

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

## TARIFFS AND TRADE

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### ETHIOPIA

Statement by Mr. Gezahegne Tsegaye  
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(speaking as an observer)

Although not a member of GATT, my country follows the activities of the organization with keen interest, because not only do the activities of GATT directly or indirectly concern all countries, but also the objectives and principles of the organization merit the respect by all countries.

World trade has been expanding over the recent past. However, the developing countries in general -- and the least-developed countries (LDCs) in particular -- have not been beneficiaries of world trade expansion. Indeed, the gap between the developed countries and the developing countries has been widening, and most of the developing countries have been more and more marginalized. My delegation would like to underline these dangerous trends without going into detailed observations which have already been made by many speakers at this session.

In particular, I would like to associate myself with the views expressed by the Ambassador of Bangladesh concerning the least-developed countries. More specifically, my delegation attaches great importance to the proposals submitted by the LDCs to the contracting parties negotiating in the Uruguay Round.

We hope that these proposals, centered on the idea of market access for the LDCs, will be given serious attention by the negotiating parties so that the LDCs could also be beneficiaries of world trade expansion in the 1990s.

Finally, while my delegation notes with satisfaction the progress made in the Uruguay Round of negotiations, it feels concerned that most of the substantive issues will have to be tackled within the remaining one year of the Round. Under the circumstances, the negotiations on the substantive issues will have to be accelerated further in order for the Round to reach a successful end.