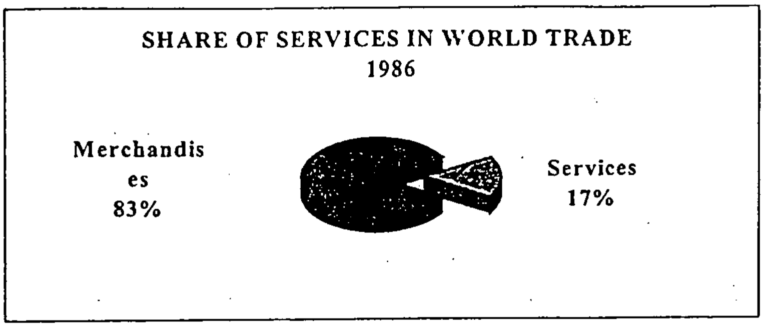
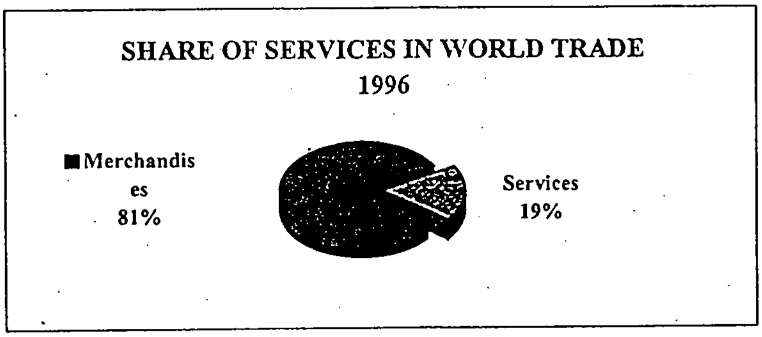
CHART 5



Source: WTO Annual Report 1997



The average annual growth of world exports of services exceeded the growth of trade in goods by 2 percentage points between 1986-1996 (see Table C in the Annex). In 1996, services exports grew at 5% compared to 4.7% for merchandise exports.[85]

A closer look at annual changes (see Chart D in the Annex) gives an appreciation of the evolution of world trade and GDP.[86] World trade of both goods and services (exports plus imports) has outpaced GDP[87] except in 1993 during the economic slowdown.[88] Moreover, the share of services trade in world GDP has continuously increased from 6.3 in 1985 to 8.7% in 1995.[89] Trade in services thus represents a larger share of world GDP than ten years ago.

[85] Exports and imports of services, and world trade in general, experienced a significant 9 % and 10% drop from 1995. This can be partly explained by the rapid appreciation of the US dollar and price changes.
[86] To compare trade with GDP, we had to use the best available data for GDP, which was 1995 instead of 1996.
[87] GDP data used are defined as world GDP at market prices in current $US.
[88] Between 1986 and 1995, annual changes in growth of world trade in services have generally exceeded growth for trade in goods.
[89] EET's calculation. Source: WTO and World Development Bank.