



**G-33 COORDINATOR STATEMENT
ON SPs COUNTER PROPOSAL
ROOM E - 11 APRIL 2008**

Mr. Chairman,

The G-33 has provided its comments and views on February 25th Room E Meeting, on the proposal made from some Members on Special Products.

The Group therefore reiterates and it should be clear that the proposal from some Members even widens the gap of differences on this important issue. Once again, the G-33 does not see the proposal as being constructive in our efforts to move forward.

We have also emphasized that your revised draft text on SPs to a certain extent already provides us all with an architecture and basis to advance further. To further restrict the modalities on SPs as proposed, is therefore not acceptable and cannot be regarded as a constructive way forward.

The G-33 questions the mandate which would justify the proposal, especially on the notion of allocating self-designated SPs to their treatments. This, to the Group cannot be further considered.

The G-33 also reminds Members that we have already agreed that SPs will be self-designated. Self-designation shall therefore logically be also on their allocations to the 3 (three) grades of treatments. In this regard, as the Group has underlined over and over again, the zero cut treatment principle shall be an integral part of the final outcome.

Mr. Chairman,

SPs is an integral part of special and differential treatment for developing countries as well as a stand alone issue. Therefore, SPs shall not be included in the average cut referred to in Paragraph 65.

Lastly, let me also re-emphasize that based on the G-33's statement earlier, it shall be regarded as the Group's consistent views and positions at this stage, on all the other related and important elements of SPs.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.