

# WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/L/796  
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(06-5344)

## COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE (REGULAR MEETINGS) GENERAL COUNCIL OVERVIEW OF WTO ACTIVITIES (2006)

### Report by the Chairman

The present report on the regular meetings of the Committee on Agriculture held in 2006 is submitted on the responsibility of the Chairman, Mr. Christian Häberli of Switzerland, as agreed by the Committee at its meeting on 31 October 2006.

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1. The Committee on Agriculture held three regular meetings in 2006: on 27 January, 12 May, and 31 October.<sup>1</sup>

2. In accordance with Article 18.1 of the Agreement on Agriculture ("the Agreement"), at each of these meetings the Committee 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.<sup>2</sup> In total, 155 notifications in these areas were subject to review by 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 regarding the significant number of overdue notifications, notably in the domestic support area, was underlined. A document showing the current status of compliance with notification requirements is annexed 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.

4. The annual monitoring exercise on the follow-up to the Decision on Measures Concerning the Possible Negative Effects of the Reform Programme on Least-Developed and Net Food-Importing Developing Countries ("NFIDC Decision") as a whole was undertaken at the January and October meetings of the Committee, on the basis, *inter alia*, of Table NF:1 notifications by donor Members as well as contributions by the observer organisations. The WTO list of Net Food-Importing Developing Countries<sup>3</sup> remains unchanged as no new application has been received since March 2005. The follow-up to the NFIDC Decision also included the consideration of a proposal by the African Group

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<sup>1</sup> In view of the preparations for the Sixth WTO Ministerial Conference, the November 2005 meeting of the Committee was rescheduled to 27 January 2006. The summary reports of these meetings are contained in documents G/AG/R/45, 46 and 47 (forthcoming).

<sup>2</sup> During the period under review, no measure has been notified under Article 12 of the Agreement on Agriculture (export prohibitions and restrictions).

<sup>3</sup> See G/AG/5/Rev.8.

which calls, *inter alia*, for the establishment of a revolving fund.<sup>4</sup> The Chairman's progress report on this issue is contained in document G/AG/22.

5. In the framework of the follow-up to the Decision by the Doha Ministerial Conference on Implementation-Related Issues and Concerns<sup>5</sup>, the Committee pursued a number of implementation-related issues. On the basis of the discussions held during formal and informal meetings, the Committee submitted a follow-up report on these issues to the General Council at its July 2006 meeting.<sup>6</sup>

6. On 31 October, the Committee held its annual Transitional Review under paragraph 18 of the Protocol on the Accession of the People's Republic of China (G/AG/23).

7. The following international intergovernmental organizations have regular observer status in the Committee: the FAO, the IMF, the International Grains Council, the OECD, UNCTAD, the World Food Programme and the World Bank. No consensus was reached as regards requests for observer status by twelve other international/intergovernmental organizations.<sup>7</sup>

8. The Committee adopted the following schedule for the Committee's regular meetings in 2007: 28 March, 21-22 June, 26-27 September and 21-22 November.

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<sup>4</sup> TN/CTD/W/3/Rev.2, paragraph 52 refers. This proposal was referred to the Committee on Agriculture by the Committee on Trade and Development in Special Session (CTDSS), in the context of the review by CTDSS of all Special and Differential Treatment provisions under the Doha Development Agenda.

<sup>5</sup> WT/MIN(01)/17, paragraph 2 refers.

<sup>6</sup> See G/AG/16/Add.1 (13 June 2006). Informal consultations were also convened on 7 February 2006 at the request of a certain number of delegations.

<sup>7</sup> G/AG/W/29/Rev.6 refers.

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**SECTION A: OUTSTANDING NOTIFICATIONS FOR THE 1995-2000 IMPLEMENTATION YEARS**

**Albania**

- DS:1 2000
- ES:1 2000

**Angola**

- DS:1 1998, 2000
- ES:1 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Antigua and Barbuda**

- DS:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000
- ES:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Bahrain, Kingdom of**

- DS:1 1998, 1999, 2000
- ES:1 1995, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Bangladesh**

- DS:1 2000
- ES:1 2000

**Belize**

- DS:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000
- ES:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Benin**

- DS:1 1999
- ES:1 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela**

- MA:5 1999, 2000
- DS:1 1999, 2000
- ES:1 1999, 2000
- ES:2 1999, 2000

**Botswana**

- MA:5 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000
- DS:1 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000
- ES:1 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Brunei Darussalam**

- DS:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000
- ES:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Burkina Faso**

- DS:1 1997, 1999
- ES:1 1996, 1998

**Cameroon**

- DS:1 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000
- ES:1 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Central African Republic**

- DS:1 1996, 1998, 2000
- ES:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Chad**

- DS:1 1997, 1999
- ES:1 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Congo**

- DS:1 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000
- ES:1 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Costa Rica**

- MA:2 2000
- MA:5 2000
- DS:1 2000
- ES:1 2000
- ES:2 2000

**Côte d'Ivoire**

- DS:1            1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000
- ES:1            1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Cyprus**

- ES:1            1999, 2000
- ES:2            1999, 2000

**Democratic Republic of the Congo**

- DS:1            1998, 2000
- ES:1            1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Djibouti**

- DS:1            1996, 1998, 2000
- ES:1            1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Dominica**

- DS:1            1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000
- ES:1            1998, 1999, 2000

**Dominican Republic**

- MA:2            1999

**Egypt**

- DS:1            1999, 2000
- ES:1            1999, 2000

**Fiji**

- DS:1            1998, 1999, 2000
- ES:1            1998, 1999, 2000

**The Gambia**

- DS:1            1999
- ES:1            1996

**Ghana**

- DS:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Grenada**

- DS:1 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000
- ES:1 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Guatemala**

- DS:1 1996

**Guinea Bissau**

- DS:1 1996, 1998, 2000
- ES:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Guinea, Republic of**

- DS:1 1996, 1998, 2000
- ES:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Haiti**

- ES:1 2000

**India**

- MA:1 One-off
- DS:1 1998, 1999, 2000
- ES:1 1995

**Jamaica**

- DS:1 2000
- ES:1 1999, 2000

**Kenya**

- DS:1 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000
- ES:1 1998, 1999, 2000

**Kuwait**

- DS:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000
- ES:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Kyrgyz Republic**

- DS:1 1999, 2000
- ES:1 1998, 1999, 2000

**Lesotho**

- DS:1 1996, 1998, 2000
- ES:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Madagascar**

- DS:1 2000
- ES:1 2000

**Malaysia**

- MA:2 1999, 2000
- DS:1 1999, 2000
- ES:2 1997

**Maldives**

- DS:1 2000
- ES:1 1999, 2000

**Mali**

- DS:1 1996, 1998, 2000
- ES:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Mauritania**

- DS:1 1996, 1998, 2000
- ES:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Mauritius**

- DS:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000
- ES:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Mexico**

- MA:2            2000
- ES:1            1999, 2000
- ES:2            1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Mongolia**

- DS:1            2000
- ES:1            2000

**Morocco**

- ES:1            1996

**Mozambique**

- DS:1            1996, 1998, 2000
- ES:1            1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Namibia**

- MA:5            2000
- DS:1            2000

**Nicaragua**

- MA:2            1995

**Niger**

- DS:1            1998, 2000
- ES:            1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Oman**

- ES:1            2000

**Pakistan**

- DS:1            2000
- ES:2            1999, 2000

**Panama**

- MA:2            1998

**Papua New Guinea**

- DS:1 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000
- ES:1 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Peru**

- DS:1 1998, 1999, 2000

**Qatar**

- DS:1 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000
- ES:1 1999, 2000

**Rwanda**

- DS:1 1997, 1999
- ES:1 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Saint Kitts and Nevis**

- DS:1 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000
- ES:1 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Saint Lucia**

- DS:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000
- ES:1 1995

**Saint Vincent and the Grenadines**

- DS:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000
- ES:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Senegal**

- DS:1 1996, 1998, 2000
- ES:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Sierra Leone**

- DS:1 1996, 1998, 2000
- ES:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Solomon Islands**

- DS:1 1997, 1999
- ES:1 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Sri Lanka**

- DS:1 1998, 1999, 2000
- ES:1 1998, 1999, 2000

**Suriname**

- DS:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Swaziland**

- MA:5 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000
- DS:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000
- ES:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Tanzania**

- DS:1 1996, 1998, 2000
- ES:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Togo**

- DS:1 1996, 1998, 2000
- ES:1 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000

**Zambia**

- DS:1 2000

**Zimbabwe**

- DS:1 2000
- ES:1 2000

**SECTION B: NOTIFICATIONS ISSUED FOR THE 2001-2005 IMPLEMENTATION YEARS**

	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				
		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Côte d'Ivoire	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA											NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Croatia	X*	X	X				NA	NA	NA	NA	NA						X	X	X			NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Cuba	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
Cyprus	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X		NA										NA
Czech Republic	X*	X	X			NA	X	X	X		NA	X	X			NA		X		NA		X				NA
Democratic Republic of the Congo	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
Dominica	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA											NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Dominican Republic	X	X	X	X	X		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ecuador	X*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Egypt	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA											NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
El Salvador	X*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X				X	X				NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Estonia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X		NA	X	X		NA		NA	NA	NA	NA	
European Communities	X*	X	X				X					X					X	X				X	X			
Fiji	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA											NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	X	NA	NA	X			NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X		NA	NA	X			NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Gabon	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA											NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Gambia, The	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)			X	X	X	X		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Georgia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	P		X	X	X	X		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ghana	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA											NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Grenada	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			NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Guinea Bissau	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
Guyana	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Haiti	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	(NA)	(NA)	(NA)								NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Honduras	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	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		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hungary	X*	X	X	X		NA	X	X	X	X	NA	X	X	X		NA	X	X	X	X	NA	X	X	X	X	NA
Iceland	X	X	X	X	X		X	X				X	X	X			X	X				X	X			



	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				
		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005		
Nicaragua	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	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	X	X	X	X	X	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Norway	X*	X					X					X					X					X				
Oman	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X	X						NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Pakistan	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA															
Panama	X*	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X				X	X	X			NA	NA	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			NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Peru	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA						X	X				NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Philippines	X*	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X					X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
Poland	X*	X	X	X		NA	X	X	X	X	NA	X	X				X <sup>a</sup>		NA			X				NA
Qatar	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA			X				X				NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Romania	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
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
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA											NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Saudi Arabia	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	
Senegal	NA	NA	NA	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	
Singapore	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Slovak Republic	X*	X	X	X	X	NA	X	X	X	X	NA	X	X	X		NA	X	X	X	X	NA	X	X	X	X	
Slovenia	X*	X	X	X	X	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	X	X	X		NA	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	
South Africa	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											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	X*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	



**SECTION C: Table ES:3 and Table NF:1 notifications issued for the 2001-2005 implementation years**

**Table ES:3**

<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
Brazil	Canada	Canada	Canada	Cuba
Canada	Cuba	Cuba	Cuba	
Cuba	European Communities	Slovak Republic	Slovak Republic	
European Communities	Iceland	South Africa	South Africa	Switzerland-Liecht.
Iceland	Japan	Switzerland-Liecht.		
Japan	Romania			
Norway	Slovak Republic			
Romania	South Africa			
Slovak Republic	Switzerland-Liecht.			
South Africa	Tunisia			
Switzerland-Liecht.				
Tunisia				

**Table NF:1**

<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>
Argentina <sup>1</sup>	Australia	Australia	Australia	
Australia	Canada	Canada	New Zealand	
Brazil	Cuba	European Communities		
Canada	European Communities	New Zealand		
Cuba	Japan	Norway		
European Communities	New Zealand	South Africa		
Japan	Norway	United States		
New Zealand	South Africa			
Norway	Switzerland-Liecht.			
South Africa	United States			
Switzerland-Liecht.				
United States				

<sup>1</sup> Argentina informed the WTO Secretariat on 30 July 2003 that it is no longer a food aid donor under the Food Aid Convention.

## **SECTION D: NOTES**

### Explanatory Notes to Section B

- (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) "X" indicates that a notification has been issued. No assessment of the completeness or quality of the notification with respect to requirements is made or implied.
  - (c) "P" for pending indicates that a notification has been received, but that a request or suggestion by the Secretariat for additional information in order to complete the notification has yet to be responded to. An outstanding notification will be marked as "P" for a maximum period of six months.
  - (d) "X\*" indicates that the comprehensive Table MA:1 notification has been revised or supplemented.
  - (e) "X<sup>a</sup>" indicates that information concerning food aid (column 5 of Table ES:1) has not been provided.
  - (f) "NA" indicates that the requirement was not applicable during the period covered either because there are no relevant commitments (e.g. tariff quotas) or because the Member concerned was not yet a WTO Member hence there were no notification requirements pertaining to that period. "(NA)" indicates that domestic support notifications are required every second year from LDC Members.
  - (g) Shaded boxes indicate that the Member concerned has a domestic support and/or an export subsidy reduction commitment shown in Section I and/or Section II of Part IV of its Schedule.
-