

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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Special Distribution

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Committee on Import Licensing

Original: English

## INFORMATION ON IMPLEMENTATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE AGREEMENT

### Addendum

The following communication under Article 5.4(b) has been received from the delegation of New Zealand.

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With respect to Article 5.4 of the Agreement on Import Licensing, we wish to notify that in terms of the Trade and Industry Amendment Act 1980, the New Zealand Government intends to introduce in January 1981 an Import Licensing Tendering Scheme.<sup>1</sup> This Scheme will operate separately from and in addition to the existing Import Licensing System. It will provide additional licences by means of tender in the general area of consumer goods, which hitherto have been subject to relatively strict import licensing control. The Scheme is intended to operate initially for two years with a total licence allocation of up to \$NZ 18 million in 1981 with a slight increase in 1982. The objective of the Scheme is described in a statement made in the 1979 budget when the Scheme was announced. The budget stated, inter alia, that there remained a significant band of consumer goods industries for which studies had been completed and long term tariff rates introduced. While the balance-of-payments constraint precluded any significant expansion of import provisions in these areas, it was appropriate that some modest additional allocation be made to provide a basis against which their performance could be evaluated. The additional licences could be made available progressively by tender in order that they may be directed to those areas in which demand were greatest.

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<sup>1</sup>The List of goods included in the Import Licence Tendering Scheme, together with a guide to this Scheme (in English), will be forwarded to the secretariat, where they will be available for consultation (office No. 1073, Centre William Rappard).