

GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT : QUESTION #3

How will a NAFTA decision on government procurement stand in relation to the MTN?

Background:

Mexico-

Mexico has a restrictive procurement policy and is not a signatory of the GATT Government Procurement Code. Therefore, Mexico would not be tied up with the improvements made to the Code.

RESPONSE:

- THE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE GATT CODE CARRIED ON UNDER THE MTN ARE CONSIDERED TO BE PARALLEL DISCUSSIONS TO THE NAFTA NEGOTIATIONS. ALTHOUGH AT THE PRESENT STAGE, IT IS TOO EARLY TO DETERMINE THE DECISIONS OF THE TWO NEGOTIATIONS PROCESSES COULD DEPEND UPON THE TIMING OF THE MTN AS WELL AS THE NATURE OF THE NAFTA. THE NAFTA NEGOTIATIONS MAY EXTEND MTN SCOPE.