

WORLD TRADE

ORGANIZATION

WT/MIN(01)/ST/136
12 November 2001

(01-5733)

supports the idea of establishment of a multilateral system for notifying and registering geographical indications for wines and spirits, which, in our opinion, will contribute to the enforcement of additional protection.

Moldova is a low-income country. In the year 2000 GDP represented only US\$350 per capita and with very high level of external debt. Therefore, Moldova strongly supports the inclusion of the examination of the relationship between trade, debt and finance in the Work Programme.

In the process of accession to the WTO Moldova did not receive the status of a developing country in spite of its relatively low level of economic development and the small size of its economy. We have no intention to renegotiate the results of its accession, but support the idea of introducing fair criteria of classification of Members within the WTO according to their level of development.

We consider that Moldova has already made substantial market access commitments, sometimes going far beyond those that had been made during the Uruguay Round, therefore, these commitments and further commitments resulting from the new round might have serious consequences on its economic development creating imbalance and reasoned concern for us. Moldova in common with other newly acceded countries will seek appropriate flexibilities and accommodation of its interests in the further process of the negotiations.

The Republic of Moldova has a particular interest in participating at the negotiations in the area of services, especially Mode 4 of services supply, an objective set out in the draft Ministerial Declaration.

At the same time, the Moldovan delegation will support discussions and negotiations in the field of investments and e-commerce.

We stand for preserving and development of special and differential treatment for developing countries.

We are entirely confident that the decisions, which will be taken at this Conference, will contribute to the enhancement of commerce, investments, employment and national welfare of all WTO member States. In this historically important event, everyone should realize, especially countries with small economies like Moldova, that the individual interests of the member States and their future can be protected only in the framework of a well-established legal system, as provided by WTO and by a new round of multilateral trade negotiations. We have to do everything possible to put into practice the decisions, which will arise out of the new round of negotiations.
