

CANADA'S INITIAL LIST OF ENVIRONMENTAL GOODS

Submission by Canada

Paragraph 31(iii)

Statement by Canada at the CTESS Informal Meeting of 10 June 2005

Supplement

The following communication, dated 1 July 2005, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Canada.

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1. Canada is pleased to submit this Initial List of Environmental Goods for consideration in the negotiations pursuant to paragraph 31(iii) of the Doha Ministerial Declaration. We would like to underscore that this list is without prejudice to Canada's position as these negotiations proceed.
 2. The products nominated on Canada's list are identified by their six-digit Harmonised System (HS) customs classifications and their product names. Those products that require greater specificity than six-digit codes are identified by a descriptor in the "Additional Product Specification" column.
 3. We have also organized our list by categories further to our July 2004 submission on the use of detailed categories (JOB(04)/98). As we noted in that submission, we see the use of categories as a useful point of reference for the CTESS in the construction of a list of environmental goods. Categories are a useful tool to catalogue the many, often technical, products whose purpose or function may not have been evident from the HS 6-digit code. At the same time, categories are merely a tool to help Members structure their lists, and using categories is without prejudice as to whether the goods therein could be acceptable as part of an agreed list. We think a flexible approach needs to be taken on the use of categories given that they are merely a tool in the more important task at hand – establishing a list of environmental goods. Canada employed some, not all of the categories contained in the OECD list as outlined in TN/TE/W/18. In keeping with the living list concept put forward by New Zealand, we would see further refinements to categories as being in keeping with the living list concept put forward by New Zealand.
 4. Regarding the linkages between the environmental goods and services, we agree that there are many environmental activities that entail the delivery of services in conjunction with the use of goods. Indeed, development of our Initial List of Environmental Goods was informed by the sorts of products used in the environmental services. Canadian officials working in the two areas compare notes on an on-going basis in order to identify synergies and to ensure a mutually supportive approach.

5. Canada would also like to underscore that we view these negotiations as an important contribution to sustainable development. We are particularly interested in ensuring that developing country Members have the opportunity to effectively participate in these negotiations, and seek to have their interests reflected in a multilaterally agreed list of environmental goods. To this end, Canada has provided financial contributions to UNCTAD to assist developing country Members in preparing their own lists of environmental goods. Canada has also been mindful of the need to include environmental goods of export interest to developing countries in our own submission to the CTESS, and we are considering a range of goods for further analysis in Canada.

6. It is Canada's wish that, at the next WTO Ministerial in Hong Kong, Ministers have before them an initial list of environmental goods reflecting the trade and environmental interests of both developed and developing countries.
