

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

G/STR/Q1/BRA/5

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(98-1346)

**Working Party on
State Trading Enterprises**

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STATE TRADING

Questions Posed by AUSTRALIA Concerning the Article XVII Notification of BRAZIL¹

The following communication, was received on 2 April 1998 from the Permanent Mission of Australia.

Q.1 We note that three entities (Casa da Moeda do Brazil (CMB); BR-Petrobras Distribuidora S.A.; and Petroleo Brasileiro S.A.-Petrobras) which were listed in Brazil's previous notification (G/STR/N/1/BRA) no longer appear in Brazil's latest notification. We are interested to know why they have been removed.

Q.2 We would also be interested to know, for example, how the operations of Petroleo Brasileiro S.A.-Petrobras (responsible for oil sector activities) have changed since the Petroleum Law was passed in July 1997.

Q.3 We note that in Brazil's previous notification (G/STR/N/1/BRA), Companhia Nacional Abastecimento-CONAB was reported as having no import operations for the period 1992/94. We would like some clarification of Brazil's current notification (G/STR/N/3/BRA) regarding CONAB: does the notification mean that there were no import operations by CONAB for 1994/95 and 1995/96?

(We note in G/STR/N/1/BRA under (B) "Functioning of company" that CONAB "may carry on imports under exceptional circumstances").

¹G/STR/N/3/BRA