

APPENDIX A

Strasbourg/Geneva, 19 October 2001

TO PRESIDING OFFICERS OF PARLIAMENTS OF WTO MEMBER STATES

Madam President,
Mr. President,

As you know, the 4th WTO Ministerial Conference will take place in Doha, Qatar, from 9 to 13 November 2001. We are pleased to announce that the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the European Parliament, with the support of the Latin American Parliament and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, will organise a meeting of members of parliament on the occasion of the Conference.

The meeting will take place at the Conference Centre in the Sheraton Hotel, Doha, in the afternoon of Sunday, 11 November, starting at 3 p.m. The meeting is open to all members of parliament who are present in Doha as part of the official delegations accredited to the Ministerial Conference.

The meeting follows up on the meeting of parliamentarians organised at the 3rd Ministerial Conference in Seattle in December 1999, the parliamentary meeting organised by the European Parliament in April 2001 and the Parliamentary Meeting on International Trade organised by the IPU in Geneva in June 2001.

In the course of the meeting, members of parliament will have an opportunity to exchange views on the role of parliaments and their members in relation to international trade negotiations and parliamentary action to follow up on the results of the Ministerial Conference. You will find enclosed a statement on *Parliaments and international trade* which was drafted by a Working Group that met on 5 October 2001 in Geneva to prepare for the meeting of members of parliament to be held in Doha.

We very much hope that members of your parliament will be able to participate in this important event.

Yours sincerely,

President of the Council of the
Inter-Parliamentary Union

Najma Heptulla

Nicole Fontaine
President of the European Parliament