

**GENERAL AGREEMENT  
ON TARIFFS AND TRADE**

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**Interim Committee on Government Procurement**

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**QUESTIONNAIRE ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
IN GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT**

**Response by Austria**

The attached communication contains the replies from the delegation of Austria to the questionnaire on Information Technology in Government Procurement contained in document GPA/IC/W/4/Rev.1, dated 16 September 1994.

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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT

Replies received from Austria

With reference to the Secretariat's questionnaire GPA/IC/W/4/Rev.1 of 16 September 1994 on the use of information technology in public procurement, we would like to inform that Austria has adopted the legislation and procedures of the EC as a result of Austria's membership in the European Economic Area (EEA) and as a future new member of the European Union (EU). Public procurement opportunities therefore have to be advertised in the official journal of the EC, which is also available via an EC electronic data bank (TED system). This obligation applies to all levels of government for procurement under the EEA and EU treaty.

As regards government procurement under the present and future GATT Agreement, advertisements on procurement opportunities are being published in the official Government Journal "Wiener Zeitung", which is also available under the TED system.

At present, Austria does not possess an electronic central data bank which provides for a comprehensive listing of government procurement opportunities; nor are there any plans at present to establish such a system in the immediate future. Austria will therefore continue to apply the above procedures in force under the EEA and EU treaty as well as under the GATT Agreement on Government Procurement for the time being.

As concerns responsibilities for information technology among government agencies, the Department for Information-Technique-Coordination of the Federal Chancellery is charged with fundamental issues and coordination of matters concerning information technology within the Federal Ministries.

For the dissemination of information among the various Ministries, a Bulletin Board Service (BBS) operated by electronic means has been established. It provides information on planned and already effected purchases among the Ministries on a voluntary basis. Access to this BBS to suppliers is not provided.