WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

Committee on Trade and Environment

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INDUSTRIAL PRINCIPLES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Communication from Brazil

The delegation of Brazil has requested that the following "Industrial Principles for Sustainable Development" from the National Confederation of Industry of Brazil be circulated to Members of the CTE for their information.

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1.   Brazil's National Confederation of Industry (CNI) ranks the reconciliation of ecologically balanced economic and social growth as top priority in today's world.

2.   To meet this challenge, the CNI feels it is essential for industries to function on the basis of firm commitments to environmental protection, healthcare and safety, in parallel to the well-being of their workers and neighbouring communities, all grounded on sustainable development.

3.   This prompts the CNI to urge Brazilian industry to comply with the following list of principles:

1.   Foster effective, pro-active participation by the industrial sector, working closely with society, members of parliament, the government and non-governmental organizations to develop and fine-tune environmental laws, regulations and standards.
2.   Exercise business leadership within society at large on environmental issues.
3.   Hone the competitive edge of Brazilian industry, while respecting the concepts of sustainable development and the rational use of natural resources and energy.
4.   Encourage steady improvement and tailoring of environmental management systems, that also focus on healthcare and industrial safety at the corporate level.
5.   Urge the monitoring and assessment of environmental processes and parameters within companies. Foresee and bring forward analyses and studies of issues that could cause problems for the environment and human health, while also implementing actions designed to protect the environment.
6.   Support and acknowledge the importance of permanent ongoing staff involvement, with supervisors committed to ensuring that their workers have the necessary skills and training with regard to environmental issues.
7.   Support research and development activities focused on clean technologies designed to reduce or eliminate negative impacts on the environment and community well-being.
8.   Strengthen alliances and partnerships between the private sector and the government as well as society at large, working towards sustainable development with constant improvement of communication processes.
9.   Urge business leaders to work closely and ceaselessly with society on environmental issues.

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10. Call for the development and supply products and services that avoid adverse effects on the environment and community well-being.

11. Do everything possible to disseminate and publicize *Agenda 21* and strive for its implementation.

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