GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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COMMITTEE ON CUSTOMS VALUATION

Meeting of 30 April 1986

Note by the Chairman

1. The Committee elected Mr. P. Nicora (France) Chairman and Mr. Dong-Bai Kim (Republic of Korea) Vice-Chairman.

2. The Committee welcomed Turkey as a signatory (VAL/21) and was informed of steps taken towards ratification of the Agreement by Turkey. Argentina also informed the Committee of progress towards its ratification of the Agreement.

3. The Committee agreed to the terms of accession for Lesotho under Article 22.3 of the Agreement suggested in the annex of VAL/W/37.

4. In regard to the status of Spain and Portugal in the Agreement after their accession to the European Communities, the Committee took note of a statement giving the opinion of the legal office of the secretariat on this question.

5. The Committee was given updated information on technical assistance activities related to the Agreement.

6. The Committee took note of a detailed oral report on the eleventh meeting of the Technical Committee on Customs Valuation, held under the auspices of the Customs Cooperation Council, 3-7 March 1986, and expressed appreciation for the continued valuable work of that body.

7. The Committee completed its examination of the Canadian legislation (VAL/1/Add.17 + Supplements, VAL/2/Rev.1/Add.14, VAL/W/35). The Committee also heard statements on the legislation of Czechoslovakia (VAL/1/Add.18, VAL/2/Rev.1/Add.15) and the Republic of Korea (VAL/1/Add.19 + Supplement, VAL/2/Rev.2/Add.1) and agreed to continue the examination of these legislations at its November 1986 meeting, before which further documentation would be made available. At that meeting, the Committee has also agreed to take up the legislation of Brazil.

8. The Committee reviewed the status of application of the Committee decisions on interest charges (VAL/6/Rev.1) and computer software (VAL/8), on the basis of document VAL/W/34/Rev.1.

9. The Committee considered detailed proposals from Brazil for the retention on a limited and transitional basis of officially-established minimum values under paragraph I:3 of the Protocol (VAL/W/36). Since delegations needed more time to examine these proposals, the Committee agreed to meet on 13 June 1986 to deal with this matter in accordance with paragraph I:3 of the Protocol and further agreed that, to facilitate a decision, informal consultations would be held in advance if necessary.

10. Under "Other business", the Committee heard statements on the activities of private companies involved in the valuation of goods for customs purposes on behalf of governments.

11. Other points considered by the Committee were preparations for the next annual review of the implementation and operation of the Agreement and panelists.

12. The Committee is scheduled to meet again on 13 June and 10-11 November 1986.