

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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Working Party on the
Accession of Moldova

Original: English

ACCESSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Communication concerning the Revision of the draft Working Party Report (WT/ACC/SPEC/MOL/4/Rev.3)

The Government of the Republic of Moldova submitted a further revision of the Draft Report of the Working Party on the Accession of Moldova. The latest revision includes changes made in response to comments by members of the Working Party on the previous version of the draft Report (WT/ACC/SPEC/MOL/4/Rev.2 of 20 October 1999). All changes to the previous version have been indicated by bold typescript, and deletions by strike-throughs.

The revision contains some changes in the time-frame for the implementation of certain commitments, in particular as regards those summarized in Tables 14 and 16 of the draft Report. Members of the Working Party will be aware that the government headed by Prime Minister Sturza resigned on 9 November 1999. Parliamentary agreement on the new government headed by Prime Minister Braghis was reached in late December 1999. This interruption in the normal rhythm of the work of the Government and of Parliament has unavoidably affected the pace of implementation. In most cases, more time will be required than was foreseen last October to bring legislation and governmental decisions into line with Moldova's WTO commitments. In some cases, however, it has been possible to go forward more rapidly than was anticipated in October—for example as regards the law on certification. In order to give members of the Working Party an overview of progress and of the present status of implementation, a checklist of all commitment paragraphs in the draft Report has been prepared. The first version of this checklist was circulated to members in April 2000. However, since then considerable further progress has been achieved. This progress which is fully captured in the third revision of the draft Report will be reflected in the revision of the Checklist. This Checklist will indicate for each commitment the action taken to date, the action remaining (if any) and the timeframe for its completion.

A draft Governmental Decision is being prepared that will instruct the various parts of the Government concerned to adhere to the time frame contained in the revised draft.

Several legal texts not previously made available to members of the Working Party are being translated into English and will be circulated to Members of the Working Party shortly. These are:

- Law on the Budget for the Year 2000 (approved by Parliament on 11 April);
- draft Customs Code: paragraphs on customs valuation and IPR border measures (as submitted by the Government to Parliament);
- draft Government Decision establishing the Statutes of the State Phytosanitary Quarantine Service;
- draft Government Decision on Sanitary-Epidemiological State Supervision Rules;
- draft Government Decision establishing the Statutes of the State Veterinary Service.
