

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

TN/TF/M/38

21 December 2010

(10-6839)

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## Negotiating Group on Trade Facilitation

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Held in the Centre William Rappard  
from 29 November – 3 December 2010

*Chairman: H.E. Mr. Eduardo Ernesto Sperisen-Yurt (Guatemala)*

1. The Chairman recalled that the agenda for the session had been circulated in WTO/AIR/3665.
2. As set out in the airgram, the meeting focused on three main areas of work. A first item consisted of new submissions from the membership. They would be addressed right after the end of the opening plenary. Following that, delegations would move to the GATT Article VIII area in order to continue the negotiations from where they had been left in October. Once that had been completed, Members would turn to special and differential treatment as a third key item on the agenda.
3. In response to Members' request, time had also been accorded to their bilateral, plurilateral and open-ended activities. Wednesday and Thursday, as well as the afternoon of the Friday had been reserved to that end. Delegations wishing to organize such initiatives would be expected to report on their results in the closing plenary. After that, the Negotiating Group would take up the regular technical assistance and needs assessment items.
4. The agenda was adopted.
  - A. WORK ON THE DRAFT CONSOLIDATED NEGOTIATING TEXT
5. This part of the meeting was conducted in informal mode.
6. The Negotiating Group took note of the statements made.
  - B. AD HOC ATTENDANCE OF RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING THE IMF, OECD, UNCTAD, WCO AND THE WORLD BANK, AT THE NEXT MEETING OF THE NEGOTIATING GROUP
7. The Chairman suggested inviting relevant international organizations, including the IMF, OECD, UNCTAD, WCO and the World Bank to attend the next formal meeting of the Negotiating Group on an ad hoc basis, as provided for in the Work Plan.
8. It was so agreed.
  - C. OTHER BUSINESS
9. The Chairman addressed the issue of the Negotiating Group's next meeting, suggesting to hold it in the morning of 14 January. Details regarding its content and structure would be communicated to Members in due course.

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10. It was so agreed.
  11. The Negotiating Group took note of the statements made.
  12. The meeting was adjourned.
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