11 June 2018/agenda4negotiations

**ADVANCED TRADE NEGOTIATIONS SIMULATION SKILLS COURSE**

Issues for negotiations

I. Agriculture

 i. Overall Trade-distorting Domestic Support (OTDS), including AMS and Blue Box;

 ii. De Minimis negotiations

 iii. Public stockholding for food security purposes

 iv. Market access: Alternative methodology for agricultural tariff cuts—tiered formula, average cut with minimum cuts per tariff line, cut to the average with minimum cuts per tariff line. Negotiators would agree, during the multilateral negotiations on Day 3, on **one** of the three methodologies for providing agricultural market access;

 v. Sensitive products (treatment in terms of cuts and quota expansion);

 vi. Special products;

 vii. Special Safeguard Mechanism.

**II. Non-Agricultural Market Access (NAMA)**

 i. Swiss Formula and Flexibilities;

 ii Sectorals.

III. Trade in Services

 i. The negotiations shall aim at a progressively higher level of liberalization of trade in services with a view to promoting the economic growth of all trading partners, and the development of developing and least-developed countries.

 ii. Request-offer approach is the main method of negotiation in the current Round and that, prior to the Hong Kong Ministerial Conference; such negotiations had been proceeding on a bilateral basis. Pursuant to paragraph 7 of Annex C of the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration, in addition to bilateral negotiations, request-offer negotiations are also pursued on a plurilateral basis

 iii. Respecting the existing structure and principles of the GATS, Members shall, to the maximum extent possible, respond to the bilateral and plurilateral requests by offering deeper and/or wider commitments. Such responses shall, where possible, substantially reflect current levels of market access and national treatment and provide new market access and national treatment in areas where significant impediments exist, in particular in sectors and modes of supply of export interest to developing countries, such as modes 1 and 4, in accordance with Article IV of the GATS.

 iv. Commitments shall be commensurate with the levels of development, regulatory capacity and national policy objectives of individual developing countries. In making such commitments, Members shall be guided by paragraphs 1, 2 and 7 of Annex C of the Hong Kong Ministerial Declaration.

 v. Negotiations shall additionally focus on some 21st Century trade in services issues of interest to Members, including their scheduling.

I**V. Micro-Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME)**

Proponents argue for greater participation of MSMEs in global trade in order to make globalization more inclusive and sustainable. Pertinent issues relate to access to information, more stable and predictable business environment, lowering of transaction cost through better trade facilitation, shipping, logistics, procedures, origins, promotions, multilateral cooperation on trade finance, technical assistance and capacity building for MSMEs. As an illustration, if a country has 99 per cent of establishments classified as MSMEs, these MSMEs can play an important role in the economy by promoting inclusive growth. For truly inclusive globalization, MSMEs could be assisted to participate in the global value chain. As well, bigger economies would be expected to provide improved market access for MSMEs in order to maximize the potential gains from globalization.

**V. Fisheries Subsidies**

 Fisheries subsidies will be singled out for negotiations as part of the rules negotiations. The mandate will be to clarify and improve disciplines on Fisheries subsidies. This will involve text-based proposals on fisheries subsidies.