

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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## COMMITTEE ON TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO TRADE

Meeting of 6-7 March 1986

Note from the Chairman

1. The Committee held its twenty-first meeting on 6-7 March 1986. It elected Mr. P. Kennedy (New Zealand), Chairman and Mr. D. Bondad (Philippines), Vice-Chairman, for 1986.
2. Parties informed the Committee of recent developments in their countries with regard to the implementation of various provisions of the Agreement. The Committee granted India a further extension of the exception under Article 12.8 from the obligations of Article 7.2 for a period not exceeding one year.
3. The Committee took note of further oral or written submissions by Parties outlining the procedures applied in their respective countries for determining which draft technical regulations should be notified. It also agreed to discuss at its next meeting a proposal relating to procedures at the national level for gathering information on proposed technical regulations and rules of certification systems (TBT/W/92). Further, the Committee had a first exchange of views on a proposal for an amendment to its previous recommendation on the length of time allowed for comments (TBT/W/89).
4. The Committee discussed proposals on the manner in which information on the translations of documents relating to notifications might be exchanged among Parties, and agreed to revert to the matter at its next meeting in the light of consultations to be held among interested Parties.
5. On behalf of the Committee, the Chairman gave an assurance that every effort would be made to submit proposals sufficiently in advance to allow full consideration prior to any action being taken on them.
6. The Committee continued the discussion of testing and inspection on the basis of specific proposals (TBT/W/79, TBT/W/91 and TBT/21). It also had a preliminary exchange of views on two ideas presented by one Party concerning the application to local government bodies of major obligations under the Agreement and the adoption of a code of good practice for non-governmental bodies.
7. One Party made an announcement concerning a seminar to be organized in his country on technical barriers to trade for officials from non-European developing country Parties and observers and circulated a leaflet describing the seminar and the procedures for the presentation of candidacies.
8. The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for 28-29 May 1986.