

**PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY THE LANDLOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
WORK PROGRAMME ON SMALL ECONOMIES**

Communication by Paraguay on behalf of the delegations of Bolivia, Mongolia and Paraguay

The communication, dated 19 April 2004, is being circulated at the request of the delegations of Bolivia, Mongolia and Paraguay.

The Delegations of Bolivia, Mongolia and Paraguay, being landlocked developing countries and small economies, hereby submit to the Seventh Dedicated Session on Small Economies the following specific proposals for inclusion in the "Work Programme on Small Economies", taking into account the following general situation:

- At the Doha ministerial meeting, WTO Members recognised among other issues "the need for all our peoples to benefit from the increased opportunities and welfare gains that the multilateral trading system generates".
- On this understanding, the mandates arising from this historic ministerial meeting aimed at responding to the needs of least-developed and developing countries, hence the name "Development Round".
- The constraints set out in documents submitted to this Committee by small vulnerable economies directly influence their economies and therefore their integration in the multilateral trading system.
- A large number of least-developed and developing countries operate under trade rules identical to those of other countries differing in characteristics and conditions.
- The small and vulnerable economies have difficulties in observing the same rules as those Members that are not small economies.

SPECIFIC PROPOSALS

We consider it necessary for the future "WTO Work Programme on Small Economies" to cover the following subjects, as a complement to the proposals set out in document WT/COMTD/SE/W/3:

1. Market Access

Proposal: "Grant/Provide tariff-free and quota-free access for all exports of goods and services originating from small economies".

2. Export diversification for Small Economies

Proposal: "Grant/Provide technical assistance for small economies to prepare trade strategies aimed at export diversification".

3. Tariff quotas

Proposal: "Grant/Provide that a minimum percentage of access in each tariff quota on the schedules of WTO Members be reserved for small economies, and the technical assistance needed to meet and fulfil it".

4. Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures and Technical Barriers to Trade

Proposal: "Grant/Provide technical assistance for small economies to obtain the knowledge and technical infrastructure necessary to comply with the sanitary and phytosanitary norms and requirements under the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade in their export markets".

5. Increased domestic production

Proposal: "Grant/Provide technical assistance for small economies to assist them in improving productivity with a view to increasing domestic production and exports of goods and services".

6. Integrated Framework

Proposal: "To integrate small economies into certain Programmes within the existing Integrated Framework for least-developed countries, it being understood that the vast majority of small economies are at stages of development identical to those of current beneficiaries".

The small economies appreciate the idea of having a programme similar to the integrated framework established for the least-developed countries.

7. Accessions

Proposal: "To facilitate and accelerate WTO accession negotiations for small and vulnerable economies, landlocked countries and transit countries, through simplified and streamlined procedures similar to those adopted for least-developed countries in the Decision of 10 December 2002 (WT/L/508)".
