

**PREPARATORY COMMITTEE
FOR THE
WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION**

RESTRICTED

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PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE
WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE
ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY (OAU)
AT ITS THIRTIETH SESSION

Communication from Tunisia

In a communication dated 11 July 1994, the Permanent Mission of Tunisia has requested that the following Resolution adopted on the occasion of the Thirtieth Session of the OAU Conference be circulated to members of the Preparatory Committee.

Resolution on the Evaluation of the Results of the Uruguay Round of
Multilateral Trade Negotiations of GATT

The Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in its Thirtieth Ordinary Session in Tunis, Tunisia, from 13 to 15 June 1994,

Bearing in mind the significance of Africa's participation in international commercial relations as a major source of foreign exchange that is required for financing the development of its countries,

Concerned about the continued deterioration of Africa's terms of trade with the industrialized countries, the collapse of commodity prices, the loss of market share and the resurgence of protectionist trade practices that characterized the international trading system since the period preceding the launching of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations in September 1986 in Punta del Este, Uruguay,

Aware that on 15 April 1994 in Marrakesh, Kingdom of Morocco, the Final Act embodying the results of the multilateral trade negotiations (Uruguay Round) was signed by the Ministers of the participating countries in the Uruguay Round,

Taking into account the Tunis Declaration and the resolution on the Uruguay Round of negotiations adopted in October 1993 by the Twelfth Session of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade,

Recalling resolution CM. Res. 1505 (LIX) of the OAU Council of Ministers of February 1994, which requested the Secretary General of the OAU, in collaboration with the relevant institutions, to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the results of the Uruguay Round in order to determine the overall impact on the African economies,

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Further recalling the resolution on the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations adopted in May 1994 by the Conference of Ministers of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa,

Aware of the need for the integration of Africa within the global trading system in order to foster economic growth in Africa,

Conscious of the importance of free trade for economic growth and employment and of the need to promote national development for job creation,

Mindful that there are new areas that are still open for negotiations in the coming months, such as relations between environment and trade, basic telecommunications and financial services,

Having considered the report of the Secretary General entitled "Evaluation of the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations of GATT (A Preliminary Assessment)", document CM/111839 (LX),

1. Takes note of the report and recommendations in document CM/1839 (LX) and welcomes the comprehensive analysis contained in the report;
2. Welcomes the conclusion of the Uruguay Round of negotiations and the signing of the Final Act by 120 countries on 15 April 1994 in Marrakesh, Kingdom of Morocco, as well as the Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization (WTO);
3. Expresses concern at the deterioration of the margins of preference hitherto enjoyed by the majority of African countries as a result of the Round;
4. Urges African countries which have not yet done so to envisage acceding to the WTO so as to ensure the safeguard of Africa's interests from within the new Organization;
5. Welcomes the convening of the International Conference on Technical Assistance to African Countries in Tunis in October 1994 with the aim of enabling them to adapt their economies to the new international trading system and more particularly to the outcome of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations;
6. Calls on UNDP, GATT, other institutions and donors to provide the required financial support and technical assistance for this purpose;
7. Calls on the OAU, UNECA, UNCTAD and GATT to organize regular seminars and symposia to acquaint member States of OAU with the outcome of the Uruguay Round and the mechanisms for the implementation of the agreements;
8. Calls for an African common position on the issue of the inclusion of labour standards within the new World Trade Organization's sphere of competence;
9. Requests the Secretary General of the OAU and the Executive Secretary of UNECA, in close consultation with member States and relevant organizations, to monitor on a continuous basis the impact of the Uruguay Round and to make periodic recommendations to the Council through the Secretary General;
10. Requests the Secretary General to monitor the implementation of this resolution and to report back to the Council.