

We have decided to increase our co-operative efforts to complete the unfinished business of the Uruguay Round. We look forward to the Singapore Ministerial Meeting itself, where we expect the WTO not only to review implementation of the Uruguay Round Agreements and consider the results of work since Marrakesh, but also to expand its work program to include new issues.

In the most urgent area of negotiations, on basic telecommunications, we have agreed to work together on a number of fronts in order to achieve a substantial success by the April deadline. We have also discussed the need to pay close attention to maritime transport.

Taking into account the work already done on trade and the environment, we have discussed how to bring into the WTO other new issues (trade and investment, trade and competition, trade and labour standards).

Finally, as concerns regional trade initiatives, we have agreed that greater transparency is desirable, and that it would be helpful to seek agreement in the WTO to create a single committee that could both enable the WTO to devote more attention to the review work in hand and help us to ensure that our regional trade efforts contribute to strengthening the multilateral trading system.

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