

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/5174

15 July 1981

Limited Distribution

Committee on Government Procurement

MEETING OF 8-9 JULY 1981

Note by the Chairman

1. The Committee held its third meeting on 8-9 July 1981 under the chairmanship of Mr. V. Segalla (Austria).
2. The Committee welcomed the progress reported by one member towards ratification of its previous acceptance of the Agreement. It also welcomed a declaration by one observer of its intention to engage in negotiations with a view to acceding to the Agreement.
3. The Committee continued its detailed examination of national implementing legislation based on information members had submitted. The Committee agreed to retain this item on the agenda.
4. The Committee discussed questions relating to leasing and whether leasing was covered by the provisions of the Agreement or not. It agreed to pursue problems related to the scope of the Agreement at the next meeting.
5. The Chairman noted that all delegations acknowledged the need for the identification of contract notices published under the terms of the Agreement. He further noted that all delegations either presently identified or intended to do so; it was agreed to retain the item on the agenda for the next meeting.
6. The Committee turned to matters concerning taxes and customs duties and discussed in particular the treatment of taxes and duties for the purpose of determining whether a contract falls over or below the threshold of the Agreement. It agreed to revert to the matter at its next meeting.
7. The Committee requested the secretariat to circulate on its own responsibility a working document which might serve as a basis for delegations in their preparation for the annual review of the implementation and operation of the Agreement, to be held at the next meeting. In this connexion, information from Parties would have to be submitted by 20 September 1981 in order to be included in the background document.

8. The Committee agreed to derestrict the addenda to document GPR/3, containing basic documents submitted by members on the implementation and administration of the Agreement by them.

9. The Committee had a brief exchange of views on procedures for consultations under the Agreement, on certain statistical questions and heard statements concerning purchasing practices by entities not covered by the Agreement. It also noted a number of rectifications of a purely formal nature and minor amendments to the Annexes to the Agreement. Parties which had not done so were again invited to nominate as soon as possible persons who would be available for serving on panels.

10. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on 13-15 October 1981.