



GOVERNMENT OF ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

Permanent Delegation to the World Trade Organization
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25 June 2007

H.E. Ambassador Peter F. Allgeier
Ambassador
Permanent Mission of the United States to
the World Trade Organisation
11, Route de Pregny, No. 11
1292 Chambésy
Geneva, Switzerland

Excellency,

Antigua and Barbuda takes notice of the communication from the delegation of the United States to the Secretariat of the World Trade Organisation (the "WTO") dated 4 May 2007 (as circulated by the Secretariat on 8 May 2007, "S/SECRET/10"), pursuant to which the United States has notified the WTO of its intention to withdraw its commitment in respect of gambling and betting services contained in its Schedule of Specific Commitments under the WTO's *General Agreement on Trade in Services* (the "GATS") on the basis proposed in document S/SECRET/10.

Pursuant to Article XXI:2(a) of the GATS and paragraph 3 of the Procedures for the Implementation of Article XXI of the GATS – Modification of Schedules ("S/L/80"), Antigua and Barbuda identifies itself as an "affected Member" and hereby notifies the United States its claim of interest.

In accordance with Article XXI of the GATS and the terms and procedures of S/L/80, Antigua and Barbuda looks forward to entering into negotiations with the United States with a view to reaching agreement on any necessary compensatory adjustment due Antigua and Barbuda in the event the withdrawal of the commitment contemplated by S/SECRET/10 is completed.

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The submission of this claim of interest, and any negotiations to follow, are expressly without prejudice to any other right of Antigua and Barbuda under the GATS, the WTO's *Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes* (the "DSU"), the *Agreement between Antigua and Barbuda and the United States Regarding Procedures under Articles 21 and 22 of the DSU* (WT/DS285/16), the recommendations and rulings of the WTO's Dispute Settlement Body in WT/DS285 (WT/DSB/M/188, 18 May 2005, para. 75), any other of the WTO agreements or otherwise. In particular, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the submission of this claim of interest, and any negotiations to follow, are without prejudice to any right of Antigua and Barbuda under Article 21 and Article 22 of the DSU.

Pursuant to paragraph 3 of document S/L/80, a copy of this claim of interest is being furnished to the Secretariat for circulation to the Members.

Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



H.E. Dr. John W. Ashe
Ambassador/Permanent Representative to the WTO



cc: WTO Secretariat