

THAILAND

Statement Circulated by H. E. Dr. Supachai Panitchpakdi,
Deputy Prime Minister

E. Mr. Pascal Couchepin and the Swiss Government as well as the people of Switzerland for their
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risk of
governments pursuing restrictive economic policies in protecting their war-torn economies fifty years
ago, and at that time decided to pursue an outward-looking and more open trade policy.

Multilateral trading systems as engine for world growth

The setting up of multilaterally agreed disciplines, various tariff-cutting Rounds, the conciliation and dispute settlement within the framework of the GATT as well as the adherence to the basic principle of non-discrimination have, to an impressive extent, contributed to the stability and predictability, hence, growth in international trade.

It is recognized that the conclusion of the Uruguay Round signified the most comprehensive and far-reaching reform by far and endorsed confidence in the multilateral trading system.

of economic and development fruit. Given this, it is both opportune and useful to examine and evaluate our performance thus far and set a vision for our future.

Implementation

In general, the overall implementation of the Uruguay Round has proceeded in accordance with the commitments entailed in various WTO Agreements. But it must also be noted that there are areas where greater efforts are needed from Members to meet their obligations. In this regard, genuine endeavour and determination must be exerted by all Members in complying with the agreements in order to achieve full and faithful implementation of the commitments. Among

It is the first time that ground rules on the subject of agriculture were set. We recognise that this has been a big step forward, however, implementation of agriculture commitments during the past years have indicated that there is still room for improvement.

- 1.1 Some Members have yet to demonstrate their earnest exertion to fully abide by the stipulated obligations.
- 1.2 Strict compliance to tariff reductions and elimination of market access restrictions, subsidies and distortions are needed to truly bring about a fair and market-oriented agricultural trading

4. Dispute settlement

The Dispute Settlement

Major tasks

Several WTO Agreements and Ministerial Decisions called for further negotiations as well

Firm commitment

Despite all the hardship currently facing our nation, Thailand remains unwavering with out commitment towards liberalization. We firmly believe that through the continuation of our outward looking and open trade policy, we will revive our economy as well as secure sustainable prosperity and economic growth in the years ahead.
