

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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Committee on Government Procurement

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ARTICLE IX:6(b) NEGOTIATIONS:

PROPOSALS BY THE DELEGATIONS OF FINLAND, NORWAY AND SWEDEN TO IMPROVE THE AGREEMENT ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT

The delegation of Finland, on behalf of the delegations of Norway, Sweden and Finland, has submitted the following proposals for improvements in the Agreement on Government Procurement with the request that they be circulated as agreed upon by the Committee on Government Procurement.

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1. In order to allow exporters sufficient time to prepare and transmit tenders the period for the receipt of tenders in Article V:10 should be extended from thirty to forty days from the date of publication of notice of proposed purchase.
 2. Article V:3 should be amended to provide that notices of proposed purchases covered by the Agreement should be clearly identifiable in the national publication listed in Annex II by means of separate headings.
 3. Article VI:9 should be amended to include the requirement that each case, where specific derogations are made use of, shall be reported to the Committee through the GATT secretariat within thirty days of the award of the contract and that annual statistical reports by governments should include statistics on the number and value of contracts awarded under specific derogations.
 4. Article V:11 should be redrafted to read "Entities shall, except in exceptional circumstances, allow tenders to be submitted in an official GATT language of their choice, and shall, on request, favourably consider the acceptance of tenders submitted in other languages."
 5. It is important for the proper functioning of the Agreement to reduce the use of single tendering, or at least improve the transparency of single tendering procurement.
 6. Article V:10 should be redrafted in order to limit the recourse to shorter deadlines than the general deadline in the tendering procedures.