

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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**Dispute Settlement Body
Special Session**

SPECIAL SESSION OF THE DISPUTE SETTLEMENT BODY

Report by the Chairman, Ambassador David Spencer,
to the Trade Negotiations Committee

At a meeting of the Special Session of the DSB on 28 May 2004, it was agreed that the Chair would make a report to the next meeting of the TNC. While I have consulted on this report with Members and believe no Member objects to it, I am putting it forward to the TNC solely on the Chair's own responsibility:

Additional progress has been made in the Special Session since the General Council meeting of 24 July 2003, building on the work done thus far, including the proposals put forward by Members as well as the text put forward by the Chair in May 2003. Some delegations have made additional written contributions to the negotiations during this period, which were welcomed by participants.

There is agreement among Members that the Special Session needs more time to complete its work, on the understanding that all the existing proposals would remain under consideration and bearing in mind that these negotiations are outside the single undertaking.

Accordingly, it is suggested that action be taken by the TNC and/or the General Council as appropriate, for the continuation of work in the Special Session.

Whilst there are some Members who would prefer to establish a new specific target-date for this continued work, I do not propose to recommend, at this point, any such target-date, although such a date might be considered later.
