

**MULTILATERAL TRADE
NEGOTIATIONS
THE URUGUAY ROUND**

MTN.TNC/MIN(94)/ST/49
13 April 1994
General Distribution
(UR-94-0153)

Trade Negotiations Committee
Meeting at Ministerial Level
Marrakesh (Morocco), 12-15 April 1994

Original: English

SLOVAK REPUBLIC

Statement by Mr. Peter Nagvasi
Minister of Economy

The Slovak Republic has become a contracting party to GATT, in fact, immediately after the dissolution of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic. This important achievement has been possible, aside from the liberal trading system adopted, also by the pragmatic approach of the contracting parties and valuable assistance of the GATT Secretariat. The Slovak Republic is furthermore considered as an original contracting party to the GATT.

We wish to express our strong conviction that the successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round negotiations would positively influence the development of the young Slovak Republic.

We expect also more efficient trade and economic relationship of the Slovak Republic with the countries all over the world.

The year 1993 has been the first year of the independent Slovakia. We have continued with the restructuring of the economy, with privatization and with the adoption of the necessary legal framework for the implementation of respective measures. We are committed to continue with the economic transformation process from centrally planned economy towards a market oriented one. This process is conducted by liberalization in all sectors of our society. This would consequently mean the establishment of such an environment for the trade, which will substantially exceed the scope of concessions being offered by the Slovak Republic.

Besides our current internal problems, our Government would pay increased attention to the foreign economic orientation of the Slovak Republic. The priorities of the foreign policy are focused on the full integration of Slovakia to the European political, economical and security structures.

From the long-term perspective, the Slovak Government would strive for further integration into the world economy conducted by the internationally recognized rules.

The Uruguay Round establishes a more stable and predictable environment and a more precise legal framework for international trade which would create further opportunities for sustainable development.

Finally, let me thank all those who effectively assisted in the conclusion of the negotiations and substantially contributed in the preparation of the final documents. To you, Mr. Director-General, belongs, my special thanks for your personal approach to the successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round.

Allow me to use this opportunity also to express my gratitude to His Majesty King Hassan II, to his Government and the people of Morocco for their hospitality, kind attention and the excellent organization of the Ministerial meeting.

GATT SECRETARIAT