

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

S/DCS/W/QAT
24 January 2003

(03-0588)

Trade in Services

Original: English

QATAR

Draft converted Schedule of Specific Commitments¹

Attached is a draft converted version of the Schedule of Specific Commitments of Qatar in word format. This document does not substitute for the legally binding commitments undertaken by Qatar in its Schedule of Specific Commitments (GATS/SC/120).

The draft converted version of the Schedule was prepared by the Secretariat, at the request of Members, to facilitate the process of negotiations, including the presentation of initial offers.

¹ This document has been prepared, in English only, under the Secretariat's own responsibility and without prejudice to the positions of Members and to their rights and obligations under the WTO.

QATAR – SCHEDULE OF SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS

Modes of supply: (1) Cross-border (2) Consumption abroad (3) Commercial presence (4) Presence of natural persons

Sector or Sub-sector	Limitations on Market Access	Limitations on National Treatment	Additional Commitments
I. HORIZONTAL COMMITMENTS			
ALL SECTORS INCLUDED IN THIS SCHEDULE	<p>3) As stipulated in Qatari laws, decisions and regulations, National services and goods or services and goods of national origin should have priority in purchases of Governmental, Semi-Governmental and Public Sector Departments, as well as in purchases of national and foreign contractors, awarded contracts by the Government of Qatar or its affiliate bodies to fulfil in or outside the country. The priority referred to above is only applicable if the differential in price of goods or services of national origin is not in excess of 10 % compared to those of foreign origin (law nr. 6 of 1987).</p> <p>With the exemption of banks, financial and insurance institutions and other sectors and sub-sectors which are not stipulated as areas of commitments with limitations on the number of service suppliers in the attached schedules, foreign commercial presence should be either through a Qatari Agent working in the same field of services or related to it (official agency contract must be registered with the Ministry of Finance, Economy and Commerce). Or: through a partnership with the capital of Qatari Company.</p>	<p>3) Possessing, buying, selling or dealing in Qatari shares are, presently, confined to Qatari natural or juridical persons. Foreigners are not allowed to invest in Qatari shares.</p> <p>The restriction on acquisition of Qatari shares by foreigners is made because of the small number of Qatari joint stock companies (around 20) and absence of organized stock exchange market.</p> <p>Acquisition of land or real estate by foreign natural persons or foreign juridical persons are not allowed. Foreigners can acquire land for economic activities on long lease particularly for industrial use.</p> <p>Foreign nationals or companies with foreign share holdings may be required to pay direct taxes on income derived from work or operations in Qatar, whereas local services suppliers or local Qatari companies may not be required to pay similar taxes (Law nr. 11 of 93). Foreign nationals or companies may obtain tax exemption for 5-10 years before making the investment.</p>	

Modes of supply: (1) Cross-border (2) Consumption abroad (3) Commercial presence (4) Presence of natural persons

Sector or Sub-sector	Limitations on Market Access	Limitations on National Treatment	Additional Commitments
	<p>Foreign commercial presence may be required to provide certain benefits in the form of technology transfer, research and development programs, technical or marketing assistance and educational or training of local manpower.</p> <p>4) Unbound, except for measures concerning the entry and temporary stay of natural persons falling within the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Managers - Specialists, and - Skilled technicians <p>Presence of foreign natural persons as self employers is not allowed.</p>	<p>3), 4) National services industries and services may have some kind of incentives and assistance, like industrial land blocks, easy financial loans, market research and marketing programmes including the organization of exhibitions or facilitating its taking part in Qatari pavilion in international fairs and exhibitions, with free or lowered costs, establishing of marketing centres (inside or outside the country), and/or granting discount on the prices of its advertising programmes in national TV and national advertising agencies and some other incentives alike.</p> <p>4) Unbound, except for measures concerning the categories of natural persons referred to in the market access column.</p> <p>Housing and social programmes and some aspects of free health care, are limited to Qatari citizens.</p>	

Modes of supply: (5) Cross-border (6) Consumption abroad (7) Commercial presence (8) Presence of natural persons

Sector or Sub-sector	Limitations on Market Access	Limitations on National Treatment	Additional Commitments
II. SECTOR-SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS			
1. BUSINESS SERVICES			
A. <u>Professional Services</u>			
b) Accounting, auditing and bookkeeping services (CPC 862)	1) None 2) None 3) The number of foreign suppliers is frozen at the level existing on March 1995 (10 firms) 4) Unbound, except as indicated in the horizontal section	1) None 2) None 3) None 4) Unbound, except as indicated in the horizontal section	
c) Taxation services, as follows:			
- Business tax planning and consulting (CPC 86301)	1) None 2) None	1) None 2) None	
- Business tax preparation and review services (CPC 86302)	3) None 4) Unbound, except as indicated in the horizontal section	3) None 4) None, except as indicated in the horizontal section	
d) Architectural services (CPC 8671)	1) None 2) None 3) Access only for projects of over \$100 million or the equivalent amount in other currencies. 4) Unbound, except as indicated in the horizontal section.	1) None 2) None 3) None, except as indicated in the horizontal section. 4) Unbound, except as indicated in the horizontal section.	

Modes of supply: (5) Cross-border (6) Consumption abroad (7) Commercial presence (8) Presence of natural persons

Sector or Sub-sector	Limitations on Market Access	Limitations on National Treatment	Additional Commitments
h) Medical and dental services (CPC 9312)	1) Unbound 2) Unbound 3) None 4) Unbound, except as indicated in the horizontal section	1) Unbound 2) Unbound 3) None 4) Unbound, except as indicated in the horizontal section. Residency required.	
i) Veterinary services (CPC 932)	1) None 2) None 3) None 4) Unbound, except as indicated in the horizontal section	1) None 2) None 3) None 4) None, except as indicated in the horizontal section. Residency required.	
B. <u>Computer and Related Services</u>			
a) Consultancy services related to the installation of computer hardware (CPC 841)	1) Unbound 2) Unbound 3) None	1) Unbound 2) Unbound 3) None	
b) Software implementation services (CPC 842)	4) Unbound, except as indicated in the horizontal section	4) Unbound, except as indicated in the horizontal section	
c) Data processing services (CPC 843)			
d) Data base services (CPC 844)			

Modes of supply: (5) Cross-border (6) Consumption abroad (7) Commercial presence (8) Presence of natural persons

Sector or Sub-sector	Limitations on Market Access	Limitations on National Treatment	Additional Commitments
C. <u>Research and Development Services</u>			
a) R&D Services on natural sciences	1) Unbound 2) Unbound	1) Unbound 2) Unbound	
b) R&D Services on social sciences and humanities	3) None	3) None	
c) Interdisciplinary R&D Services	4) Unbound, except as indicated under the horizontal section	4) None, except as indicated under the horizontal section	
F. <u>Other Business Services</u>			
b) Market research services (CPC 864)	1) None 2) None 3) None 4) Unbound, except as indicated in the horizontal section	1) None 2) None 3) None 4) None, except as indicated in the horizontal section	
c) Management consulting service (CPC 865)	1) Unbound 2) Unbound 3) None 4) Unbound, except as indicated under the horizontal section	1) Unbound 2) Unbound 3) None 4) Unbound, except as indicated under the horizontal section	
e) Technical testing and analysis service (CPC 8676)	1) None 2) None 3) None 4) Unbound, except as indicated under the horizontal section	1) None 2) None 3) None, except as indicated under the horizontal section 4) None, except as indicated under the horizontal section	

Modes of supply: (5) Cross-border (6) Consumption abroad (7) Commercial presence (8) Presence of natural persons

Sector or Sub-sector	Limitations on Market Access	Limitations on National Treatment	Additional Commitments
2. COMMUNICATION SERVICES			
B. <u>Courier services</u> Land based international courier services	1) Unbound 2) Unbound 3) The number of foreign suppliers is frozen at the level existing on March 1995 (6 firms) 4) Unbound, except as indicated under the horizontal section	1) Unbound 2) Unbound 3) None 4) Unbound, except as indicated under the horizontal section	
3. <u>CONSTRUCTION AND RELATED ENGINEERING SERVICES</u>			
A) <u>General construction work for buildings</u> (CPC 512)	1) None 2) None	1) None 2) None	
B) <u>General construction work for civil engineering</u> (CPC 513)	3) Access only for projects of over \$100 million or the equivalent amount in other currencies. 4) Unbound, except as indicated in the horizontal section	3) None, except as indicated in the horizontal section 4) Unbound, except as indicated in the horizontal section	
C) <u>Installation and assembly work</u> (CPC 514+516)			
D) <u>Building completion and finishing work</u> (CPC 517)			
6. <u>ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES</u> (Environmental services – cont'd)	1) Unbound 2) Unbound 3) None 4) Unbound, except as indicated in the horizontal section	1) Unbound 2) Unbound 3) None 4) Unbound, except as indicated in the horizontal section	

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Sector or Sub-sector	Limitations on Market Access	Limitations on National Treatment	Additional Commitments
7. <u>FINANCIAL SERVICES</u>			
A. <u>All insurance and insurance-related services</u>			
b) Non-life insurance services	1) None	1) None	
	2) None	2) None	
c) Reinsurance and retrocession	3) The number of foreign insurance suppliers is frozen at the level existing on March 1995 (5 firms)	3) None	
d) Services auxiliary to insurance (including broking and agency services)	4) Unbound	4) Unbound	
B. <u>Banking and other financial services</u> (excluding insurance)	1) None	1) None	
	2) None	2) None	
	3) The number of branches of foreign banking institutions is frozen at the level existing on March 1995 (8 branches)	3) None	
	4) Unbound	4) Unbound	

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Sector or Sub-sector	Limitations on Market Access	Limitations on National Treatment	Additional Commitments
9. <u>TOURISM AND TRAVEL-RELATED SERVICES</u>			
A. <u>Hotels and Restaurants</u> (including catering) (CPC 641-643)			
Hotels	1) Unbound 2) None 3) None 4) Unbound	1) Unbound 2) None 3) None 4) Unbound	
Restaurants	1) Unbound 2) None 3) None 4) Unbound	1) Unbound 2) None 3) None 4) Unbound	