

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/L/483  
28 September 2001

(01-4650)

## COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE (REGULAR MEETINGS) GENERAL COUNCIL OVERVIEW OF WTO ACTIVITIES (2001)

### Report by the Vice-Chairman

The present report on the regular meetings of the Committee on Agriculture held thus far in 2001 is submitted on the responsibility of the Vice-Chairman, Minister Yoichi Suzuki, as agreed by the Committee at its meeting on 27 September 2001.

1. Since its last annual report (G/L/417 dated 20 November 2000) the Committee on Agriculture has held three regular meetings: on 29-30 March, 28-29 June and 27 September 2001 (Secretariat summary reports of these meetings, G/AG/R/26 to 28 refer). A further regular meeting is scheduled for 6 December 2001.

2. In accordance with Article 18.1 of the Agreement on Agriculture ("the Agreement"), the Committee, at each of these meetings, reviewed progress in the implementation of commitments negotiated under the Uruguay Round reform programme. This review process was undertaken on the basis of notifications submitted by Members in the areas of market access, domestic support and export subsidies and under the provisions of the Agreement relating to export prohibitions and restrictions. In total, 237 notifications in these four areas were subject to review in the Committee. At each of its meetings, the Committee also reviewed the overall position with respect to compliance with the notification obligations under Article 18.2 and other relevant provisions of the Agreement. The current situation concerning compliance with notification requirements is summarized in the Annex to this report.

3. The Committee addressed a wide range of general and specific matters relevant to the implementation of commitments that were raised, independently of notifications, under the provisions of Article 18.6 of the Agreement. A number of these matters have been subject to informal consultations.

4. The following implementation-related issues were considered or further considered at the Committee's meetings in line with relevant decisions of the General Council (WT/GC/M/59 and WT/L/384 refer), with progress reports being submitted to the General Council as appropriate:

- (i) the development of internationally agreed disciplines to govern the provision of export credits, export credit guarantees or insurance programmes pursuant to Article 10.2 of the Agreement on Agriculture, taking into account the provisions of paragraph 4 of the Decision on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform Programme on Least-Developed and Net Food-Importing Developing Countries (progress reports: G/AG/8 and G/AG/9 and Corr.1 refer);

- (ii) examination of possible means of improving the effectiveness of the implementation of the Decision on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform Programme on Least-Developed and Net Food-Importing Developing Countries (progress reports: G/AG/7 and G/AG/10 refer); and
- (iii) the submission by Members administering tariff quotas of addenda to their notifications to the Committee on Agriculture (Table MA:1) in accordance with paragraph 1.1 of the decision of the General Council in WT/L/384 regarding the administration of tariff rate quota regimes in a transparent, equitable and non-discriminatory manner.

5. At its meeting on 27 September, the Committee approved recommendations concerning the above implementation-related issues in a report to be submitted to the General Council on the responsibility of the Vice-Chairman. (This report has been circulated as G/AG/11.)

6. At the meeting of the Committee in March, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines were included in the WTO list of net food-importing developing countries (G/AG/5/Rev.4 refers). This list currently comprises the least-developed countries as recognized by the United Nations, and the following 21 developing country Members of the WTO: Barbados, Botswana, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Honduras, Jamaica, Kenya, Mauritius, Morocco, Pakistan, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia and Venezuela. The follow-up to the Decision as a whole is monitored annually by the Committee, with the next monitoring exercise to be undertaken at the December 2001 meeting of the Committee.

The following international intergovernmental organizations have regular observer status in the Committee: FAO, the IMF, the International Grains Council, the OECD, UNCTAD, the UN World Food Programme and the World Bank. No consensus was reached as regards requests for observer status by ten other international/intergovernmental organizations (G/AG/W/29/Rev.4 refers).

## **OUTSTANDING NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION YEAR 1995**

1. The following Members are yet to submit the notification of imports under tariff and other quotas (Table MA.2):

## Nicaragua      Tunisia

2. The following Member is yet to submit the annual notification concerning the use of the special safeguard provisions (Table MA.5):

## **Swaziland**

3. The following Members *without* Total AMS reduction commitments are yet to submit the relevant domestic support notification (Table **DS:1**):

Antigua and Barbuda	Bahrain	Barbados*	Belize
Brunei Darussalam	Cameroon	Côte d'Ivoire	Dominica
Ghana	Kuwait	Mauritius	Nicaragua
Saint Lucia	St Vincent and the Grenadines		Senegal
Suriname	Swaziland		

4. The following Members *without* export subsidy reduction commitments are yet to submit the relevant notification (Table **ES:1**):

Antigua and Barbuda	Bahrain	Bangladesh	Belize
Brunei Darussalam	Burkina Faso	Burundi*	Cameroon
Central African Rep.	Côte d'Ivoire	Djibouti	Guinea Bissau
Guinea, Rep. of	India	Kuwait	Lesotho
Malawi	Mali*	Mauritania	Mauritius
Mozambique	Myanmar	Saint Lucia	
St Vincent & Grenadines	Senegal	Sierra Leone	Suriname
Swaziland	Tanzania	Togo	

## **ANNEX: NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED FOR THE YEARS 1996-2000**

**ANNEX: NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED FOR THE YEARS 1996-2000**

	MA:1 One-off	MA:2					MA:5					DS:1					ES:1					ES:2								
		Imports under tariff quotas					Special safeguard					Domestic support					Export subsidies					Total exports								
		1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000				
Democratic Rep. Congo	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	(NA)	(NA)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA			
Djibouti	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		
Dominica	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		
Dominican Republic		NA	NA	NA			NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
EC-15	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Ecuador	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Egypt	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
El Salvador	X	X	X				X	X	X			X	X			X	X			X				X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Estonia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Fiji	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Gabon	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Gambia, The	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	(NA)	X	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Georgia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		
Ghana	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Grenada	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		
Guatemala	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Guinea Bissau	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Guinea, Republic of	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		
Guyana	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Haiti	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	(NA)	X	(NA)	X	(NA)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Honduras	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X			X	X			X	X			X	X	X	X	X		
Hong Kong, China	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Hungary	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Iceland	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
India	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		
Indonesia	X	X	X	X	X	X*	X	X	X	X	X*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X*		
Israel	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Jamaica	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Japan	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Jordan	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		

**ANNEX: NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED FOR THE YEARS 1996-2000**

	MA:1 One-off	MA:2 Imports under tariff quotas					MA:5 Special safeguard					DS:1 Domestic support					ES:1 Export subsidies					ES:2 Total exports				
		1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Kenya	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X					X	X				NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Korea, Republic of	X	X	X	X			X	X	X			X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Kuwait	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA											NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Kyrgyz Republic	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X			NA	NA				NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Latvia	X	NA	NA	NA			X	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X		NA	NA	NA	X	X	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Lesotho	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA				(NA)		(NA)					NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Lithuania (31 May 2001)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Macau, China	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Madagascar	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	(NA)	X	(NA)		X	X	X	X		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Malawi	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA				(NA)		(NA)					NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Malaysia	X	X	X*	X*			X	X	X			X	X	X			X	X	X			X				
Maldives	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	(NA)		X	X	X			NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Mali	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA				(NA)		(NA)					NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Malta	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Mauritania	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA				(NA)		(NA)					NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Mauritius	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA											NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Mexico	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X			X	X	X			X*	X*	X*	X*	
Moldova (27 July 2001)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Mongolia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X		NA	X	X	X		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Morocco	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X			NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Mozambique	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA				(NA)		(NA)					NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Myanmar	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA				(NA)		(NA)					NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Namibia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
New Zealand	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
Nicaragua	X																					NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Niger	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	(NA)		(NA)							NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Nigeria	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X				X	X				NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Norway	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
Oman, Sultanate of	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Pakistan	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	

**ANNEX: NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED FOR THE YEARS 1996-2000**

	MA:1 One-off	MA:2 Imports under tariff quotas					MA:5 Special safeguard					DS:1 Domestic support					ES:1 Export subsidies					ES:2 Total exports				
		1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Panama	X	NA	X	X*	X*		NA	X	X	X		NA					NA					NA				
Papua New Guinea	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA											NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Paraguay	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Peru	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X				X	X	X	X		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Philippines	X	X	X	X			X	X	X			X	X				X	X	X			X	X			
Poland	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Qatar	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA						X	X	X			NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Romania	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
Rwanda	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)							NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Saint Kitts and Nevis	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA											NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Saint Lucia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA											NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
St Vincent & Grenadines	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA											NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Senegal	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA											NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Sierra Leone	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)							NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Singapore	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Slovak Republic	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Slovenia	X	X	X	X	X	X	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X	X*	X	X	X	X	X	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Solomon Islands	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)							NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
South Africa	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X			X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
Sri Lanka	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X				X	X				NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Suriname	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA											NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Swaziland	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA																NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Switzerland-Liechtenstein	X	X	X	X			X	X	X			X	X	X			X	X	X			X	X	X		
Tanzania	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)							NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Thailand	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X			X	X	X			X	X				X	X			
Togo	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)							NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Trinidad and Tobago	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X									NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Tunisia	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Turkey	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Uganda	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	(NA)	X	(NA)		X	X	X	X		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

## ANNEX: NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED FOR THE YEARS 1996-2000

	MA:1 One-off	MA:2 Imports under tariff quotas					MA:5 Special safeguard					DS:1 Domestic support					ES:1 Export subsidies					ES:2 Total exports				
		1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
United Arab Emirates	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
United States	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Uruguay	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Venezuela	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Zambia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	(NA)	X	(NA)	X	X	X	X	X	X	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Zimbabwe	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

- (a) A blank indicates that the requirement applies to the Member concerned for the implementation year, but that no notification was received up to the cut-off date.
  - (b) An "X" indicates a notification has been received. No assessment of the completeness or the quality of the notification with respect to requirements is made or implied. Cases in which a notification or draft notification has been provided to the Secretariat but, for various reasons, has not been circulated, are indicated by an asterisk "X\*".
  - (c) "NA" indicates that the requirement was not applicable for this Member during the period covered either because no relevant measures are in place (e.g. tariff quotas) or because WTO membership did not take place hence there were no notification requirements pertaining to that period. "(NA)" indicates that domestic support notifications are required every second year from least-developed country Members.
  - (d) Shaded boxes indicate that the Member concerned has a domestic support and/or an export subsidy reduction commitment shown in Part IV, Section I and/or Section II, of its Schedule.
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