

**GENERAL AGREEMENT  
ON TARIFFS AND TRADE**

**RESTRICTED**  
**TBT/W/184**  
**11 April 1994**  
**Special Distribution**

(94-0662)

---

**Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade**

**OPERATION OF ENQUIRY POINTS IN DIFFERENT PARTIES**

**Note by the Secretariat**

The present document contains a compendium on the operation of enquiry points in different Parties. Such consolidated information might be useful for new members setting up their enquiry points.

ENQUIRY POINT/ PARTY	CZECH REPUBLIC	FRANCE	SLOVAK REPUBLIC	SPAIN	THAILAND	UNITED KINGDOM	JAPAN	CANADA
1. Name	Czech Office for Standards, Metrology and Testing	CINORTECH	GATT Enquiry Point of Slovak Institute of Technical Standardization	S.G. Control, Inspección y Norm.. Comercio Exterior	Thailand Industrial Standards Institute (TISI), (covering national standards, technical regulations and certification system)	GATT Enquiry Point	1. Standards Information Service, Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO)*	GATT Enquiry Point - Standard Council of Canada
2. Responsible Government Agency	Ministry of Economy	AFNOR	Ministry of Economy, Office of Standards, Metrology and Testing of the Slovak Republic	Ministerio de Comercio y Turismo	Ministry of Industry	Department of Trade and Industry	Ministry of International Trade and Industry	Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Canada (FAITC)
3. Number of staff employed	2	1 (full time) 5 (15% for information)	3	5	11	1	4	4.25
4. Nature of establishment	(a) private	X	X	X	X	X	X (semi-official)	X
(b) governmental	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
5. Member of	(a) ISO	X	X	X	X	X		X
	(b) ISONET	X	X	X	X	X		X

\*Handles enquiries in connection with certain products as indicated on page 10 of TBT/W/31/Rev.10

ENQUIRY POINT/ PARTY	CZECH REPUBLIC	FRANCE	SLOVAK REPUBLIC	SPAIN	THAILAND	UNITED KINGDOM	JAPAN	CANADA
6. Facilities or services offered			X	X			X	X
(a) database								
(b) database in more than one language		X						
(c) hot line	X	X	X	X				
(d) translation			X (into Slovak language only)					X (documents are sent to a government department for translation)
7. Brochure issued for publicizing the enquiry point			X	X	X	X	X	X (currently updated)
8. Charges for services					X			
(a) providing information				X	X			
(b) providing documents				X (only for making copies)	X			
(c) hot line						X		
(d) translation								
9. Languages used			X	X		X	X	X
(a) English	X	X				X (enquiries acceptable)	X	X
(b) French								
(c) Spanish				X		X (enquiries acceptable)	X	X



ENQUIRY POINT/ PARTY	CZECH REPUBLIC	FRANCE	SLOVAK REPUBLIC	SPAIN	JAPAN	UNITED KINGDOM	CANADA
10. Responsibilities other than answering enquiries	X						
(a) notifying the GATT Secretariat under Articles 2 and 7 of the Agreement	X		X	X	X	X	X
(b) responding to comments from other Parties	X		X	X	X	X	
(c) consultation with other Parties	X		X	X	X	X	
(d) participating in preparing comments addressed to other Parties	X		X	X	X	X	
(e) other							
11. Handling of incoming notifications							
(a) announce in publication	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
(b) dissemination to interested industries or bodies	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
(c) review by special group or Committee							
(d) other							

liaison with EC GATT Enquiry Point, Brussels

providing documents in support of GATT/TBT notifications

If necessary, reviewed by ad hoc working group

Input into GATT/TBT notifications database

ENQUIRY POINT/ PARTY	CZECH REPUBLIC	FRANCE	SLOVAK REPUBLIC	SPAIN	THAILAND	UNITED KINGDOM	JAPAN	CANADA
12. Handling of incoming comments								
(a) forward to relevant governmental agencies for action	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
(b) handle by special group or committee								
(c) other								

If necessary,  
handled by ad  
hoc working  
group

pass to EC  
GATT Enquiry  
Point, Brussels