Botswana has become, with effect from 28 August, a contracting party to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Botswana became independent from the United Kingdom in September 1966 and has since applied the GATT rules in its trade on a de facto basis. Having now decided to seek full GATT membership, it has been able, through a simple declaration to this effect, to become a contracting party under Article XXVI of the General Agreement.

The accession of Botswana brings the total of GATT members to 95. In addition, one country has acceded provisionally to GATT, and a further 29 in practice apply the rules of GATT in their commercial policy.