

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/5782

7 March 1985

Limited Distribution

COMMITTEE ON TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO TRADE

Meeting of 26 February 1985

Note from the Chairman

1. The Committee held its eighteenth meeting on 26 February 1985. It elected Mr. B.N. Singh (India), Chairman and Mr. A.D. Bryce (Canada), Vice-Chairman, for 1985.
2. Parties reported on new measures taken by them relating to the implementation and administration of the Agreement.
3. Following a discussion of the status of signatories that have long delayed ratification of the Agreement, the Committee agreed to take up the matter in the context of the Special Meeting to be held pursuant to the action taken by the CONTRACTING PARTIES in November 1984 in relation to the MTN Agreements and Arrangements. This Special Meeting will be held on 9 May 1985.
4. The Committee granted India a one-year extension of the two-year exception under Article 12.8 in respect of the ISI Certification Marks Act. With regard to the exception of AGMARK the Committee noted that its operation had not created trade problems for other signatories and agreed to renew this exception.
5. The Committee had a preliminary discussion of questions relating to testing and inspection. It also discussed a proposal to deal with standards notifications in the Inventories of Non-Tariff Measures. It will revert to these issues at its next meeting.
6. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on 6 and 10 May 1985, in conjunction with the Third Meeting of Persons Responsible for Information Exchange (7 May 1985), an Information Meeting with developing country signatories and non-signatories (8 May 1985) and the Special Meeting (9 May 1985).