like to highlight several points which we think are fundamental. We are entering a new era of rapidly increasing global interdependence. In trade we require a new organization which is better equipped to deal with the wide-ranging issues agreed in the Uruguay Round.

We therefore welcome the creation of a new organization which will deal with the multilateral trading system. A strengthened multilateral system will be in a better position to cope with new challenges.

We have also worked together in order to improve the dispute settlement system in the GATT which would be better equipped to deal with the settlement of disputes.

Similarly, we have been able to agree to improve the multilateral rules in disciplines in order to better deal with expanded world trade in goods and services and to be more fair to smaller countries and economies. Our challenge in the future would be to ensure that the fair and improved rules and disciplines would govern trading activities more effectively and that major countries would refrain from taking unilateral measures.

In the Uruguay Round negotiations developing countries have been very active participants. We have contributed our share to the effort to improve the multilateral system. This is an historic fact of significance to the international system.

In this connection I wish to stress that Indonesia, and I am sure, also other developing countries, expects to continue to be an active participant in the strengthened multilateral system. We pledge to honour all our obligations and do our part to strengthen the multilateral system. However, we also expect that the principle of special and differential treatment for the developing countries, which has been the basis of the multilateral trading system, will continue to be observed as we implement the results of the Uruguay Round.

In short, Indonesia will continue to be a constructive and active member of the multilateral system which all of us are seeking to strengthen, but we also expect that the interest of the developing countries will also continue to be taken into account.

In closing Mr. Chairman, in addition to thanking you for your tireless efforts, I also would like to express on behalf of my government our sincere appreciation and thanks to the GATT Secretariat, to the Chairmen of all the Committees, and to all those who have helped to bring the Uruguay Round to its final conclusion.