

# World Trade Organization (WTO) & GATT

The World Trade Organization (WTO) was founded in 1995. WTO succeeded the General Agreement on Tariffs & Trade (GATT) which was established in 1948. WTO and GATT both had their headquarters in Geneva. WTO's governing body is its Ministerial Conference, while GATT was governed by Sessions of its Contracting Parties. The Havana Conference was intended to found the International Trade Organization (ITO), which never happened.

## Founding of GATT

Preparatory Committee of the UN Conference on Trade & Employment

P1. 1st Session, London, England, 15 Oct.-26 Nov. 1946

P2. 2nd Session, Geneva, Switzerland, 10 Apr.-22 Aug. 1947

**CHINESE DELEGATION TO THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND EMPLOYMENT**

CC-CH1. 163x115 Airmail

ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ DELEGACE  
U PŘÍPRAVNÉHO VÝBORU PRO MEZINÁRODNÍ KONFERENCI  
O OBCHODU A ZAMĚSTNANOSTI  
THE CZECHOSLOVAK DELEGATION  
TO THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL  
CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND EMPLOYMENT

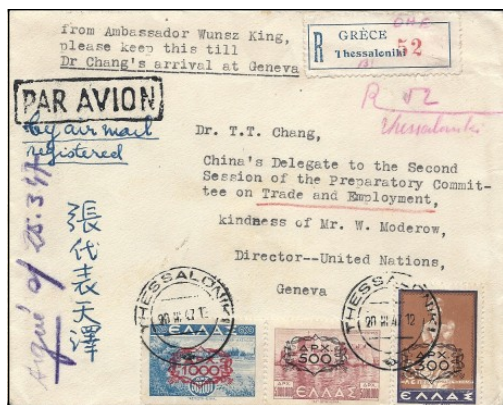
CC-CZ1. 163x114

Mr. L.R. Edminster *KRE*  
DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
ITO Conference, c/o American Consulate  
Geneva, Switzerland

CC-US1. 240x105



Service cover from US Delegation, 20 May 1947



Incoming Service mail to Chinese Delegation, 20 Mar. 1947

Service cover, \$100; Incoming Service Mail, \$50

C1. UN Conference on Trade & Employment, Havana, Cuba, 21 Nov. 1947-24 Mar. 1948



H1. No.1, Blue



H1. No.2, Blue



S.E.E. is "Servicio de Entrega Especial" = "Special Delivery Service"

(below) S.P.C. is "Servicio Postal Certificado" = "Registered Postal Service"

H2. "S.E.E." No.1, Blue



H3. "S.P.C." No.1, Blue



H3. "S.P.C." No.2, Blue

H1., H2. & H3. observed 21 Sep. 1947-24 Mar. 1948



E1. No.1, Blue Imprint Used with No.1 Cancels



E1. No.2, Blue Imprint Used with No.2 Cancels



C1. Blue, Capitolio Used with No. 1 Cancels



C2. Blue, Vedado Used with No.2 Cancels

There were two post offices, No. 1 in the National Capitol, and No.2, in the Orthopedic Hospital, Vedado

**Founding of GATT, continued**

C1. UN Conference on Trade & Employment, Havana, Cuba, 21 Nov. 1947-24 Mar. 1948, continued



C3. No. 1, Blue Used with No.1 Cancels



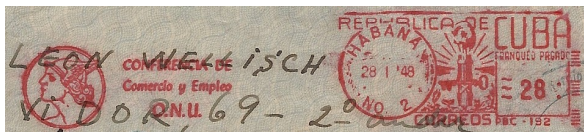
C3. No. 2, Blue Used with No. 2 Cancels



C4. Red-violet



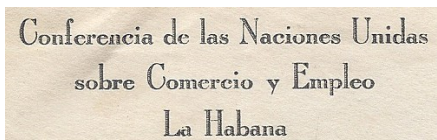
C5.



F1. PBC 192, Red Private meter (Western Union), No. 2



F1. PBC 188, Red Private meter (Western Union), No. 1



Front Upper left



Front Upper right (Official Business)



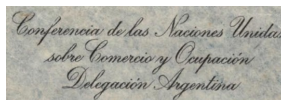
Back flap

CC1. 164x92



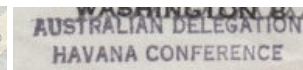
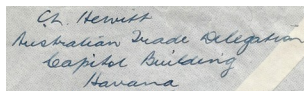
CC2. Embossed UN Emblem on back flap 167x112

**Argentine Delegation**



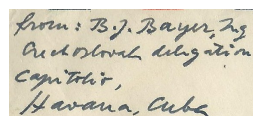
CC-AR1. 167x97 Airmail (no border)

**Australian Delegation**

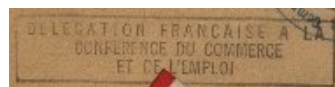


C-AU1. Violet-Black

**Czech Delegation**

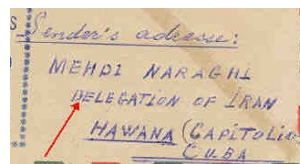


**French Delegation**

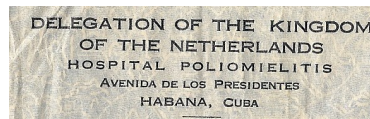


C-FR1.

**Iranian Delegation**

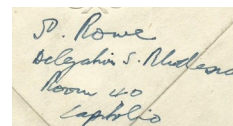


**Netherlands Delegation**

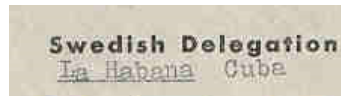


CC-NE1. 240x103 Airmail

**Southern Rhodesia Delegation**

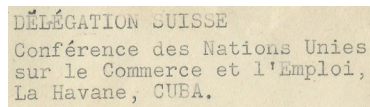


**Swedish Delegation**



CC-SWE1. 163x116 Airmail

**Swiss Delegation**



**Founding of GATT, continued**

C1. UN Conference on Trade & Employment, Havana, Cuba, 21 Nov. 1947-24 Mar. 1948, continued

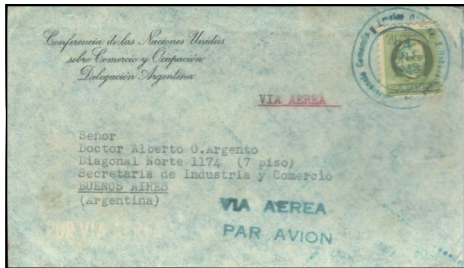
**Service covers**



Service cover with CC1. to Geneva (Addressee erased), 11 Dec. 1947



Registered Service cover with UN-Lake Success CC, to Geneva, 22 Jan. 1948



Service cover from Argentine Delegation, 24 Jan. 1948



Service cover, Netherlands Delegation to Netherlands, 31 Dec. 1947

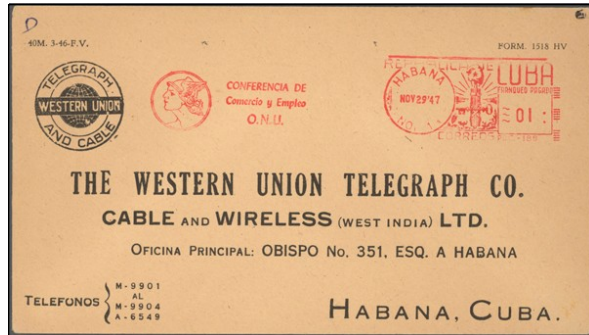


Service cover, Swedish Delegation to Sweden, 7 Jan. 1948



Service cover, French Delegation to France, 15 Mar. 1948

**Private Meter cover**



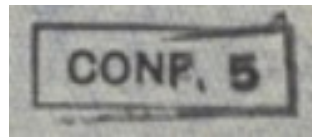
Private meter on Western Union cover, 29 Nov. 1947

Philatelic cover, \$50, Service cover, \$100; Meter cover, \$150; With H1. No.2., add \$50; With E1. No.1, add \$25; With E1. No.2, add \$50; With H2. or H3., add \$100; With C3., add \$50

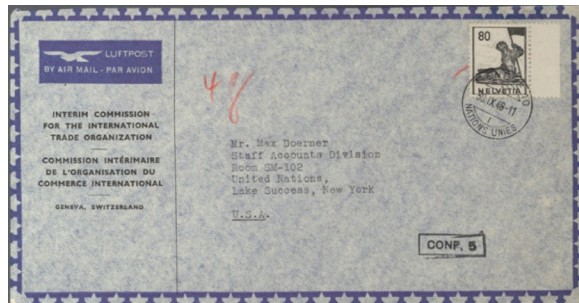
**Interim Commission of International Trade Organization (ICITO)**

E1. 1st Session, Executive Committee, Havana, Cuba, 24 Mar. 1948

E2. 2nd Session, Executive Committee, Geneva, Switzerland, 25 Aug.-15 Sep. 1948



C1. "CONF. 5"



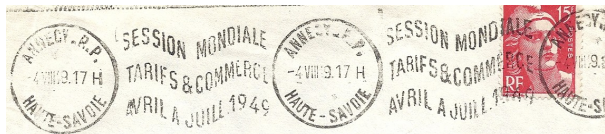
Service cover from Session to UN-Lake Success, 30 Sep. 1948

Service cover, \$250

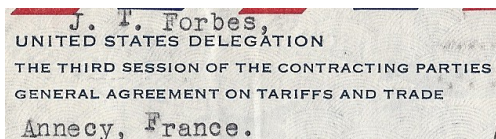
E3. Emergency Session, Executive Committee, Annecy, France, August 1949

**Sessions of GATT Contracting Parties**

- CP.1 1st, Havana, Cuba, 28 Feb-24 Mar. 1948
- CP.2 2nd, Geneva, Switzerland, 16 Aug.-14 Sep. 1948
- CP.3 3rd, Annecy, France, 8 Apr.-13 Aug. 1949



M1. Obs. 15 Apr.-23 Aug. 1949



CC-US1. 241x108 Airmail



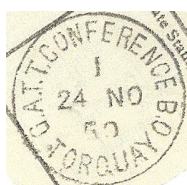
Service cover from US Delegation, 27 Jul. 1949

*The 2nd GATT Tariff Negotiating Conference was also held at Annecy 11 Apr.-27 Aug. 1949*

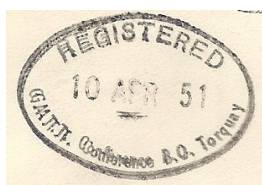
Philatelic cover with M1., \$65; Service cover, \$125

- CP.4 4th, Geneva, 23 Feb.-3 Apr. 1950

- CP.5 5th, Torquay, England, 2 Nov.-16 Dec. 1950



H1. #'s 1 and 2  
Obs. 18 Oct. 1950-10 Apr. 1951



H2. Black, Red, Blue  
Obs. 16 Jan.-10 Apr. 1951



E1.

*The 3rd GATT Tariff Negotiating Conference was also held at Torquay, 28 Sep. 1950-21 Apr. 1951. The same cancels & label were used at that conference.*

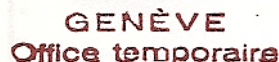
Philatelic cover, \$50; Service cover, \$100; Registry label, add \$25

- CP.6 6th, Geneva, 17 Sep.-26 Oct. 1951
- CP.7 7th, Geneva, 2 Oct.-10 Nov. 1952
- CP.8 8th, Geneva, 17 Sep.-24 Oct. 1953

- CP.9 9th, Geneva, 28 Oct. 1954-7 Mar. 1955

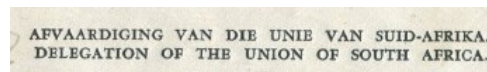


H1. Obs. 8 Oct. 1954-8 Mar. 1955 "Office temporaire"



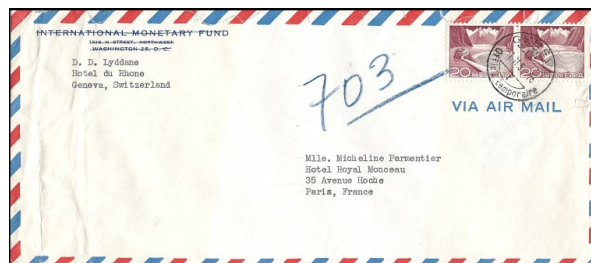
C1. Red, may be used with H1.

**South African Delegation:**

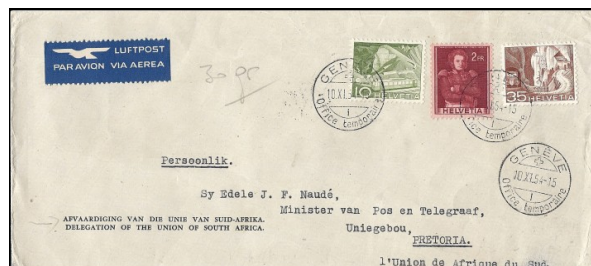


CC-SAF1. 240x110

**Service Covers**



Service cover to Paris, France, 1 Feb. 1955



Service cover to Pretoria, South Africa, 10 Nov. 1954

Philatelic cover, \$15; Service cover, \$60

**Sessions of GATT Contracting Parties, continued**

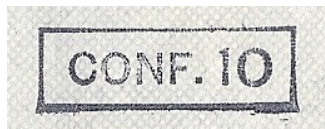
CP.10 10th, Geneva, 27 Oct.-3 Dec. 1955



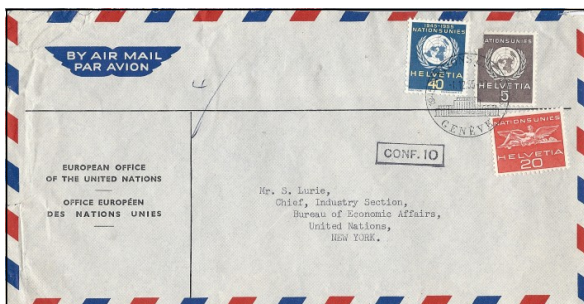
**GENÈVE OFFICE TEMPORAIRE  
PALAIS DES NATIONS**

“Office temporaire”

\* C1. Red  
H1. Obs. 27 Oct.-19 Nov. 1955 May be used with H1.



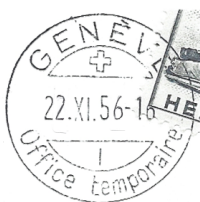
C2. “CONF. 10”



Service cover to UN-New York, 1 Dec. 1955

Philatelic cover, \$15; Service cover, \$60

CP.11 11th, Geneva, 10 Oct.-22 Nov. 1956



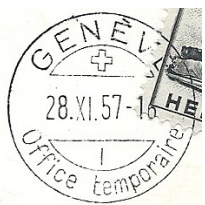
**GENÈVE OFFICE TEMPORAIRE  
PALAIS DES NATIONS**

“Office temporaire”

\* C1. Red  
H1. Obs. 10 Oct.-22 Nov. 1956 May be used with H1.

Philatelic cover, \$15; Service cover, \$60

CP.12 12th, Geneva, 17 Oct.-30 Nov. 1957



**GENÈVE OFFICE TEMPORAIRE  
PALAIS DES NATIONS**

“Office temporaire”

C1. Black, Red  
H1. 17 Oct.- 28 Nov. 1957 May be used with H1.

CP.12 12th, Geneva, 17 Oct.-30 Nov. 1957, continued



Service cover to Israel, 28 Nov. 1957

Philatelic cover, \$15; Service cover, \$60

CP.13 13th, Geneva, 16 Oct.-22 Nov. 1958



**GENÈVE OFFICE TEMPORAIRE  
PALAIS DES NATIONS**

“Office temporaire”

C1. Black, Red  
H1. Obs. 16 Nov.-22 Nov. 1958 May be used with H1.

**DEUTSCHE DELEGATION  
für die XIII. Gatt-Tagung  
GENÈVE - Palais des Nations**

C-GE1. Violet-black German Delegation



Service cover from German Delegation, 12 Nov. 1958

Philatelic cover, \$15; Service cover, \$60

CP.14 14th, Geneva, 14-30 May 1959

**Sessions of GATT Contracting Parties, continued**

CP.15 15th, Tokyo, Japan, 26 Oct.-20 Nov. 1959



Japan issued Sc.# 684 on 2 Nov. 1959

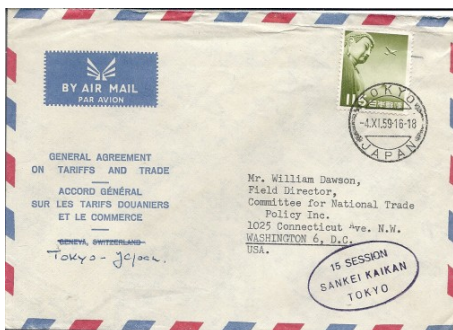


H1. Red, Obs. 2-17 Nov. 1959



“SANKEI KAIKAN”

C1. Violet-black

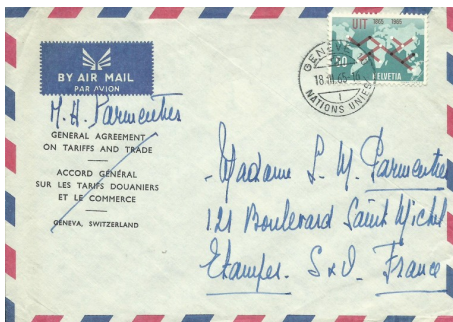


Service cover to USA, 4 Nov. 1959

First Day Philatelic cover, \$4; Philatelic with H1. other than FD, \$12; Service cover, \$60

- CP.16 16th, Geneva, 16 May-4 Jun. 1960
- CP.17 17th, Geneva, 31 Oct.-19 Nov. 1960
- CP.18 18th, Geneva, 14-19 May 1961
- CP.19 19th, Geneva, 13 Nov.-9 Dec. 1961
- CP.20 20th, Geneva, 23 Oct.-16 Nov. 1962
- CP.21 21st, Geneva, Mar. 1964

CP.22 22nd, Geneva, 8-25 Mar. 1965



Service cover from French Delegate, 18 Mar. 1965

Service cover, \$25

- CP.23 23rd, Geneva, 24 Mar.-6 Apr. 1966
- CP.24 24th, Geneva, 9-24 Nov. 1967
- CP.25 25th, Geneva, Nov. 1968
- CP.26 26th, Geneva, 16-27 Feb. 1970
- CP.27 27th, Geneva, Nov. 1971
- CP.28 28th, Geneva, 1-14 Nov. 1972
- CP.29 29th, Geneva, 13-15 Nov. 1973
- CP.30 30th, Geneva, 19-21 Nov. 1974
- CP.31 31st, Geneva, 1975
- CP.32 32nd, Geneva, 1976
- CP.33 33rd, Geneva, 1977
- CP.34 34th, Geneva, 1978
- CP.35 35th, Geneva, 1979
- CP.36 36th, Geneva, 1980
- CP.37 37th, Geneva, 1981
- CP.38 38th, Geneva, 1982
- CP.39 39th, Geneva, 1983
- CP.40 40th, Geneva, 1984
- CP.41 41st, Geneva, 1985

CP.41.1 Special, on Ministerial level, Punta del Este, Uruguay, 15-19 Sep. 1986



Uruguay issued Sc. #1221 on 15 Sep. 1986



H1. Obs. 15 Sep. 1986, Black, Red

Philatelic cover with H1., \$12

- CP.42 42nd, Geneva, 1986
- CP.43 43rd, Geneva, Dec. 1987
- CP.44 44th, Geneva, 7-8 Nov. 1988
- CP.45 45th, Geneva, 4-5 Dec. 1989
- CP.46 46th, Geneva, 12-13 Dec. 1990
- CP.47 47th, Geneva, 3-4 Dec. 1991
- CP.48 48th, Geneva, 1992
- CP.48.1 Special, Geneva, 9 Jun. 1994
- CP.49 49th, Geneva, 25-26 Jan. 1994

**Other GATT Meetings**

G1947/1 Tariff Negotiations, Geneva, 10 Apr.-30 Oct. 1947

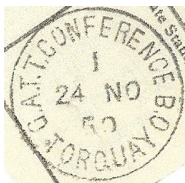
G1949/1 2nd Tariff Negotiating Conference, Annecy, France, 11 Apr.-27 Aug. 1949



Service cover from Conference, to USA, 1 Jun. 1949

Service cover, \$125

G1950/1 3rd Tariff Negotiating Conference, Torquay, England, 28 Sep.1950-21 Apr. 1951



H1. #'s 1 and 2  
Obs. 18 Oct. 1950-10 Apr. 1951



H2. Black, Red, Blue  
Obs. 16 Jan.-10 Apr. 1951

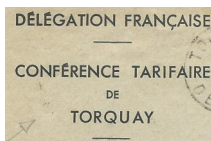


E1.

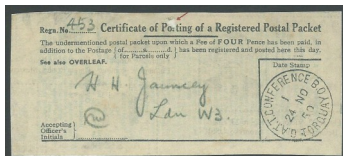


C-FR1, Violet

French Delegation



CC-FR1. Tan,  
145x113



Registry Receipt,  
24 Nov. 1950

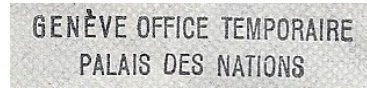
*The 5th Session of the Contracting Parties was also held at Torquay, 2 Nov.-16 Dec. 1951. The same cancels & label were used at that conference.*

Philatelic cover, \$50; Service cover, \$100; Registry label, add \$25, Registry receipt, \$25

G1956/1 4th Tariff Negotiating Conference, Geneva, 18 Jan.-23 May 1956



H1.  
Obs. 17 Jan.-28 Apr. 1956



"Office temporaire"

C1. Black, Red  
Used with H1.



Service cover to England, 27 Jan. 1956

Philatelic cover, \$12; Service cover, \$60

G1958/1 Unknown GATT Meeting, Feb. 1958



H1. Obs. 5 Feb. 1958  
"Office temporaire"



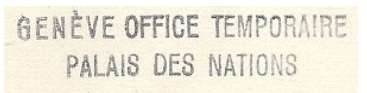
C1. Used with H1.

Philatelic cover, \$15

G1958/2 GATT-Brazil Negotiations, Geneva, Feb. 1958



H1. Obs. 14 Feb. 1958  
"Office temporaire"



C1. Used with H1.

Philatelic cover, \$15

**Other GATT Meetings, continued**

G1958/3 GATT-European Common Market Negotiations, Geneva, Apr.-May 1958



GENÈVE OFFICE TEMPORAIRE  
PALAIS DES NATIONS

H1.  
Obs. 14 Apr.-2 May 1958  
"Office temporaire"

C1. Red  
Used with H1.

Philatelic cover, \$12

G1958/4 GATT-Switzerland Negotiations, Geneva, May-Aug. 1958



GENÈVE OFFICE TEMPORAIRE  
SALLE DU CONSEIL GÉNÉRAL

H1.  
Obs. 20 May-31 Aug. 1958  
"Office temporaire"

C1.  
Used with H1.

Philatelic cover, \$12

G1960/1 5th Tariff Negotiating Conference, 1st Phase, Geneva, 1 Sep. 1960-early May 1961

G1961/1 5th Tariff Negotiating Conference, 2nd Phase, Geneva, 29 May 1961-16 July 1962

G1963/1 Ministerial Conference, Geneva, 16-21 May 1963

G1964/1 Kennedy Round of Trade Negotiations, Geneva, 4 May 1964-30 Jun. 1967

G1973/1 Ministerial Conference, Tokyo, Japan, 12-14 Sep. 1973

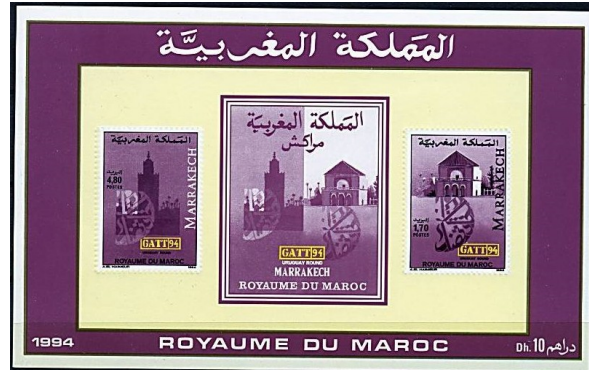
G1973/2 Tokyo Round of Trade Negotiations, Geneva, Sept. 1973-Dec. 1979

G1982/1 Ministerial Conference, Geneva, 22-30 Nov. 1982

G1986/1 Uruguay Round of Trade Negotiations, Geneva, Sep. 1986-Apr. 1994

G1988/1 Ministerial Meeting, Montreal, Canada, 5-9 Dec. 1988

1994/1 Ministerial Level Meeting of Trade Negotiating Committee, Marrakech, Morocco, 12-15 Apr. 1994



Morocco issued Sc.# 773-74 & 774A on 12 Apr. 1994



Conference Phone Card

*The Marrakech Conference declared the Uruguay Round completed.*



**WTO Ministerial Conferences**

MC.1 1st, Singapore, 9-13 Dec. 1996



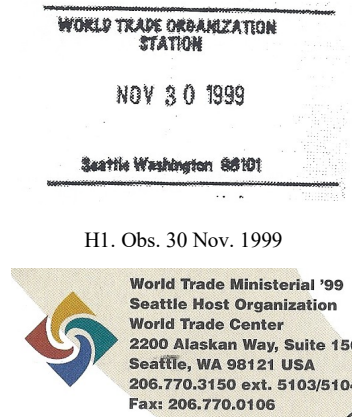
Singapore issued Sc.#770-73 on 20 Nov. 1996



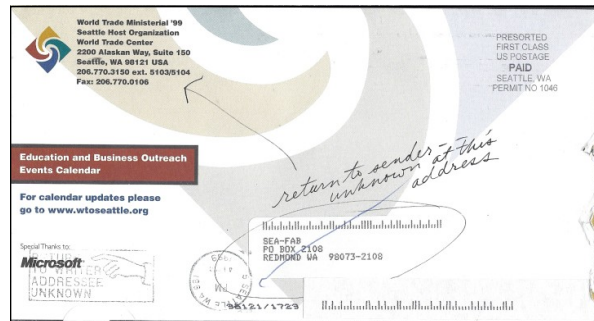
H1. First Day, 20 Nov. 1996

MC.2 2nd, Geneva, 18-20 May 1998

MC.3 3rd, Seattle, WA, USA, 29 Nov.-3 Dec. 1999



CC1. For Conference Host Organization



Service cover of Host Organization, postmarked 4 Dec. 1999 on Return.



Special cover with Conference cancel, 30 Nov. 1999



Phone Card

Metro Card

Service cover from Host Organization, \$25; Special cover with Conference cancel, \$50

*The Conference and its Post office were inaccessible to the public because of riots.*

**WTO Ministerial Conferences, continued**

MC.4 4th, Doha, Qatar, 9-14 Nov. 2001

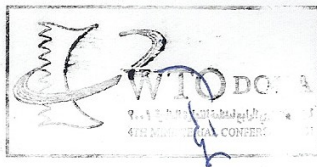


Qatar issued Sc. #952-53 on 9 Nov. 2001



H1. First Day, 9 Nov. 2001

H2. Obs. 9 Nov. 2001



M1. Publicity, Obs. 12 Nov. 2001



PC1. Post Card



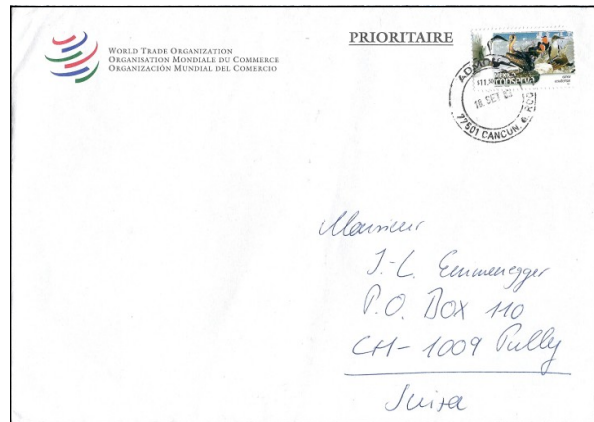
Phone Cards

Philatelic cover, \$6

MC.5 5th, Cancun, Mexico, 10-14 Sep. 2003



CC1. 225x114

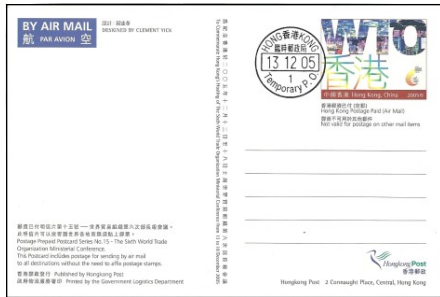


Service cover from Cancun, 18 Sep. 2003

Service cover, \$20

**WTO Ministerial Conferences, continued**

MC.6 6th, Hong Kong, 13-18 Dec. 2005

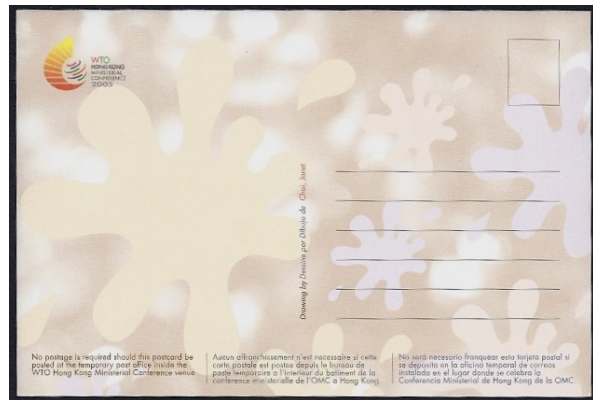


Hong Kong issued two picture postal cards on 13 Dec. 2005

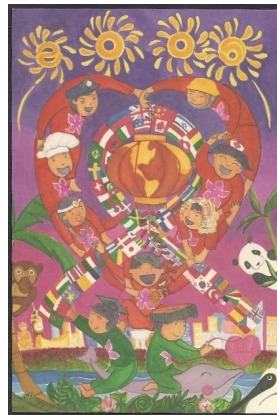


H1. Obs. 13 Dec. 2005  
"Temporary P.O."

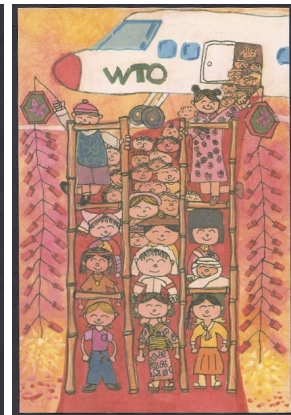
MC.6 6th, Hong Kong, 13-18 Dec. 2005, continued



Hong Kong issued ten post cards, all with this message side. Note the inscription "No postage is required should this postcard be posted at the temporary post office inside the WTO Hong Kong Conference Venue."



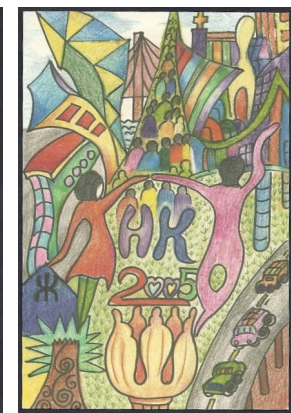
PC1.



PC2.



PC3.



PC4.

**WTO Ministerial Conferences, continued**

MC.6 6th, Hong Kong, 13-18 Dec. 2005, continued



PC5.



PC6.



PC7.

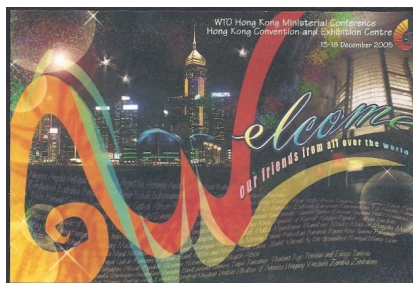


PC8.



PC9.

MC.6 6th, Hong Kong, 13-18 Dec. 2005, continued



PC10.

Mint postal card, \$5; Mint post card, \$2; Unaddressed postal card Cancelled with H1; \$10; Postal card or post card actually mailed by delegate & cancelled with H1, \$25

MC.7 7th, Geneva, 20 Nov.-2 Dec. 2009

MC.8 8th, Geneva, 15-17 Dec. 2011

MC.9 9th, Bali, Indonesia, 3-7 Dec. 2013

MC.10 10th, Nairobi, Kenya, 15-18 Dec. 2015