

WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION

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MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE
Singapore, 9-13 December 1996

MINISTERIAL DECLARATION ON TRADE IN
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTS

SINGAPORE, 13 DECEMBER 1996

Ministers,

Representing the following Members of the World Trade Organization ("WTO"), and States or separate customs territories in the process of acceding to the WTO, which have agreed in Singapore on the expansion of world trade in information technology products and which account for well over 80 per cent of world trade in these products ("parties"):

Australia
Canada
European Communities
Hong Kong
Iceland
Indonesia
Japan
Korea

Norway
Separate Customs Territory of Taiwan,
Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu
Singapore
Switzerland¹
Turkey
United States

Considering the key role of trade in information technology products in the development of information industries and in the dynamic expansion of the world economy,

Recognizing the goals of raising standards of living and expanding the production of and trade in goods;

Desiring to achieve maximum freedom of world trade in information technology products;

Desiring to encourage the continued technological development of the information technology industry on a world-wide basis;

Mindful of the positive contribution information technology makes to global economic growth and welfare;

¹On behalf of the customs union Switzerland and Liechtenstein.