

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

## TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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Committee on Government Procurement

REQUEST FOR INITIATION OF DISPUTE SETTLEMENT PROCEDURES  
UNDER ARTICLE VII:6 OF THE AGREEMENT

Communication from the United States with respect to  
Norway's Procurement of Electronic Toll Collection Equipment

Pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 6 of Article VII of the Agreement on Government Procurement, the United States Government requests a meeting of the Committee for the purpose of investigating a procurement conducted by the Government of Norway for electronic toll collection equipment in connection with the Oslo Toll Ring.

The United States believes that the practices of the Government of Norway in the procurement and award of the contract in this case have been inconsistent with Norway's obligations under the Agreement, particularly the obligations of Article II; have resulted in treatment to a United States' supplier and product which is less favourable than that accorded to domestic products and suppliers; and, therefore, nullifies and impairs benefits accruing to the United States under this Agreement.

As notified at the October meeting of the Committee to the Parties to the Agreement, this issue has been the subject of discussions between the Government of Norway and the United States for some time in bilateral consultations under paragraphs 3 and 4 of Article VII. Bilateral consultations under paragraph 4 have not resulted in a mutually satisfactory solution to the dispute. Moreover, since the contract has been awarded, and the commercial opportunity associated with this contract has already been lost, the United States believes that further bilateral consultations are unlikely to resolve the dispute. It is the hope of the United States that a mutually satisfactory solution will be facilitated through the good offices of the Committee.

The United States suggests that the requested meeting of the Committee be held on 19 January 1990.