

**Committee on Regional Trade Agreements
Council for Trade in Services**

Original: English

FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND SINGAPORE

Notification from the Parties

The following communication, dated 17 December 2003, has been received from the Permanent Missions of the United States of America and Singapore, with the request that it be circulated to the WTO Members.

The Permanent Mission of the United States to the World Trade Organization in Geneva and the Permanent Mission of Singapore to the United Nations office in Geneva have the honor to notify to the WTO that their respective authorities have completed procedures for entry into force of the US-Singapore Free Trade Agreement (USSFTA).¹

The USSFTA establishes a free-trade area within the meaning of Article XXIV of the GATT 1994. The USSFTA also provides for the liberalisation of trade in services within the meaning of Article V of the GATS.

The USSFTA was signed on May 6, 2003. The agreement will enter into force on January 1, 2004. The duration of the agreement is indefinite.

This joint notification is presented:

- (i) pursuant to part (a) of paragraph 7 of Article XXIV of GATT 1994 and the Understanding on the Interpretation of Article XXIV of GATT 1994; and
- (ii) in accordance with paragraph 7(a) of Article V of the GATS (Economic Integration).

We are pleased to advise that the agencies responsible for the implementation and enforcement of USSFTA are the Office of the United States Trade Representative and the Ministry of Trade and Industry of Singapore.

The United States and Singapore wish to express their willingness to contribute to the process of examination in accordance with the procedures agreed upon in the Committee on Regional Trade Agreements.

¹ The full text of the USSFTA will be circulated in document WT/REG161/1. It is also available, along with the tariff schedules, services market access reservations and other large annexes to specific chapters, at:
<http://www.ustr.gov/new/fta/Singapore/final.htm> and
<http://www.fta.gov.sg/index1.htm>