



**G-33 Coordinator Talking Points on
Special Safeguard Mechanism
Room D Meeting
4 July 2008**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman,

I will again be speaking on behalf of the Group of 33.

Similar to SPs, for the G-33 it is of the same high importance to re-emphasize certain elements on SSM – which needs to be clearly and sufficiently reflected in the next Agriculture revised draft text.

On the architecture, the G-33 views that there shall be 2 (two) window approaches for both volume and price based SSM. The first window is that the remedies shall be entitled to go up to the Pre-Doha bound level. In this first window, there shall be no restriction on the product coverage. In other words, it shall be under the principle of all agriculture products in any given 12 (twelve) months period.

The second window shall be that the remedies are entitled to go beyond the Pre-Doha bound level without any capping. In this second window, a comfortable and reasonable percentage of tariff lines – and not number of products, in any given 12

(twelve) months period shall be entitled with remedies which can go beyond the Pre-Doha bound level without any capping. The G-33 is of the firm position that all developing country Members, in this second window, are entitled with remedies going beyond the Pre-Doha bound level without any capping. However, the Group also supports the idea that LDCs and SVEs would be provided with additional flexibilities, compared to other developing country Members in the implementation of SSM.

Mr. Chairman,

The G-33 is ready to negotiate the specificities based on this 2 (two) windows approach. It should also be clear that through this 2 (two) windows approach, it will be applied to both volume and price base SSM as well as no separate triggers. The remedies should be in terms of both percentage and ad valorem percentage points, where as developing country Members shall opt for either of the two.

Let me now turn to the other important elements of SSM which shall also be part of the final outcome of SSM modalities. In essence, the G-33 has provided its latest views, positions and concerns on SSM as contained in Job Document (08)/47 dated June 3, 2008.

For the G-33, high triggers are simply politically unacceptable. The triggers are extremely important and shall be comfortably close to the G-33's positions. As the Group has indicated in its statement for SPs, the G-33 also recommends that any numbers or figures in SSM shall be reflected in a format of range of numbers, and consequently be put in square brackets. This kind of presentation is of the same significance to provide a constructive basis for further negotiations and achieve the meaningful outcome.

To conclude, Mr. Chairman,

Based on the Group's statements on SPs & SSM today, the G-33 would therefore like to underscore that the Group has once again demonstrated its constructive gesture by providing new and significant elements on SPs & SSM. The G-33 expects and requests, that our negotiating partners would follow suit in showing their positive movements and constructive flexibilities in the near future negotiations on SPs & SSM, as well as in other crucial issues of the agriculture negotiations.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.