

**MULTILATERAL TRADE  
NEGOTIATIONS  
THE URUGUAY ROUND**

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Trade Negotiations Committee

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**BRAZIL**

Statement by H.E. Mr. L.F. Palmeira Lampreia  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative

Brazil approached the Uruguay Round negotiations with a combination of concerns and expectations.

For more than seven years we negotiated in good faith and attempted to achieve the objectives set forth in the Punta del Este Declaration both in the areas of rules and market access, the two pillars of the system.

In 1990, Brazil initiated an autonomous process of trade liberalization which represented a high degree of commitment with the opening of markets as well as a concrete and substantial contribution towards that end. Our national average in tariffs went down from 55 per cent to 14.3 per cent as it is now.

Still further contribution was made in the form of our readiness to accept obligations equal to those applicable to fully developed trading nations, especially in the TRIPS agreement and the GATS. There, to a great extent, I can say that there has been a constructive participation by Brazil in particular, and by developing countries in general. In relation to TRIPS, it is our continuous expectation that its application will be fully in line with the traditional understanding of industrial property as a tool for industrial and technological capacitation. In this regard, the TRIPS agreement cannot be utilized to concentrate technology and know-how in a few developed countries.

Our expectations were that such contribution would be matched by market-access offers in products of export interest to Brazil.

Concessions from our major partners fell, in many cases, short of our needs and expectations, particularly for agricultural items, textiles and other manufactured goods in which Brazil's competitiveness has been established vis-à-vis that of those same partners.

We are confident that strengthened rules and disciplines, especially with regard to safeguards and the application of trade measures, will protect medium and small exporters from unilateral discrimination and harassment.

We are also confident that the full integration of the agricultural sector into the new GATT can continue beyond the transition period.

In all fairness, we must say that the results of the Uruguay Round have left us sometimes with mixed feelings.

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GATT SECRETARIAT

On the other hand, however, having concluded the Round is in itself a major achievement as it means the preservation and strengthening of the multilateral trading system, while at the same time reshaping it to the requirements of current international economic and trade relations.

This is not a time to dwell on our shortcomings, but rather, to look ahead.

We have increased and even acquired more difficult responsibilities as we have collectively allowed the GATT more than just a lease on life.

This means a new management of world trade affairs in a totally new framework, in which the complexity of the fields covered poses an even greater challenge to our countries' ability to cope with our individual and collective responsibilities.

Brazil is ready to face up to this challenge.