



Negotiating Group on the Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI)

AGENDA

Meeting on 17-19 March 1998

AGENDA

17(afternoon) - 19 March 1998

1. **Adoption of the Agenda** DAFFE/MAI/A(98)4
2. **Approval of the Summary Record of the meeting held on 19 February** DAFFE/MAI/M(98)2
3. **Contributions from Delegations**
4. **Contributions from Observers**
5. **Progress in DG3 and Informal Consultations**
For Reference:
Reports to the Negotiating Group DAFFE/MAI/DG3(98)2
DAFFE/MAI/DG3(98)3
DAFFE/MAI/IN(98)1
6. **Environment and Labour**
 - a) **Reports on National Environmental Reviews**
For Reference:
Contribution by one delegation DAFFE/MAI/RD(98)13
Contribution by one delegation DAFFE/MAI/DG3/RD(98)9
Contribution by one delegation DAFFE/MAI/RD(98)15
 - b) **Environment and Related Matters**
 - c) **Labour**
Note by the Chairman on Environment and Related Matters and on Labour DAFFE/MAI(98)10

7. Liberalisation and Exceptions

a) Interface of MAI and GATS

Note by the Chairman

DAFFE/MAI(98)11

b) Departures from Standstill

Note by the Chairman

DAFFE/MAI(98)13

For Reference:

Exceptions
(Note by the Chairman)

DAFFE/MAI(98)5

8. Selected Issues on Dispute Settlement

Note by the Chairman

DAFFE/MAI(98)12

For Reference:

Report to the Negotiating Group

DAFFE/MAI/DS(98)1

9. Conflicting Requirements

10. Next Steps/Other Business

Annotations to the Agenda

Item 3. Contributions from Delegations

Delegations are invited to submit proposals for consideration by the Negotiating Group. Member countries are encouraged to provide written contributions in time to permit their examination by other Member countries before the meeting of the Negotiating Group.

Item 4 Contributions from Observers

Observers may submit written proposals or may comment on issues being considered by the Negotiating Group. Written contributions should be received in time to permit examination by Member countries before the meeting of the Negotiating Group.

Item 5 Progress in DG3 and Informal Consultations

Reports will be made of the DG3 meeting of 20 January 1998 and informal consultations on Institutional Matters (20 February) and Special Topics (23-24 February).

The Negotiating Group will be informed of the results of the informal consultations on Dispute Settlement (23 - 24 February) under item 8 of the agenda.

Item 6 Environment and Labour

Delegations that have not yet done so countries are encouraged to report on their national environmental reviews, if possible in writing.

The Negotiating Group will be invited to discuss proposals on Environment and related matters and on Labour on the basis of a Note by the Chairman [DAFFE/MAI(98)10].

The revised Secretariat analysis on the relationship between the MAI and multilateral environmental agreements has been completed (DAFFE/MAI(98)1/REV1) and has been made available on Internet for comment.

Item 7 Liberalisation and Exceptions

a. The Negotiating Group will be invited to react to possible approaches to exceptions in the field of services covered by the GATS on the basis of a Note by the Chairman [DAFFE/MAI(98)11].

b. The Negotiating Group will also be invited to consider approaches to exceptions involving departures from standstill, taking into account the treatment of departures from standstill in GATS and NAFTA [DAFFE/MAI(98)13].

The Chairman's Note contains annexes including illustrative draft texts on (I) air transport and (ii) measures favouring aboriginal peoples or other minority groups.

Item 8 Selected Issues on Dispute Settlement

The Negotiating Group will be invited to react to proposals by the Chairman on selected Dispute Settlement issues [DAFFE/MAI(98)12] taking into account the results of the informal consultations held on 23-24 February on this topic.

Item 9 Conflicting Requirements and Related Matters

The Negotiating Group may wish to review the status of informal consultations on this matter.

Item 10 Next Steps/Other Business

The Negotiating Group will be invited to consider the agenda for the April meetings taking account of the discussion at the Group's meeting in March. A provisional agenda for April was agreed at the meeting in February [DAFFE/MAI/RD(98)14].