

**Committee on Trade and Development  
Eighteenth Session  
17 November 1997**

WTO PROGRAMME FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION

Three-Year Plan (1998-2000)

Note by the Secretariat

Revision

This revision has been prepared by the Secretariat in order to more fully incorporate the activities planned as a follow-up to the High Level Meeting on an Integrated Response for trade-related technical cooperation for the Least-developed Countries, and to introduce their financial implications in more precise terms (see paragraph 13).

1. The guidelines for WTO technical cooperation adopted by the Committee on Trade and Development on 15 October 1996, require that the three-year plan for technical cooperation be presented to the Committee on Trade and Development. The attached plan covers the period 1998-2000.
2. The work of the WTO Secretariat providing technical assistance and cooperation from headquarters has intensified considerably during 1997, and is expected to grow further and expand in the years to come. It may be recalled that this work includes providing technical assistance and cooperation through (i) contacts with delegations and capital-based representatives in Geneva (also in seminar format), including, increasingly, at the level of Ministers, and (ii) direct contacts with capital-based officials via telecommunications. These activities are usually in response to requests for assistance in the resolution of specific issues and problems of the Members concerned. Such activities are not covered in the attached plan, the focus of which is on the Secretariat's activities as they involve missions to capitals and events where funding has been provided for experts from capitals to travel to Geneva.
3. Training activities constitute an important subset of WTO technical cooperation activities. They are dealt with in Annex 2 to this note.
4. It may be recalled that the 1997-1999 Three-Year Plan, and particularly the detailed programme of activities for 1997, contained in documents WTO/COMTD/W/25 and Addendum 1, were circulated to the Committee on Trade and Development in May and August 1997, when a number of technical cooperation activities had already been undertaken, and a large number of other activities were planned. Thus, at that time, sufficient information was available on specifics so that it was possible to present a detailed programme of activities for 1997, indicating the various events, sources of funding, the Division or Divisions in charge of their implementation, and relevant comments.
5. A full report on WTO technical cooperation activities during the current year (1997) will be provided to the Committee on Trade and Development early in 1998. However, already a preliminary review of technical cooperation activities in 1997 reveals that, by the end of the year, the Secretariat will have organized and/or participated in over 200 different activities, whilst, according to the reports

submitted to the Committee, a total of 79 activities had been undertaken in 1995, the first year of the WTO, and 124 activities had been developed in 1996. This evolution shows an increase of approximately 56 per cent in activities in 1996 over 1995, and roughly a 61 per cent increase in 1997 over 1996. This tendency may be expected to continue in the next three years.

6. These developments reflect several trends, such as the increasing priority placed by Members on technical cooperation as a major instrument to support the integration of developing countries into the multilateral trading system; the spreading awareness, among developing countries, of the role that technical cooperation can play in the process of adapting their policies, laws and regulations to the rules of the WTO; and, consequently, a proliferation of requests for technical cooperation action, not only from developing and least-developed countries, but also, increasingly, from economies in transition and countries in the process of accession. This situation is generating ever increasing pressures, not only on the technical cooperation services of the Secretariat, but also on the regular workload of the various Divisions involved..

7. A trend towards an increasing number of activities at the regional level can also be observed. The experience over the last three years, especially in 1997, points to the growing efficiency and cost-effectiveness of this mode of delivery, in particular in relation to the development and training of human resources, and in relation to dissemination of information and clarification of issues in relatively new subjects. In view of the fact that the regular WTO budget for technical cooperation can only be used to finance the travel of WTO staff, this type of activities could not have been organized in the past, and would not be an important component of the present plan, without the substantive financial resources provided through generous voluntary contributions from certain Members. Many of these activities are also the result of closer collaboration with other international organizations and with the World Bank and regional development banks.

8. Many delegations made substantive suggestions on the 1997-1999 plan, both on form and substance. In the present document, the Secretariat has endeavoured to take them into account and make the necessary adjustments. In terms of detailed activities, both as to their presentation and their content, the Three-Year Plan has to be an evolving document. Moreover, the need for the Secretariat to maintain the necessary flexibility to respond to the technical assistance needs of developing countries in a timely, appropriate and efficient manner has to be built into the planning and execution processes.

9. In the process of preparations for the present document, a communication was sent to Delegations of developing-country Members in Geneva inviting them to present requests for technical cooperation activities for 1998 by 15 October 1997. This target date was set in terms of the leadtime required in the Secretariat for the timely production and circulation of the present document; it does not imply that requests presented afterwards will not receive adequate attention and response. Replies to this communication have been received from numerous delegations, some of them in very precise terms for 1998, some containing only indications of areas of interest and preferred modes of delivery (e.g., technical missions, general seminars, technical workshops, etc.). The capacity of the Secretariat to respond to these requests is always dependent on the workload required for the servicing of WTO bodies, including Committees, working parties and dispute settlement panels, and other regular Geneva-based Secretariat activities. Accordingly, the process of internal consultations within the Secretariat has intensified to ensure the timely availability of resources, both human and financial.

10. A number of the requests presented in precise terms, and a number of concrete activities, already foreseen for 1998, are listed in Annex 1 below. A number of other requests require consultations with the delegation concerned in order to define, in more specific terms, the activities to be undertaken. The Secretariat will make all necessary efforts, within its existing resources, to cover as many as possible of technical cooperation needs.

11. In light of the above, the structure of the present document is different from the structure of document WTO/COMTD/W/25. After the present introductory section, the Plan describes the broad lines of action for the Secretariat's technical cooperation activities on different WTO subjects for the years 1998 and 1999. For the year 2000, a general statement of an indicative nature is included, outlining likely priorities for the future. Annex 1 contains a list of foreseen/planned activities for 1998, and Annex 2 covers the WTO Trade Policy Courses held in Geneva.

12. In response to comments by Members, Annex 1 indicates, for the relevant activities: (i) a description of the activity with the modes of delivery to be used; (ii) the organizing entity; (iii) the proposed source of funding, and (iv) the executing unit and human resource utilization. Moreover, this Annex is split into three categories:

- 1(A): events wholly organized and financed by the WTO, either through the regular budget for technical cooperation missions, or from trust funds established with voluntary contributions and administered by the WTO;
- 1(B): events organized jointly by the WTO with other institutions, and events organized and financed by other institutions, where the WTO is to participate in a major or substantive role; and
- 1(C): events where the WTO has been invited to participate, among a number of other institutions.

13. A preliminary estimate of the cost of the 1998 activities listed in Annex 1 (including 1(A), 1(B), and 1(C)), based on the costs incurred for activities in 1997, is in the order of a total of 4.9 million Swiss Francs, of which 1.9 million is on account of commitments made during the High Level Meeting on LDCs. For financing the plan in 1998, SFr.500,000 will be allocated from the WTO regular budget (setting aside SFr.241,000 from the regular budget for further requests that will come in the remaining part of the year). The remaining expenditure will need to be met from the Trust Funds and additional budgetary allocations.

14. At present, the balance available in extra-budgetary resources for 1998 activities falls short of the requirements shown above. Therefore, adjustments may have to be made in the Plan in the course of the year, through cutbacks in, or postponements of, certain activities.

15. As in the past, many actors are involved in each of the 1998 events. The WTO Secretariat as a whole; the host country; funding resources; and the beneficiary countries themselves. The interaction required among these actors is an important factor in the determination of exact dates, coverage, participation and documentation for the particular events.

16. The global objective of the Secretariat's technical cooperation activities can be summarized in the following broad lines:

- First, to enhance the implementation of the priority placed by Members on the integration of the least-developed countries into the multilateral trading system, as a means to assist them in their development efforts, in particular in the light of the results of the High Level Meeting on an integrated response for trade-related technical cooperation for them;
- Second, to continue implementing assistance for the better understanding of rights and obligations of developing countries under the WTO Agreements, and for their improved implementation, and to facilitate participation in work on new issues;

- Third, to continue improving the coordination and management of technical cooperation activities of the Secretariat as a whole;
- Fourth, to make increasing use of more efficient and cost-effective modes of delivery, such as regional activities; and
- Fifth, to multiply the utilization of information technology-based technical cooperation and training tools.

In this context, the work of the Economic Research and Analysis Division will also be increasingly used to provide the underpinnings of economic argument, to be included in technical cooperation activities and training materials.

17. The specific aims in relation to a certain number of areas and subjects are set out below for 1998 and 1999. For the year 2000, a general statement outlining likely priorities for the future is included. Annex 1 contains a list of foreseen/planned activities for 1998, and Annex 2 covers the WTO Trade Policy Courses held in Geneva.

1998

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1. Agriculture and SPS Agreements

1.1 Agreement on Agriculture

In document WT/COMTD/W/25 it was stated that for 1998, the focus of the Secretariat's technical assistance activities related to the Agreement on Agriculture would remain on assisting Members in implementing their specific commitments in the areas of market access, domestic support and export competition, and on being available for technical, legal and policy advice in the context of any changes in trade-related agricultural policies on the part of individual Members.

It is envisaged to provide targeted assistance by way of missions to the capitals of 5 to 6 Members on a demand-driven basis. In 1998 preference will be given to requests from African and Asian countries. In addition, the Secretariat intends to organize, or participate in, two regional seminars on the rules and commitments in agriculture (one in Africa and one in Central and Eastern Europe), with participation from Members as well as acceding countries. At least one of these regional seminars will be conducted in cooperation with other international organizations, in particular the World Bank and/or FAO. WTO sponsorship of the participation of some Members in these seminars will be required.

The Annex shows, in particular, two regional seminars on the Agreement on Agriculture to be organized jointly with the World Bank, one in Southern Africa and the second in Central or West Africa.

1.2 SPS Agreement

In 1998, the Secretariat intends to provide assistance in the form of activities more focused on specific national concerns. This will involve more individual country visits, with 5 to 6 countries targeted on a demand-driven basis. In 1998 preference will be given to requests from African and Asian countries.

The Annex shows that regional seminars on SPS matters will be organized in Indonesia, Chile, Vietnam, and South Pacific/Asia. These regional seminars will be coupled with subsequent national workshops in the respective host country. Private sector participation will be encouraged.

Technical assistance will continue to include WTO sponsorship of participation of WTO Members in risk analysis courses by relevant scientific bodies (CODEX, OIE, IPPC).

2. Market Access Issues

2.1 Tariff Schedules

In 1998, the Secretariat will have to provide assistance to a number of developing countries (about 8 to 10) in connection with the transposition of their pre-Uruguay Round Schedules into the Harmonized System, including the changes that have taken place in 1996 (HS96). While the main attention will have to focus on certain French-speaking African least-developed countries (see the section on the least-developed countries), requests for assistance in this respect may also come from a few Asian countries.

## 2.2 Agreement on Customs Valuation

In document WT/COMTD/W/25, it was stated that a total of 52 developing countries have made use of Article 20 of the Agreement enabling them to invoke a 5 year delay for the application of the provisions of the Agreement, and that for 28 of those countries the transition period ends at the end of 1999. The Secretariat's activities in this area will thus have to be oriented towards assisting these countries to be adequately prepared for the fulfilment of their obligations by that deadline.

A programme under discussion with the Inter-American Development Bank foresees, for instance, three sub-regional seminars in the Latin American and Caribbean region to deal with issues on WTO schedules, customs valuation, rules of origin and market access in general. Under the arrangements with APEC, around 9 Asian countries have been receiving intensive technical training on valuation with the cooperation of the World Customs Organization (WCO) in the period 1997/1998. Member governments have also been giving extensive assistance through the APEC Secretariat.

Other activities to be organized on customs valuation include a two-day workshop for Middle Eastern countries (possibly combined with the Asian workshop), and a two-day workshop for Eastern and Central European countries. Cooperation with the WCO will contribute to the effectiveness of technical assistance activities.

## 3. Agreement on Textiles and Clothing

The progress achieved, in accordance with the provisions of the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing, in the integration process of international trade in these products to the multilateral rules means that this sector will be of increasing interest to developing countries, including the least-developed among them. Since technical cooperation is a demand-driven process, the Secretariat is not yet in a position to provide proposals for specific technical cooperation missions. However, the Secretariat stands ready in this area to organize, upon request, five or six regional or sub-regional seminars each in 1998 and 1999, covering the three broad regions of developing countries in the world.

Technical assistance and cooperation at the national level, both for Geneva-based delegations and for capital-based government officials, may also be undertaken.

## 4. Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade

In 1998 and 1999, technical cooperation under the Agreement needs to be intensified and, possibly, refocused in light of the results of the TBT Triennial Review in November 1997. Technical cooperation activities are considered by Members to be important, as provided for in the TBT Agreement.

In this context, the Secretariat will continue to assist developing countries in participating more actively in the preparation of international standards and in introducing them domestically. Regional and sub-regional seminars given by the Secretariat will be complemented by country missions. Such missions will also be used to identify areas where institutional improvements could strengthen the quality of laboratory testing and conformity certification and, thus, improve conditions of foreign recognition, so as to help in reducing market access costs associated with multiple testing and certification.

Throughout 1997, cooperation and collaboration with other international organizations such as ISO and the International Trade Center were intensified. This trend will continue in 1998, as can be seen from the regional seminars jointly organized with those institutions and listed in Annex 1.

## 5. Rules Agreements

5.1 Regional activities. A number of activities developed with regional financial institutions, such as the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) during 1996 and 1997 have produced positive results and demonstrated the usefulness of inter-agency cooperation. This collaboration is to be continued in 1998 and 1999.

The project with the IADB for these years includes, up to now, four activities for 1998 and three for 1999. Previous activities with Latin American and Caribbean countries have covered already a large amount of general issues. Moreover, as is the case in various Uruguay Round agreements, the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures foresees transitional periods for developing countries for the dismantling of their subsidy programs and the aligning of their subsidy regimes with the disciplines of the agreement. Thus, an important component of assistance from 1998 onwards will be on subsidy disciplines. Activities will also concentrate on calculations of anti-dumping and subsidy margins, and the concept of injury.

The project with the ADB for 1998 includes an exporter's workshop on anti-dumping, plus seminars on subsidy disciplines and on trade remedies and competition.

5.2 Country Specific Workshops: As stated in document WT/COMTD/25, this programme provides the opportunity of a more specialized assistance to Members. The issues to be dealt with in each workshop are coordinated with the government agencies receiving the assistance and are custom tailored to their specific needs. Requests pending from 1997 will be attended to in 1998 and in 1999. Six country specific workshops are planned for 1998 and a similar number will take place in 1999. Details for 1998 can be found in Annex 1.

5.3 Other Assistance: Assistance on the preparation and review of draft legislations and regulations on contingent trade remedies is also available to Members. This is done strictly upon request by the Member desiring to adopt implementing legislation. Therefore, it is difficult to foresee the number of this types of programmes to be conducted in the next two years.

5.4 Seminars on Rules: In order to increase and enhance the participation of developing countries in the activities of the different committees of the rules agreements (Anti-Dumping, Subsidies and Countervail, and Safeguards), and to improve their response to their various notification obligations, the Secretariat will continue its assistance in the form of regional seminars in the area of WTO rules. At this point, two seminars on rules are planned, one in Korea for 25 developing countries, as part of the Korean training programme for developing countries, and one for North African countries, in response to requests made by Morocco and Tunisia. Details for these activities can be found in Annex 1.

5.5 Accession Related Missions: The Secretariat envisions to continue its assistance to acceding countries. The purpose of this assistance is to clarify the rights and obligations in the rules area that the acceding country acquires upon accession to the WTO. It is difficult to estimate the number of missions in this area to be carried out since this is done strictly at the request of the Working Party on Accession of the particular country or the acceding country itself.

## 6. Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights

As pointed out in document WT/COMTD/W/25, the years 1998 and 1999 are crucial for the preparation by developing countries of their implementation of the TRIPs Agreement, given that their transition period ends in the year 2000.

The focus of the Secretariat's technical cooperation activities specifically in relation to TRIPS will continue to be along three main lines: first, to assist Members in the understanding of the rights and obligations which flow from the TRIPS Agreement, and in the assessment of the amendments that may be needed to their national legislation, the adaptations in institutions that may be called for and other requirements for which they would need to plan; second, to assist Members to participate fully in the operation of the TRIPS Council, including to meet their procedural obligations under the Agreement, and the other mechanisms of the WTO related to TRIPS matters; and third, to ensure complementarity and cooperation with other intergovernmental organizations, in particular WIPO. The main modes of supply are information and advice given to Members in Geneva, seminars and workshops for developing countries and, to a lesser extent, NGO conferences.

The priority attached to assistance to least-developed countries, and the results of the High Level Meeting on the Least-Developed Countries held at the WTO on 27 and 28 October 1997, are reflected in the number of activities organized for them in 1998. In particular, as can be seen in Annex 1, three regional seminars on the TRIPS Agreement will be organized in 1998 for the least-developed countries, one for African English-speaking LDCs, one for African French-speaking LDCs, and one for LDCs outside the African region.

Furthermore, the Secretariat will participate, in 1998, in more than twenty international, regional and national seminars and workshops organized by other institutions (e.g. WIPO).

#### 7. General Agreement on Trade in Services

On conclusion of the negotiations on financial services in December 1997, the Secretariat stands ready to assist developing countries in implementing their commitments. Assistance may be granted either in the form of country missions or, to accelerate the dissemination process and reduce costs, in the form of regional seminars. Such seminars are to focus on Members with similar technical and institutional conditions. To ensure effective planning, it is necessary that potential host countries indicate their interest well in advance.

In addition, the Secretariat intends to continue its current activities to enhance developing countries' participation in the GATS and familiarize government officials and sectoral experts with relevant provisions. Particular emphasis is to be placed on rules currently under negotiation - including for safeguards, government procurement and subsidies as well as licensing and certification of professional services - and any other issues of interest to developing countries.

Thirdly, the Secretariat envisages intensifying its services-related assistance to acceding countries. This is from two perspectives: first, to support these countries in providing information on their current services regime and, second, to facilitate their preparation of schedules of commitments.

#### 8. Trade and Environment

As indicated in document WT/COMTD/W/25, the trade and environment debate which is taking place in the Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE), and in the international community at large, involves a broad range of different, and often complex, issues. Some of these issues are of direct relevance to developing countries. They include: (1) the transparency of trade-related environmental measures, and the effects of these measures on the market access opportunities of developing countries; (2) the export of goods that are prohibited domestically for either health or environmental reasons; (3) the use of trade sanctions in multilateral environmental agreements (such as the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer) to encourage compliance, and the GATT/WTO compatibility of these sanctions; etc.



In light of this, the Secretariat will develop and organize, upon request and subject to the availability of appropriate funding, a programme of regional and subregional seminars for government officials of developing countries (trade as well as environment officials), with the objective of explaining and presenting the different issues involved. Details of the possible programming of these seminars, in Asia, English-speaking Africa, French-speaking Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean and the Middle East, can be found in Annex 1. Whereas all efforts would be undertaken to complete this programme during 1998, unforeseen circumstances related to programming, organization and logistics, might make it necessary for it to be developed over the two years of 1998 and 1999.

9. Integrated Technical Assistance Programme for Selected Least-Developed and Other African Countries

An Integrated Programme of Technical Assistance for Selected Least-Developed and Other African Countries was launched in early 1996 by the WTO in collaboration with UNCTAD and the International Trade Centre. The specific objective of the programme is to assist least-developed and other African countries in the expansion and diversification of their trade and improve their integration into the multilateral trading system.

Areas where WTO is expected to make contributions for country projects in Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda, and where activities will be organized in 1998 are:

- providing lecturers for training of trainers' courses;
- contribute to the establishment of National Reference Centres on the multilateral trading system (a Centre where documentation and information will be readily available to the public, business and academic communities in the country concerned);
- carry-out workshops to increase knowledge and understanding of the Uruguay Round Agreements;
- legal drafting or redrafting of legislations to comply with WTO Agreements, and assistance on notifications procedures and obligations;
- assistance to Customs Administrations; and
- studies on the impact of WTO Agreements on individual LDCs economies.

10. Least-Developed Countries

The conclusions of the High-Level Meeting for Least-Developed Countries held on 27 and 28 October 1997 in pursuance of the Singapore Ministerial Declaration has agreed on projects and activities to be implemented over the 1998 and 1999 period. Some activities that may already be foreseen for 1998 have been included in Annex 1. Other activities agreed upon shall be introduced at the appropriate time.

11. Accessions

In 1998, a significant number of countries, including some important economies, are going to be in an accelerated phase of their accession processes. With an acceleration of these processes, the Secretariat will be devoting a great deal of attention to providing technical assistance to those countries in specific areas where negotiations are focused. These include both systemic issues and bilateral market access issues. Examples of such countries in this category would be Russia, Ukraine, Saudi Arabia, Croatia and Jordan.

Also in 1998, the Secretariat would need to provide technical assistance to some other countries whose governments require assistance in order to accelerate and conclude their accessions. These

countries include Vietnam, Nepal, Sudan, Cambodia, Uzbekistan, Algeria, Moldova, Kazakstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Georgia, Oman, Seychelles, Tonga and Vanuatu.

12. Dispute Settlement

12.1 Special Training Courses on Dispute Settlement Procedures will continue to be organized by the Secretariat at WTO Headquarters. Two of these courses are foreseen for 1998. On request, these courses may also be organized in the field, on a national basis.

In view of the high demand for registration in these courses, the Secretariat envisages to organize, upon request and subject to the availability of appropriate funding, a programme of regional and subregional workshops for the training of government officials of developing countries on dispute settlement procedures and practices. Details of the possible programming of these seminars, in the three regions of the developing world, can be found in Annex 1. This programme is to be developed over the two years of 1998 and 1999. A special component on dispute settlement and the way it connects together all of the WTO agreements is also to be included in the activities specifically directed at the least-developed countries.

12.2 Specialized legal assistance will continue to be provided to developing and least-developed countries, in pursuance of the provisions of Article 27:2 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures for the Settlement of Disputes.

13. Other issues

13.1 Investment, Competition Policy, and Government Procurement

Paragraph 22 of the Singapore Ministerial Declaration states that the technical cooperation programme of the Secretariat will be available to developing and in particular least-developed country members to facilitate their participation in the new groups on the relationship between trade and investment, the interaction between trade and competition policy, and transparency in government procurement.

The Secretariat's technical cooperation programme is therefore ready to cover increasingly these matters, the objective being to provide information that will facilitate the participation of developing and least-developed countries in the work. Given the limits on the Secretariat's own resources, cooperation with other intergovernmental organizations, in particular UNCTAD, is underway and recourse is also made to the use of outside experts. The focus is not only on government officials from capitals, through symposia, but also on Geneva-based delegations, through events in the Geneva area.

- (a) Investment. As detailed in Annex 1, in 1998 WTO plans to jointly organize with UNCTAD three symposia on investment for Geneva-based delegations and two regional seminars. The Secretariat plans to participate also in seminars wholly organized by UNCTAD at the regional and national levels, and in six other regional or national seminars on investment organized by other institutions.
- (b) Competition policy. Two symposia for Geneva-based delegates and three regional seminars are planned to be jointly organized with other inter-governmental organizations. The Secretariat also plans to participate in conferences, seminars and other events on competition policy organized by other institutions.

- (c) Government procurement. The Secretariat plans to participate in a number of events, including regional seminars, conferences etc., on government procurement organized by other institutions.

### 13.2 Notifications Procedures and Obligations

The Secretariat will continue to give attention and respond to requests for assistance on notifications procedures and obligations. In 1998, one workshop will be organized in Geneva for Geneva-based delegations. Moreover, a module on these issues has been used, and will continue to be used, intensively in seminars and workshops on the WTO held at the national, sub-regional and regional levels.

The Handbook on Notifications Procedures and Obligations, issued in 1996, will continue to be constantly updated and disseminated as widely as possible among interested Member governments.

## 14. Activities carried out using information technology tools

Information technology is increasingly being incorporated into technical cooperation activities, in order to develop new and more efficient and cost-effective delivery instruments. The projects described below cover the period 1998-2000.

### 14.1 The Integrated Data Base for Personal Computers

On 16 July 1997, the General Council decided, *inter-alia*, that the Secretariat "...shall, upon request, provide technical assistance to Members in relation to the submission of the data required for the Integrated Data Base for Personal Computers." In pursuance thereof, the Secretariat intends to establish a technical assistance programme for the PC IDB, covering: - the development of PC software for submission preparation; - participation in WTO seminars to provide training; conducting PC IDB workshops tailored to regional and/or national requirements; - establishment of contacts in missions and national capitals; and - collaboration with other international organizations and regional secretariats for follow-up.

In early 1998, national fact-finding and cooperation missions to a number of developing countries in each region, as well as some countries in transition, would be envisaged. These activities would target the officers responsible for the collection of customs tariff data and import statistics, and the intention would be to identify needs to begin with. General information on IDB requirements would be presented, and contacts with national representatives for further follow-up and collection of data would be established, for implementation, if possible, on a regional basis.

Based on the above, workshops would be designed for 1998 and 1999, in which the Statistics and Information Systems Division would participate. Where possible and useful, these could also be arranged in conjunction with other WTO seminars or workshops.

### 14.2 Distance-learning

#### (a) The Trade and Development Web-Site

Development and strengthening of the WTO/World Bank Trade and Development Web-Site will continue during 1998. This would include the setting up of WTO reference centres, providing internet linkages and training on Web Sites for a number of countries as a follow-up activity after the LDC High Level Meeting.

(b) CD-ROMs

The Technical Cooperation and Training Division has prepared a prototype of a computer-based package that will be used as a tool for technical cooperation in electronic form. The first package covers the results of the Uruguay Round and the WTO Agreements and can be used to introduce the World Trade Organization in the same manner as through a general seminar (4 to 5 day seminar). The package consists of a set of modules that each correspond to a two/three hour seminar lecture. Each module is organized in sections and units. The unit is the basic, self-contained component of the package. The user will also be in a position to review the material using the so-called Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) approach.

This package will be made available in diskettes and CD-ROMs, and a draft version is already operational in the WTO website (<http://www.wto.org/eol/e/default.htm>) and in the WTO/World Bank Trade and Development website (<http://www.itd.org/eol/e/default.htm>).

Specialized self-training packages can also be developed in the same format, on specific subjects and individual WTO Agreements.

(c) Video-conferencing

Video-conference is a powerful tool that can be used for interaction between headquarters-based WTO experts and capital-based government officials and other interested institutions/individuals.

For instance, through the Internet, the availability of the WTO training package in the WTO website referred to above, provides the user in the field with the opportunity of interacting with Geneva-based experts either through electronic mail or, subject to the availability of adequate hardware and software, on a one-to-one basis in real time.

Video-conferencing through direct high quality video links can be used for advisory missions without leaving headquarters, and for complementing from Geneva mission teams which are already in the field. This modality could, in the longer term, also allow the organization of events at a regional level, without the need for any of the participants to leave their home countries, or any of the experts to travel from Geneva. A survey of existing and planned video-conferencing capacities around the world would have to be done, and a small meeting room at the Secretariat would have to be prepared with the appropriate equipment. Work will begin in 1998.

1999

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1. Agriculture and SPS Agreements

1.1 Agreement on Agriculture

In 1999, the Secretariat will continue to assist Members in implementing their specific commitments under the Agreement on Agriculture and to provide advice in the context of any changes in trade-related agricultural policies on the part of individual Members. The approach will be demand-driven. 5 to 6 country missions are envisaged, with preference being given to requests from Africa and Latin America. Two regional workshops, focusing on the multilateral rules affecting trade in agricultural products and the work of the Committee on Agriculture are also foreseen (one in Africa and one in the Central American/Caribbean region), with participation of both Members and acceding countries. Sponsorship of WTO participation of some Members in these seminars will be required.

1.2 SPS Agreement

In 1999, the Secretariat intends to continue the second phase of technical SPS Agreement related assistance, i.e. assistance focusing on specific national concerns. It is again envisaged to target 5 to 6 countries on a demand-driven basis. Preference will be given to requests from African and Caribbean Basin (including Central American) countries. In addition, two regional workshops are envisaged (one in Central and Eastern Europe and one in Africa), with participation from Members as well as acceding countries. These regional workshops will be coupled with a subsequent national workshop in the respective host country. Participation of the private sector will be encouraged.

Technical assistance should also include WTO sponsorship of participation of WTO Members in risk analysis courses by relevant scientific bodies (CODEX, OIE, IPPC).

2. Market Access Issues

2.1 Tariff Schedules

Assistance will continue to be necessary for a number of developing countries in the African, Asia Pacific and Caribbean area in connection with the transposition of their pre-Uruguay Round Schedules into the Harmonized System and, in particular, with the introduction of the HS96 changes. Most likely the need for such assistance will be in the same range as for 1998.

2.2 Agreement on Customs Valuation

For another 25 developing countries the delay period for the application of the provisions of the Agreement will expire in the course of the year 2000 or early 2001. Similar arrangements as in 1998 will have to be made on a regional and individual basis for those countries to assist them. In 1999, in particular during the first six months, provision will have to be made for developing countries who request assistance, in order to prepare them to the extent possible for the legal and practical implementation of the Agreement.

2.3 Agreement on Rules of Origin

Under the harmonization work programme for non-preferential Rules of Origin, a deadline of July 1998 is foreseen for the conclusion of this work. If that deadline can be met it will become necessary to assist a large number of developing countries in drawing up the required national provisions

and making other necessary arrangements to enable them to implement the new Annex to the Agreement on Rules of Origin.

3. Agreement on Textiles and Clothing

The activities described for 1998 would be continued.

4. Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade

The activities described for 1998 would be continued.

5. Rules

The activities described for 1998 will be continued.

6. Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights

The focus of the Secretariat's technical cooperation activities specifically in relation to TRIPS will continue to be along three main lines: first, to assist Members in the understanding of the rights and obligations which flow from the TRIPS Agreement, and in the assessment of the amendments that may be needed to their national legislation, the adaptations in institutions that may be called for and other requirements for which they would need to plan; second, to assist Members to participate fully in the operation of the TRIPS Council, including to meet their procedural obligations under the Agreement, and the other mechanisms of the WTO related to TRIPS matters; and third, to ensure complementarity and cooperation with other intergovernmental organizations, in particular WIPO. The main modes of supply are information and advice given to Members in Geneva, seminars and workshops for developing countries and, to a lesser extent, NGO conferences.

7. General Agreement on Trade in Services

Technical cooperation activities in 1999 will focus on equipping developing countries to participate more effectively in the next round of comprehensive services negotiations, due to begin no later than the year 2000. The scope of these activities is delineated by Article XIX:3 of the GATS which requires that for each round negotiating guidelines and procedures be established. These are to specify "modalities for the treatment of liberalization undertaken autonomously by Members since previous negotiations, as well as for the special treatment for least-developed country Members under the provisions of paragraph 3 of Article IV".

The Council for Trade in Services, in its report in preparation for the 1996 Singapore Ministerial Meeting, undertook to develop an information exchange programme. The aim is "to facilitate the access of all Members, in particular developing country Members, to information regarding laws, regulations, administrative guidelines and policies affecting trade in services in order to contribute to the assessment of trade in services which would assist future negotiations in the services sector".

The Secretariat will assist developing countries in three areas:

- a. The information exchange programme.
- b. Assessment of trade in services in overall terms and on a sectoral basis.
- c. Establishment of negotiating guidelines and procedures.

8. Integrated Technical Assistance Programme for Selected Least-Developed and Other African Countries

Programmes described under 1998 will be continued in 1999. These should cover the following activities: seminars, technical and specialized workshops, legal drafting or redrafting of national legislation, and assistance to improve export base and competitiveness of enterprises.

9. Trade and Environment

See section in 1998

10. Least-Developed Countries

The activities described for 1998 will be continued.

11. Accessions

At this point in time, it is already quite clear that a great deal of the work foreseen for 1998 will spill over into the technical assistance activities in 1999. It is expected that 1999 will be a particularly busy period in the accessions area and the demands for technical cooperation will be even higher as most acceding governments try to become members of the WTO before the turn of the century. Additionally, by 1999 the Secretariat expects to be servicing new requests for accession from governments whom it is known are presently considering this question.

12. Dispute Settlement

12.1 Special Training Courses on Dispute Settlement Procedures will continue to be organized by the Secretariat at WTO Headquarters. Two of these courses are foreseen for 1999. On request, these courses may also be organized in the field.

Work will also continue in 1999 under the programme of regional and subregional workshops for the training of government officials in dispute settlement procedures and practices.

12.2 Specialized legal assistance will continue to be provided to developing and least-developed countries, in pursuance of Article 27:2 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures for the Settlement of Disputes.

13. Other Issues

13.1 Investment, Competition Policy, and Government Procurement

The Singapore Declaration calls for the General Council to take decisions at the end of 1998 on how the work in the areas of trade and investment and trade and competition policy will be carried forward. It can be expected that the development of the work on transparency in government procurement will also be reviewed by the General Council at that time. Secretariat technical cooperation activities in these areas in 1999 and 2000 will depend in large part on these decisions of the General Council.

13.2 Notifications Procedures and Obligations

The Secretariat will continue to give attention and respond to requests for assistance on notifications procedures and obligations.

14. Activities carried out using information technology tools

See section on 1998.

## 2000

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Technical cooperation activities are continuously evolving. They have to adapt constantly, *inter alia*, to the needs of the recipient countries, to the stage of implementation of the WTO Agreements and to any further developments in the multilateral trading system.

Whereas some of the activities listed under various items in 1998 and 1999 will continue into the year 2000, some further considerations have to be taken into account

Technical cooperation needs in the year 2000 will likely be determined, among many other considerations, on two specific factors: first, the expiration, for some developing countries, of the transition periods for the full implementation of some of the agreements; and second, the processes of reviews and possible negotiations to be initiated in accordance with the "built-in" agenda of the Final Act of the Uruguay Round including, *inter alia*, the progressive liberalization of trade in services and the continuation of the process of reform in international trade in agriculture.

These are some of the reflections that the Secretariat will have to take into account in the future drawing up of its programme for technical cooperation activities in the year 2000.



ANNEX 1

PROGRAMME OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES  
1998

Explanatory Notes

1. The tables in Annex 1 present detailed information on technical cooperation activities as they are planned/foreseen for 1998. This information is subject to continuous adjustments in the light of developments such as confirmation of specific dates, new requests for technical cooperation activities, and the possibility of cancellation or reformulation of others.
2. The Table contains the following columns:
  - The first column is a consecutive number for each activity;
  - The second column contains planned dates, country, and type of activity;
  - The third column indicates the organizing institution;
  - The fourth column indicates proposed source of funding from WTO administered funds, with the following indications:

WTO/TC. WTO Budget allocation for Technical Cooperation Missions (WTO staff travel).

Norway Funds. A voluntary, extra-budgetary contribution of the Government of Norway to cover technical cooperation activities with least-developed countries primarily, and other African countries south of the Sahara.

EC Trade Remedies Funds. A voluntary, extra-budgetary contribution of the European Commission for technical cooperation activities in the area of trade remedies.

New Zealand Funds. A voluntary, extra-budgetary contribution of the Government of New Zealand, for training and technical cooperation activities with small Pacific island countries.

Netherlands Funds. A voluntary, extra-budgetary contribution from the Government of The Netherlands for technical cooperation activities with developing countries, including least-developed, and economies in transition.
  - The fifth column contains indications of "other funding" available for WTO technical cooperation activities.
  - The sixth column shows the Secretariat Division(s) mainly concerned with the corresponding activity;
  - The final column contains comments, as appropriate.
3. A number of expressions and abbreviations are used throughout the Table. The following is a brief explanation of them:

Integrated Programme. WTO/UNCTAD/ITC Integrated Technical Assistance Programme for Selected Least-Developed and Other African Countries.

This is a Programme jointly developed by the three organizations and adopted in May 1996, in response to the urgent needs of least-developed and other African countries and to calls for improved coordination and cooperation among international organizations. Countries covered are: Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania, Tunisia and Uganda.

IDB:	Islamic Development Bank
IADB:	Inter-American Development Bank
ADB:	Asian Development Bank
IICA:	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture
ITC:	International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO

TCTD	Technical Cooperation and Training Division
AgD	Agriculture and Commodities Division
RD	Rules Division
IPID	Intellectual Property and Investment Division
AccD	Accessions Division
LegD	Legal Affairs Division
MAcc	Market Access Division
ERAD	Economic Research and Analysis Division
TSD	Trade in Services Division
TED	Trade and Environment Division
DD	Development Division
TextD	Textiles Division
SISD	Statistics and Information Systems Division

4. Annex 1 is split into three categories:

- 1(A): events wholly organized and financed by the WTO, either through the regular budget for technical cooperation missions, or from trust funds established with voluntary contributions and administered by the WTO;
- 1(B): events organized jointly by the WTO with other institutions, and events organized and financed by other institutions, where the WTO is to participate in a major or substantive role; and
- 1(C): events where the WTO has been invited to participate, among a number of other institutions.

ANNEX 1 A

ACTIVITIES FULLY ORGANIZED BY WTO

	Technical Cooperation Missions	Organized By	Funding	Other Funding	Execution	Comments
1	15-18/01/1998 South Pacific/Asia Regional SPS Seminar 6-8 countries	WTO/CODEX/OIE/IPPC	Netherlands Funds		AgD	Funding to finance participation of WTO expert.
2	27-29/01/1998 Mauritius National seminar on Agriculture	WTO	Norway Funds		AgD LegD	
3	26-30/01/1998 Haiti Technical Mission on Implementation (Schedule XXVI - State of Regulation)	WTO	To be determined		TCTD MAcc	Follow-up to High Level Meeting. Informatics equipment might also be installed in this mission.
4	02-05/02/1998 Pakistan Workshop on HS96 and Tariff Schedules	WTO	WTO/TC		MAcc	
5	02-06/02/1998 Thailand AD/CVD Investigations Workshop	WTO	WTO/TC		RD	
6	10-13/02/1998 Colombia Regional Andean Community Seminar on Anti-Dumping, Subsidies and Countervailing Duties and Safeguards	WTO with Host Gov.	Netherlands Funds		TCTD and other Divisions	Four invited countries: Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela.
7	16-19/02/1998 Indonesia Regional Seminar on Dispute Settlement Procedures and Practices	WTO	Netherlands Funds		LegD	22 invited countries - 2 participants per country.
8	18-19/02/1998 Costa Rica National Seminar on TBT	WTO	WTO/TC		TCTD TED	Funding to finance participation of WTO expert.
9	23-26/02/1998 Guatemala Regional Workshop on WTO Schedules customs Valuation Rules of Origin and Agriculture products	WTO		Inter American Dev. Bank (IADB)	TCTD MAcc	8 participating countries: Mexico, Costa Rica, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Belize, Panama.

	Technical Cooperation Missions	Organized By	Funding	Other Funding	Execution	Comments
10	01-05/03/1998 <u>Asian countries Trade Remedies and Competition Seminar for Asian developing countries</u>	WTO		Asian Dev. Bank	RD	ADB Program.
11	10-13/03/1998 <u>Bolivia National Seminar on WTO and Multilateral Trading System</u>	WTO	WTO/TC		TCTD LegD	Funding to finance participation of WTO expert.
12	16-19/03/1998 <u>Turkey AD/CVD Investigations Workshop</u>	WTO		EC Fund	RD	EC suggestion, Turkey has indicated their interest.
13	30/03-03/04/1998 <u>Guatemala Subsidies Disciplines Seminar for Central American Countries</u>	WTO		Inter American Dev. Bank (IADB)	RD	IADB Program: 8 invited countries.
14	03-06/04/1998 <u>Middle East Regional Workshop on Customs Valuation</u>	WTO	To be determined		TCTD MAcc	This workshop could possibly be combined with certain countries in Asia. 4 participants (Member) and 3 observers.
15	18-22/04/1998 <u>Brazil Workshop on WTO Schedules customs Valuation Rules of Origin and Agriculture products</u>	WTO		Inter American Dev. Bank (IADB)	TCTD MAcc	10 invited countries - 3 participants per country.
16	20-25/04/1998 <u>Senegal Technical mission on the Agreement on Customs Valuation</u>	WTO	WTO/TC		TCTD MAcc	
17	21-30/04/1998 <u>Guatemala National Seminar on WTO and Multilateral Trading System</u>	WTO	WTO/TC		TCTD	
18	04-08/05/1998 <u>Pacific Seminar on the TRIPS Agreements for LDCs outside Africa</u>	WTO	Norway Funds		TCTD IPID	2 participants from some 14 countries, the total of some 30 participants.
19	18-21/05/1998 <u>Jamaica or Trinidad &amp; Tobago Workshop on WTO Schedules Customs Valuation Rules of Origin and emphasis on textiles</u>	WTO		Inter American Dev. Bank (IADB)	TCTD MAcc	13 invited countries.

	Technical Cooperation Missions	Organized By	Funding	Other Funding	Execution	Comments
20	21-25/09/1998 <u>Guatemala</u> National Training Course on Dispute Settlement	WTO	WTO/TC		TCTD LegD	
21	January 1998 <u>China</u> AD/CVD Workshop	WTO	WTO/TC		RD	
22	Jan-Feb 1998 <u>Tunisia</u> AD/CVD Implementation Mission	WTO	WTO/TC		RD	
23	Jan-Feb 1998 <u>Asian countries</u> Subsidies Disciplines Seminar for Asian developing countries	WTO	WTO/TC	Asian Dev. Bank	RD	ADB Program.
24	February 1998 <u>Dubai</u> Training Course on Trade Negotiations Skills	WTO	WTO/TC		TCTD	
25	February 1998 <u>Djibouti</u> Regional Seminar for French-speaking LDCs	WTO	To be determined			Follow-up to High-Level Meeting.
26	February 1998 <u>Guinea Bissau</u> National Seminar and Informatics Installment	WTO	To be determined		TCTD and other Divisions	Follow-up to High-Level Meeting.
27	February 1998 <u>Djibouti</u> National Seminar on Services	WTO	To be determined		TCTD	Follow-up to High-Level Meeting. (Back-to-back with Regional)
28	February 1998 <u>Indonesia</u> Regional Seminar on Trade and Environment for Asian countries	WTO	Netherlands Funds		TCTD TED	18 invited countries.
29	March 1998 <u>Bulgaria</u> Workshop on Notifications Requirement	WTO	WTO/TC		TexD	
30	March 1998 <u>Côte d'Ivoire</u> Regional Seminar on Trade and Environment for French-speaking African countries	WTO	To be determined		TCTD TED	22 invited countries.
31	March 1998 <u>Chad</u> National Seminar	WTO	To be determined		TCTD	Follow-up to High-Level Meeting. (Notifications and installment of informatics equipment).

	Technical Cooperation Missions	Organized By	Funding	Other Funding	Execution	Comments
32	March 1998 <u>Central African Republic</u> Needs Assessment Mission and National Seminar	WTO	To be determined		TCTD	Follow-up to High-Level Meeting. Back-to-back with Chad.
33	March 1998 <u>Cyprus</u> General Seminar on WTO and Uruguay Round agreements	WTO	WTO/TC		A number of Divisions	
34	March 1998 <u>Mongolia</u> Technical mission on HS, Tariff Schedules and Notification Requirements	WTO	WTO/TC		TCTD MAcc	
35	March-April 1998 <u>Bangladesh</u> Regional Seminar for Asia/Pacific LDCs	WTO	To be determined		TCTD and other Divisions	Follow-up to High-Level Meeting.
36	April 1998 <u>Guinea</u> National seminar	WTO	To be determined		TCTD	Follow-up to High-Level Meeting.
37	April 1998 <u>Mali</u> Technical Mission on Implementation	WTO	To be determined		TCTD and other Divisions	Follow-up to High-Level Meeting.
38	April-May 1998 <u>Tanzania</u> Regional Seminar for African English-speaking LDCs	WTO	To be determined		TCTD and other Divisions	Follow-up to High-Level Meeting
39	May 1998 <u>Haiti</u> National Seminar on Textiles and Services	WTO	To be determined		TSD TextD	Follow-up to High-Level Meeting
40	May 1998 <u>Eastern Europe</u> Workshop on Customs Valuation	WTO	To be determined		TCTD MAcc	6 participants (Members) and 13 observers.
41	May 1998 <u>Mediterranean countries</u> Specialized regional seminar on textiles for selected Mediterranean countries (Algeria, Malta, Egypt, Turkey, Tunisia, Morocco)	WTO	Netherlands Funds		TCTD TextD	

	Technical Cooperation Missions	Organized By	Funding	Other Funding	Execution	Comments
42	May-June 1998 <u>Bolivia</u> Workshop on Textiles, Rules of Origin and Safeguards	WTO	WTO/TC		TCTD TexD RD	
43	June 1998 <u>Morocco</u> Regional WTO Rules Seminar	WTO	WTO/TC		RD	
44	August 1998 <u>Argentina</u> AD/CVD Calculations Workshop for Latin American Countries	WTO		IADB	RD	IADB Program.
45	August 1998 <u>Colombia</u> AD Investigations National Workshop	WTO	WTO/TC		RD	
46	August 1998 <u>Thailand</u> Advanced Training Course on Dispute Settlement (five days)	WTO with Host Gov.	WTO/TC	Government of Thailand	LegD	Costs of participation of WTO expert to be shared by the WTO and the Government of Thailand.
47	Sept.1998 <u>Bolivia</u> GATS Workshop	WTO	WTO/TC		TCTD TSD	
48	Oct.1998 <u>Geneva</u> Short Trade Policy Course for French-speaking LDCs	WTO	To be determined		TCTD	Follow-up to High-Level Meeting for LDCs.
49	Oct.1998 <u>Djibouti</u> Regional Trade Policy Seminar for IGAD Member Countries	WTO	To be determined		TCTD	Somalia, Ethiopia, Sudan, Djibouti, Tanzania, Uganda, Eritrea, Kenya.
50	Nov.1998 <u>Latin America</u> Regional Workshop on Injury Determination (AD/CVD/SG)	WTO		IADB	RD	IADB Program.
51	Nov.1998 <u>Zimbabwe</u> Regional Seminar on Trade and Environment for English-speaking African countries	WTO	Norway Funds or Netherlands Funds		TCTD TED	18 invited countries.
52	Dec.1998 <u>Asian countries</u> Workshop on Anti-Dumping for exporters	WTO	WTO/TC	Asian Dev. Bank	RD	ADB Program

	Technical Cooperation Missions	Organized By	Funding	Other Funding	Execution	Comments
53	First Semester <u>Africa</u> Regional seminar on the TRIPS Agreement for English-speaking African LDCs	WTO	To be determined		TCTD IPID	Follow-up to High-Level Meeting. 2 participants from some 11 countries, the total of some 25 participants.
54	First Semester <u>Asia-Pacific</u> Regional Seminar on WTO Multilateral Trading System for Asia-Pacific Countries	WTO	New Zealand Funds		TCTD	
55	First Semester <u>Bolivia</u> National Workshop on TRIPS, Investment and Competition Policy	WTO	WTO/TC		TCTD IPID	
56	First Semester <u>UDEAC</u> Regional Seminar (Union des Etats de l'Afrique Centrale) on Trade Policy	WTO	To be determined		TCTD	
57	First Semester <u>Guatemala</u> National Seminar on the Agreements on Agriculture SPS and TBT	WTO	WTO/TC		TCTD and other Divisions	
58	First Semester <u>Jamaica</u> Regional Seminar on Trade and Environment for Caribbean Countries	WTO	To be determined		TCTD TED	13 invited countries.
59	First Semester <u>Kazakhstan</u> National seminar on WTO and the multilateral trading system	WTO	WTO/TC		TCTD	
60	First Semester <u>Kenya</u> AD/CVD Legislation	WTO		IMF	RD	Third mission for legislation implementation.
61	First Semester <u>Latvia</u> Accession	WTO	Netherlands Funds		AccD MAcc	To assist in preparation of schedules on market access in goods and services.
62	First Semester <u>Netherlands Antilles</u> Regional Seminar on WTO Multilateral Trading System	WTO	Netherlands Funds		TCTD	



	Technical Cooperation Missions	Organized By	Funding	Other Funding	Execution	Comments
63	First Semester <u>Oman</u> Mission on Accession	WTO	WTO/TC		AccD	Consultations on next phase of accession process.
64	First Semester <u>SADC</u> Training of Trainers in the SADC region	WTO	Norway Funds		TCTD and other Divisions as appropriate	Funding modalities for national participants to be discussed.
65	First Semester <u>Solomon Islands</u> National seminar	WTO	New Zealand Funds		TCTD	In conjunction with Regional seminar for Asia-Pacific countries.
66	First Semester <u>Geneva</u> Trade Policy Course for English-speaking LDCs	WTO	To be determined		TCTD	Follow-up to High-Level Meeting.
67	First Semester <u>Tonga</u> National seminar	WTO	New Zealand Funds		TCTD	In conjunction with Regional seminar for Asia-Pacific countries.
68	First Semester <u>Turkey</u> Regional Seminar on WTO Multilateral Trading System for Black Sea Economic Cooperation Council	WTO	Netherlands Funds		TCTD	
69	First Semester <u>Vanuatu</u> Mission on Accession	WTO	WTO/TC		AccD MAcc	To assist in preparation of replies to questions and on the initial market access offers in goods and services.
70	First Semester <u>Viet Nam</u> Seminar on Services	WTO	WTO/TC		TSD	
71	First Semester <u>Viet Nam</u> SPS Regional Seminar	WTO	To be determined		AgD	
72	Second Semester 3 Regional Workshops Activities will be proposed by the SISD (statistical training)	WTO	To be determined		TCTD SISD	

	Technical Cooperation Missions	Organized By	Funding	Other Funding	Execution	Comments
73	Second Semester <u>Madagascar</u> Indian Ocean Commission Regional Trade Policy Seminar	WTO	To be determined		TCTD	
74	Second Semester <u>Africa</u> Regional seminar on the TRIPS Agreement for French-speaking LDCs	WTO	To be determined		TCTD IPID	Follow-up to High-Level Meeting.
75	Second Semester <u>Bulgaria</u> Seminar on Agreement in Agriculture, SPS and TBT	WTO	WTO/TC		TCTD and other Divisions	
76	Second Semester <u>Chile</u> Regional Seminar on Trade and Environment for Latin America	WTO	Netherlands Funds		TCTD TED	17 invited countries.
77	Second Semester <u>Guatemala</u> National Seminar on Customs Valuation & Notifications Requirements	WTO	WTO/TC		TCTD and other Divisions	
78	Second Semester <u>Mozambique</u> National seminar	WTO	To be determined		TCTD	Follow-up to High-Level Meeting.
79	Second Semester <u>Pakistan</u> Workshop on SPS Measures and TBT	WTO	WTO/TC		AgD TED	
80	Second Semester <u>Senegal</u> National Seminar	WTO	WTO/TC		TCTD and other Divisions	
81	Second Semester <u>Southern Africa</u> Workshop on Dispute Settlement		To be determined		LegD	
82	Second Semester <u>South America</u> Subsidies Disciplines Seminar for South American countries	WTO		Inter American Dev. Bank (IADB)	RD	IADB Program.
83	Second Semester <u>Turkey</u> Regional Seminar on Trade and Environment for Middle East countries	WTO	To be determined		TCTD TED	7 invited countries.

	Technical Cooperation Missions	Organized By	Funding	Other Funding	Execution	Comments
84	<u>Africa</u> Regional Seminar for English-speaking LDCs	WTO	To be determined		TCTD and/or Specialized Divisions	Follow-up to High-Level Meeting.
85	<u>Africa</u> Regional Seminar for French-speaking LDCs	WTO	To be determined		TCTD	Follow-up to High-Level Meeting.
86	<u>Asia</u> Regional Seminar for Asian and Pacific LDCs	WTO	To be determined		TCTD	Follow-up to High-Level Meeting.
87	<u>Nepal</u> National Seminar	WTO	To be determined		TCTD	Follow-up to High-Level Meeting.
88	<u>Vanuatu</u> National Seminar	WTO	To be determined		TCTD	Follow-up to High-Level Meeting.
89	<u>Zambia</u> National seminar	WTO	To be determined		TCTD	Follow-up to High-Level Meeting.
90	<u>Malawi</u> National Seminar	WTO	To be determined		TCTD	Follow-up to High-Level Meeting.
91	<u>Papua New Guinea</u> Technical Mission for Informatics Installation	WTO	To be determined		TCTD and other Divisions	Follow-up to High-Level Meeting.
92	<u>Democratic Republic of Congo</u> National Seminar	WTO	To be determined		TCTD and other Divisions	Follow-up to High-Level Meeting.
93	<u>Angola</u> National Seminar	WTO	To be determined		TCTD and other Divisions	Follow-up to High-Level Meeting.
94	<u>Equatorial Guinea</u> National Seminar	WTO	To be determined		TCTD and other Divisions	Follow-up to High-Level Meeting.

ANNEX 1 B

ACTIVITIES ORGANIZED JOINTLY WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS

	Technical Cooperation Missions	Organized By	Funding	Other Funding	Execution	Comments
1	12-30/01/1998 Singapore Regional Training Course for developing countries	WTO with Gov. of Singapore	WTO/TC	Gov. of Singapore	Various Divisions	Organized by the Government of Singapore and the WTO with the financial support for participants from developing countries. Estimated cost is for participating WTO staff/lecturers corresponding to WTO/TC.
2	10-12/02/1998 Africa Regional seminar on competition policy	WTO and other IGOs	To be determined		IPID	Costs to be shared equally between WTO and other organizers. Some 40 participants from 20 countries.
3	15/03/1998 Geneva First Symposium on competition policy for Geneva-based delegates	WTO UNCTAD World Bank		UNCTAD World Bank	IPID	Costs to be shared equally between WTO and other organizers.
4	05-09/04/1998 Uruguay Regional workshop on Dispute Settlement for FTAA Working Group on Dispute Settlement	WTO	WTO/TC		LegD	Costs limited to participation of WTO expert.
5	01-20/06/1998 United States Joint WTO/OAS Technical Regional Assistance Project (English speaking)	OAS WTO	To be determined	OAS	Various Divisions	WTO funding limited to participation of WTO experts. This will be followed by a similar seminar for Spanish speaking 4th week of June and first two weeks of July.
6	22/06-17/07/1998 United States Joint WTO/OAS Technical Regional Assistance Project (Spanish-speaking)	OAS WTO	To be determined	OAS	Various Divisions	WTO funding limited to participation of WTO experts.

	Technical Cooperation Missions	Organized By	Funding	Other Funding	Execution	Comments
7	15/07/1998 <u>Geneva</u> Second Symposium on competition policy for Geneva-based delegates	WTO UNCTAD World Bank	Netherlands Funds	UNCTAD World Bank	IPID	Costs to be shared equally between WTO and other organizers.
8	01-02/11/1998 <u>Geneva area</u> Third Symposium on Investment for Geneva-based delegates	WTO UNCTAD	Netherlands Funds	UNCTAD	IPID	Costs to be shared equally between WTO and UNCTAD.
9	08-28/11/1998 <u>Korea, Rep. of</u> Training Course for developing countries	WTO with Gov. of Korea		Gov. of Korea	TCTD and other Divisions	No cost to WTO.
10	January 1998 <u>Democratic Republic of Congo</u> Needs assessment and National Seminar for LDCs	WTO	To be determined		TCTD	Needs assessment with ITC and possibly Business Guide.
11	February 1998 <u>Southern Africa</u> WTO/WB Regional Seminar on the agriculture agreement and other implementation matters, and regional integration	WTO World Bank	Norway Funds	World Bank	AgD DD	WTO funding to finance participants and WTO experts. Ten to twelve countries with cost of their participation shared between WTO and the World Bank.
12	March 1998 <u>Egypt</u> Joint Regional TBT Seminar for Arab countries	ISO/ITC/WTO	WTO/TC		TED	Cost limited to participation of WTO expert.
13	April 1998 <u>Guatemala</u> OAS Seminar on Standards and the Implementation of TBT Agreement for Central American countries	Org. of American States	Netherlands Funds		TED	
14	April 1998 <u>Qatar</u> Symposium on role of private sector in international trade	WTO ITC	WTO/TC		TCTD	Cost limited to participation of WTO expert.
15	May 1998 <u>Geneva area</u> First Symposium on Investment or Geneva-based delegates	WTO UNCTAD	Netherlands Funds	UNCTAD	IPID	Costs to be shared equally between WTO and UNCTAD.

	Technical Cooperation Missions	Organized By	Funding	Other Funding	Execution	Comments
16	May-June 1998 <u>Chile</u> SPS Regional Seminar	Gov. of Chile FAO World Bank	WTO/TC	Gov. of Chile FAO World Bank	AgD	Cost to WTO only for participation of WTO experts.
17	May-June 1998 <u>Korea, Rep. of</u> Training Course for developing countries	WTO with Host Gov.		Gov. of Korea	TCTD and other Divisions	No cost to WTO.
18	June-July 1998 <u>Central/East Africa</u> WTO/World Bank Regional Seminar for French-speaking countries mainly on the Agreement on Agriculture on implementation matters	WTO World Bank	Norway Funds	World Bank	TCTD AgD	WTO funding to finance participants and WTO experts.
19	July 1998 <u>Japan</u> Joint Regional TBT Seminar for Eastern Asian developing countries	ISO/ITC/WTO	WTO/TC		TED	Cost limited to participation of WTO expert.
20	September 1998 <u>Tunisia</u> Joint Regional TBT Seminar for African French-speaking countries	ISO/ITC/WTO	Norway Funds		TED	Funding to finance participants from LDCs, WTO expert and one outside consultant.
21	First Semester <u>Asia</u> Regional Seminar on Investment	WTO UNCTAD	Netherlands Funds	UNCTAD	IPID	Costs to be shared equally between WTO and UNCTAD.
22	First Semester <u>Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda</u> A number of activities under the Integrated Programme are foreseen for seven countries	WTO UNCTAD ITC	To be determined		TCTD and other Divisions	Integrated Programme (WTO/UNCTAD/ITC)
23	First Semester <u>Burundi</u> National Seminar	WTO	Norway Funds		TCTD	Follow-up to High-Level Meeting. Needs assessment with ITC and possibly Business Guide.
24	First Semester <u>Geneva area</u> Second Symposium on Investment for Geneva-based delegates	WTO UNCTAD	Netherlands Funds	UNCTAD	IPID	Costs to be shared equally between WTO and UNCTAD.

	Technical Cooperation Missions	Organized By	Funding	Other Funding	Execution	Comments
25	First Semester <u>Latin America</u> Regional Seminar on Investment	WTO UNCTAD	Netherlands Funds	UNCTAD	IPID	Costs to be shared equally between WTO and UNCTAD.
26	First Semester <u>Tunisia</u> Seminar on Customs Issues	WTO UNCTAD ITC	To be determined		TCTD and other Divisions	Integrated Africa Programme.
27	First Semester <u>Tunisia</u> Seminar on Textiles	WTO UNCTAD ITC	To be determined		TCTD and other Divisions	Integrated Africa Programme.
28	Second Semester <u>Côte d'Ivoire</u> Regional seminar on Tariff issues in particular Article XXVIII and Harmonized system	WTO World Bank	To be determined		TCTD	
29	Second Semester <u>Africa</u> Regional Seminar on Investment	WTO UNCTAD	To be determined	UNCTAD	IPID	Costs to be shared between WTO and UNCTAD.
30	Second Semester <u>Asia</u> Regional seminar on competition policy	WTO and other IGOs	To be determined	Other IGOs	IPID	Costs to be shared equally between WTO and other organizers. Some 40 participants from 20 countries.
31	Second Semester <u>Latin America</u> Regional seminar on competition policy	WTO and other IGOs	To be determined	Other IGOs	IPID	Costs to be shared equally between WTO and other organizers. Some 40 participants from 20 countries.
32	Second Semester <u>Africa</u> Regional Seminar on Competition Policy	WTO and other IGOs	To be determined	Other IGOs	IPID	Costs to be shared equally between WTO and other organizers.
33	Second Semester <u>Tunisia</u> Seminar on TRIPS	WTO UNCTAD ITC	To be determined		TCTD and other Divisions	Integrated Africa Programme.
34	Second Semester <u>Tunisia</u> Seminar on WTO Rules	WTO UNCTAD ITC	To be determined		TCTD and other Divisions	Integrated Africa Programme.
35	Various Business Guide Seminars with ITC	ITC		ITC	TCTD	No cost to WTO.

	<b>Technical Cooperation Missions</b>	<b>Organized By</b>	<b>Funding</b>	<b>Other Funding</b>	<b>Execution</b>	<b>Comments</b>
36	WTO/World Bank project on Information Technology for Development	WTO World Bank	Norway Funds and Netherlands Funds		TCTD IMRD	This would include the setting-up of WTO reference centers, providing Internet linkages, CD-ROMs and training on WEB sites for 12 countries as a follow-up activity after the LDC High-Level Meeting.



ANNEX 1 C

ACTIVITIES TO WHICH WTO IS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE,  
AMONG OTHER PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS

	Technical Cooperation Missions	Organized By	Funding	Other Funding	Execution	Comments
1	29-30/03/1998 Abu Dhabi Symposium on effects of globalization and international world trade liberalization agreements on small/medium industries in Arab countries	Gov. of UAE Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce Islamic Dev. Bank and other regional institutions	WTO/TC	Organizers	ERAD	WTO funding limited to finance participation of WTO expert.
2	01-05/04/1998 <u>South Africa</u> Commonwealth Regional Workshop on Implementation of the TRIPS Agreement	Commonwealth Sec.		Commonwealth Sec.	TCTD LegD IPID	No cost to WTO.
3	28/04-02/05/1998 Kenya Commonwealth Workshop on TRIPS and the Multilateral Trading System	Commonwealth Sec.	WTO/TC		IPID	WTO funding limited to finance participation of WTO expert.
4	First Semester Regional Seminar on Investment	UNCTAD	To be determined	UNCTAD	IPID	WTO costs limited to participation of WTO expert.
5	Second Semester Regional Seminar on Investment	UNCTAD	To be determined	UNCTAD	IPID	WTO costs limited to participation of WTO expert.
6	3 Regional Seminars on Government Procurement	IGOs and/or national gov. WTO	WTO/TC		IPID	WTO costs limited to participation of WTO expert.
7	6 conferences, seminars, symposia on Competition Policy		WTO/TC		IPID	WTO costs limited to participation of WTO expert.
8	6 conferences, seminars, symposia on Government Procurement		WTO/TC		IPID	WTO costs limited to participation of WTO expert.

	Technical Cooperation Missions	Organized By	Funding	Other Funding	Execution	Comments
9	6 Regional or National Seminars on Investment		WTO/TC		IPID	WTO costs limited to participation of WTO expert.
10	Round Tables for approximately 6 LDCs	UNDP	WTO/TC		TCTD DD	WTO funding limited to finance participation of WTO expert(s).
11	UNDP Capacity Building in Africa Project. Participation in 3 workshops	UNDP	WTO/TC		TCTD	WTO costs limited to participation of WTO experts.

## ANNEX 2

## WTO TRADE POLICY COURSES HELD IN GENEVA

Objectives for 1998

WTO Training activities aim to assist recipient countries in their understanding and implementation of agreed international trade rules and to contribute towards human resource development, through the organization of trade policy courses in Geneva for officials from developing countries (regular courses) and economies in transition (special courses).

- Regular Trade Policy Courses for developing countries

These courses aim to widen the participating officials' understanding of the multilateral trading system and international trade law, and of the activities, scope and structure of the WTO, in order to allow them to improve the effectiveness of their work in their own administrations. The Courses are intended for government officials from WTO Members as well as non-members who are involved in the formulation and implementation of trade policy.

- Special Courses for economies in transition

Special courses have been organized since 1991 for government officials from economies in transition to facilitate the consolidation of these countries' economic reform and their effective participation in the world trading system.

Work programme for 1998

Up to five Trade Policy courses will be planned, organized and implemented in 1998. Three Regular Courses of a twelve-week duration will be held, one in Spanish, from 12 January to 3 April and the others in English, from 27 April to 17 July and from 14 September to 4 December 1998, and twenty-four WTO fellowships will be available for each Course. The third regular Trade Policy Course is in response to suggestions that ways and means be identified to expand WTO training opportunities for developing countries.

Two Special Courses will be held which will be financed through financial contributions by individual governments; participation is limited to officials from the countries expressly invited. The programme of the Courses consists of lectures complemented by practical work.

Plan for 1999 and 2000

At this stage, it is not possible to give a precise picture of what can be offered in terms of Trade Policy Courses in Geneva. For the Regular Trade Policy Courses, there will be three regular courses each year.

With respect to the Special Courses for officials from economies in transition, the corresponding financial decisions by the Swiss and US Governments are normally taken each year.