

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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REQUEST BY THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA FOR OBSERVER STATUS IN WTO BODIES

The following communication, dated 22 June 1995, which has been received from the Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations and other international organizations in Switzerland, is circulated to the WTO Members.

Upon the instruction of my Government, I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that the Government of the People's Republic of China has decided to apply for the observer status in the General Council of the World Trade Organization and its subsidiary bodies.

Since the application for the resumption of its contracting party status in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade in 1986, China has made the establishment of the socialist market economy its target, and carried out a series of significant reforms in its economic and trade systems so as to bring them basically conformable to the WTO rules. China supports the multilateral trading system represented by the GATT/WTO, and is continuing the negotiations on its contracting party status in the GATT, with the hope that the outcome of the negotiations will be China's joining of WTO as a full member. Prior to this, the according of the observer status in the WTO to China would be conducive to the negotiations on China's contracting party status in the GATT and the strengthening of the multilateral trading system.