

CTS SS - Some Context and Background

- “ Created in 2000 to carry out the built-in negotiating mandate in Article XIX
- “ “Successive rounds of negotiations” to achieve a progressively higher level of liberalization (Art. XIX: 1)
- “ Progressive liberalization advanced “through bilateral, plurilateral or multilateral negotiations directed towards increasing the general level of specific commitments undertaken by Members” (Art. XIX: 4)
- “ Specific commitments relate to Market Access (Art. XVI) and National Treatment (Art. XVII) in all four modes of supply, and any additional commitments (Art. XVIII)
- “ Flexibilities for DCs (Art. XIX: 2)
- “ Environmental services part of post-2000 negotiations; was focus of a plurilateral request; 25 Members offering improvements in their schedule

Recent Discussions in the CTS SS

- “ Exploratory discussions on market access:
 - “ Started after MC11, at suggestion of a number of Members
 - “ Objective: exchange of views on current interests, priorities and aspirations, on the basis of proposals by Members, and without prejudice to negotiating positions
 - “ 8 papers put forward by Members and discussed in CTS SS, including 3 on environmental services:
 - “ JOB/SERV/293 (2019); JOB/SERV/299 (2020); JOB/SERV/308 (2021)
 - “ Summary of discussions since MC11 in TN/S/42 (Chair report to TNC)

JOB/SERV/293 (2019): Exploratory discussions on MA for environmental services

- “ Paper sponsored by AUS, CDN, KOR, MEX, NZE, CHE (Rev. 2)
- “ Reviews importance of the sector, the trade-environmental link for these services, and relevance of GATS commitments in different sectors

GATS SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS – Number of schedules

“	52
---	----

“	50
---	----

“	51
---	----

“	
---	--

JOB/SERV/293 – Interests expressed

- “ remove limitations so as to reflect existing regimes
- “ Members taking the floor in 2019 expressed interest in greater commitments
- “ Impact of technological advances in expanding trade opportunities under mode 1 and facilitating access often pointed out
- “ Role of mode 3 in helping attract investment and build up infrastructure was highlighted. Interest in focusing on foreign equity limits and exclusive rights, while preserving public services.
- “ Interest in expanded commitments on mode 4, including in relation to:
 - “ Installation or servicing as part of a warranty;
 - “ Movement of key personnel within an enterprise;
 - “ Temporary movements of technicians and professionals to provide services abroad.

JOB/SERV/299 (2020)

- “ Purpose: foster discussions by highlighting additional services where liberalization and
- “ Recognition that addressing global environmental issues, including climate change, requires access not only to services that are purely environmental (CPC 94), but also those that could have an environmental end-use.
- “ Sectors identified:
 - “ engineering; architectural services; construction; distribution; consulting; maintenance, repair and recycling services*.
- “ Lower barriers and better commitments to help enhance performance and improve affordability of services related to environmental protection.
- “ Existing commitments in these sectors are limited (47-79 schedules)

Discussions of JOB/SERV/299 in 2020-21

Thank you