

**GENERAL AGREEMENT ON  
TARIFFS AND TRADE**

RESTRICTED

L/5606

10 February 1984

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COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT

Meeting of 1-2 February 1984

Note by the Chairman

1. The Committee met on 1-2 February 1984.
2. It elected Mr. B. Henrikson (Sweden) as Chairman and Mr. A. Stoler (United States) as Vice-Chairman.
3. Under the item dealing with accession of further countries to the Agreement, the Committee heard a statement by one observer concerning the need for flexibility and transparency in order to facilitate accession of developing countries.
4. As usual, the Committee examined general and specific questions relating to national implementation and administration of the Agreement during which a number of questions concerning individual countries were raised.
5. In the framework of the Article IX:6(b) negotiations the Committee:
  - (a) heard general statements, inter alia, with respect to the participation of observers. One Party stated as its understanding, and no contrary views were held, that the agreed procedures for participation of observers in the negotiations implied that if an observer wished to become participant on the basis of an entity offer presented prior to the negotiations, it should notify the Committee to this effect. In doing so, the observer would undertake the same requirements as the Parties had undertaken in respect to the submission of information on entities and other aspects of the negotiations;
  - (b) on the basis of suggestions tabled by Parties, started the process of identifying issues to be taken up in relation to improvements of the Agreement;
  - (c) noted that some information which Parties had been invited to provide in respect of certain matters was still outstanding, exchanged information in some of these areas and discussed, without reaching agreement, a suggestion to collect further data; and
  - (d) addressed the question of the launching of further studies on certain types of service contracts, in the light of preparatory work and further suggestions tabled and arguments made at the meeting; it was agreed to hold informal consultations on the modalities for initiating any studies in this area.

6. The Committee agreed to establish a practical guide to the Agreement and that as a first step the secretariat would start the preparations on the basis of information already available to it and make a progress report at the next meeting.

7. Suggestions by one Party concerning national enterprises were commented upon and the matter will be reverted to at the next meeting.

8. Parties who had not yet done so were invited to submit names of panel candidates and threshold figures expressed in national currencies for 1984. It was noted that the revised background document emanating from the third annual review (GPR/18) had become derestricted.

9. The Committee agreed to hold its next meetings on 10-13 April and 19-21 June 1984.