

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

WT/GC/W/258

21 July 1999

(99-3038)

General Council

GENERAL COUNCIL

Appointment of the next Director-General

Draft Decision

The General Council,

Greatly appreciating the intensive consultations carried out by the Chairman of the General Council with regard to the appointment of the Director-General of the Organization,

Decides to appoint:

- the Right Honourable Mr. Mike Moore of New Zealand as Director-General for 3 years from 1 September 1999 to 31 August 2002

to be followed by

- H.E. Dr. Supachai Panitchpakdi, of Thailand as Director-General for 3 years from 1 September 2002 to 31 August 2005;

Agrees that neither shall be eligible for reappointment as Director-General, nor shall his period of office be extended;

Further agrees that in March 2002 the General Council shall re-confirm the availability of Dr. Supachai for office and, if Dr. Supachai is not available, the process for the appointment of a new Director-General shall commence immediately, with one of the Deputy Directors-General to be appointed by the General Council as acting Director-General if the appointment process is not concluded by 1 September 2002;

Also agrees that if Mr. Moore vacates office prior to 31 August 2002, he shall be followed immediately by Dr. Supachai who shall serve for only 3 years;

Further agrees that the Director-General shall appoint Deputy Directors-General in consultation with Members, taking into account the views of the other designated Director-General, and the need to maintain equitable geographical balance and being bound by any decisions of the General Council with regard to ensuring continuity at the senior management level of the Organisation; and

Affirms that this decision shall not constitute a precedent for future appointments of Directors-General, whose term shall be of four years, and resolves that, in order to improve and strengthen the current rules and procedures, a comprehensive set of rules and procedures for such appointments shall be elaborated and adopted by the end of September 2000.
