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WTO PROGRAMME FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION

Three-Year Plan (2000-2002)

Note by the Secretariat

Introduction

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 present document covers the period 2000-2002.
2. It is appropriate, at this juncture, to indicate that the present document is only a first, preliminary approximation to what may become the 2000-2002 Three-Year Plan as understood in the Guidelines for Technical Cooperation. The critical financial situation presented to Members over the last few months, both formally and informally in the framework of the CTD and the Committee on Budget, Finance and Administration; the launching, by a number of Members, of the Global Trust Fund for WTO Technical Cooperation; the presentation of various proposals on the substantive approaches, the administration, the financing and the evaluation of WTO technical cooperation activities; the results of the work of the internal Secretariat Task Force on Enhanced Technical Cooperation; the prospect of important decisions to be taken by Members at the Third WTO Ministerial Conference; and the initiation of new negotiations, are all circumstances that suggest the need for a prudent approach.
3. Furthermore, the intensification of the work in the preparatory process for the Ministerial Conference appears to have prevented Members to concentrate on the consideration of their specific technical cooperation requirements, which has resulted in a number of requests received in the Secretariat which is smaller than in normal years.
4. In this context, Members may wish to revert to a substantive consideration of the WTO programme of technical cooperation in a forthcoming meeting of the Committee on Trade and Development to be held early in the year 2000. In the meantime, the present document assembles a number of elements to be considered, including broad lines of action of a tentative nature for the Secretariat's technical cooperation activities on different WTO subjects for the year 2000. A number of specific activities has also been compiled, on a regional basis, and appear in Annex 1. For the years 2001 and 2002, an indication is given for continuity of work and a general statement of an indicative nature is included, outlining likely priorities for the future.

Background

5. Since the establishment of the WTO in 1995, technical cooperation activities of the WTO Secretariat have expanded in scope and increased in numbers. This was made possible thanks to a

very significant increase of extra-budgetary financial contributions from certain WTO Members, as the WTO regular budget for technical cooperation remained constant over that period. As a result, it is projected that 90% of technical assistance activities in 1999 (measured by number of activities and excluding the regular Trade Policy Courses and the support provided to the ITC) will have been financed through extra-budgetary resources.

6. As reflected in the Reports on technical cooperation provided to the CTD over the years, these activities have registered a fourfold increase since the entry into force of the WTO Agreement. In 1995 the WTO Secretariat performed some 79 technical cooperation activities, most of them financed through the regular budget for technical cooperation of 741 thousand Swiss francs. In 1996 the number of activities increased to 124 (a 57% increase over 1995 activities). In 1997, 227 activities (83% increase) were carried out. In 1998, over 300 activities were executed (34% increase). A detailed report on technical cooperation activities in 1999 will be provided to the Committee in the year 2000. However, it may be noted that by the end of September 1999, over 240 activities had already been carried out.

7. This very significant increase in the volume of technical assistance activities has not been matched over the same period by an equivalent increase in the human resources of the WTO Secretariat, either in the Technical Cooperation Division or in any of the other Divisions which provide their expertise on each particular subject. Whilst the consequent intensification of the workload has been absorbed by the Secretariat staff, the situation may have reached a point where this level of activity is not sustainable given, particularly, increasing staff responsibilities in servicing Committees, dispute settlement panels, and new negotiations. It may be recalled that the problems arising from the lack of financial resources, the lack of certainty as to their availability, and the human resources situation, have been highlighted in previous Three-Year Plans.

8. The situation described in the previous paragraphs only confirms the increasing dynamism in WTO technical cooperation activities. One way or another, various parts of the Secretariat are involved, on a daily basis, in providing advice and technical assistance to Members. Up to now, the increasing workload, both on substance and on administration, logistics and coordination, has been absorbed by the Secretariat, with the same basic manning table of the past three years and with relatively minimum internal adjustments. However, it may be expected that human resources which during this period have been dedicated to technical cooperation activities, might with the commencement of new negotiations, and also due to an increase in recourse to dispute settlement procedures, be diverted to other work. In this situation, it may not be possible to sustain the increasing trend in technical cooperation activities.

Financial Situation

9. The CTD and the Committee on Budget, Finance and Administration, have received detailed information as to the financial situation of technical cooperation activities, and have had an opportunity to exchange views on the subject, both formally and informally. At the request of both Committees, the Secretariat issued document WT/BFA/42-WT/COMTD/20, which contains the information provided.

Structure

10. In the process of preparing the present document, a communication was sent to Delegations of developing countries and of countries in transition which are Members and Observers, inviting them to present requests for technical cooperation activities for 2000-2002 by 15 September 1999. This target date was set in terms of the lead-time required by the Secretariat for the 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 delegations, some of

them in very precise terms for 2000, some containing only indications of areas of interest and preferred modes of delivery (e.g., technical missions, general seminars, technical workshops, etc.). In some other cases, requests pending from the previous plan have also been taken into account.

11. In light of the above, the structure of the present document differs from the structure of document WT/COMTD/W/48. 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 year 2000. For the years 2001 and 2002, a general statement of an indicative nature is included, both where work will be carried on along the lines of the previous year and where an outline of likely priorities for the future is possible. Annex 1 contains a list of foreseen/planned activities for 2000, presented on a regional basis.

12. The Trade Policy Courses are also an important component of WTO technical cooperation activities at headquarters. Annex 2 to this note presents the activities carried out in this context as well as future plans for the residential Trade Policy Courses over the next Three-Year Period (2000-2002).

Year 2000

1. Agriculture and SPS Agreements

1.1 Agreement on Agriculture

Under the special and differential treatment provisions of the Agreement on Agriculture, developing countries have until the end of 2003 to implement their commitments. In addition the negotiations on continuing the reform process on agriculture will start this year as required under Article 20 of the Agreement. Therefore, while the focus of the Secretariat's technical cooperation activities will remain on assisting Members in implementing their specific commitments in agriculture, it will also provide assistance, on the request of Members, in the area of the negotiations. Much of this assistance will be provided at or from headquarters.

It is envisaged to provide targeted assistance by way of missions to the capitals of 5 or 6 Members on a demand-driven basis, the actual number of missions will depend on the requests received and resource availability. In addition, the Secretariat intends to participate in a number of regional seminars on the rules, commitments and negotiations in agriculture. Normally these regional seminars will be conducted in cooperation with other international or regional organizations, in particular the World Bank and/or FAO. WTO sponsorship of the participation of some Members in these seminars may be required.

1.2 SPS Agreement

The SPS Agreement will apply to least-developed countries as from 1 January 2000. Therefore, in 2000 SPS workshops and seminars will have to address LDCs' needs in particular (mostly African countries). However, SPS technical assistance and cooperation is also typically demand driven. The Secretariat has already received formal or informal requests for the organization or participation in workshops or seminars in different countries and regions.

The present structure of seminars appears to be appropriate, with slight adaptations depending on the target country/region. Seminars for LDCs typically include a session on general introduction to WTO and dispute settlement procedures, followed by a detailed presentation of the SPS Agreement, including implementation and operation issues. Three other sessions follow for the presentation of the "three sisters" work, presented by officials of each of these organizations. Finally, special sessions dealing with the practical implementation of the Agreement (risk assessment; equivalence; methods of production (HACCP); enquiry points, etc.) are also now an integral part of SPS seminars.

With regard to technical assistance to developing countries in a more advanced stage of implementation of the Agreement (Central and South America; Asia), emphasis will be placed in the special sessions dealing with the implementation of the Agreement. This approach will draw on external experts in the relevant areas and this will have financial implications for the WTO. Additionally, efforts for improved coordination of technical assistance and cooperation between the Secretariat and Members, and between the Secretariat and other international organizations will be made.

Missions already provisionally scheduled are indicated in Annex 1.

2. Market Access Issues

2.1 Tariff Schedules

In the year 2000 the Secretariat will have to continue providing assistance to a number of developing countries 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). Requests for assistance in this respect are expected to come from a number of developing and least-developed country Members in the African, Asia-Pacific, Central America and Caribbean areas. In addition, assistance will need to be provided to some developing countries with a view to establishing consolidated loose-leaf schedules of tariff concessions.

2.2 Agreement on Customs Valuation

A total of 55 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; for 28 of them the transition period ends at the end of 1999. For another 21, the transition period ends at the end of the year 2000. The Secretariat's activities in this area will thus have to be oriented towards assisting those countries to be adequately prepared for the fulfilment of their obligations by that deadline. The WTO Secretariat has organized a technical assistance programme which makes use of expert consultants (a Spanish, a French and an English-speaking) to go to each of the countries which have invoked the delay and who request assistance, to assist them with all aspects of their transitional process. The Market Access Division has conducted 24 such missions in the last 2 quarters of 1998 and the first three quarters of 1999. The Division estimates another 15-20 missions to be held through the year 2000.

Coordination with the WCO valuation team is an on-going process because it is clear to all that cooperation with the WCO will contribute to the effectiveness of technical assistance activities.

2.3 Agreement on Rules of Origin

The Committee on Rules of Origin has been working on the harmonization work programme (HWP) for non-preferential Rules of Origin. Members have committed themselves to making their best endeavours to complete the work programme by November 1999. If the HWP is finalized it will become necessary to assist a large number of developing countries to implement the new harmonized rules of origin. In the meantime, it will be necessary to assist certain smaller developing countries which specifically request so, in the understanding of technical negotiating issues. For instance, in the current year two such requests were received and missions carried out.

2.4 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 has started in 1998 a technical assistance programme for the PC IDB. Its continuation will cover:

- the dissemination and training on the PC software for submission preparation;
- conducting PC IDB workshops tailored to regional and/or national requirements;
- continued participation in WTO seminars to provide training; and
- pursuing the establishment of contacts in missions and national capitals.

During 1999, a number of developing countries which had not yet submitted their IDB data have requested assistance on the preparation of their IDB submissions. Information on these activities will be provided in the forthcoming report on technical cooperation activities for 1999.

During 1998 and 1999 the Statistics Division participated in regional seminars in conjunction with other WTO divisions, principally with Market Access Division and in seminars for LDCs. Given that the results of this collaboration were successful, the intention is to pursue it.

Workshops exclusively on IDB matters will be undertaken as well in 2000 and 2001. These activities would target the officers responsible for the collection of customs tariff data and import statistics. A number of missions have been listed in Annex 1.

3. Agreement on Textiles and Clothing

In 1998, the following approach to technical cooperation in the area of textiles and clothing for the 1999-2000 planning period was proposed:

"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, three regional or sub-regional seminars and three national seminars each in 1999 and 2000, covering the three broad regions of developing countries in the world." (WT/COMTD/W/48)

Technical assistance and cooperation at the national level, both for Geneva-based delegations and for capital-based government officials, have also been undertaken, and will continue, upon request from interested Members.

This method has worked well in 1999 with our participation in selected regional and national seminars in each of the main geographical regions. The year 2000 is already covered by the existing approach. It is, of course, difficult to anticipate the needs which might flow from the upcoming Ministerial meeting; however, the current approach would appear to be a viable method to maintain for the subsequent years, subject to any modifications resulting from the Ministerial meeting.

4. Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade

A number of developing country Members, in particular least-developed country Members, have indicated that they experience problems with respect to raising national awareness among government agencies and industries of the TBT Agreement, and have requested technical assistance in the form of workshops and seminars. In responding to that, the sub-regional seminars organized for the participation of officers who are involved in implementing the TBT Agreement, standards information and trade promotion, as described in document W/48 for 1999, would be continued. Taking into account the result of the 1997 First Triennial Review of the TBT Agreement, the regional seminars would be coordinated with other international organizations and special attention would be given also to the development of human and institutional resources, in particular, with respect to conformity assessment procedures. During a WTO Symposium on Conformity Assessment Procedures held on 8-9 June 1999, it was considered beneficial if the WTO could contribute to the activities undertaken by regional and international systems in response to an increasing demand for technical assistance. Pending the nature of decisions taken at the WTO Ministerial Conference in Seattle, further requests for technical cooperation in relation to the TBT Agreement may arise.

Furthermore, the WTO is also likely to receive invitations to participate in activities organized by others, for example, on the basis of experience in 1999, by the SADEC, ESCWA, OAS, APEC, ITC and ISO.

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, 1997, 1998 and 1999 have produced positive results and demonstrated the usefulness of inter-agency cooperation. This collaboration will be continued in the year 2000.

The project with the IADB includes three activities for the year 2000. Previous activities with Latin American and Caribbean countries have covered already a wide range of general issues and are now starting to delve into more specific topics. As experience of countries in the use of contingent trade remedies increases, it has become necessary to cover particular subjects stemming from the application of contingent trade remedies, such as injury and causality determinations and calculations of dumping and subsidization margins. In the case of subsidy disciplines, a seminar for Caribbean countries is planned which would take into account their special condition as small economies.

The project with the ADB also includes two activities for the year 2000. One of the programmes shall be a specialized injury determination seminar which would further the activities undertaken with the most advanced countries in the area of contingent trade remedies. The other activity with the ADB will focus on providing capacity building for Asian transition economies. Since in the past ADB financing has not always been available, it might be necessary to plan for the eventuality that these very important programmes may have to be fully WTO financed.

5.2 Country Specific Assistance

This programme provides the opportunity of a more specialized assistance to Members. The issues to be dealt with in each programme are coordinated with the government agencies receiving the assistance and are custom-tailored to their specific needs. Some requests for assistance pending from 1999 will be attended to in the year 2000, as well as ongoing programmes designed to assist countries to develop WTO consistent national legislation once they have decided to do so. Four country specific and two ongoing programmes on legislation implementation are planned for the year 2000. Experience has shown that some Members tend not to make their needs for technical assistance known to the Secretariat until sometime during the year when this assistance is required. This situation should be taken into account in order that the Secretariat may be in a position to respond to any eventual urgent requests which may come throughout the year 2000.

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 these types of programmes to be conducted in the next two years.

5.4 Seminars on Rules

In order to 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. For the year 2000 special focus will take place on these types of programmes to help the capacity building process in Africa and the transition economies in Southeast and Central Asia. Additionally, depending on the outcome of the Seattle Ministerial, it is possible that there may be a need to change the focus of these events to take into account the issues that may arise post-Seattle.

5.5 Accession Related Missions

The Rules Division envisions continuing 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

Developing country Members are scheduled to have brought their intellectual property regimes into line with their TRIPS obligations by 1 January 2000. The implementation of the TRIPS Agreement by these Members will be reviewed by the Council for TRIPS in the year 2000 and 2001. This will mean that for this group of countries the emphasis will increasingly move to assisting them to participating fully in the operation of the TRIPS Council, including meeting their procedural obligations under the Agreement, in particular those relating to notification and review procedures, and the other mechanisms and processes of the WTO related to TRIPS matters, including as a result of the Seattle meeting. However, it can be expected that there will continue to be an on-going need for assistance also in respect of the process of implementation, both in regard to substantive standards and enforcement, notably in the areas of training and public awareness.

For least-developed country Members, the focus will continue to be on assisting them to understand the rights and obligations which flow from the TRIPS Agreement, aimed at helping them to assess 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, and training staff, both for these purposes and for the actual implementation of TRIPS-consistent legislation in the fields of standards and enforcement. Priority continues to be attached to assistance to least-developed countries.

The technical cooperation made available by the Secretariat is essentially demand-driven, within the available resources. The main modes of supply of technical cooperation specifically relating to the TRIPS Agreement is information and advice given to Members in Geneva, seminars and workshops for developing countries, technical missions to individual Members, and, to a lesser extent, NGO conferences.

Importance is attached to ensuring complementarity and cooperation with other intergovernmental organizations. In this regard, the Secretariat intends to continue its close cooperation with WIPO in the provision of technical cooperation.

The extent to which the Secretariat has been able to meet the demand for assistance both directly and through cooperation with WIPO and other intergovernmental organizations has been limited by the available personnel and financial resources. TRIPS-related activities cited in Annex 1 may need to be reviewed in the light of any future decisions by Members taken on this matter.

7. General Agreement on Trade in Services

Technical cooperation activities in services are expected to hinge around five major issues:

(i) interpretation of GATS rules, guidelines and disciplines; (ii) implementation of existing commitments; (iii) ongoing rule-making efforts (emergency safeguards, subsidies, government procurement) and negotiations on new disciplines (domestic regulation); (iv) facilitation of the accession process; and (v) preparation of the new services round due to start in January 2000. Of course, these activities are closely interrelated. For example, the interpretation of existing rules and commitments will help current Members to identify potential areas for future negotiations and/or assist acceding countries in defining negotiating and adjustment strategies in the accession process. Previous concerns that increased requests for technical cooperation - associated with recent accessions and the new round - may lead to resource impasses have materialized in the course of 1999. It thus remains important that requests for assistance be forwarded as early as possible and, whenever feasible, be coordinated in the context of existing frameworks for regional trade and economic cooperation.

While predominantly demand driven, technical assistance in the area of existing commitments may continue to focus on the results of the extended negotiations on basic telecommunications and on financial services. These activities are of longer-term relevance in particular for those countries that have made pre-commitments to be phased in over the coming years. As in the past, technical cooperation is also intended to enable developing countries to participate effectively in the ongoing negotiations under Articles VI:4, X, XIII and XV of the GATS and the work currently undertaken in the Committee on Specific Commitments (scheduling questions and sectoral classification issues).

Assistance for accession countries generally aims to provide information on the principles and structure of the Agreement, its main provisions, and the obligations incurred in scheduling commitments. The Secretariat has carried out various missions to acceding countries and recent Members in 1999 and, given high continued interest by the administrations involved, is likely to receive additional requests.

With the start of the new round, the Secretariat is committed, as resources permit, to assisting developing countries in preparing themselves for active participation. This implies identifying their own negotiating interests in individual sectors and modes of supply as well as interpreting, and effectively responding to, potential requests from trading partners.

As in the past, assistance will be granted in the form of both individual country missions and regional seminars for countries with a similar economic and institutional background. While country missions help to familiarise representatives from interested ministries and agencies with relevant GATS provisions, regional seminars are a particularly cost- and resource-efficient way of informing selected country participants of the main features of the Agreement. To facilitate planning, it is necessary that potential hosts of such seminars indicate their interest in advance.

8. Trade and Environment

For the year 2000, the Trade and Environment Division (TED) plans to continue its series of regional seminars on trade and environment for developing and least-developed countries and transition economies. One regional seminar to be held in Malta and postponed could be organized in early 2000 for Mediterranean and Middle Eastern countries, followed by seminars for Asia, French-speaking Africa, English-speaking Africa, Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Spanish-speaking Central and South America, and the Caribbean, totalling seven regional seminars for the year 2000. Again, representatives from both the Ministries of Trade and of Environment will be invited to attend. The objective of the seminars will be a more in-depth examination of the information already provided in past regional seminars regarding the ongoing discussions and the relevant GATT/WTO rules with respect to trade and environment issues. Issues of particular concern to different regions, such as the market access impact of eco-labelling schemes, or the environmental benefits of removing trade restrictions and distortions, will be addressed.

Having received multiple requests for technical assistance in the preparation of developing countries for the WTO Ministerial Conference in 1999, the TED anticipates a possible increase in demand for TC seminars organized by IGOs, such as the UN Regional Economic Commissions, UNCTAD and UNEP, both regionally and nationally. Judging from past experience, the Division expects further requests to jointly organize international seminars for developing countries on trade-related policies in specific sectors or on particular issues such as those related to multilateral environmental matters dealt with by other bodies. Experience also tells us that the WTO will also be requested to participate in activities wholly organized by others.

9. Joint Integrated Technical Assistance Programme for Selected Least-Developed and Other African Countries (JITAP)

A Joint Integrated Programme of Technical Assistance for Selected Least-Developed and Other African Countries was launched in early 1996 by the WTO, 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 to improve their integration into the multilateral trading system.

An important development under this programme is the fact that a Joint ITC/UNCTAD/WTO Trust Fund has been established, with voluntary contributions from a number of donor countries, thus putting this programme on a sustainable financial basis for 1999 and beyond. It may be recalled that a substantive presentation of this programme was made to the CTD at its 25th session.

Activities under this programme will continue in the year 2000 in accordance with the country project documents and implementation plans, based on the JITAP clusters of activities.

10. Least-Developed Countries

As agreed during the High Level Meeting on Least-Developed Countries held in October 1997, six core organizations (IMF, ITC, UNDP, UNCTAD, World Bank, and WTO) are working together with the LDCs to coordinate their trade assistance programmes through an Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical Assistance to Least-Developed Countries. The forthcoming report on technical cooperation to be presented to the CTD early in the year 2000 will contain information on the activities undertaken in 1999. It may be recalled that a substantive presentation of the Integrated Framework was made to the CTD at its 25th session.

In order to facilitate the implementation of the Integrated Framework, a specific web-site (www.ldcs.org) has been developed by the Integrated Framework's Administrative Unit at ITC. The aim of the site is to become both a management tool for the six agencies and a communication tool for stakeholders in the process. At the same time, it serves as a medium of communication between the agencies, the least-developed countries and their development partners, multilateral, regional and bilateral. The web-site provides also, among other things, general information on the Integrated Framework and is open to contributions from other development partners.

Although progress so far has been slow, a substantive strengthening of the Integrated Framework is expected in the near future. Round Tables are to be held in 4 LDCs before the end of 1999. In this context, some activities may already be foreseen for the year 2000 in the context of programme implementation arising from those Round Tables, and further Round Tables, also in the year 2000, are in the pipeline. Regional seminars and short trade policy courses as a follow-up to the High-Level Meeting and complementary to the country exercises are also foreseen. These activities have been included in Annex 1. Additional activities which may be agreed upon shall be introduced at the appropriate time.

11. Accessions

The demands on accession negotiations in general, both for existing working parties and any new ones that may be created, will become greater and more complex. From the end of 1999 and beyond, with the attention of WTO members focusing increasingly on the new negotiations in the WTO, the accession negotiations will have to take into account the issues being discussed in the context of multilateral negotiations. Consequently, the technical assistance needs and requirements of the acceding governments can be expected to increase during this period, and the Secretariat will be called upon to fulfil these to the maximum extent possible.

The technical assistance activities relating to accessions will be focussed on countries which are at the early or very initial stages of the process such as Nepal, Bhutan, Lao PDR, Cambodia, Sudan, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Azerbaijan and Lebanon. The Secretariat will also continue to provide technical assistance to the accession of large economies such as Viet Nam, Russia, Ukraine and Saudi Arabia. As the accession negotiations of these countries will be running in parallel with the multilateral trade negotiations, the activities launched in the year 2000 can be expected to be carried over into the years 2001 and 2002.

12. Dispute Settlement

12.1 Special Training Courses on Dispute Settlement Procedures will continue to be organized by the Secretariat at WTO Headquarters. Three of these courses are foreseen for the year 2000. On request, these courses may also be organized in the field, on a national basis.

12.2 Training Courses on Dispute Settlement (Introduction) and Advanced Training Courses on Dispute Settlement are also regularly organized on a regional, sub-regional or national basis. These courses are much appreciated because not only do they provide participants with a practical understanding of the practices and procedures of the WTO dispute settlement process, but they also allow participants to work with all the various WTO agreements together, in the same way in which they may be raised as claims or defences in actual cases.

In view of the high demand for these courses, the Secretariat envisages to continue, subject to the availability of appropriate funding, the programme of regional and subregional workshops initiated in 1998 for the training of government officials of developing countries on dispute settlement procedures and practices. A special component on dispute settlement and the way it connects together all of the WTO agreements is also regularly included in the activities specifically directed at the least-developed countries.

12.3 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. Trade Policy Review Mechanism

The Trade Policy Review Mechanism is increasingly seen as having an important technical assistance component, particularly for least-developed countries and for small vulnerable developing economies. It helps to give the relevant Members an overview of its economy and of the role of trade and trade-related policies in achieving sustainable development. Frequently, it assists in the identification of implementation problems with respect to WTO obligations and with the identification and prioritisation of further technical assistance needs, e.g. in the area of customs valuation and procedures and TRIPS. The recent Report to Ministers on the Appraisal of the Operation of the Mechanism suggested that the parties to the Integrated Framework take cognizance of the relevant

Members' trade policy review. The Singapore Ministerial also laid emphasis on the importance of reviews for LDCs. Since then seven LDCs have been reviewed, and Members have seen this as having had an important technical assistance aspect. In the Report to Ministers, Members found it important, largely in recognition of the technical assistance component, that all LDCs be reviewed as soon as possible. The programme of reviews for the next few years will therefore seek to include as many LDCs and small, vulnerable economies as possible. This will contribute to the further integration of these countries into the multilateral trading system.

14. Other Issues

14.1 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 groups established under paragraphs 20 and 21 on the relationship between trade and investment, the interaction between trade and competition policy, and transparency in government procurement. It should also be noted that several of the proposals that have been made on this subject in the context of the preparations for the third Ministerial Conference put heavy emphasis on technical cooperation, both in order to facilitate full participation in any negotiations or other work that might be undertaken and to assist in the implementation of any arrangements that might result from such work.

In the light of the above, the Secretariat sees the need to plan to increase its capacity to provide technical cooperation in this area, which will of course require appropriate resources to be made available, notably in the operational division in question. Given the limits on the Secretariat's own resources, cooperation with other intergovernmental organizations is a key aspect 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. In the year 2000, the WTO plans to organize jointly with other inter-governmental organizations two seminars on investment for Geneva-based delegations. The Secretariat also plans to participate in conferences, seminars and other events on trade and investment organized by other institutions.
- (b) Competition Policy. Two seminars for Geneva-based delegates and two regional seminars are planned to be organized jointly 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.

14.2 Notification Procedures and Obligations

The Secretariat will continue to give attention and respond to requests for assistance on notification procedures and obligations. As in the past, in the year 2000 a specialized Workshop on Notification Procedures and Obligations will be organized in Geneva for Geneva-based delegations. The Technical Cooperation Handbook on Notifications Procedures and Obligations will be updated accordingly and disseminated as widely as possible among interested Member governments.

Moreover, a module on these issues continues to be used in seminars and workshops on the WTO held at the national, sub-regional and regional levels.

A web-page has been set up in the WTO official site to facilitate contact between capital-based officials and WTO experts on notification issues (www.wto.org/wto/tct/tctdnot.htm). A CD-ROM version of the Handbook is also under consideration.

14.3 Cooperation with Universities in Developing Countries

To contribute to the strengthening of human and institutional capacities of developing countries, the WTO Secretariat has decided to cooperate upon request, with universities in developing countries to design a course on international trade. The WTO will support the universities by providing them with relevant WTO materials including CD-ROMs, teaching aids such as slides, case studies and summaries and arrange for visits to the universities by WTO staff members who happen to be in the country for technical cooperation or official missions.

15. 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. IT tools are used for several purposes: (i) information dissemination (web-sites and electronic publications); (ii) improving communications (e-mails and on-line fora); (iii) delivery of technical assistance (distance learning, video-conferencing). The following list highlights some of the recent developments and plans for the period 2000-2002 in this area.

15.1 WTO Reference Centres

Since it is at the recipients' end where information dissemination becomes a critical activity for those Members who lack adequate retrieval capacities and following a needs assessment carried out under the Joint Integrated Technical Assistance Programme (JITAP) in July 1996, the Secretariat incorporated, in the establishment of WTO Reference Centres on the multilateral trading system, the use of information technologies to help decision makers in developing and least-developed countries better understand and make use of the rules and mechanisms of the WTO. This was achieved through procurement of computer equipment and internet connectivity as well as training of government officials on how to access trade-related information resources on the Internet and CD-ROMs.

A WTO Reference Centre is designed to serve government Ministries and Departments in a country. Associated with the Centre is training of persons to help users navigate the web and in particular, WTO-related web-sites and electronic publications, download documents, send and receive electronic mail, and use search engines to look for specific information. The establishment of the WTO Reference Centres has since been expanded as part of WTO's contribution to the Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical Assistance to LDCs. The network of WTO Reference Centres that presently covers over 60 least-developed and other developing countries will continue to grow, in particular for the benefit of small developing economies.

15.2 WTO web-site (www.wto.org)

This is the official site of the World Trade Organization. It is a trilingual site (English, French and Spanish) that contains a wealth of information (over 15,000 pages) about the rules and mechanisms of the multilateral trading system, the latest news, WTO legal texts, developments in International Trade, schedule of meetings, and a document database, the DDB, which provides access to over 70,000 working documents of the WTO. Access to restricted documents and confidential information is limited to Members only and is password-protected.

The site is used by individuals from about 150 countries, including an increasing number from least-developed and developing countries. At present, over 200,000 users visit the WTO site each month and download a significant volume of documents and data (the equivalent of 60 million pages of text per month). In the coming weeks, a new, revamped and easier-to-use structure will be put in place and in the course of next year, a more performing search engine will be incorporated. At the same time, a Guide to the use of WTO web-site on CD-ROM will be produced and circulated to WTO Members.

15.3 ITD web-site (www.itd.org)

The Information Technologies for Development Project is a joint initiative of the WTO and the World Bank Institute. In the framework of this project, a specialized web-site has been set-up that is focused specifically on social and economic development and how these are related to trade. It offers information, analysis and comments on these issues through case studies and interactive guides as well as an opportunity to exchange views through an on-line conference facility. This web-site should be of particular interest to officials of developing countries dealing with the social and economic aspects of trade.

In 1999, the ITD web-site was also used to post the documents presented during several symposia organized by the WTO so that officials in capitals as well as other interested parties could access at least the documentation distributed during those events.

Development and strengthening of the WTO/World Bank Trade and Development web-site will continue during the year 2000 and beyond.

15.4 Distance-Learning

(a) *The WTO: a training package.* A computer-based package on the World Trade Organization has been prepared by the Secretariat and is now accessible in the WTO web-site. It mirrors the structure of a general seminar and covers all the concepts developed in a normal 4 to 5 day seminar run by TCD. It consists of ten modules. Each of the first nine modules corresponds to a three-four hour seminar lecture, and includes a review section using the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) approach. The last module - module 10 - contains the Final Act as well as other key WTO documents.

(b) This package can be seen as two inter-related components: (i) a set of over 350 "slides". Each slide has a title and contains some bullet points. Slides are grouped in units and sections, which form the structure of the modules. These slides are available in English, French and Spanish on-line; (ii) a "book" that contains a short explanation for each bullet point appearing on the slides. This "book" is for the moment only available in English and its translation into French and Spanish will be available before year end. By the year 2000, a CD-ROM will be pressed and distributed as electronic documentation. The same material contained in the CD-ROM will be made available in printed form as well, i.e. a "book" and a set of slides.

(c) *Computer-Based Training (CBT) series.* The objective of this initiative is to capture on CD-ROM the subject-matter presented in the 3-month WTO Trade Policy Courses. The target audience are trade officials of developing countries as well as other interested persons who are not in a position to attend the residential courses. Using the CD-ROMs, they will have access to the course material developed by WTO experts. The material is presented using a multimedia approach that combines text, audio and video segments in an interactive, pedagogical manner. Each module includes a test through which the student, and instructor, can measure progress in absorbing the subject-matter. The first module was recently completed on the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing

that incorporates three hours of course material and is available in the three working languages of the WTO. In the year 2000, two new CBT issues will be produced on SPS and TRIPS, respectively.

15.5 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 web-site 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 has been 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 small meeting room at the Secretariat has been set up with the appropriate equipment. The use of this facility, first started in late 1998, will further expand in the year 2000 and beyond.

Years 2001-2002

1. Agriculture and SPS Agreements

In the years 2001 and 2002, the Secretariat intends to continue technical assistance focusing on specific national concerns and practical implementation of the Agreements (risk assessment; equivalence; methods of production (HACCP); enquiry points, etc.). It is envisaged to organize, or participate, in about six national or regional seminars, two in Africa, two in Asia and two in the Central/South American region. It is also anticipated that African countries will request further technical assistance with regard to the practical implementation of the SPS Agreement. As on earlier occasions, participation of the private sector will be encouraged.

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, Central and Latin American 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 1999. Assistance will also consist in establishing consolidated loose-leaf schedules of tariff concessions for a number of developing countries.

2.2 Agreement on Customs Valuation

For another 21 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.

2.3 Agreement on Rules of Origin

If the Harmonized Work Programme is finalized, most likely many developing countries will request assistance for implementation during 2000 and the following years. In the meantime, it will be necessary to assist certain smaller developing countries which specifically request so, in the understanding of technical negotiating issues.

2.4 The Integrated Data Base for Personal Computers

The activities described for the year 2000 would be continued.

3. Agreement on Textiles and Clothing

The activities described for the year 2000 would be continued.

4. Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade

The activities described for the year 2000 would be continued.

5. Rules

The activities described for the year 2000 would be continued

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

The Secretariat's intention is that its technical cooperation activities would broadly follow the same principles as in the year 2000.

7. General Agreement on Trade in Services

The Secretariat expects that the demand for technical assistance will continue to increase as the new round of services negotiations takes off. Countries may seek specialized assistance on individual areas where liberalization is likely to occur and/or where they need to specify their own positions (including in the field of rule-making). Support activities in this context may take various forms, focusing for example on the legal framework within which the negotiations proceed, on the economic and institutional conditions of the sectors and modes affected and/or on past liberalization experience of comparable countries in the same region or income group. At the same time, with various accessions being completed, the new Members are likely to request additional seminars to train their staff. Further requests are expected to result from participants in and/or the Secretariats of regional economic integration agreements who are in the process of analysing and implementing relevant GATS obligations or preparing themselves for negotiations.

In the event of resource constraints, the Secretariat may need to consult with Members on their priorities.

8. Joint Integrated Technical Assistance Programme for Selected Least-Developed and Other African Countries (JITAP)

The activities described for the year 2000 would be continued.

9. Trade and Environment

The Secretariat's technical cooperation activities in this area would continue, subject to the decisions to be taken by WTO Members on the work that should be undertaken in the WTO.

10. Least-Developed Countries

The activities described under the year 2000 would be continued.

11. Accessions

The activities described under the year 2000 would be continued.

12. Dispute Settlement

The activities described under the year 2000 would be continued.

13. Trade Policy Review Mechanism

The activities described under the year 2000 would be continued.

14. Other Issues

14.1 Investment, Competition Policy, and Government Procurement

The Secretariat's intention is that its technical cooperation activities would broadly follow the same principles as in the year 2000, subject to any decisions to be taken by the WTO Members at the third Ministerial Conference in Seattle on the work that should be undertaken in the WTO.

The Secretariat's intention is that its technical cooperation activities would broadly follow the same principles as in the year 2000, subject to any decisions to be taken by the WTO Members at the third Ministerial Conference in Seattle on the work that should be undertaken in the WTO.

14.2 Notification Procedures and Obligations

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

15. Activities Carried Out Using Information Technology Tools

The activities described under the year 2000 would be further developed.

Final remarks

Technical cooperation activities are continuously evolving. They adapt constantly, *inter alia*, to the needs of the recipient countries, to the situation of implementation of the WTO Agreements, to the requirements arising from new negotiations and, in general, to any further developments in the multilateral trading system.

Technical cooperation needs, both in the year 2000 and more so in the year 2001, will likely be determined, among many other considerations, on three specific factors: first, the expiration for some developing countries of the transition periods for the full implementation of some of the agreements; second, the processes of reviews and 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; and third on the decisions to be taken by WTO Members at the Third WTO Ministerial Conference on the future work programme of the WTO.

These are some of the needs that the Secretariat will have to take into account in the future drawing up of its programme for technical cooperation activities in the years 2001 and 2002

ANNEX 1
ACTIVITIES FORESEEN FOR AFRICAN COUNTRIES

Technical Cooperation Missions		Organizer	Funding	Other funding	Execution	Participating Countries Comments
1.	(Quarter 1/00) [.....] Regional seminar TBT, especially Conformity Assessment Procedures for African countries and the Middle-East	WTO / other international organizations	[.....]		TED	
2.	(Quarter 2/00) [.....] Regional seminar Trade and Environment for English-speaking African countries	WTO	[.....]		TED	
3.	(Quarter 2/00) [.....] Regional seminar Trade and Environment for French-speaking African countries	WTO	[.....]		TED	
4.	(Year 2000) <u>Nigeria</u> Regional seminar WTO and the Multilateral Trading System for English-speaking Western African states (ACP)	WTO / ACP Secretariat	No cost	European Commission / ACP Fund	TCD	
5.	(Year 2000) <u>Ethiopia</u> Regional seminar Follow-up to the Seattle Ministerial Conference for OAU countries - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
6.	(Year 2000) <u>Nigeria</u> Regional seminar Follow-up to the Seattle Ministerial Conference for ECOWAS countries	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
7.	(Year 2000) <u>Botswana</u> National seminar Follow-up to the Seattle Ministerial Conference	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
8.	(Year 2000) <u>Mauritius</u> Regional seminar Follow-up to the Seattle Ministerial Conference for SADC countries	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
9.	(Year 2000) <u>Sierra Leone</u> Technical mission Establishment of WTO Reference Centre - Follow-up to HLM	WTO	Norway Trust Fund (PC); Programme Support Fund		ISD, IMRD	
10.	(Year 2000) <u>Zambia</u> Regional seminar Follow-up to the Seattle Ministerial Conference for COMESA countries - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	

11.	(Year 2000)	<u>Gabon</u> Regional seminar WTO and the Multilateral Trading System for CEMAC countries	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
12.	(Year 2000)	[..AFRICA..] Regional seminar WTO and the Multilateral Trading System for French-speaking Central African states (ACP)	WTO / ACP Secretariat	No cost	European Commission / ACP Fund	TCD	
13.	(Year 2000)	<u>South Africa</u> [National seminar] WTO and the Multilateral Trading System - Agriculture, SPS, TBT, TRIPS, future trade negotiations.	WTO / Government of South Africa	[.....]	Government of South Africa	TCD	
14.	(Year 2000)	[..AFRICA..] Regional seminar WTO and the Multilateral Trading System for Southern African states (ACP)	WTO / ACP Secretariat	No cost	European Commission / ACP Fund	TCD	
15.	(Year 2000)	<u>Togo</u> Regional seminar Rules for French-speaking LDCs; Integrated database - Integrated Framework	WTO	United Kingdom Trust Fund; Switzerland Trust Fund		TCD, Stat.D	Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Dem. Rep., Djibouti, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Equatorial Guinea, Haiti, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Rwanda, Sao Tome & Principe, Togo
16.	(Year 2000)	<u>Tanzania</u> Regional seminar Rules (Safeguards, subsidies, anti-dumping) and IDB for English-speaking LDCs - Integrated Framework	WTO	United Kingdom Trust Fund; Switzerland Trust Fund		TCD, Stat.D	Cambodia, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Namibia, Kiribati, Lao P.D.R., Lesotho, Malawi, Maldives, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Western Samoa, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania, Tuvalu, Uganda, Vanuatu, Zambia
17.	(Year 2000)	<u>Togo</u> National seminar WTO and the Multilateral Trading System - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
18.	(Year 2000)	<u>Côte d'Ivoire</u> Regional seminar WTO and the Multilateral Trading System for French-speaking Western African states (ACP)	WTO / ACP Secretariat	No cost	European Commission / ACP Fund	TCD	
19.	(Year 2000)	<u>Nigeria</u> Technical mission Establishment of WTO Reference Centre	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
20.	(Year 2000)	<u>Cameroon</u> National seminar Follow-up to the Seattle Ministerial Conference	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
21.	(Year 2000)	<u>Cameroon</u> Technical mission Establishment of WTO Reference Centre	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
22.	(Year 2000)	<u>Mozambique</u> National seminar Trade-related Round Table - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	

23.	(Year 2000)	<u>Niger</u> National seminar WTO and the Multilateral Trading system: specialized subjects - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
24.	(Year 2000)	<u>Côte d'Ivoire</u> Regional seminar Market Access for UEMOA countries	WTO / UEMOA	[.....]		TCD	
25.	(Year 2000)	<u>Gabon</u> Technical mission Establishment of WTO Reference Centre	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
26.	(Year 2000)	<u>Ethiopia</u> Technical mission Establishment of WTO Reference Centre	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
27.	(Year 2000)	<u>Burundi</u> National seminar WTO and the Multilateral Trading System - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	Activity postponed from 1998 -
28.	(Year 2000)	<u>Mauritius</u> Technical mission Establishment of WTO Reference Centre	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
29.	(Year 2000)	<u>Zambia</u> Technical mission Establishment of WTO Reference Centre	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
30.	(Year 2000)	<u>Côte d'Ivoire</u> Regional seminar Follow-up to the Seattle Ministerial Conference	WTO / UNCTAD / ITC	JITAP Fund		TCD	
31.	(Year 2000)	<u>Kenya</u> Regional seminar Follow-up to the Seattle Ministerial Conference	WTO / UNCTAD / ITC	JITAP Fund		TCD	
32.	(Year 2000)	<u>Zambia</u> Regional seminar WTO and the Multilateral Trading System for COMESA Member Countries (21) - Integrated Framework	WTO / Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)	[.....]		TCD	Angola, Burundi, Comoros, Congo Rep. Of, Congo, Dem. Rep., Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe
33.	(Year 2000)	<u>Senegal</u> Regional seminar Follow-up to the Seattle Ministerial Conference	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
34.	(Year 2000)	<u>Côte d'Ivoire</u> Technical mission Establishment of WTO Reference Centre	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
35.	(Year 2000)	<u>Congo, Rep. Of</u> National seminar WTO and the Multilateral Trading System	WTO	[.....]		[.....]	
36.	(Year 2000)	<u>Namibia</u> Regional seminar Integrated Database (IDB)	WTO	Switzerland Trust Fund		TCD	
37.	(Year 2000)	<u>Comoros (or Madagascar)</u> National seminar Agriculture and SPS for CEAC	FAO	[.....]		AgD	

38.	(Year 2000)	<u>Mauritius</u> Regional workshop WTO and the Multilateral Trading System for IOC Member countries	WTO / IOC	[.....]	IOC	[.....]	
39.	(Year 2000)	<u>Nigeria</u> Regional seminar WTO and the Multilateral Trading System for ECOWAS	WTO	[.....]	N.A	[.....]	
40.	(Year 2000)	<u>Mali</u> National workshops Market Access, Electronic Commerce and Training of Trainers for the private sector - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
41.	(Year 2000)	<u>Mali</u> National workshops Agriculture, Dispute Settlement, GATS, TRIPS, TBT, Subsidies and Compensatory measures - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
42.	(Year 2000)	<u>Malawi</u> Technical mission Implementation of WTO Agreements - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		[.....]	
43.	(Year 2000)	<u>Madagascar</u> Regional seminar WTO and the Multilateral Trading System for French-speaking Eastern African countries (Comesa)	WTO / ACP	No cost	European Commission / ACP Fund	[.....]	
44.	(Year 2000)	<u>Portugal or Brazil</u> Regional seminar WTO and the Multilateral Trading System for Portuguese-speaking African countries	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
45.	(Year 2000)	<u>Democratic Republic of Congo</u> Technical mission IDB Technical Assistance	WTO	Switzerland Trust Fund		Stat.D	
46.	(Year 2000)	<u>Mauritius</u> National seminar Implementation mission on Safeguards and Anti-dumping	WTO	[.....]		RD	
47.	(Year 2000)	<u>Morocco</u> National seminar Anti-dumping implementation	WTO	[.....]		RD	
48.	(Year 2000)	<u>South Africa</u> National workshop Anti-dumping	WTO	No cost	EC	RD	
49.	(Year 2000)	<u>Central African Republic</u> National seminar WTO and the Multilateral Trading System for UDEAC Secretariat - Integrated Framework	UDEAC / CEMAC	Norway Trust Fund	CEMAC/UEM OA	TCD, ERAD	
50.	(Year 2000)	<u>Angola</u> National seminar WTO and the Multilateral Trading system (in Portuguese) - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	

51.	(Year 2000)	<u>Mauritius</u> National workshop Negotiating techniques	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
52.	(Year 2000)	<u>Ghana</u> Technical mission Intellectual Property and International Trade and Investment for Law students	University of Ghana, Faculty of Law	JITAP Fund		TCD, LegD	
53.	(Year 2000)	<u>Namibia</u> Regional seminar WTO and the Multilateral Trading System for SADC Member Countries (12)	WTO / ACP Secretariat / Southern African Development Community	No cost	European Commission / ACP Fund	TCD	
54.	(Year 2000)	<u>Mauritania</u> National seminar SPS Measures - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
55.	(Year 2000)	<u>Mauritania</u> National seminar Legal issues - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
56.	(Year 2000)	<u>Tunisia</u> Conference WTO and the Multilateral Trading System	WTO / UNCTAD / ITC - University of Sfax	JITAP Fund	University of Sfax	TCD	
57.	(Year 2000)	<u>Angola</u> National seminars WTO and the Multilateral Trading system - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
58.	(Year 2000)	<u>Mauritius</u> National workshop Dispute Settlement	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
59.	(Year 2000)	<u>Mauritius</u> National workshop Contingency Measures	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
60.	(Year 2000)	<u>Congo, Rep. Of</u> Technical mission Establishment of WTO Reference Centre	WTO	Hong Kong, China Fund; Programme Support Fund		IMRD, TCD	
61.	(Year 2000)	<u>Mauritius</u> National workshop Training on Customs valuation for officials	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
62.	(Year 2000)	<u>Mauritius</u> National workshop TRIPS	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
63.	(Year 2000)	<u>Mauritius</u> National workshop SPS Measures and TBT	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
64.	(Year 2000)	<u>Ethiopia</u> Training course Short Trade Policy Course for Ethiopian officials - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
65.	(Year 2000)	<u>Angola</u> National workshops Market Access; Anti-dumping; SPS Measures; Import licensing; Intellectual Property – Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	

66.	(Year 2000)	<u>South Africa</u> Regional workshop on dispute settlement procedures and practices	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
67.	(Year 2000)	<u>Côte d'Ivoire</u> Regional workshop on dispute settlement procedures and practices	WTO	[.....]		TCD	

ACTIVITIES FORESEEN FOR ASIAN AND PACIFIC REGION COUNTRIES

Technical Cooperation Missions		Organizer	Funding	Other funding	Execution	Participating Countries Comments
68.	(Quarter 1/00) <u>Thailand</u> Regional seminar Trade and Environment for Asian countries	WTO	[.....]		TED	
69.	(Quarter 1/00) <u>Singapore</u> Regional seminar WTO and the multilateral trading system for Asian developing economies	WTO	Japan Trust Fund		TCD	
70.	(Quarter 3/00) [.....] Regional seminar TBT, especially Conformity Assessment Procedures for Asian countries	WTO / other international organizations	[.....]		TED	
71.	(Year 2000) <u>Thailand</u> Regional seminar Customs matters	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
72.	(Year 2000) <u>Sri Lanka</u> National seminar Implementation mission on Safeguards and Anti-dumping	WTO	[.....]		RD	
73.	(Year 2000) [.....] Regional seminar Rules Implementation seminar for Asian Economies in transition	WTO / Asian Development Bank (ADB)	[.....]		RD	Possible ADB financing
74.	(Year 2000) [.....] Regional seminar Injury determination seminar for Asian countries	WTO / Asian Development Bank (ADB)	[.....]		RD	Possible ADB financing
75.	(Year 2000) <u>Fiji</u> Regional seminar Sub-regional seminar on the WTO and the Multilateral Trading System	WTO / Forum Secretariat	[.....]		TCD	
76.	(Year 2000) <u>Thailand</u> Regional seminar Implementation of the Agreements on Agriculture, SPS and TBT	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
77.	(Year 2000) <u>Thailand</u> Regional seminar Trade Negotiations Simulations	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
78.	(Year 2000) <u>Tonga</u> National seminar WTO and the multilateral trading system: Accession process	WTO	New Zealand Trust Fund		AccD	With consultant
79.	(Year 2000) <u>Thailand</u> Regional seminar WTO and the Multilateral Trading System	WTO	[.....]		TCD	

80.	(Year 2000)	<u>Bangladesh</u> Training course Training of Officials on Notifications, Anti-dumping, Safeguards, Customs valuation and TRIPs - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
81.	(Year 2000)	<u>Thailand</u> Regional seminar Follow-up to the Seattle Ministerial Conference	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
82.	(Year 2000)	<u>Thailand</u> Training course Short Trade Policy Course for Asian countries	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
83.	(Year 2000)	<u>Mongolia</u> Technical mission Trade policy and transparency of trade-related laws and regulations; Government procurement; establishment of WTO Reference Centre	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
84.	(Year 2000)	<u>Mongolia</u> National seminar Implementation of the Uruguay Round Agreements, Investment and Competition Policy, Follow-up to the Seattle Ministerial Conference (issues in the new round of negotiations)	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
85.	(Year 2000)	<u>Philippines</u> National seminar Contingencies, Anti-dumping, Countervailing Duties and Safeguards	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
86.	(Year 2000)	<u>Philippines</u> National seminar Trade and Environment, and MEAs	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
87.	(Year 2000)	<u>Philippines</u> National seminar Subsidies Disciplines and Countervailing Measures	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
88.	(Year 2000)	<u>Thailand</u> Regional seminar Dispute Settlement Procedures and Practices	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
89.	(Year 2000)	<u>Western Samoa</u> National seminar WTO and the Multilateral Trading System - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
90.	(Year 2000)	<u>Singapore</u> Technical mission IDB Technical Assistance (bound duties)	WTO	Switzerland Trust Fund		Stat.D	
91.	(Year 2000)	<u>Taipei, Chinese</u> Technical mission IDB Technical Assistance	WTO	Switzerland Trust Fund		Stat.D	
92.	(Year 2000)	<u>Philippines</u> Technical mission IDB Technical Assistance (bound duties)	WTO	Switzerland Trust Fund		Stat.D	

93.	(Year 2000)	<u>Vanuatu</u> Technical mission Legal advice and training on Negotiating skills; WTO Obligations; Market Access, Customs valuation; TRIPs; Notification requirements - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
94.	(Year 2000)	<u>Vanuatu</u> National seminar WTO and the Multilateral Trading System - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
95.	(Year 2000)	<u>Solomon Islands</u> Technical mission Legal advice and training on WTO Obligations; Institutional machinery for compliance with WTO obligations; Agriculture, SPS, TBT; Market Access, Rules of Origin, Customs valuation, import licensing, preshipment inspection; TRIPs; Services, Telecommunications, Financial Services - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
96.	(Year 2000)	<u>Bangladesh</u> National workshop WTO Notification obligations and procedures - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
97.	(Year 2000)	<u>Western Samoa</u> Technical mission Legal Advice on existing legislation - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
98.	(Year 2000)	<u>Bangladesh</u> Technical mission Legal advice on Anti-dumping, Safeguards, Customs valuation and TRIPs - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
99.	(Year 2000)	<u>Western Samoa</u> Technical mission Legal advice and training on Agriculture, SPS, TBT; Market Access, Rules of Origin, Customs valuation, import licensing; Anti-dumping, Safeguards; TRIMs; TRIPs; Services, Telecommunications, Financial Services and Professional Services - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
100.	(Year 2000)	<u>Nepal</u> Technical mission Legal advice and training on Multilateral and bilateral trade negotiations; Agriculture, SPS, TBT; Market Access, Rules of Origin; Anti- dumping, Subsidies, Safeguards; Textiles; TRIMs; TRIPs; Dispute Settlement; Competition Policy - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	

101.	(Year 2000)	<u>Myanmar</u> Technical mission Legal advice and training on Multilateral and bilateral trade negotiations; Agriculture, SPS, TBT; Market Access, Rules of Origin, Customs valuation and import licensing; Subsidies; TRIMs; TRIPs; Services; Dispute Settlement; Environment; Competition Policy - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
102.	(Year 2000)	<u>Maldives</u> Technical mission WTO Notification obligations and procedures - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
103.	(Year 2000)	<u>Maldives</u> Technical mission Legal advice on TRIPs - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
104.	(Year 2000)	<u>Cambodia</u> National seminar WTO and the Multilateral Trading System - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
105.	(Year 2000)	<u>Bhutan</u> National seminar WTO and the Multilateral Trading System - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
106.	(Year 2000)	<u>Solomon Islands</u> National seminar WTO and the Multilateral Trading System - Integrated Framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
107.	(Year 2000)	<u>New Zealand</u> Regional workshop on dispute settlement procedures and practices	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
108.	(Year 2000)	<u>Singapore</u> Regional workshop on dispute settlement procedures and practices	WTO	[.....]		TCD	

ACTIVITIES FORESEEN FOR CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN, AND CENTRAL ASIAN COUNTRIES

Technical Cooperation Missions		Organizer	Funding	Other funding	Execution	Participating Countries Comments
109.	(Quarter 3/00) [.....] Regional seminar Trade and Environment for Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia	WTO	[.....]		TED	
110.	(Quarter 4/00) [.....] Regional seminar TBT, especially Conformity Assessment Procedures for Eastern European countries	WTO / other international organizations	[.....]		TED	
111.	(Year 2000) <u>Estonia</u> Regional seminar Services: maritime transport and electronic commerce; Agriculture and SPS	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
112.	(Year 2000) <u>Czech Republic</u> Regional seminar Rules: Anti-dumping, Safeguards and Countervailing duties	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
113.	(Year 2000) <u>Latvia</u> Regional seminar Rules: Anti-dumping, Safeguards and Countervailing duties	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
114.	(Year 2000) <u>Czech Republic</u> Regional workshop Services Negotiations	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
115.	(Year 2000) <u>Turkey</u> Regional workshop Services Negotiations	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
116.	(Year 2000) <u>Albania</u> National seminar WTO and Multilateral Trading System	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
117.	(Year 2000) <u>Armenia</u> National seminar Rules: Anti-dumping and Safeguards	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
118.	(Year 2000) <u>Azerbaijan</u> National seminar WTO and Multilateral Trading System	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
119.	(Year 2000) <u>Croatia</u> National seminar WTO and Multilateral Trading System	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
120.	(Year 2000) <u>Former Yugoslav Rep. of Macedonia</u> National seminar WTO and Multilateral Trading System	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
121.	(Year 2000) <u>Kyrgyz Republic</u> National seminar WTO and Multilateral Trading System	WTO	[.....]		TCD	

122.	(Year 2000)	<u>Latvia</u> Regional seminar Follow-up to the Seattle Ministerial Conference: implications for BSEC Baltic countries	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
123.	(Year 2000)	<u>Lithuania</u> National seminar WTO and Multilateral Trading System: implications of WTO Membership	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
124.	(Year 2000)	[.....] Regional seminar Follow-up to the Seattle Ministerial Conference: implications for BSEC countries	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
125.	(Year 2000)	<u>Estonia</u> Technical mission IDB Technical Assistance (bound duties)	WTO	Switzerland Trust Fund		Stat.D	
126.	(Year 2000)	<u>Hungary</u> Technical mission IDB Technical Assistance (bound duties)	WTO	Switzerland Trust Fund		Stat.D	
127.	(Year 2000)	<u>Latvia</u> Technical mission IDB Technical Assistance	WTO	Switzerland Trust Fund		Stat.D	
128.	(Year 2000)	[.....] Training course Short Training Course for Central and Eastern European Countries	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
129.	(Year 2000)	[.....] Training course Short Training Course for Commonwealth of Independent States	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
130.	(Year 2000)	[.....] Training course Trade Negotiation Simulations for ECO Secretariat members	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
131.	(Year 2000)	<u>Turkey</u> Training course Trade Negotiation Simulations for BSEC Secretariat members	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
132.	(Year 2000)	<u>Hungary</u> Regional seminar Dispute Settlement	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
133.	(Year 2000)	<u>Turkey</u> Regional seminar Follow-up to the Seattle Ministerial Conference: implications for BSEC countries	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
134.	(Year 2000)	<u>Czech Republic</u> Regional workshop on dispute settlement procedures and practices	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
135.	(Year 2000 / 2001)	<u>Belarus</u> National seminars Agriculture and SPS; Services; Market Access; Technical regulations and standards	WTO	[.....]		TCD	

ACTIVITIES FORESEEN FOR LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES

Technical Cooperation Missions			Organizer	Funding	Other funding	Execution	Participating Countries Comments
136.	January 2000	<u>Dominican Republic</u> Technical Mission Customs Valuation	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
137.	(Quarter 1/00)	<u>Colombia</u> National seminar Trade in Services	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
138.	(Quarter 1/00)	<u>Colombia</u> National seminar Dispute Settlement	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
139.	(Quarter 2/00)	<u>Colombia</u> Technical mission Trade Facilitation	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
140.	(Quarter 2/00)	<u>Colombia</u> National seminar New issues of International Trade - Follow-up to the Seattle Ministerial Conference	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
141.	(Quarter 2/00)	[.....] Regional seminar TBT, especially Conformity Assessment Procedures for Latin American and Caribbean countries	WTO / other international organizations	[.....]		TED	
142.	(Quarter 2/00)	<u>United States of America</u> Regional Workshop Two-week Advanced Training Course for Government Officials, including IDB: English- speaking (13 countries)	WTO / OAS	[.....]		TCD, LegD, TED, Stat.D	
143.	(Quarter 3/00)	<u>United States of America</u> Regional Workshop Two-week Advanced Training Course for Government Officials, including IDB: Spanish- speaking (19 countries)	WTO / OAS	[.....]		TCD, LegD, TED, Stat.D	
144.	(Quarter 3/00)	<u>Colombia</u> Technical mission Customs valuation	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
145.	(Quarter 4/00)	[.....] Regional seminar Trade and Environment for Caribbean countries	WTO	[.....]		TED	
146.	(Quarter 4/00)	[.....] Regional seminar Trade and Environment for Central and South America (Spanish-speaking)	WTO	[.....]		TED	
147.	(Quarter 4/00)	<u>Colombia</u> National seminar Regionalism and the Multilateral Trading System	WTO	[.....]		TCD	

148.	(Year 2000)	<u>Barbados</u> Technical mission Rules: anti-dumping and subsidies legislation	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
149.	(Year 2000)	<u>Venezuela</u> National workshop GATS	WTO	WTO/TC (Regular budget)		TSD	
150.	(Year 2000)	<u>Argentina</u> Regional workshop Anti-Dumping and Countervailing Calculations (advanced) for MERCOSUR and Chile (5)	WTO / INTAL	WTO/TC (Regular budget)	INTAL	TCD	Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay, Chile
151.	(Year 2000)	<u>Barbados</u> Technical mission Notification requirements	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
152.	(Year 2000)	[.....] Regional workshop Anti-Dumping and Countervailing Calculations for Central America	WTO / INTAL	WTO/TC (Regular budget)	INTAL	TCD	Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay, Chile
153.	(Year 2000)	<u>Barbados</u> National seminar WTO and the Multilateral Trading System for public and private sectors	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
154.	(Year 2000)	<u>Costa Rica</u> National workshops and Technical missions Customs Valuation, Rules of Origin, Intellectual Property, Electronic Commerce, TBT, SPS Measures, Agriculture, Anti- dumping, Subsidies, Competition Policy, Trade in Services	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
155.	(Year 2000)	<u>Paraguay</u> National seminar Dispute Settlement	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
156.	(Year 2000)	<u>Paraguay</u> National seminar Customs Valuation	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
157.	(Year 2000)	<u>Paraguay</u> National seminar Agriculture and SPS Measures	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
158.	(Year 2000)	<u>Paraguay</u> National seminar Rules: Anti-dumping, Safeguards and Countervailing duties	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
159.	(Year 2000)	<u>Trinidad and Tobago</u> Regional seminar Subsidies Disciplines and Notification Requirements for CARICOM (11)	WTO / INTAL	WTO/TC (Regular budget)	INTAL	TCD	Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St Kitts & Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent & Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago
160.	(Year 2000)	<u>Guatemala</u> Technical mission Integrated DataBase (IDB)	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
161.	(Year 2000)	<u>Cuba</u> National seminar SPS	WTO	[.....]		AgD	

162.	(Year 2000)	[.....] Regional workshop Competition Policy	WTO / INTAL	[.....]	INTAL	[.....]	
163.	(Year 2000)	[.....] Regional workshop Market Access: future negotiation issues	WTO / INTAL	[.....]	INTAL	[.....]	
164.	(Year 2000)	<u>Uruguay</u> Technical mission IDB Technical Assistance (bound duties)	WTO	Switzerland Trust Fund		Stat.D	
165.	(Year 2000)	<u>Peru</u> Technical mission IDB Technical Assistance (bound duties)	WTO	Switzerland Trust Fund		Stat.D	
166.	(Year 2000)	<u>Brazil</u> Technical mission IDB Technical Assistance (bound duties)	WTO	Switzerland Trust Fund		Stat.D	
167.	(Year 2000)	<u>Guatemala</u> Technical mission Rules of Origin	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
168.	(Year 2000)	<u>Guatemala</u> Technical mission Preshipment Inspection	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
169.	(Year 2000)	<u>Venezuela</u> National seminar Intellectual Property	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
170.	(Year 2000)	<u>Guatemala</u> Technical mission Negotiating capacities for the New Round - Follow-up to the Seattle Ministerial Conference	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
171.	(Year 2000)	<u>Venezuela</u> National seminar Dispute Settlement	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
172.	(Year 2000)	<u>Guatemala</u> National seminar Trade and Environment	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
173.	(Year 2000)	<u>Guatemala</u> National seminar Negotiating capacities	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
174.	(Year 2000)	<u>Venezuela</u> National seminar TBT	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
175.	(Year 2000)	<u>Venezuela</u> National seminar Electronic Commerce	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
176.	(Year 2000)	<u>Colombia</u> National workshop Anti-dumping and Countervailing duties for Colombia and Peru	WTO	[.....]		RD	
177.	(Year 2000)	<u>Guatemala</u> Technical mission Harmonized System (HS)	WTO	[.....]		TCD	

178.	(Year 2000)	<u>Brazil</u> Regional workshop on dispute settlement procedures and practices	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
179.	(Year 2000)	<u>St. Lucia</u> Regional workshop on dispute settlement procedures and practices	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
180.	(Year 2001)	<u>Colombia</u> National seminars Subsidy Disciplines, TBT and SPS, Safeguards and Anti-dumping	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
181.	(Year 2002)	<u>Colombia</u> National seminars Trade Negotiations, Intellectual Property, Dispute Settlement, Textiles	WTO	[.....]		TCD	

ACTIVITIES FORESEEN FOR COUNTRIES OF THE MIDDLE EAST

Technical Cooperation Missions		Organizer	Funding	Other funding	Execution	Participating Countries Comments
182.	(Quarter 1/00) <u>Malta</u> Regional seminar Trade and Environment for Mediterranean countries and the Middle-East	WTO	[.....]		TED	
183.	(Year 2000) <u>Oman</u> National seminar Trade in Services and Foreign Direct Investment	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
184.	(Year 2000) <u>Brunei Darussalam</u> National seminar Rules	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
185.	(Year 2000) <u>Brunei Darussalam</u> National seminar Competition Policy	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
186.	(Year 2000) <u>Cyprus</u> Technical mission Notification requirements	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
187.	(Year 2000) <u>Cyprus</u> National seminar Results of the Seattle Ministerial Conference: New Round of Negotiations regarding Trade in Services	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
188.	(Year 2000) <u>Cyprus</u> National seminar WTO and the Multilateral Trading system (Rules, Anti-dumping, TRIPS, TBT, Dispute Settlement)	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
189.	(Year 2000) <u>Malta</u> Technical mission IDB Technical Assistance	WTO	Switzerland Trust Fund		Stat.D	
190.	(Year 2000) <u>Cyprus</u> National seminar SPS Measures and Risk Analysis	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
191.	(Year 2000) <u>Cyprus</u> National seminar Agriculture; Notification requirements and procedures; Results of the Seattle Ministerial Conference: New Round of Negotiations	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
192.	(Year 2000) <u>Saudi Arabia</u> Training course Short Trade Policy Course for IsDB members (Arabic)	WTO / Islamic Development Bank (IsDB)	[.....]		TCD	
193.	(Year 2000) <u>Brunei Darussalam</u> National seminar Subsidies	WTO	[.....]		TCD	

194.	(Year 2000)	<u>Oman</u> National seminar Follow-up to Accession: conformity with WTO rules and creating public awareness	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
195.	(Year 2000)	[.....] Regional seminar Rules Implementation seminar for Arab countries	WTO	[.....]		RD	
196.	(Year 2000)	<u>Oman</u> National seminar Electronic Commerce	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
197.	(Year 2000)	<u>Oman</u> National seminars Dispute Settlement, Anti-dumping and Safeguards	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
198.	(Year 2000)	<u>Oman</u> National seminar Developing skills for Multilateral Trade Negotiations with respect to Accession to the WTO	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
199.	(Year 2000)	<u>Bahrain</u> Regional seminar Electronic Commerce for Arab and Middle- Eastern countries	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
200.	(Year 2000)	<u>Bahrain</u> National seminar Trade in Services and Foreign Direct Investment	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
201.	(Year 2000)	<u>Bahrain</u> National seminar Electronic Commerce	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
202.	(Year 2000)	<u>Bahrain</u> National seminars Dispute Settlement, Anti-dumping and Safeguards	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
203.	(Year 2000)	<u>Bahrain</u> National seminar Follow-up to the Seattle Ministerial Conference	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
204.	(Year 2000)	<u>Lebanon</u> Training course Short Trade Policy Course for ESCWA members	WTO / ESCWA	[.....]		TCD	
205.	(Year 2000)	<u>Bahrain</u> Training course Trade simulation to develop negotiating skills of senior Government officials	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
206.	(Year 2000)	<u>Saudi Arabia</u> National seminar Electronic Commerce	WTO / Islamic Development Bank (IDB)	[.....]		TCD	
207.	(Year 2000)	<u>Saudi Arabia</u> Symposium Customs Unions and Free-Trade zones	WTO / Islamic Development Bank (IDB)	[.....]		TCD	

208.	(Year 2000)	<u>Saudi Arabia</u> Symposium Follow-up to Accession: conformity with WTO Rules and creating public awareness (one-day seminar in Riyadh, Jeddah and Damman)	WTO / Islamic Development Bank (IDB)	[.....]		TCD	
209.	(Year 2000)	<u>Saudi Arabia</u> National seminar Dispute Settlement; Anti-dumping Practices and Safeguards	WTO / Islamic Development Bank (IDB)	[.....]		TCD	
210.	(Year 2000)	<u>Saudi Arabia</u> National seminar Negotiating Skills relating to Accession to the WTO	WTO / Islamic Development Bank (IDB)	[.....]		TCD	
211.	(Year 2000)	<u>Qatar</u> National workshop Trade Facilitation	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
212.	(Year 2000)	<u>Qatar</u> National seminar TBT and SPS	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
213.	(Year 2000)	<u>Qatar</u> National seminar Harmonized System (HS)	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
214.	(Year 2000)	<u>Saudi Arabia</u> National seminar Trade in Services and Foreign Direct Investment	WTO / Islamic Development Bank (IDB)	[.....]		TCD	
215.	(Year 2000)	<u>United Arab Emirates</u> Technical mission Assistance in setting-up a specialized Department with qualified national staff dealing with trade-related matters	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
216.	(Year 2000)	<u>Saudi Arabia</u> Regional seminar Systemic Issues of Regional Integration	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
217.	(Year 2000)	<u>Bahrain</u> Training course Trade policy issues, rights and obligations under the WTO legal framework	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
218.	(Year 2000)	<u>Bahrain</u> National seminar Regional Trade Agreements and their specific notification requirements	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
219.	(Year 2000)	<u>Bahrain</u> National seminar Customs Valuation for senior management in the Directorate of Customs	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
220.	(Year 2000)	<u>Israel</u> Technical mission IDB Technical Assistance	WTO	Switzerland Trust Fund		Stat.D	
221.	(Year 2000)	<u>Bahrain</u> National seminar SPS and TBT	WTO	[.....]		TCD	

222.	(Year 2000)	<u>Bahrain</u> Training course WTO Agreements for Government staff and the private sector	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
223.	(Year 2000)	<u>Bahrain</u> National seminar Notifications for Senior Officials in the Directorate of Foreign Trade	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
224.	(Year 2000)	<u>United Arab Emirates</u> National workshop Dispute Settlement for Government Officials	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
225.	(Year 2000)	<u>United Arab Emirates</u> Regional seminar Follow-up to the Seattle Ministerial Conference	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
226.	(Year 2000)	<u>Qatar</u> Technical mission Preparation of the Integrated DataBase (IDB)	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
227.	(Year 2000)	<u>Egypt</u> Regional workshop on dispute settlement procedures and practices	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
228.	(Year 2001)	<u>Cyprus</u> Technical mission Information technologies and WTO Reference Centre, including the IDB	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
229.	(Year 2002)	<u>Brunei Darussalam</u> National seminars Investment, Services, TBT, SPS Measures	WTO	[.....]		TCD	
230.	(Year 2002)	<u>Cyprus</u> National seminar Electronic Commerce	WTO	[.....]		TCD	

Annex 2

WTO TRADE POLICY COURSES HELD IN GENEVA

The Training Division of the WTO Secretariat plans, organizes and ensures the running of residential trade policy courses (TPCs) in Geneva for officials from developing countries and economies in transition, which are Members and Observers of the WTO.

1. Overview

Developing countries

On an annual basis three regular courses of twelve-week duration are held, two in English and one in French or Spanish, alternatively. The 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 enable them to improve the effectiveness of their work in their own administration.

Courses in 1999

The 1999 programme comprised the 10th, 11th and 12th Regular Trade Policy Courses and the 9th Special Trade Policy Course for countries with economies in transition (the last such course in its present format), as indicated below:

10 th WTO TPC: 11 January – 1 April	(English)
9 th Special Trade Policy Course- 6 April- 30 April	(English)
11 th WTO TPC: 26 April – 16 July	(French)
12 th WTO TPC: 13 September – 3 December	(English)

Calendar of courses envisaged for the year 2000-2002

2000 Programme (invitations already issued)

13 th WTO TPC: 17 January-7 April	(English)
14 th WTO TPC: 25 April-14 July	(Spanish)
15 th WTO TPC: 18 September-8 December	(English)

2001 Programme (dates of courses to be determined)

16 th WTO TPC: (English)
17 th WTO TPC: (French)
18 th WTO TPC: (English)

2002 Programme (dates of courses to be determined)

19 th WTO TPC:	(English)
20 th WTO TPC:	(Spanish)
21 st WTO TPC:	(English)

2. Training priorities

In order to improve the planning and delivery of trade policy courses, the Secretariat has identified the following areas as priorities for improvement/development.

Candidate selection

The number of courses offered to developing countries increased from two to three in 1998 and the number of applications for each course is constantly growing. All developing and least developed countries are invited to submit candidacies, and as of this year economies in transition which have acceded or are in the process of accession to the WTO are also invited. Every effort is made to ensure that over a two-year period (in which 144 WTO fellowship places are available) every Member and, where possible, Observer to the WTO from the above-mentioned countries gets at least one place while strictly adhering to the well-established objective selection criteria.

Course content and delivery

Increasing the training from two to three courses has necessitated an effort to standardize at a high level of quality the key course elements which comprise:

- Lectures, presentations and discussions on trade theory, the formulation of trade policy, the provisions of WTO legal instruments and agreements emphasising the development dimension, implementation of WTO obligations, issues such as regional economic integration and the interaction between trade and environmental policies as well as the structure, scope and functioning of the WTO system. The Course will increasingly utilise information technology tools that participants have at their disposal including access to the WTO Website, Internet and the DDF.
- The presentations are complemented by practical work including round table discussions and case studies. Participants are encouraged to conduct a research on WTO-related issues of interest to them, with the assistance of the Training Division and Secretariat experts. Officials also take part in a workshop on negotiating techniques and simulation exercises on trade negotiations, policy debate exercises and dispute settlement, in which they put into practice their knowledge of trade policy issues and develop analytical and negotiating skills acquired on the course. The programme includes visits to international organizations based in Geneva and attendance at meetings of WTO bodies, so as to allow the participants to observe the functioning of the WTO on the spot.
- There are also two study tours: one in Switzerland and the other abroad, which serve as case studies for national trade policy-making.

Evaluation and follow-up

Evaluation – identifying specific training objectives and then measuring how well the course achieves those objectives – takes place mainly through the preparation and discussion of weekly evaluation reports done by the participants, which are discussed with them at mid-term and at the end of each course. These evaluations are an important factor in deciding on changes and improvements to the organization and delivery of the courses. A longer term evaluation system is also being developed to measure the effectiveness of the training activity in terms of identifiable improvements back on the job.

3. Resource considerations

Budget

The financing of Regular Trade Policy Courses is ensured through the Regular Budget of the WTO, and the costs of study tours are shared with the host WTO Members. Twenty-four officials per Regular course receive WTO fellowships. On an annual basis 72 officials are trained for 12 weeks each, giving a total of 4,320 man-days of training provided by the courses.

Human resources

The presentations and exercises are carried out to a large extent by Secretariat officials dealing directly with the respective subjects. "Outsourcing" is used whenever expertise is not available in-house: approximately twenty-five per cent of each Regular course is performed by outside consultants/lecturers. In addition, twelve per cent is delivered by experts put at the disposal of the WTO by other relevant international organizations (World Bank, WIPO, WCO, ITC, UNCTAD, ITU and ISO) within the context of expanding cooperation.

4. Future work

During the period 2000-2002 the overall priority of the Secretariat will be to consolidate its expanded trade policy course activities in terms of improving the quality of the content and delivery of the courses, developing and maintaining appropriate evaluation and follow-up practices, and improving utilisation of new technologies for the benefit of course participants. Starting in the year 2000, particular attention will be given in the curriculum to the issues and areas for negotiations which would be agreed by Members at the Seattle Ministerial Conference.

The first step of a major follow-up activity was launched at the beginning of October this year. The Training Division has undertaken a comprehensive audit of the former participants in order to set up a database which will become the key element for undertaking various follow-up activities. The Training Division intends to make the consolidated list available to all delegations in due course.
