

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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2 July 1980

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COMMITTEE ON TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO TRADE

Meeting of 19 June 1980

Note from the Chairman

1. The Committee held its third meeting on Thursday 19 June 1980 under the Chairmanship of Mr. D. Newkirk (United States).
2. The Committee heard statements from a number of delegations concerning steps taken by them to implement and administer the Agreement.
3. The Committee discussed procedures for notification and recommended a format for such notifications. These procedures will be reviewed by the Committee in the context of its first annual review of the operation of the Agreement.
4. The Committee discussed the avoidance of duplication with the work of the FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission and adopted procedures to deal with this question.
5. The Committee agreed on an approach to deal with the issue of accession to the Agreement of countries which are not contracting parties to the GATT (see Annex).
6. The Committee discussed preparations for the annual review of the operation of the Agreement and agreed on arrangements for this purpose. The first annual review will take place prior to the next session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES.
7. The Committee discussed problems relating to poultry raised by one signatory, and agreed to revert to the matter at its next meeting. The Committee heard a statement by another signatory concerning problems that might result from proposed legislation and technical regulations on dangerous substances.
8. The next meeting of the Committee is to be held on 22 July 1980.

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DIVISION LINGUISTIQUE

ANNEX

PROCEDURES FOR ACCESSION OF NON-CONTRACTING
PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT ON
TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO TRADE

The Committee:

1. Notes the provisions of Article 15.3 of the Agreement and the statement on this subject accepted by the Trade Negotiations Committee at its meeting of April 1979 (MTN/P/5, paragraphs 2, 4 and 9),
2. Agrees that any non-contracting party which wished to negotiate for accession to the Agreement under Article 15.3 would indicate this fact in a letter addressed to the Chairman of the Committee, a copy of which would also be sent to the GATT secretariat,
3. Agrees that negotiations for the accession of such governments would be conducted on a case-by-case basis, and
4. Agrees that documents TBT/W/4 and TBT/W/6 could be taken into account in any such negotiations.