

PREPARATIONS FOR THE 1999 MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

Elements of the Ministerial Declaration

*Communication from Cuba, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Honduras, India,
Indonesia, Malaysia and Pakistan*

The following communication, dated 20 September 1999, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Pakistan.

A. Preamble/opening general paragraphs

- Importance of multilateral trading system.
- Brief collective assessment of the global economy (mixed picture - growth, disparities).
- Recall paragraphs 8, 9 and 10 of the Geneva Ministerial Declaration.

B. Implementation

- Assessment of implementation in accordance with paragraph 8.
- Decisions relating to implementation issues to be taken at Seattle, *inter alia* on:
 - TRIPS;
 - TRIMs;
 - Agriculture including NFDCs;
 - Accelerated integration of textiles;
 - Clarification/strengthening of disciplines on anti-dumping, subsidies, rules of origin, SPS, TBT;
 - Customs valuation;
 - Implementation of recommendations of completed reviews.

- Further work on implementation:
 - Issues to be covered (any which remain from the above, and others such as strengthening of, and operationalization of best endeavour S&D provisions);
 - To address implementation issues which may remain outstanding, a special mechanism should be established with a mandate to complete its work within one year.

C. Mandated negotiations and reviews

- Agriculture: objective and mandate of the negotiations including scope and time-frame.
- Services: mandate of the negotiations including scope, objectives, and time-frame; due account of the assessment of the commitments in trade in services as stipulated for in Article XIX of GATS.
- Reviews: TRIMs, TRIPS, SPS, TBT, SCM, etc.

D. Follow up to High-Level Meeting on LDCs

E. Continuation of the study process on issues initiated at Singapore

- Trade and investment;
- Trade and competition;
- Trade facilitation;
- Transparency in government procurement.

F. New initiatives aimed at liberalizing world trade and adapting the multilateral trading system so as to enhance its support of the development process

- Access to technology;
- Trade and finance;
- Relationship of trade with debt, commodity price (terms of trade).

G. Accession, participation of acceding countries

H. Organization of work

- Scope;
 - Structure;
 - Time-frame.
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