

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/AG/NG/W/169

6 April 2001

(01-1778)

Committee on Agriculture
Special Session

Original: English

SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE 26-28 MARCH 2001

Statement by South Africa

South Africa would like to thank you, Mr Chairman, for your part in the work of the Committee in the first phase of the negotiations. We would also like to thank the Secretariat for the work done.

South Africa is encouraged by the recognition by Members of the special needs of developing countries, particularly the need to fully participate in international trade.

What we now need is to take forward the negotiations within the framework of Article 20 by concretising the needs into solutions to continue the reform process.

South Africa believes the sooner the developing countries, particularly African Countries, are allowed to realize their comparative advantages in agriculture they can broaden their export base, address poverty, promote economic growth and development and ensure their integration into the multilateral trading system. This will create larger markets from which all Members can benefit.

South Africa will participate in the second phase and we will support the new chair of the Committee.
