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GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

Committee on Import Licensing

Original: English

INFORMATION ON IMPLEMENTATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE AGREEMENT

The following communication has been received from the delegation of India.

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1. As the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures has come into force for India on 10 August 1980, I am enclosing a Note on "Information on implementation and administration of the MTN Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures" giving information on the various points mentioned in the Secretariat Note No. LIC/W/1 dated 31 March 1980.

2. In accordance with Articles 1.4 and 5.4 of the Agreement, I am also forwarding to you a copy each of the Import Policy Book for 1980-81 and Hand Book of Import-Export Procedures for 1980-81 issued by the Department of Commerce, Government of India.[1]

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1. Article 1.4

The rules and all information concerning procedures for the submission of applications, and the lists of products subject to the licensing requirements are published by the Government of India in the beginning of every financial year in the Import Policy Book and the Hand Book of Import-Export Procedures. Further amendments are effected through Public Notices.

A copy each of the Import Policy Book for 1980-81 and the Hand Book of Import-Export Procedures, 1980-81 as well as the Public Notices issued so far have been separately sent to the GATT secretariat.

2. Articles 3(c) and 3(d)

Government of India do not restrain imports through maintenance of quotas for products.

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[1]These documents are available for consultation by delegations in the Technical and Other Barriers to Trade Division, Room 1073, Centre William Rappard.

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3. Article 3(e)

The Import Policy Book and the Hand Book of Import Export Procedures are published simultaneously along with the announcement of Import Policy at the beginning of every financial year and these books contain information regarding the rules and all information concerning procedures for the submission of applications and list of products subject to licensing.

4. Article 5.4

The existing statutory authority on which the current import controls are based is the Import and Exports (Control) Act, 1947. Under this Act, the Government of India has notified the Imports (Control) Order No. 17/55 dated 7 December 1955. The above Act and Order are published as Appendices 1 and 2 of the Hand Book of Import-Export Procedures, 1980-81. A copy of this book has already been sent to the GATT secretariat.

No amendment is required in the existing laws and procedures to bring them in conformity with the provisions of the Agreement.