

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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17 November 1983

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COMMITTEE ON CUSTOMS VALUATION

Meeting of 10-11 November 1983

Note by the Chairman

1. The Committee held its eighth meeting on 10-11 November 1983.
2. The Committee agreed on terms of accession for Botswana in accordance with Article 22.3 of the Agreement.
3. The Committee took note of statements on technical assistance being given to developing countries, both Parties and non-Parties, in connection with the Agreement.
4. The Committee continued its examination of national implementing legislation on the basis of texts of national legislation and information members had submitted in written replies to points contained in a checklist of issues. At this meeting, it focussed in particular on the legislation of Australia, which had recently accepted the Agreement.
5. The Committee took note of a detailed oral report on the sixth meeting of the Technical Committee on Customs Valuation, held on 12-16 September 1983. It agreed to place a question raised by the Technical Committee relating to the linguistic consistency between the English, French and Spanish texts of the term "development" in Article 8.1(b)(iv) on the agenda of its next meeting.
6. The Committee further considered the question of collecting additional and more uniform information on the use by Parties of the various valuation methods provided for under the Agreement on the basis of recommendations for a common methodology made by the Technical Committee (VAL/W/17). It agreed that a new data collection exercise should be postponed until additional countries were applying the Agreement. It decided to revert to this question at an appropriate future meeting.
7. The Committee continued its consideration of proposals for decisions to clarify the treatment of interest charges for deferred payment in the customs valuation of imported goods and the valuation of computer software (VAL/W/14/Rev.1). It had before it a further revision of the proposal on the treatment of interest charges for deferred payment (VAL/W/13/Rev.2). The Committee agreed to revert to these questions at its next meeting, in the light of the further informal consultations between interested parties expected to take place in the meantime.

8. The Committee considered a matter raised by the Technical Committee regarding the time standard for test values under Article 1.2(b) of the Agreement (VAL/W/18). The Committee requested the Technical Committee to pursue the formulation of an agreed text along the lines of that indicated in the report of the third session of the Technical Committee.

9. The Committee conducted its annual review of the implementation and operation of the Agreement. The results of this review will be contained in document VAL/W/21/Rev.1.

10. The next meetings of the Committee are scheduled for 26-27 April and 8-9 November 1984.