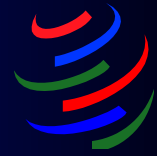




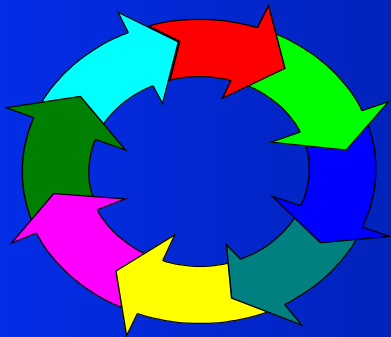
# **THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TRADE IN SERVICES (GATS) AND EDUCATION SERVICES**

**Dale Honeck  
Trade in Services Division  
World Trade Organization**

# GATS Architecture



Common to all

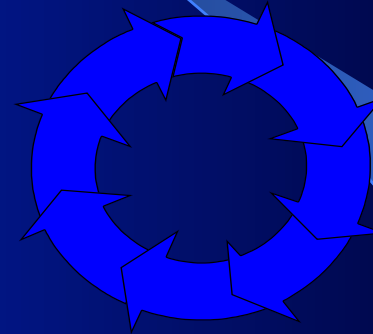


- Short text of Articles - the “Framework”

+

- Annexes

Individual



- Schedules of Commitments
- MFN Exemptions (*only at outset & if needed*)

# GATS: 4 modes of supply



## **MODE**

## **EXAMPLE (Education)**

Cross-border Trade (1)

Distance-learning programme from country A relayed in B

Consumption Abroad (2)

B's resident attends a post-graduate course in A

Commercial Presence (3)

University from A operates a training center in B

Movement of Natural Persons (4)

Professor from A gives courses in B

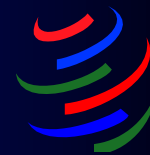


# GATS: IMPLICATIONS

Three Scenarios:

- **Scenario 1:** Governmental Services – excluded from GATS
- **Scenario 2:** No specific commitment – “unconditional” general obligations apply
- **Scenario 3:** Specific Commitments – “conditional” and “unconditional” general obligations + market access and national treatment

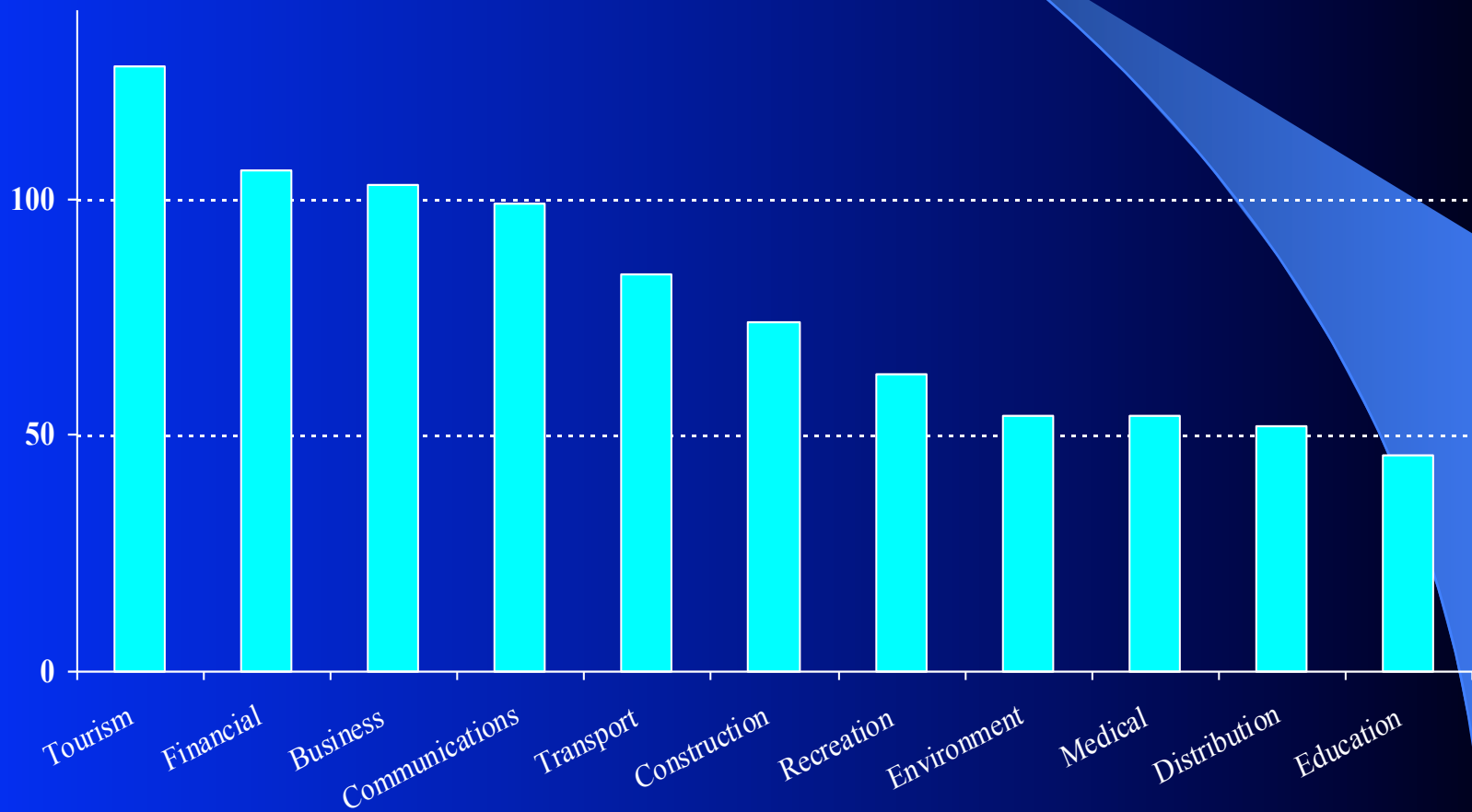
# What does a specific commitment imply ?



- Market access and national treatment, as defined by the GATS, and subject to any scheduled limitations.
- Very few full commitments scheduled for education services. Most are partial commitments.
- Commitments are bindings and not necessarily the actual trade regime.



# Specific Commitments by Sector (Number of WTO Members)





Thank you

[dale.honeck@wto.org](mailto:dale.honeck@wto.org)