

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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Committee on Government Procurement

ARTICLE IX:6(b) NEGOTIATIONS

SUGGESTIONS ON TYPES OF SERVICE CONTRACTS THAT MIGHT BE STUDIED

Revision

It has been suggested by certain delegations that the following areas be dealt with as initial pilot studies: Accounting and Financial Systems Services, Advertising, Architectural and Consulting Engineering Services, Computer Services, Construction, Telecommunications and Transportation Services. Suggestions on other service areas to be studied are included in GPR/W/50 and GPR/W/50/Add.1.

Issues to be examined for each service sector under study

It has been suggested that the following issues be examined in each service sector under study in the context of government procurement as it relates to the objectives of the Agreement:

- I. Commercial implications for Code coverage of the service
  - A. Definition of the service sector
  - B. Current volume of procurement by signatory government of the service (based on data submissions by signatory governments and any other available information)
- II. Questions regarding the procurement of this service by government entities:
  - A. In the procurement of this service by governments, are there problems in defining the origin?
  - B. Does the procurement of this service typically involve sub-contracting?
  - C. Are there issues or ambiguities concerning the valuation of the service procurement contract, including, inter alia:
    - (1) Is the procurement of the service in some cases not the purchase of a discrete service, but rather a contract for ongoing, possibly open-ended work?
    - (2) Is the procurement of the service done in some cases through multi-year contracts?

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- (3) Is there ambiguity as to what would be considered the value of the service procurement contract?
- D. Further characteristics of government procurement of this service, such as:
- (1) What is the range of typical values of government contracts in this area? Do the bulk of purchases typically exceed a certain value?
  - (2) What is the typical time necessary in the procurement process of this service between invitation to tender and bid deadline?
- E. Are there practices that affect foreign access to government contracts in this service area?