

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/L/749
19 October 2005

(05-4815)

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT OF THE WORKING PARTY ON STATE TRADING ENTERPRISES (2005)

1. Paragraph 5 of the Understanding on the Implementation of Article XVII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 states that the Working Party shall meet at least once a year and shall report annually to the Council for Trade in Goods.

2. However, in the light of the intensification of the ongoing negotiations prior to the Sixth Ministerial Conference in Hong Kong, China and the statement by the Chairperson of the General Council in July suggesting the reduction of the work of regular bodies to essential business only to allow Members to focus their resources on the negotiating bodies¹, on 14 September 2005, I proposed to all Members of the Working Party on State Trading Enterprises, to postpone the meeting of the Working Party that was scheduled for 17 October 2005 until 26 January 2006.

3. As no objections to my proposal were received, I hereby report, on my own responsibility, to the Council for Trade in Goods, that the Working Party on State Trading Enterprises did not meet in 2005 and that the meeting of the Working Party scheduled for 17 October 2005 is now postponed to be held on 26 January 2006.

¹ WT/GC/95