

**MULTILATERAL TRADE  
NEGOTIATIONS  
THE URUGUAY ROUND**

**MTN.TNC/MIN(94)/ST/104**  
14 April 1994  
General Distribution  
(UR-94-0217)

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

Original: French

**GUINEA-BISSAU**

Statement by Mr. Ansumane Mane  
Minister of Trade and Industry

Permit me first of all to thank His Majesty King Hassan II and the Moroccan people and Government for the fabulously warm welcome they have extended to us since our arrival in this beautiful country of Morocco.

It was a great pleasure to us to learn that the last Ministerial Meeting was to be held in such a magnificent spot as Marrakesh, a historic place and a traditional trading centre.

I say "we" because our country is now a member of the great family of GATT.

I am sure that, in saying this, I am expressing a feeling shared by all those present in this beautiful Palace of Congresses.

The World Trade Organization is a newborn babe but has the good fortune to be able to grow quickly, for it can count on the experience of its parents (GATT) and the no less important determination of us all to work to make the World Trade Organization a genuine instrument of cooperation in the trade field. We are more than ever convinced that it will promote the development of international trade on a firm and non-discriminatory foundation through the adoption of such principles as pragmatism and flexibility of rules and standards, which are - among other things - evidence of its capacity to survive.

In order to promote the development of trade in services, intellectual property and textiles, technology transfer and exchange rate restrictions, well-thought-out regulations based on transparency and gradual liberalization are needed as a means of promoting the economic growth of all trading partners.

Mechanisms for eliminating certain quantitative restrictions which handicap commodity trade need to be devised in view of the weight such restrictions carry in the trade balance of the developing countries.

We wish to draw the developed countries' attention to the complex nature of the machinery to be installed at the level of the World Trade Organization. The developed countries are asked to give priority, in the course of North-South cooperation, to such matters as technical assistance, the training of skilled workers and countervailing measures.

In conclusion I would like to express our gratitude to the host country, His Majesty King Hassan II, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Sidi Mohammed and the Moroccan Government and people for their generous hospitality and for the resources placed at our disposal, which without any doubt will have a favourable effect on the results of this Meeting.

**GATT SECRETARIAT**