

MTN Agreements and Arrangements (Negotiating Group 8)

The Montreal Meeting directed the pursuit of the negotiations to review existing GATT Codes (Procurement, Import Licensing, Technical Barriers and Anti-dumping). The report from this Group acknowledges the progress made to date in completing the initial phase of identifying negotiating issues, and encourages early submission of negotiating texts to expedite negotiations. The importance of wider membership and improvements to these Codes to a strengthened GATT system is also noted.

Safeguards (Negotiating Group 9)

Although tactical considerations by some developing countries like India resulted in safeguards being one of the four outstanding issues of Montreal, Ministers agreed that a comprehensive agreement on Safeguards is vital to the strengthening of the GATT system and to progress in the Uruguay Round. The Negotiating Group will be proceeding with a draft text of a comprehensive agreement dealing with elements such as coverage, injury, degressivity and adjustment. It is clear that any such agreement will need to deal with both traditional GATT Article XIX import safeguards measures and so-called grey areas such as export restraints. In this regard, the impasse on textiles and clothing has brought out the relationship between a future comprehensive safeguards agreement and the future of the Multifibre Agreement (MFA).

Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (Negotiating Group 10)

The Montreal meeting agreed on a balanced and comprehensive negotiating framework to improve GATT disciplines relating to subsidies and countervailing measures. Ministers called for the submission of specific drafting proposals to address the following issues in the framework for negotiations:

"Prohibited Subsidies

- . Identification: normative criteria (e.g. export subsidies illustrative list); other criteria (e.g. quantitative).
- . Remedies (countermeasures, compensation, conditions of application, multilateral surveillance).