

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/5289

11 February 1982

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COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT

Meeting of 2-3 February 1982

Note by the Chairman

1. The Committee held its fifth meeting on 2-3 February 1982.
2. The Committee elected Mr. H. van Houtte (Belgium) as Chairman and Mr. B. Henrikson (Sweden) as Vice-Chairman.
3. The Committee noted that further consultations would be held concerning the possible accession to the Agreement of one observer. It agreed to revert to the matter at the next meeting.
4. The Committee continued its detailed examination of national implementing legislation, which it agreed to retain on the agenda for the next meeting. In the course of the examination the Committee decided that a modification and compensatory adjustment proposed by one Party in terms of Article IX:5(b) of the Agreement would be deemed agreed upon provided no objections were received by 1 March 1982.
5. The Committee continued its discussion of problems related to the scope of the Agreement and agreed to revert to the matter at the next meeting with a view to reaching a consensus on practices which might be considered as falling within the Agreement. In this connexion, the Committee invited Parties which had not yet done so to submit information on their current practices and considerations with regard to leasing and similar arrangements.
6. The Committee reverted to the question of identification of contracts falling under the Agreement. It noted that steps had been taken to permit such identification in the countries concerned.
7. The Committee noted that the position of delegations had not changed with regard to the treatment of taxes and duties for the purpose of determining whether a contract falls over or below the threshold of the Agreement. The matter remains on the Committee's agenda.
8. The Committee pursued the discussion of procedures for consultations under the Agreement, in particular whether third Parties should or might be informed by way of notification about such consultations. The issue remains on the agenda.
9. The Committee discussed certain questions concerning statistics. The Chairman reminded delegations that the statistical reports for the year 1981 should be submitted as early as possible in 1982 but at any rate in time to permit a first statistical review to take place at the next meeting. The Committee also noted rectifications of a purely formal nature and minor amendments proposed to Annex I of the Agreement, the thresholds fixed in national currencies for 1982 by Parties fixing

their amounts on a calendar year basis, the derestriction of the revised background document emanating from the 1981 Annual Review (GPR/W/9/Rev.1 & Corr.1) and the nominations by three Parties of persons available for serving on panels. Parties which had not yet done so were again invited to present names of such candidates.

10. The next meeting will be held on 3-5 November 1982.