

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

**G/SCM/Q2/SVK/5**

8 October 1996

(96-4093)

**Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures**

Original: English

## SUBSIDIES

### Questions from the UNITED STATES Regarding the New and Full Notification of the SLOVAK REPUBLIC<sup>1</sup>

The following communication, dated 30 September 1996, has been received from the Permanent Mission of the United States.

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Please provide information concerning the following programmes which did not appear to be included within the Slovak Republic's notification, yet may meet the notification requirements of GATT 1994 and/or the SCM Agreement. If these programmes are encompassed elsewhere in the Slovak Republic's notification, please explain. If not, please include information relevant to the elements requested in the notification format, or explain the basis on which the Slovak Republic determined that each programme did not meet the notification requirements referenced above:

- A. Waste Minimization demonstration project sponsored by the World Environment Centre (WEC)
- B. Subsidies to the State Fund on Market Regulation for honey and canned meat
- C. Export Insurance provided by the Government of the Slovak Republic against long-term commercial risks
- D. Export financing at below-market interest rates provided by the Government of the Slovak Republic
- E. Tax policies to promote exports
- F. Slovak Republic Export Promotion Programme with the following aims:
  - develop the financial infrastructure for export promotion
  - grant long-term credit, provided on terms to compete on third markets
  - develop the services connected with export insurance
  - assist small- and medium-sized entrepreneurs in implementing new production and in penetrating foreign markets
  - set up an information, consultation and marketing centre supporting public and private foreign trade activities

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<sup>1</sup>G/SCM/N/3/SVK

- introduce an award for Slovakia's best exporters
- G. State subsidies to the following sectors through state-owned entities:
- energy
  - gas
  - telecommunications
  - rail transport
- H. State subsidies to brown coal mining enterprises
- I. State subsidies for the restructuring of ore mining, to settle coal mining issues and for public construction projects aimed at environmental improvements
- J. Concessionary loans and credit guarantees offered through the State Support Fund