

**Committee on Agriculture
Special Session**

OUTLINING THE DATA NEEDED FOR PRE-DOHA FINAL BOUND TOTAL AMS

STEP 1 FOR BASE FINAL BOUND TOTAL AMS

Communication by the Cairns Group

The following communication, dated 30 September 2009, is being circulated at the request of the Cairns Group.

1. The present communication is being circulated in order to contribute to the ongoing discussion on data and templates that, once modalities are agreed, will facilitate the verification and scheduling processes and does not prejudge either the Cairns Group or its individual Members' negotiating positions on any of the issues listed below or included in the Doha Mandate.

A. INTRODUCTION

2. The purpose of this note is to identify the data needed for the pre-Doha Final Bound Total AMS for those Members that will schedule such an amount. The scheduling of such an amount would apply to all Members with a pre-Doha Final Bound Total AMS, whether the Member undertakes Doha reductions from it or not. The identification of the necessary data, based on the revised draft modalities, is needed for what JOB(09)/99 and JOB(09)/104 call Step 1.

B. THE DATA

3. A Member's pre-Doha Final Bound Total AMS is in Part IV, Section I, of its Schedule of Concessions and Commitments as it exists prior to scheduling under Doha. The title of that section is "Domestic Support: Total AMS Commitments". The section includes data on the base Total AMS used in the Uruguay Round or in later accessions, the years of implementation, the annual and final bound commitment levels (i.e. an amount and its currency unit), as well as a reference to relevant supporting tables.

4. The pre-Doha, or Base, Final Bound Total AMS is simply the last yearly amount shown in the column "Annual and final bound commitment levels" in Part IV, Section I. Some Members have a nil or zero entry in the commitment levels column of Part IV, Section I. Least Developed Country Members were not required to undertake reduction commitments in the Uruguay Round or when acceding.

5. The pre-Doha, or Base, Final Bound Total AMS serves two purposes in Step 1. One purpose is to be the base from which a Member's yearly Doha Total AMS commitments would eventually be derived in Step 2, by reducing from the Base or by simply transferring the unchanged Base amount. The other purpose is to be one element in the calculation of a Member's Base OTDS.
