MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS THE URUGUAY ROUND

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Trade Negotiations Committee

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MYANMAR

Statement by H.E. Mr. U Tin Kyaw Hlaing Ambassador, Permanent Representative

Mr. Chairman, first of all, my delegation wishes to welcome Brunei Darussalam to our midst of participants in the Uruguay Round. My delegation feels that it should not let this historic occasion pass without saying a few words. Allow me to begin by expressing the deep appreciation of my delegation for your tireless efforts and great dedication as Chairman of the Trade Negotiations Committee (TNC) in the crucial phases of intensive negotiations, leading to the successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round. Our thanks also go to your Secretariat for their invaluable help my delegation has received in this Uruguay Round process. Our tribute also goes to all the member delegations who have in one way or another contributed to those negotiations and who have played their part in making this Round a success.

My delegation had hoped that the basic principles of the Punta del Este Declaration would be fully and adequately reflected in the text of the Agreement of the Uruguay Round. As one of the least-developed countries, my country indeed shares and supports the views expressed by delegations of the developing countries, during the course of the negotiations. The concerns of the developing and least-developed countries are legitimate ones, and we firmly believe that these legitimate concerns ought to be fully taken into account in our present and future endeavours to liberalize the world trade.

Needless to say, there is also a perceptible need to take care of the LLDCs' interests when the World Trade Organization (WTO) emerges. My delegation strongly feels that there should be a separate unit for the LLDCs in the WTO to provide the necessary technical services and assistance to those countries.

Admittedly, the Final Act has not fully measured up to all our aspirations. However, with a sense of realism, my delegation acknowledges that this consensus may be the best we can collectively achieve under the prevailing circumstances. We cannot but concur with the views shared by most member delegations that, despite its shortcomings, what we have achieved in the Final Act will contribute towards the liberalization of world trade, making GATT more relevant to the needs of the present day world and transforming it into a full institution to be known as the WTO.

Bearing this in mind and in the spirit of co-operation, my delegation joins in the consensus in adopting the Final Act.

My delegation will submit the Final Act and the attached Agreements to the competent authorities of my Government for their consideration.