

ENVIRONMENTAL GOODS

Submission by the
State of Qatar

Paragraph 31(iii)

I. BACKGROUND

1. The Doha Ministerial Declaration, Paragraph 31(iii), calls for negotiation on the reduction, or removal, of tariffs and other barriers to environmental goods and services. The negotiating structure adopted by the Trade Negotiations Committee comprises three negotiation entities: (i) the Negotiating Group on Market Access; (ii) Council for Trade in Services in Special Session and (iii) Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE) in Special Session.

2. There is a general understanding that, while negotiation on environmental goods is to be conducted in the Market Access Negotiation Group, the Council for Trade in Services will deal with environmental services. Moreover, there is an agreement that the CTE Special Session would be entrusted with clarification of the concept of environmental goods in addition to playing a monitoring role.

3. A fundamental task for the CTE in Special Session will be the compilation of definitions and classifications for environmental goods and services. This is a prerequisite in order to facilitate the scope of negotiation and define the specific roles of the CTE in Special Session and the Market Access Negotiating Group. The present submission by the State of Qatar is designed to address a selected set of environmental goods and services in the energy sector, with the view of promoting their trade liberalization.

II. PROPOSAL ON ENERGY SECTOR

4. The State of Qatar values the work of the World Trade Organization on trade liberalization, particularly its efforts to liberalize trade in environmental goods and services. The importance of this activity is becoming more evident as the relationship between global trade and environmental policy becomes increasingly interrelated. This is very clear in the case of global energy trade upon which the economy and welfare of the State of Qatar are dependent.

5. The environmental goods, services and technologies in the energy sector proposed by the State of Qatar for trade liberalization were selected based upon their merits using sustainable development criteria. The criteria include:

- Climate Change Mitigation Potentials
- Wider Issues of Sustainable Development
- Air Pollution Emissions and Toxic Waste Generation
- Human Health and General Environmental Protection
- Energy Efficiency Potentials

III. CATEGORY OF SUGGESTED ENVIRONMENTAL GOODS AND TECHNOLOGIES

6. The economic and environmental benefits of energy efficiency due to utilization of natural gas fired combined cycle systems and advanced gas turbines are well established. They include attributes related to the criteria briefly described in section 5.

In this submission the Technologies only are listed. The specifics regarding the services, units' description and product specification are deferred for further compilation at a later stage. The list includes:

- Combined-cycle natural-gas-fired generation systems
- Advanced-gas turbine systems (industrial and utility turbines).

IV. RECOMMENDATION

7. The State of Qatar recommends that energy efficient technologies such as combined-cycle natural-gas-fired generation systems and advanced gas-turbine systems known for their energy efficiency and sustainable development potential must be subtitled and elaborated in the definition of environmental goods.
