

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

**S/NGMTS/17**

1 July 1996

(96-2599)

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## **Negotiating Group on Maritime Transport Services**

### NOTE ON THE MEETING OF 28 JUNE 1996

1. The sixteenth meeting of the Negotiating Group on Maritime Transport Services took place on 28 June 1996.
2. The Chairman presented a draft Report of the Negotiating Group on Maritime Transport Services and a draft Decision on Maritime Transport Services to the Group. Japan and the United States suggested certain minor modifications to the draft Report which were agreed. Venezuela asked for and received clarification of certain elements of the draft Decision, in particular, paragraph 6, pertaining to a Member's right to improve, modify or withdraw all or part of its commitments at the end of the resumed negotiations. Chile stated that it was willing to accept the Decision provided it was understood that the agreement to resume on the basis of existing or improved offers, stated in paragraph 1, did not impose any legal obligations on participants. The Chairman confirmed that no legal obligations were imposed. The Group adopted the Report (S/NGMTS/16) and agreed to forward the draft Decision (S/C/W/15) to the Council for Trade in Services for adoption.
3. During the course of the meeting, India submitted its conditional offer and Thailand indicated in a written communication that it was withdrawing its conditional offer.