



19 February 2014

(14-1022)

Page: 1/2

Preparatory Committee on Trade Facilitation

Original: English

PROTOCOL AMENDING THE MARRAKESH AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING THE WTO

COMMUNICATION FROM NORWAY TO THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE
ON TRADE FACILITATION

Reference is made to document TN/TF/W/194 of 11 October 2013 as well as the Agreement on Trade Facilitation Ministerial Decision WT/MIN(13)/36 of 7 December 2013. The Delegation of Norway has revised the proposals in TN/TF/W/194 and presents the following proposals for a General Council Decision and for a Protocol amending the Marrakesh Agreement.

Proposal for a General Council Decision:

The General Council;

Having regard to paragraph 1 of Article X of the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization ("the WTO Agreement");

Conducting the functions of the Ministerial Conference in the interval between meetings pursuant to paragraph 2 of Article IV of the WTO Agreement;

Recalling the Decision Adopted by the General Council on 1 August 2004 and by explicit consensus to commence negotiations on the basis of the modalities set out in Annex D to that decision; as well as the Ministerial Decision of 7 December 2013 to draw up a Protocol of Amendment (the "Protocol") to insert the Agreement into Annex 1A of the WTO Agreement;

Noting the consensus to submit this proposed amendment to the Members for acceptance;

Decides as follows:

1. The Protocol amending the Marrakesh Agreement establishing the WTO attached to this Decision is hereby adopted and submitted to the Members for acceptance.
2. The Protocol shall be open for acceptance by Members until 31 July 2015 or such later date as may be decided by the Ministerial Conference.
3. The Protocol shall take effect in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 3 of Article X of the WTO Agreement.

Proposal for a Protocol:

Members of the World Trade Organization;

Referring to the proposed Agreement on Trade Facilitation;

Having regard to the Decision of the General Council in document XXXX, adopted pursuant to paragraph 1 of Article X of the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization ("the WTO Agreement");

Hereby agree as follows:

1. Annex 1A to the WTO Agreement shall, upon entry into force of the Protocol pursuant to paragraph 4, be amended by the introduction of the Agreement on Trade Facilitation, as set out in the Annex to this Protocol, to be inserted after the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade and before the Agreement on Trade-Related Investment Measures.
2. Reservations may not be entered in respect of any of the provisions of this Protocol without the consent of the other Members.
3. This Protocol shall be open for acceptance by Members until 31 July 2015 or such later date as may be decided by the Ministerial Conference.
4. This Protocol shall enter into force in accordance with paragraph 3 of Article X of the WTO Agreement.
5. This Protocol shall be deposited with the Director-General of the World Trade Organization who shall promptly furnish to each Member a certified copy thereof and a notification of each acceptance thereof pursuant to paragraph 3.
6. This Protocol shall be registered in accordance with the provisions of Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations.

Done at Geneva this xx day of 2014, in a single copy in the English, French and Spanish languages, each text being authentic.
