

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

TN/TF/W/86
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Negotiating Group on Trade Facilitation

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COMMUNICATION FROM UGANDA AND THE UNITED STATES

The following communication, dated 4 April 2006, from the delegations of Uganda and the United States, is being circulated in advance of the Negotiating Group meeting of 5-7 April.

CONSULARIZATION

1. We submit for consideration a summary of common elements of proposals regarding a prohibition on requiring consular transactions in connection with trade in goods.¹

I. ELEMENTS OF A COMMITMENT ON CONSULARIZATION

- Prohibition of Requiring Consular Transactions: Provide that there will be no consular transactions, including consularization-related fees and charges, required in connection with the importation and exportation of goods.
- "Consular Transaction" (also sometimes referred to as 'consularization' or 'legalization') means: requirements that goods intended for export to a Member must first be submitted to the supervision or certification by the consul (or its representative or agent) of the importing Member in the territory of the exporting Member (or in a territory other than the exporting Member), for the purpose of obtaining consular invoices or consular visas for commercial invoices, manifests, shippers' export declarations, or consul "verification" of other elements of customs documentation required in connection with importation such as valuation or origin.

II. ELEMENT IDENTIFIED FOR FURTHER ADDRESSING

- After assessments of individual Member situations, explore need for technical assistance and capacity building.

¹ Uganda and the United States (TN/TF/W/22).