COMMUNICATION FROM SOUTH AFRICA

NOTIFICATION OF OBJECTION TO REQUESTS FOR CERTIFICATION OF SCHEDULES OF SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS

The following communication from the delegation of South Africa, dated 3 February 2023, is being circulated to all WTO Members.

Invocation of Article XVIII of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) and procedures under S/L/84

This notification is being circulated upon the request of South Africa pursuant to paragraph 2 of the Procedures for the Certification of Rectifications or Improvements to Schedules of Specific Commitments (S/L/84).

South Africa notes the submissions by Members listed in the Annex to this communication, which contain schedules of specific commitments relating to services domestic regulations, submitted for certification pursuant to the Procedures for the Certification of Rectifications or Improvements to Schedules of Specific Commitments (document S/L/84).

South Africa considers that further information and clarifications are required in order to assess the legal basis and the effect of the proposed modifications, particularly their interaction with Members' existing rights and obligations under the General Agreement on Trade in Services and the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the WTO.

Accordingly, South Africa hereby notifies its objection to the certification of the schedules of specific commitments of the Members listed in the annex to this communication. This objection should be read in conjunction with the paper WT/GC/W/819/Rev.1 circulated at the request of India, South Africa, and Namibia. South Africa notes that further clarifications may be needed on other aspects of the schedules submitted for certification by the Members concerned, and therefore reserves the right to seek such clarifications.

South Africa looks forward to consultations with the Members concerned as listed in the annex to this communication to clarify these matters.
ANNEX

This notification concerns the certification of the schedules of specific commitments of the following Members:

1. Albania S/C/W/417
2. Argentina S/C/W/391
3. Bahrain, Kingdom of S/C/W/389
4. Canada S/C/W/398
5. Chile S/C/W/404
6. China S/C/W/412
7. Costa Rica S/C/W/411
8. European Union S/C/W/407
9. Georgia S/C/W/405
10. Hong Kong, China S/C/W/399
11. Iceland S/C/W/397
12. Japan S/C/W/401
13. Kazakhstan S/C/W/415
14. Korea, Republic of S/C/W/403
15. Liechtenstein S/C/W/394
16. Mauritius S/C/W/388
17. Mexico S/C/W/409
18. Moldova, Republic of S/C/W/408
19. Montenegro S/C/W/402
20. Nigeria S/C/W/419
22. New Zealand S/C/W/413
23. Norway S/C/W/390
24. Paraguay S/C/W/414
25. Peru S/C/W/420
26. Singapore S/C/W/392
27. Switzerland S/C/W/400
28. Chinese Taipei S/C/W/406
29. Thailand S/C/W/395
30. Ukraine S/C/W/410
31. United Arab Emirates S/C/W/396
32. United Kingdom S/C/W/416
33. United States of America S/C/W/393
34. Russian Federation S/C/W/421
35. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia S/C/W/422