



WSC 2001 Zhongzhou Li

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Development & Trade Efficiency, UNCTAD
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Mr. Zhongzhou Li is Deputy Director of UNCTAD's Division for Services Infrastructure for Development and Trade Efficiency and Head of the Electronic Commerce Branch of the same division.

Mr. Li is an economist, graduated in 1965 from University of International Business and Economics, Beijing, China. From 1965 to 1978, he served in the Chinese Government as a trade diplomat.

In February 1979, Mr. Li joined the UNCTAD Secretariat as an economic affair officer, involved in research on restrictive business practices, following development in the international trading system and regularly representing UNCTAD as observer in GATT meetings, preparing UNCTAD studies on issues such as anti-dumping, countervailing measures, safeguard measures, trade-related intellectual property issues. He was also involved in the UNCTAD/UNDP Programme to assist developing countries for the effective participation in the multilateral trade negotiations.

In 1987, Mr. Li returned to government service to participate in the Uruguay Round negotiations and the negotiations on resumption of China's GATT status. He assumed the responsibility of Director of GATT Division in the Department of International Trade and Economic Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation. He played an important role in submitting policy proposals for structural reform measures to bring China's economic and trade regime into conformity with GATT/WTO and in formulating China's negotiating position. .

In 1992, he assumed the position of Deputy Director-General and two years later as Director-General of the Department of International Trade and Economic Affairs. The Department's responsibility covered UNCTAD, GATT/WTO, UNICEF, UNFPA, APEC and bilateral technical cooperation. The department was also in charge of dialogue with OECD and annual consultations with IMF in respect of trade and investment issues.

In May 1997, Mr. Li was designated as Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organizations in Switzerland. He returned to UNCTAD service in 1999.

Mr. Li was an active member of a number of academic institutions such as China International Trade Research Institute, Market Economy Research Institute, Shanghai Trade Efficiency Association, Beijing Trade Efficiency Association, National Committee of the Pacific Economic Cooperation Council. He is the author of an article entitled <Resumption of China's GATT Membership> in the Journal of World Trade Law (1987). He is also chief editor or co-author of a number of books including A Handbook on GATT and a CCTV Series - China and GATT.