
**General Council
Committee on Agriculture (Special Session)
Negotiating Group on Market Access**

Original: English

RECENTLY ACCEDED MEMBERS

Communication from Ecuador and Panama

The following communication, dated 2 June 2006, is being circulated at the request of the delegations of Ecuador and Panama.

I. BACKGROUND

The reference paper of the Chairman of the Special Session of the Committee on Agriculture of 4 May 2006, concerning the issue of "Recently Acceded Members", mentions among its main aspects the need to define the list of those Members considered as recently acceded.

In his reference paper, the Chairman identifies the special characteristics of Recently Acceded Members when pointing out in paragraph 7 that "one common feature is that it would appear that they had to take on extensive commitments in order to accede to the WTO." It has been stated that these commitments are much broader than those assumed by other Members during the Uruguay Round of negotiations. As a result, the tariff averages are much lower (see the tariff profile review and the dates of application for the Members that entered the WTO since the beginning of the application of the results of the Uruguay Round).

Finally, the Chairman considers that "...this particular aspect of the Doha Development Agenda is perhaps more a matter, in formal terms, for bodies other than this Negotiating Group *per se* to resolve. This for present purposes is without prejudice to that formal issue."

II. CENTRAL POSITION OF ECUADOR AND PANAMA

Ecuador and Panama have insisted on the fact that in light of the broad commitments assumed in terms of market access in their accession processes to the WTO they consider themselves Recently Acceded Members and, therefore, subject to the flexibilities to be agreed in these negotiations, recognized in paragraph 47 of Annex A and in paragraph 11 of Annex B of the General Council Decision of 1 August 2004 contained in document WT/L/579 and later confirmed in paragraph 58 of the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration.

III. MAIN JUSTIFICATIONS

The charts first presented by the Chairman of the Committee on Market Access and later by the Chairman of the Special Session of the Committee on Agriculture clearly show the level of the commitments assumed by Ecuador and Panama in our accession processes to the WTO, as well as the

commitments assumed by Members that acceded at later dates. It can be observed in these charts that there is no major difference for such commitments, which is the basis for the objective criteria of our position.

Ecuador and Panama strongly consider that the criteria to define the list of Recently Acceded Members is determined by the broad levels of commitments assumed in the accession processes to which these Members were subjected and that are clearly outlined in the charts prepared by the WTO Secretariat.

It cannot be justified in any way that developing countries such as Ecuador and Panama be excluded from this list since our commitments are higher than those of many Members that participated in the Uruguay Round negotiations.

Ecuador and Panama, together with those Members that entered the WTO after the Uruguay Round, did not have the opportunity to participate in any previous multilateral negotiation and, therefore, it would be highly discriminatory that we be excluded from any flexibility agreed in this Round of negotiations.

An additional general characteristic of Recently Acceded Members is that they have been implementing accession commitments during a large part of the Doha Round of multilateral negotiations.

Ecuador and Panama are willing to positively contribute to the development of modalities for Recently Acceded Members.

Commitments on Agricultural Products, Selected Members

Member	Date of Accession to the WTO	SUMMARY OF MARKET ACCESS (TARIFFS) COMMITMENTS ON AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS											Last year of implementation	
		Simple average of bound tariffs	Max. ad val.	No. of NAV lines.	Implementation of commitments (Number of tariff lines fully implemented)									
					Implemented by 2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2015		
Ecuador	21/01/1996	25.5	86	0	887 Full									2001
Bulgaria	01/12/1996	35.6	98	550	2204 Full									2005
Mongolia	29/01/1997	18.9	75	0	826 Full									2005
Panama	06/09/1997	27.7	260	5	1204	1265 Full								2007
Kyrgyz Republic	20/12/1998	12.3	30	47	921 Full									2003
Jordan	11/04/2000	23.7	200	7	688	690	694	694	874 Full					2010
Georgia	14/06/2000	11.7	30	26	781 Full									2006
Albania	08/09/2000	9.4	20	0	2069	2137 Full								2007
Oman	09/11/2000	28.0	200	0	723 Full									2006
Croatia	30/11/2000	9.4	55	229	1142	1163 Full								2007
Moldova, Rep. of	26/07/2001	12.2	25	63	784 Full									2005
China	11/12/2001	15.8	65	0	978	978	978	978	981 Full					2010
Chinese Taipei	01/01/2002	15.3	500	103	1161	1377	1377	1377	1377	1379 Full				2011
Armenia	05/02/2003	14.7	15	0	684 Full									2003
FYR Macedonia	04/04/2003	11.3	60	305	2070	2179 Full								2007
Saudi Arabia	11/12/2005	12.4	200	89	1122	1122	1143	1143	1168 Full					2010
Tonga	WP 1.12.05													

Note: Does not include Cambodia (13.10.2004) and Nepal (23.04.2004) which are considered LDCs. It also does not include Estonia (13.11.1999), Lithuania (31.05.2001) and Latvia (10.02.1999) which acceded to the EU on 1 May 2004.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

Commitments on Agricultural Products, Selected Members

Member	Date of Accession to the WTO	SUMMARY OF MARKET ACCESS (TARIFFS) COMMITMENTS ON AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS												
		Simple average of bound tariffs	Max. ad val.	No. of NAV lines.	Implementation of commitments (Share of agriculture lines implemented)								Last year of implementation	
					Implemented by 2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2015		
Ecuador	21/01/1996	25.5	86	0	100%									2001
Bulgaria	01/12/1996	35.6	98	550	100%									2005
Mongolia	29/01/1997	18.9	75	0	100%									2005
Panama	06/09/1997	27.7	260	5	95%	100%								2007
Kyrgyz Republic	20/12/1998	12.3	30	47	100%									2003
Jordan	11/04/2000	23.7	200	7	78.72%	78.95%	79.41%	79.41%	100%					2010
Georgia	14/06/2000	11.7	30	26	100%									2006
Albania	08/09/2000	9.4	20	0	97%	100%								2007
Oman	09/11/2000	28.0	200	0	100%									2006
Croatia	30/11/2000	9.4	55	229	98%	100%								2007
Moldova, Rep. of	26/07/2001	12.2	25	63	100%									2005
China	11/12/2001	15.8	65	0	99.69%	99.69%	99.69%	99.69%	100%					2010
Chinese Taipei	01/01/2002	15.3	500	103	84%	99.85%	99.85%	99.85%	99.85%	100%				2011
Armenia	05/02/2003	14.7	15	0	100%									2003
FYR Macedonia	04/04/2003	11.3	60	305	95%	100%								2007
Saudi Arabia	11/12/2005	12.4	200	89	96%	96%	98%	98%	100%					2010
Tonga	WP 1.12.05													

Note: Does not include Cambodia (13.10.2004) and Nepal (23.04.2004) which are considered LDCs. It also does not include Estonia (13.11.1999), Lithuania (31.05.2001) and Latvia (10.02.1999) which acceded to the EU on 1 May 2004.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

Commitments on Agricultural Products, Selected Members

Member	Date of Accession to the WTO	Currency	SUMMARY OF DOMESTIC SUPPORT COMMITMENTS ON AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS										
			Final Bound Total AMS Commitment	Implementation of commitments (Annual bound total AMS commitments)								Last year of implementation	
				Implemented by 2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2015		
Ecuador	21/01/1996		NIL	NA									NA
Bulgaria	01/12/1996	ECU million	520	520 Full									2001
Mongolia	29/01/1997		NIL	NA									NA
Panama	06/09/1997		NIL	NA									NA
Kyrgyz Republic	20/12/1998		NIL	NA									NA
Jordan	11/04/2000	JD	1,333,973	1,333,973 Full									2006
Georgia	14/06/2000		NIL	NA									NA
Albania	08/09/2000		NIL	NA									NA
Oman	09/11/2000		NIL	NA									NA
Croatia	30/11/2000	€	134,116,772	134,116,772 Full									2004
Moldova Rep. of	26/07/2001	SDR million	12.8	12.8 Full									2005
China	11/12/2001		NIL	NA									NA
Chinese Taipei	01/01/2002	NT\$ million	14,165.2	14,165.2 Full									2000
Armenia	05/02/2003		NIL	NA									NA
FYR Macedonia	04/04/2003	€million	16.3	16.3 Full									2003
Saudi Arabia	11/12/2005	Saudi Riyals Million	3218.28	3,662.60	3,613.23	3,563.86	3,514.49	3,465.12	3,415.76	3,366.39	3,218.28 Full		2015
Tonga	WP 1.12.05												

Note: Does not include Cambodia (13.10.2004) and Nepal (23.04.2004) which are considered LDCs. It also does not include Estonia (13.11.1999), Lithuania (31.05.2001) and Latvia (10.02.1999) which acceded to the EU on 1 May 2004.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

Commitments on Agricultural Products, Selected Members

Member	Date of Accession to the WTO	SUMMARY OF EXPORT SUBSIDY COMMITMENTS ON AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS									
		Export Subsidy Commitments	Implementation of commitments								Last year of implementation
			Implemented by 2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2015	
Ecuador	21/01/1996	NIL	NA								NA
Bulgaria	01/12/1996	Budgetary outlay and Quantity reduction commitments in respect of 44 products/group of products	100%								2000
Mongolia	29/01/1997	NIL	NA								NA
Panama	06/09/1997	Budgetary outlay reduction commitments in respect of products covered in the Annex I of the Agreement on Agriculture	100%								2003
Kyrgyz Republic	20/12/1998	NIL	NA								NA
Jordan	11/04/2000	NIL	NA								NA
Georgia	14/06/2000	NIL	NA								NA
Albania	08/09/2000	NIL	NA								NA
Oman	09/11/2000	NIL	NA								NA
Croatia	30/11/2000	NIL	NA								NA
Moldova	26/07/2001	NIL	NA								NA
China	11/12/2001	NIL	NA								NA
Chinese Taipei	01/01/2002	NIL	NA								NA
Armenia	05/02/2003	NIL	NA								NA
FYR Macedonia	04/04/2003	NIL	NA								NA
Saudi Arabia	11/12/2005	NIL	NA								NA
Tonga	WP 1.12.05										

Note: Does not include Cambodia (13.10.2004) and Nepal (23.04.2004) which are considered LDCs. It also does not include Estonia (13.11.1999), Lithuania (31.05.2001) and Latvia (10.02.1999) which acceded to the EU on 1 May 2004.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

NAMA NEGOTIATIONS
Commitments on Non-Agricultural Products, Selected Members

Member	Date of Accession to the WTO	SUMMARY OF COMMITMENTS ON NON-AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS												
		Binding coverage (percent)	Simple average	Max. ad val.	Implementation of commitments (Share of non-ag lines)								Last year of implem.	
					Implemented by 2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2015		
Ecuador	21/01/1996	99.8	21.1	40	100.00%									2001
Bulgaria	01/12/1996	100.0	23.0	40	99.30%	99.30%	99.30%	99.30%	100.00%					2010
Mongolia	29/01/1997	100.0	17.3	30	100.00%									2005
Panama	06/09/1997	100.0	22.9	81	97.23%	97.26%	97.26%	97.26%	100.00%					2010
Kyrgyz Republic	20/12/1998	99.9	6.7	20	100.00%									2005
Jordan	11/04/2000	100.0	15.2	30	78.05%	81.12%	81.89%	81.89%	100.00%					2010
Georgia	14/06/2000	100.0	6.5	20	100.00%									2005
Albania	08/09/2000	100.0	6.6	20	89.18%	92.66%	92.66%	100.00%						2009
Oman	09/11/2000	100.0	11.6	20	97.40%	97.40%	97.40%	100.00%						2009
Croatia	30/11/2000	100.0	5.5	25	100.00%									2005
Moldova	26/07/2001	100.0	6.0	20	100.00%									2005
China	11/12/2001	100.0	9.1	50	99.40%	99.40%	99.98%	99.98%	100.00%					2010
Taipei, Chinese	01/01/2002	100.0	4.8	90	98.82%	99.38%	99.64%	99.64%	99.64%	100.00%				2011
Armenia	05/02/2003	100.0	7.5	10	97.89%	100.00%								2007
Macedonia, FYR	04/04/2003	100.0	6.2	25	76.06%	94.81%	94.81%	94.81%	99.57%	99.57%	100.00%			2012
Saudi Arabia	11/12/2005	100.0	10.5	20	92.02%	92.02%	96.48%	96.48%	99.94%	99.94%	99.94%	100.00%		2015
Tonga	WP concluded 01.12.2005													

Note: Does not include Cambodia (13.10.2004) and Nepal (23.04.2004) which are considered LDCs. It also does not include Estonia (13.11.1999), Lithuania (31.05.2001) and Latvia (10.02.1999) which acceded to the EU on 1 May 2004.

Source: WTO Secretariat.

NAMA NEGOTIATIONS
Commitments on Non-Agricultural Products, Selected Members

Member	Date of Accession to the WTO	SUMMARY OF COMMITMENTS ON NON-AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS											
		Binding coverage (percent)	Simple average	Max. ad val.	Implementation of commitments (Number of tariff lines)								Last year of implem.
					Implemented by 2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2015	
Ecuador	21/01/1996	99.8	21.1	40	5889 Full Imp.								2001
Bulgaria	01/12/1996	100.0	23.0	40	8316	8316	8316	8316	8375 Full Imp.				2010
Mongolia	29/01/1997	100.0	17.3	30	4737 Full Imp.								2005
Panama	06/09/1997	100.0	22.9	81	6947	6949	6949	6949	7145 Full Imp.				2010
Kyrgyz Republic	20/12/1998	99.9	6.7	20	6054 Full Imp.								2005
Jordan	11/04/2000	100.0	15.2	30	4598	4779	4824	4824	5891 Full Imp.				2010
Georgia	14/06/2000	100.0	6.5	20	5200 Full Imp.								2005
Albania	08/09/2000	100.0	6.6	20	7533	7827	7827	8447 Full Imp.					2009
Oman	09/11/2000	100.0	11.6	20	4714	4714	4714	4840 Full Imp.					2009
Croatia	30/11/2000	100.0	5.5	25	6241 Full Imp.								2005
Moldova	26/07/2001	100.0	6.0	20	5203 Full Imp.								2005
China	11/12/2001	100.0	9.1	50	6140	6140	6176	6176	6177 Full Imp.				2010
Taipei, Chinese	01/01/2002	100.0	4.8	90	7180	7221	7240	7240	7240	7266 Full Imp.			2011
Armenia	05/02/2003	100.0	7.5	10	5046	5155 Full Imp.							2007
Macedonia, FYR	04/04/2003	100.0	6.2	25	6379	7952	7952	7952	8351	8351	8387 Full Imp.		2012
Saudi Arabia	11/12/2005	100.0	10.5	20	5881	5881	6166	6166	6387	6387	6387	6391 Full Imp.	2015
Tonga	WP concluded 01.12.2005												

Note: Does not include Cambodia (13.10.2004) and Nepal (23.04.2004) which are considered LDCs. It also does not include Estonia (13.11.1999), Lithuania (31.05.2001) and Latvia (10.02.1999) which acceded to the EU on 1 May 2004.

Source: WTO Secretariat.