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Liberalization of services _____

The liberalization of trade in

We welcome the work of the WTO Dispute Settlement Body, since it has helped to strengthen credibility as well as the ability of small countries such as Peru to take action to invoke fulfilment of the established rules and the commitments agreed through the system. We hope that strengthening this mechanism will be a priority item on the multilateral agenda.

Agricultural negotiations

Peru also attaches special importance to the preparation of the forthcoming negotiations on agriculture. We believe that agricultural reform, of which the first step is the Agreement on Agriculture that we have been implementing since 1995, is a continuing process aimed in the long-term at achieving a market-oriented agricultural trading system in which developing countries can compete on fair terms. We therefore think it is fundamental that the future discussions should take into account (a) the need to incorporate a substantive improvement in market access opportunities for agricultural tropical products, which are of particular interest to my country; (b) measures to encourage diversification away from crops for the obtention of illegal drugs; (c) prompt and effective implementation of the Decision on net-food-importing developing countries; and no less important, (d) emphasis on special and differential treatment for developing country Members as provided for in Article 20 of the Agreement on Agriculture.

Small textile suppliers

Peru has long been an efficient producer of high quality textiles and clothing, which is why we place emphasis on the need for full implementation of the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing, particularly the clauses referring to small suppliers. In addition we are concerned at the use of protectionist measures against textiles products that are being integrated into the GATT 1994. We are also interested in the possibility of initiating tariff-cutting negotiations in the textile and clothing sector.

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