

NIRAMOL SUKAWATANANGKUL : THAILAND'S ATTITUDE IN URUGUAY ROUND TRADE NEGOTIATION : AIR TRANSPORT SERVICES. THESIS ADVISOR : ASSO. PROF. CHUMPNORN PACHUSANOND, Ph.D., PATTAMA TANTIRUJANANONT, 236 PP. ISBN 974-581-304-4

The objective of this research is to find out Thailand's Attitude and appropriate preparation in Uruguay Round Trade Negotiation: Air Transport Services.

As a result, it is found that the Agreement draft of GATS does have strict obligation and limitation for enforcement. The terms do not directly serve the requirements of developing countries that have diversified levels of development. Also, there is a certain sign that any interpretations would cause effects more positively to the developed countries than the developing ones. As consequence, Thailand will obtain so few benefits from such liberalization under GATS in the Air Transport Services. However, considering on other possible fields of negotiation in Uruguay Round Trade Negotiation, it is deemed necessary that Thailand does show the intention to liberalize certain activities of Air Transport Services. The activities on this respect are therefore the ones that Thai practitioners are capable and efficient enough to enter into the competition.

The initial liberalization is enforced at the certain levels permitted by Thai laws: On the matter of any increment or extension of the levels, the liberalization depends on the benefits obtained or exchanged by and requests from other country members during bilateral or multilateral negotiation after Agreement draft becomes effective.

On the part of service providers, there should have a well preparation on personnels in order to be able to cope with the facing liberalized activities. Additionally, the practitioners should be ready for all possible searches for benefits from other country members under GATS system. With regard to a legal aspect, since the attitude of GATS is not clear, Thailand is then unable to alter or revise the related laws to correspond with the defined obligations. However, possible preparation to be done is to set up more strictly rules and regulations so that there shall be firm points and basis for any further negotiation on the respective liberalization.