

**MULTILATERAL TRADE
NEGOTIATIONS
THE URUGUAY ROUND**

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LIECHTENSTEIN

Statement by H.E. Mrs. Andrea Willi
Minister for Foreign Affairs

On behalf of the Government of the Principality of Liechtenstein I would like first of all to extend our sincere thanks and gratitude to his Majesty King Hassan II for the magnificent welcome we have received here in Morocco. I would also like to thank the Government of Morocco for the excellent organization of this meeting and its hospitality in general.

The Principality of Liechtenstein recently became a contracting party to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, 1947, but it has in fact been observing the rules of this Agreement for many years through the Customs Union Treaty with Switzerland. Liechtenstein has taken part on this basis and through the Swiss delegation to the Uruguay Round. We are extremely satisfied and pleased to have been given the opportunity to become a member of GATT at this historic juncture when, with the impending establishment of the World Trade Organization, a new action plan for world cooperation is being put into place.

This is also an opportunity for me to pass on my sincere thanks to the Swiss Confederation for its commendable and efficient representation of the Principality of Liechtenstein within GATT and during the Uruguay Round Negotiations and in particular for the encouragement it kindly gave us in connection with our recent accession to GATT.

The establishment of the World Trade Organization provides a sound basis for developing inter-State trade policy relations.

The extensive removal of trade barriers and increased market access are a major step forward.

The General Agreement on Trade in Services, and the agreement on intellectual property, guarantee greater legal protection in these areas.

In addition to refining and improving the "rules of the game" that govern the world trade system, the procedure for settling dispute offers increased legal protection to all contracting parties.

These agreements provide for a more efficient distribution of resources at the world level and will strengthen international trade. This implies faster growth and greater economic well-being.

The efficient functioning of multilateral trade at the world level also requires that a solution be found to a number of problems. We are aware that future negotiations could provide a positive response to these problems, including those of the environment and social and labour rights, on the basis of the Marrakesh Declaration.

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A small country such as the Principality of Liechtenstein which maintains economic relations with the whole world well appreciates the value of the legal and economic protection which the new Agreement signed here in Marrakesh will offer within the framework of international trade.

On behalf of the Government of Liechtenstein I would like once again to express our gratitude to all those who helped bring the Uruguay Round Negotiations to a fruitful conclusion. And, finally, may I offer special thanks to the Director-General of GATT, Mr. Peter Sutherland, and the members of the GATT Secretariat and all the delegations whose commitment has contributed to the success in which we all share.