

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/5459

17 February 1983

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COMMITTEE ON TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO TRADE

Meeting of 10 February 1983

Note from the Chairman

1. The Committee held its twelfth meeting on 10 February 1983. It re-elected Mr. K. Bergholm (Finland), Chairman, and Mr. D. Bondad (Philippines), Vice-Chairman for 1983.
2. The Committee welcomed Czechoslovakia and India as new signatories to the Agreement. The Committee adopted an Understanding reached between India and the Parties to the Agreement which contained a request for an exception under the provisions of Article 12.8 of the Agreement.
3. The Committee concluded its first three-year review of the operation and implementation of the Agreement in accordance with Article 15.9. In this context the Committee reverted to a number of proposals circulated in documents TBT/11, TBT/12, TBT/13, TBT/14 and TBT/15. The Committee agreed (a) to hold regular meetings on information exchange (b) to recommend that Parties effectively provide forty-five days for comments and look favourably to requests for extension of the comment period, and (c) that representatives of regional standardizing and certifying bodies may be invited to make presentations to the Committee. A number of other proposals remain under discussion, to be taken up as needed as separate issues at future meetings of the Committee.
4. The Committee discussed the arrangements for the next meeting on information exchange including persons responsible for enquiry points based on a discussion paper (TBT/15) and a note by the secretariat (TBT/W/53). It agreed to hold this meeting on 16 May 1983, in conjunction with the next meeting of the Committee.
5. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on 17-18 May 1983.