PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON INITIAL COMMITMENTS

At the meeting of the Group of Negotiations on Services of 28 June 1991 the following text was agreed to by participants.

1. Participants should submit conditional initial offers by 31 July 1991 in which they specify commitments they are willing to assume in accordance with the provisions of Parts III and IV of the General Agreement on Trade in Services.

2. All initial offers shall be circulated to all participants in the Uruguay Round in order to provide transparency.

3. The initial offers will be the subject of multilateral consultations as well as a periodic review and assessment process open to all participants.

4. Negotiations on initial commitments shall proceed on the basis of the guidelines agreed to by the GNS before 31 July 1991.

5. Participants who have submitted offers are encouraged to present initial requests bilaterally by 20 September 1991. Summaries of such requests shall be made available, through the Secretariat, to all participants who have made offers.

6. In order to facilitate negotiations on commitments, each participant, upon request for specific information by any other participant who has submitted an offer, shall make available, clarify and explain regulations affecting international trade in services.

7. Negotiations will take place among participants which have submitted initial offers. These negotiations will take place on the basis of the submitted offers/requests.

8. Negotiations may also proceed among participants on the basis of other proposals.

9. After negotiations on initial commitments are concluded each participant shall consolidate its schedule of specific commitments and communicate it to the Secretariat.

GATT SECRETARIAT

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