

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED
WT/ACC/VUT/10
16 March 2001

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**Working Party on the
Accession of Vanuatu**

Original: English

ACCESSION OF VANUATU

Draft Notification

Implementation and Administration of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade

The following Statement under Article 15.2 of the Agreement has been received by the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu.

1. In accordance with Article 15.2 of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade and the Decision taken by the Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade (G/TBT/1/Rev.7), we hereby submit to the Committee this statement summarizing the measures in existence and taken to ensure the implementation and administration of the Agreement in Vanuatu.
2. Vanuatu does not have any laws, regulations or administrative procedures relating to technical regulations, standards or conformity assessment systems that would be subject to the provisions of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade. Vanuatu is a Least Developed Country which is in the early stages of examining whether and, if so, how it might acquire the institutional capacity that will be needed to develop and apply technical regulations, standards or conformity assessment systems in conformity with the Agreement.
3. In the event of the acquisition of institutional capacity that may lead to the development and application of technical regulations, standards or conformity assessment systems subject to the provisions of the Agreement, the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Investment will have overall responsibility for national implementation of the Agreement. All laws, regulations and administrative procedures will be notified as required under the Agreement, including by updating existing notifications where this is needed. Representations concerning Vanuatu's implementation of the Agreement and requests for consultations should be directed to the Office of the Director of Trade in the Department of Trade. The Office of the Director of Trade maintains the Enquiry Point for Vanuatu:

The Office of the Director of Trade
Department of Trade, Industry and Investment
Ministry of Trade and Business Development
Private Mail Bag 030
Port Vila
Vanuatu

Telephone: +678 22770
Fax: +678 25640
Email: trade@vanuatu.com.vu

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3. The Office of the Director of Trade is responsible for identifying and providing notifications to the WTO Secretariat under the TBT Agreement. For technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures proposed by central government bodies, the Office of the Director of Trade relies upon the information published in the Official Gazette in order to identify proposals subject to the notification procedures under this Agreement. Final texts of central government technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures are also published in the Official Gazette. For technical regulations and conformity assessment procedures prepared by regional provincial governments, the Office of the Director of Trade relies upon publications by those governments. On questions concerning standards and technical regulations for agricultural products, including sanitary and phytosanitary measures, the Office of the Director of Trade is assisted by the Office of the Director, Vanuatu Quarantine and Inspection Services:

Office of the Director, Vanuatu Quarantine and Inspection Services
Vanuatu Quarantine and Inspection Services
Private Mail Bag 095
Port Vila

Telephone: +678 23130/23519
Fax: +678 23185/24653
email: vqisvila@vanuatu.com.vu

Both offices circulate notifications received under the Agreement to interested parties for comment.
