

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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Committee on Government Procurement

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PREPARATION FOR NEGOTIATIONS FORESEEN IN ARTICLE IX:6(b) OF THE AGREEMENT

Information on Service Procurement

The following two communications, one from the delegation of Finland and one from the delegation of Norway, were made available to the Committee at its meeting on 25-26 May 1983.

Procurement of services in Finland

The Ministry for Trade and Industry has completed a comprehensive survey on services procurement by Government entities in Finland. The survey covered all entities, be they code-covered or not.

The result of the survey is that the only service contracts having significant trade value in terms of the Agreement, seem to be construction services, which are bought by certain large entities such as the National Road and Waterways Administration. Other services procured seem to be too small to be covered by the Agreement or not to lend themselves to international trade, or both.

Maintenance and repair services for data processing and mimeographic machinery could, in certain cases, become code-covered in terms of value. These services must, however, mostly be performed by the seller or leaser of the machinery, who are very often if not always the only ones to have the competence to do the work. It is therefore not probable that any service contracts in this field could be code-covered.

Procurement of services in Norway

The following should be the most important services which are traded by Norwegian entities under Government control:

- Transport and Travel Services
- Construction Services
- Consulting Services

Government procurement is also taking place for a broad range of other services, the pattern of which does not seem to differ significantly from that of other Parties of the Agreement.