

CONTENTS

<i>List of boxes and tables</i>	<i>page</i> vii
<i>Foreword</i>	ix
<i>List of abbreviations and acronyms</i>	xi
Introduction and summary	1
Accession in perspective	1
Some observations	7
Chapter 1 Accession in perspective	9
Chapter 2 The basic rules	12
Basic WTO provision	12
Other relevant WTO provisions	13
Ministerial Declarations	13
Guidelines on the Accession of Least-Developed Countries	14
Chapter 3 Technical assistance and training for acceding countries	16
WTO Secretariat	17
Accessions-related assistance	17
WTO programme of trade-related technical assistance	18
WTO Members and other organizations	21
Chapter 4 The accession process: the procedures and how they have been applied	24
Introduction	24
Application for membership and establishment of Working Party	26
First contacts	26
Observer status for non-Member governments before application to accede	26
Letter of application to the Director-General	28
Examination of application by the General Council	28
Establishment of Working Party. Terms of reference	29
Observer status for acceders	29
Chair of Working Party	30
Membership of Working Party	30
Observer status for international organizations	31

The Working Party process	32
Provision of factual information on the applicant's trade regime	34
Applicant's Memorandum on its trade regime and supporting data	34
Written questions and answers	36
Working Party examination of applicant's trade regime	36
Negotiation of terms on which the applicant will accede	38
Negotiations and Rules	39
Negotiation of tariff concessions	40
Discussions on agricultural support and export subsidies	42
Negotiation of specific commitments on services	43
Completion of Working Party mandate	44
Invocation of Article XIII of the WTO	45
Adoption of Report by General Council/Ministerial Conference	46
Accession of applicant	47
Chapter 5 Substance of accession negotiations	48
General points	50
Rules	55
Introductory statements	55
Economic policies	56
Policy framework	65
Rules on trade in goods	69
Trade-related intellectual property rights	106
Trade in services	109
Transparency	110
Trade agreements	112
Negotiation of market access concessions and commitments	113
Goods Schedule – tariff concessions	114
Goods Schedule – agricultural commitments	122
Services Schedule	126
ANNEXES	
Annex 1 Statistical survey	133
1.1 Overview	133
1.2 Details	134
Annex 2 WTO provisions on accession	138
Annex 3 Ministerial declarations (accession-related paragraphs)	142

Annex 4	Guidelines for accession of least-developed countries	144
Annex 5	Documentation and timeline for completed accessions	147
	5.1 Working Party reports – completed accessions	148
	5.2 Timeline for completed accessions	149
Annex 6	Basic factual information to be supplied	154
	6.1 Outline format for a Memorandum on the Foreign Trade Régime	154
	6.2 Statistics and publications	159
	6.3 List of laws and legal acts	160
	6.4 Information on import licensing procedures	160
	6.5 Information on implementation and administration of the customs valuation agreement	164
	6.6 Information on technical barriers to trade	165
	6.7 Information on state trading	166
	6.8 Services sectoral classification list	168
	6.9 Lists of foreign trade agreements	174
Annex 7	Supplementary factual information	175
	7.1 Checklist of illustrative SPS and TBT issues	175
	7.2 Information to be provided on domestic support and export subsidies in agriculture	180
	7.3 Information to be provided on policy measures affecting trade in services	196
	7.4 Implementation of the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights	204
Annex 8	Formats for initial tariff offer and for schedule of concessions and commitments on goods	223
	8.1 Format for initial tariff offer	223
	8.2 Format for bilateral tariff agreements	224
	8.3 Format for tariff schedule	225
Annex 9	Drafting a services Schedule	232
Annex 10	Text of decisions on accession and accession protocols	237
	10.1 General Council decisions	237
	10.2 Accession protocols	238
Annex 11	List of WTO agreements and associated legal instruments	240
Annex 12	Overview of protocol commitments	242

Annex 13	Suggested formats for Legislative Action Plans	248
13.1	Suggested format for Comprehensive Legislative Action Plan	248
13.2	Suggested format for Legislative Action Plan on Specific Subjects	248
Annex 14	Agricultural tariff rate quotas and special safeguards	249
Annex 15	Sectoral initiatives	250
<i>Index</i>		255