WORLD TRADE

ORGANIZATION

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Committee on Trade and Environment Special Session

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REPORT BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT TO THE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT NEGOTIATIONS: STATE OF PLAY

Supplement

Following the oral presentation made by the Chairperson of the CTESS to the 14 July 2003 meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee (TNC), the section below has now been added to document TN/TE/7.

"V. CONCLUDING REMARKS ON THE FUTURE WORK OF THE CTESS:

21. With the Doha Development Agenda, negotiations on trade and environment were started at the WTO for the first time. I would like to welcome the commitment shown by developed and developing countries alike in what is a complex negotiating process. As we reach this halfway point in the round of negotiations I think it is appropriate, while praising the considerable efforts made by participants over the past year and a half, to conclude this report by raising issues relating to the work that remains to be done and its implications for the continued examination of the mandate following the Cancun Ministerial Conference. Indeed, while we have made considerable progress in our discussions on paragraphs 31(i) and 31(ii), further efforts will be required in several areas. We need to focus on paragraph 31(iii), in particular the identification by countries of environmental goods for import or export with a view to negotiating the reduction or elimination of tariff and non-tariff barriers according to the modalities to be defined by Members based on the progress made in the Negotiating Group on Market Access for Non-Agricultural Products. Given the importance of the subjects that remain to be covered and the limited time left before the end of December 2004, we shall have to consider holding more frequent meetings of the CTESS, and substantive work will have to be done by delegations."

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