WORLD TRADE

ORGANIZATION

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General Council Original: English

PREPARATIONS FOR THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

<u>Draft Ministerial Declaration dated 27 October 2001</u> <u>Drafting Suggestions by India</u>

Communication from India

The following communication, dated 2 November 2001, has been received from the

Para 4: Add the phrase "as envisaged in Article III.2 of the Marrakesh Agreement" after the

word "liberalisation". Replace the word "unique" by the word "important". Also replace the word "liberalisation" by the words "trade liberalisation". Also add the phrase "within the framework of multilateral trading system" at the end of the

sentence.

Para 6: Delete the sentence starting with the words "We recognise the right...". Add the word

"equitable" after the word "open" in the 2nd sentence.

Para 8: Delete the whole para. (Already covered by India's statement.)

Para 10: Delete the phrase "and improved dialogue with public".

Para 11: Delete words "broad and balanced" as well as "expanded".

Para 12: (Already covered by India's statement.)

Para 16: Delete the words "high tariffs" and phrase "or as appropriate eliminate" from the first

sentence and prefix "bound" before the word "tariffs". The phrase "as well as non-tariff barriers" should be shifted immediately after the words "tariff escalation" and before the phrase "in particular...". Delete the words "comprehensive and" from the

2nd sentence.

Para 18&19: (Already covered by India's statement.)

Para 20: To be replaced by the following:

"The Working Group on the relationship between Trade and Investment shall continue its work in accordance with the mandate provided by the Singapore Ministerial Declaration. A report on this work shall be presented to the Fifth Session

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scope for WTO rules in this area. A report on this work shall be presented to the Fifth Session of the Ministerial Conference."

Para 24: The phrase "in the light of the increasing application of these instruments by Members" is unnecessary and should be deleted. It should be borne in mind that the main reason which prompted many developed and developing countries to seek negotiations in anti-dumping and subsidies area is the growing abuse and misuse by some developed countries, of Anti-dumping and Subsidies agreement. Delete the word "and" after basic concepts and add "existing special and differential treatment provisions. The negotiations shall also fully take into account the needs of developing and least developed countries". Also delete "taking into account the needs of developing and least developed participants"."

Para 25: In the last sentence add the phrase "while ensuring that regional trade agreements are complementary to and consistent with WTO rules".

Para 27: (Already covered by India's statement.)

Para 28: Amend the second sentence to read as: "The work to date demonstrates that electronic commerce creates new challenges and opportunities for trade for members, in particular for developing countries and that bridging the digital divide while taking into account their economic finance and development needs is integral to improving their participation in global electronic commerce. We recognize the importance of creating and maintaining an environment which is favourable to the future development of electronic commerce."

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