

GLOSSARY OF TRADE AND RELATED TERMS

Codes of Conduct	International instruments that indicate standards of behaviour nation-states or multinational corporations deemed desirable by the international community. Several codes of conduct were negotiated during the Tokyo Round that liberalized and harmonized domestic measures that might impede trade, and these are considered legally binding for the countries that choose to adhere to them. Each of these codes is monitored by a special committee that meets under the auspices of GATT and encourages consultations and the settlement of disputes arising under the code. Countries that are not Contracting Parties to GATT may adhere to these codes. GATT Articles III through XXIII also contain commercial policy provisions that have been described as GATT's code of good conduct in trade matters. The United Nations has also encouraged the negotiation of several "voluntary" codes of conduct, including one that seeks to specify the rights and obligations of trans-national corporations and of governments.
Commercial Presence	Trade in services concept; presence that a national of one country must have in another in order to complete a service transaction, such as a branch office staffed by local staff. Concept falls short of right of establishment.
Commodity	Broadly defined, any article exchanged in trade, but most commonly used to refer to raw materials, including such minerals as tin, copper and manganese, and bulk-produced agricultural products such as coffee, tea and rubber.
Commodity Agreement	An international understanding, formally accepted by the principal exporters and importers, regarding international trading of a raw material and usually intended to affect its price. Some producing countries would like to use commodity agreements to raise prices for the commodities they produce. Consuming countries generally are willing to agree only to commodity agreements that only seek to moderate extreme price fluctuations.