

DECISION-MAKING PROCEDURES UNDER ARTICLES IX AND XII
OF THE WTO AGREEMENT

Statement by the Chairman

As agreed by the General Council on 15 November 1995

On occasions when the General Council deals with matters related to requests for waivers or accessions to the WTO under Articles IX or XII of the WTO Agreement respectively, the General Council will seek a decision in accordance with Article IX:1. Except as otherwise provided, where a decision cannot be arrived at by consensus, the matter at issue shall be decided by voting under the relevant provisions of Articles IX or XII.

The above procedure does not preclude a Member from requesting a vote at the time the decision is taken.

Consequently, if any Member has a particular problem with a proposed decision regarding a request for a waiver or an accession to the WTO, it should ensure its presence at the meeting in which this matter will be considered. The absence of a Member will be assumed to imply that it has no comments on or objections to the proposed decision on the matter.