

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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General Council

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PREPARATIONS FOR THE 1999 MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

Competition Policy

Communication from Turkey

The following communication, dated 9 July 1999, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Turkey.

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1. Turkey considers that sound and multilaterally accepted competition policies and disciplines will further increase market access opportunities, and will further world trade on the basis of non-discrimination, predictability and transparency.
 2. In a globalized world economy, a multilateral approach on competition would be helpful to achieve the objectives of the WTO.
 3. Due to the nature of the competition rules, it should be kept in mind that a multilateral framework would work efficiently if all Member countries have national competition legislation based on a common understanding reached at the multilateral level. This will facilitate cooperation among competition authorities in effectively implementing competition law.
 4. To this end, future work should be focused on studies to reach a common understanding on the issue and to promote the adoption of national competition laws based on the principles of non-discrimination and transparency. In doing so, the differences in the provisions of national legislations and administrative procedures should be taken into account.
 5. A multilateral framework of competition rules should include provisions for transitional periods and certain flexibilities to allow Members at different stages of development to subscribe to the commitments, and due support should be provided to them in strengthening their infrastructure.
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