

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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Negotiating Group on Trade Facilitation

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## COMMUNICATION FROM CHILE, PERU, AND THE UNITED STATES

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

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### INTERNET PUBLICATION

1. We submit for consideration summarized elements of a proposal regarding Internet publication of import procedures and customs laws, regulations, judicial decisions and administrative rulings of general application.

#### I. ELEMENTS OF A COMMITMENT ON INTERNET PUBLICATION

- Internet as Publication Method: Internet publication as an available method for Members to meet current publication obligations under Article X of GATT 1994.<sup>1</sup>
- Internet Publication of Import Procedures: Members provide an Internet page setting out requirements for importation and exportation of goods, with electronic access to procedural requirements and materials, such as documents necessary to complete an import or export transaction.

#### II. ELEMENTS IDENTIFIED FOR FURTHER ADDRESSING

- Special and Differential Treatment and Technical Assistance elements, including:
  - Assess situation; identify individual specific needs and priorities concerning the development and maintenance of website/Internet page, links to information;

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<sup>1</sup> Article X of GATT 1994: "Laws regulations, judicial decisions and administrative rulings of general application, made effective by any contracting party, pertaining to the classification or the valuation of products for customs purposes, or to rates of duty, taxes or other charges, or to requirements, restrictions or prohibitions on imports or exports or on the transfer of payments therefore, or affecting their sale, distribution, transportation, insurance, warehousing inspection, exhibition, processing, mixing or other use *shall be published promptly in such a manner as to enable governments and traders to become acquainted with them.*" (emphasis added).

- Explore opportunities to implement through delegation of function (i.e., regional and international organizations);
  - Explore availability and effective utilization of private sector assistance resources;
  - Deferred or temporary implementation of commitment.
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