ASEAN

Statement by H.E. Mr. Poedji Koentarso
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Indonesia

Addendum

In the general debate, some observations have been made by the distinguished representative of the United States, which to the ASEAN contracting parties do not appear to represent our understanding of the Uruguay Round in the area of services, or our consultations with all contracting parties in Punta del Este and in the preparatory phase in Geneva on this matter.

It has been our understanding that there is no linkage between the Group of Negotiations on Goods and the Group of Negotiations on Services in terms of progress and outcome. The ASEAN contracting parties have, from the outset, been willing to negotiate on services in good faith. However, knowing the complexity of services and thus the time required to deal with these sectors, the ASEAN contracting parties cannot agree to any proposition that negotiations on goods should proceed at the same speed as those on services. We also cannot agree to any attempt to trade off concessions in goods for concessions in services.