

**AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING
THE ADVISORY CENTRE ON WTO LAW**

THE PARTIES TO THIS AGREEMENT

- *Noting* that the Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organisation (hereinafter referred to as the „WTO“) created a complex legal system and elaborate procedures for the settlement of disputes;
- *Noting further* that developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, and the countries with economies in transition have limited expertise in WTO law and the management of complex trade disputes and their ability to acquire such expertise is subject to severe financial and institutional constraints;
- *Recognising* that a proper balance of rights and obligations under the Agreement Establishing the WTO can only be maintained if all Members of the WTO have a full understanding of their rights and obligations thereunder and an equal opportunity to resort to the WTO dispute settlement procedures;
- *Recognising further* that the credibility and acceptability of the WTO dispute settlement procedures can only be ensured if all Members of the WTO can effectively participate in it;
- *Resolved*, therefore, to create a source of legal training, expertise and advice on WTO law readily accessible to developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, and countries with economies in transition;

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS: