GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED
L/5649
30 July 1984
Limited Distribution

DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S FINANCIAL REPORT ON THE 1983 ACCOUNTS

and

REPORT OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR THEREON

LIRECTOR-GENERAL'S FINANCIAL REPORT ON THE 1983 ACCOUNTS OF THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

1. The Director-General hereby submits his report on the accounts of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade for the financial year ended 31 December 1983. Since 1 January 1973 the annual accounts have been presented in Swiss francs.

GENERAL FUND

Income and Expenditure Account

(Statements 1 and 2)

(i) Expenditure

- 2. Appropriations for the financial year 1983 were approved at a level of Sw F 48,559,000. Subsequently, supplementary appropriations totalling Sw F 1,078,000 were approved to cover additional requirements arising from decisions taken at the Session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES, held at Ministerial level, in November 1982 (L/5460). Total appropriations thus amounted to Sw F 49,637,000. As shown in Statement 1, obligations incurred during the year totalled Sw F 47,793,670, leaving an unencumbered balance of Sw F 1,843,330.
- 3. The Council approved transfers of Sw F 33,070 which were necessary in order to cover excess expenditure over approved appropriations incurred in Part I Section 2 Meetings of the Council and other meetings, in Part IV Section 12 Commercial Policy Training Courses and in Part V Section 13 Contribution to the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT.
- 4. In connection with the running of the staff canteen, subsidies in the form of free accommodation, electricity, heating, water supply, insurance premiums, etc., were charged to the relevant budget items in 1983. In addition expenditure of Sw F 5,614 was incurred for the purchase and maintenance of canteen equipment.

(ii) Income

(a) Contributions

5. At the adoption of the income budget, 1983 contributions were assessed on contracting parties in the amount of Sw F 48,538,000. Subsequently, contributions were assessed on Belize (Sw F 58,250) and Maldives (Sw F 58,250) on their accession. Of the total amount of Sw F 48,654,500, collections as at 31 December 1983 amounted to Sw F 45,551,719.

(b) Miscellaneous income

6. For 1983, miscellaneous income amounted to Sw F 998,393 against an estimate of Sw F 1,099,000. The details, compared with those of 1982, are as follows:

	1982 Sw F	1983 Sw F
Interest on investments	206,406	128,535
Sale of publications	79,967	82,411
Profit or loss on exchange	(19,148)	(70,437)
Savings on previous year's outstanding obligations	148,466	141,682
Refund of the organization's contribution to the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund in respect of participants' withdrawals	64,069	5,179
Refund of staff costs for staff employed at Centre William Rappard on behalf of other occupants	456,598	528,309
Overhead on trust fund for special training courses	30,396	•••
Rental of meeting rooms and office space at Centre William Rappard to others	17,150	19,250
Other income	71,460	163,464
	1,055,364	998,393

7. Other income for 1983 comprises the following:

	Swiss francs
Interest on bank current account and other interest	2,070
Refund of prior year's expenditure	154,614
Work done for delegations and others	393
Miscellaneous items	$\frac{6,387}{163,464}$
	103,404

Surplus Account

(Statement 3)

8. The excess of 1983 income over budgetary expenditure amounted to Sw F 1,859,223 and an amount of Sw F 1,116 was credited to the Surplus Account in respect of the revaluation of outstanding contributions assessed in US dollars. However, as Sw F 1,556,572 had been repaid to

the Working Capital Fund in respect of the advance made in 1982 to cover the accumulated deficit at 31 December 1982 and it was also necessary to increase the provision for all contracting parties' contributions in arrears by Sw F 1,529,825 to cover the increased level of such arrears at 31 December 1983, a transfer of Sw F 1,226,058 from the Working Capital Fund was required to meet the accumulated Surplus Account deficit at 31 December 1983.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

(Statement 4)

(i) Assets

(a) Cash at banks

9. Cash at bank and postal cheque accounts amounted to Sw F 1,486,945 at 31 December 1983. The policy of the secretariat is to maintain in bank current accounts only sufficient funds to meet immediate needs, in order to maximize earnings from interest on investments. The relatively high level of funds available on current account at 31 December 1983 is due to the receipt during the year-end holiday, when the secretariat was closed, of substantial remittances of contracting parties' contributions.

(b) Investments

10. At 31 December 1983 investments held in interest-bearing deposit accounts and on 48-hour call totalled Sw F 1,408,082, the entirety of which related to the Working Capital Fund (Schedule A).

(c) Contributions receivable from contracting parties

11. Contributions receivable from contracting parties amounted to Sw F 7,971,931 at 31 December 1983 as shown in Schedule B. Contributions in respect of financial years 1969 to 1972 were assessed in US dollars and the amount still due was US\$ 22,312. This amount, recorded at 31 December 1983 at the internal accounting rate of Sw F 2.18 to US\$ 1, equalled Sw F 48,640. An amount of Sw F 7,923,291 was due at 31 December 1983 in respect of the financial years 1973 to 1983.

(d) Miscellaneous accounts receivable

12. Miscellaneous accounts receivable at 31 December 1983 totalled Sw F 1,217,307. This amount included outstanding invoices in respect of sales of publications and services rendered totalling Sw F 314,242 and advances to staff members in respect of education grants of Sw F 272,710 and travel and subsistence allowance of Sw F 39,067. Miscellaneous items amounted to Sw F 591,288 which included advance payment of insurance premiums, recoverable Swiss Federal taxes, prepaid 1984 expenditure, recoverable deposits on accommodation and telephones for participants in GATT Commercial Policy Training Courses, etc.

(ii) Liabilities

(a) Miscellaneous accounts payable

13. Miscellaneous accounts payable at 31 December 1983 amounted to Sw F 204,200. This included amounts held in respect of national income tax refunds (Sw F 145,535), for payment to staff members and their dependents in respect of insurance compensation (Sw F 4,284), for rental and cleaning of accommodation held on behalf of participants in GATT Commercial Policy Training Courses (Sw F 13,640), for telephone bills (Sw F 15,559), for use of computer facilities (Sw F 6,977), for the purchase of microfiches (Sw F 9,578) and miscellaneous items (Sw F 8,627).

(b) Provision for losses and returns in respect of publications sales

14. Irrecoverable debts in respect of publications sales, amounting to Sw F 1,439, were written off in 1983 against this provision.

(c) Provision for contributions in arrears

15. Sw F 7,971,931 covered all contributions in arrears as at 31 December 1983. Contributions in arrears relating to financial years 1969 to 1972 are payable in US dollars (see paragraph 11) and provision has been made with respect to the arrears for these years at the rate of Sw F 2.18 to US\$ 1.

(d) Trainees' accommodation fund

16. An amount of Sw F 3,188, representing accrued interest, was credited in 1983 to this Fund, which was created in 1982 from extra-budgetary sources to cover excess accommodation costs for participants in GATT Commercial Policy Training Courses. Excess accommodation costs totalling Sw F 1,247 in respect of training courses held in 1983 were charged against the Fund. The balance of this Fund amounts to Sw F 93,022 as at 31 December 1983.

WORKING CAPITAL FUND

(Statement 5)

- 17. The principal of the Working Capital Fund stood at Sw F 2,831,003 at 31 December 1983. Sw F 1,435,884, of which Sw F 126,586 represented interest earned on investments in 1983, was held to the credit of GATT. Sw F 1,395,119 represented advances made by contracting parties and was held to their credit.
- 18. In addition, an amount of Sw F 54,546 resulting from the revised assessment in 1965 of advances to the Fund (L/2482) remained to the credit of governments' accounts.
- 19. An amount of Sw F 1,226,058 was required to cover the accumulated deficit on the General Fund at 31 December 1983. The authority contained in document L/756, paragraph 10, of 27 November 1957, stipulates that subsequent receipts of outstanding contributions are to be credited to the Working Capital Fund to the extent necessary to reimburse the advance made.

TRUST FUND

(Statement 6)

20. A special Seminar on Trade Policy in the ESCAP region was held at Bangkok in September 1983 under the financial sponsorship of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany. Payments totalling Sw F 161,725 had been incurred at 31 December 1983 against the amount of Sw F 229,000 received from the sponsor government and interest on investments of Sw F 1,104 had accrued at that date. The unexpended balance of Sw F 68,379 was held in a trust fund at 31 December 1983.

NON-EXPENDABLE EQUIPMENT

21. The value at cost at the time of acquisition through the GATT budget of furniture, equipment (other than minor items) and vehicles still in use amounted to Sw F 5,571,169 at 31 December 1983, as noted on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities (Statement 4).

(Signed)
Arthur Dunkel
·Director-General

(Signed)

E. von Holzen
Director
Administrative and Financial Division

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THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1983

General

1. In accordance with decisions of the CONTRACTING PARTIES, the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations are, as far as appropriate and for the time being, applied to the financial administration of the secretariat to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. My examination has been carried out in accordance with those regulations and rules and with the financial Resolutions and Decisions of the CONTRACTING PARTIES.

Outturn in 1983

- 2. Appropriations originally authorized by the CONTRACTING PARTIES for 1983 amounted to Sw F 48,559,000, to be financed by contributions of Sw F 47,460,000 and estimated miscellaneous income of Sw F 1,099,000. During the year the CONTRACTING PARTIES approved a supplementary appropriation of Sw F 1,078,000, to be financed by the assessment of additional contributions, bringing total appropriations to Sw F 49,637,000. The supplementary appropriation was mainly to meet additional secretariat costs expected to arise from new activities following the decisions taken at the Ministerial Meeting held in November 1982.
- 3. The total expenditure of Sw F 47,793,670 was within the original budgetary appropriation and left an unobligated balance of Sw F 1,843,330 (Statement 1). Excess expenditure of Sw F 33,070 incurred under Sections 2, 12 and 13 of the budget was met by authorized transfers of savings under Sections 1, 7, 8 and 9. The appropriation of Sw F 200,000 for unforeseen expenditure under Part III of the budget was not drawn upon.
- 4. The budgetary saving of Sw F 1,843,330 was partly offset by a shortfall in miscellaneous income of Sw F 100,607. Unbudgeted contributions of Sw F 116,500 assessed on two new contracting parties brought the excess of income over expenditure for the year to Sw F 1,859,223. This was transferred to the Surplus Account (Statement 3).
- 5. Statement 3 shows that, after increasing the provision for contributions in arrears by Sw F 1,529,825 and taking credit for a small gain of Sw F 1,116 on revaluation of outstanding dollar contributions, the accumulated deficit carried forward at the end of the year amounted to Sw F 1,226,058. As Statement 5 shows this deficit, which reflects a decrease of Sw F 330,514 from the deficit brought forward from 1982, was met by an advance from the Working Capital Fund.

Outstanding Contributions

6. Contributions outstanding at 31 December 1983 totalled Sw F 7,971,931. This was Sw F 1,529,825 more than at 31 December 1982 and the provision against non-payment of contributions (shown in Statement 4) was increased correspondingly.

Losses

7. I have examined the circumstances of the write-off of irrecoverable debts totalling Sw F 1,439 referred to in paragraph 14 of the Director-General's Financial Report. I am satisfied with the information and explanations which I have obtained.

Supplies, Equipment and Stock Records

- 8. Test examinations of the supplies, equipment and stock records maintained by the Organization have been carried out by my staff with generally satisfactory results.
- 9. I wish to record my appreciation of the willing co-operation given by the officers of the Organization during my audit.

(Signed)

Gordon Downey
(Comptroller and Auditor General, United Kingdom)
External Auditor

OF THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1983

I have examined the appended financial statements, numbered 1 to 6, of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade for the year ended 31 December 1983. I have obtained all the information and explanations that I have required, and I certify, as a result of the audit, that, in my opinion, the financial statements are correct.

(Signed)

Gordon Downey
(Comptroller and Auditor General, United Kingdom)
External Auditor

CENERAL ACREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

STATEMENT 1

Statement of Budgetary Expenditure 1983 (in Swiss franca)

	Original Appropriations (L/5380)	Supplementary Appropriations (1,/5460)	Autho: fzed Transfers	Revised Appropriations	Expenditure	Balances	
PART I - MEETINGS							
	20,000	ŧ	(1,669)	12,331	12,331	ī	
 Meetings of the Council and other meetings TOTAL PART I 	196,000	B ALLEY productions	13.436	217,125	217,125	:	
PART II - SECRETARIAT	Audio oblikupy meta sopieli			Angelia and a statement			
Section 3. Salaries and wages and official missions 4. Common staff costs 5. Common services 6. Printing 7. Representation and hospitality 8. Public information 9. Permanent equipment 10. Contribution to a staff assistance fund TOTAL PART II	26,700,000 6,984,000 4,605,000 410,000 125,000 5,000 209,000 39,058,000	763,000 129,500 60,000 - 22,500	(20,430) (4,912) (59)	27,463,000 7,113,500 4,665,000 410,000 104,570 231,441 20,000	26,358,276 6,863,670 4,447,391 345,470 97,933 88 231,441	1,104,724 249,830 217,609 64,530 6,637 -	
PART III - UNFORESEEN EYPENDITURE Section 11. Unforeseen expenditure	200,000	2		200,000	1	200,000	
PART IV - CUMERCIAL POLICY TRAINING COURSES Section 12. Commercial Policy Training Courses	000,009	103,000	129	703,129	703,:29		
PART V - INTERMATIONAL TRADE CENTRE UNCTAD/GATT Section 13. Contribution to the international Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT GRAND TOTAL	48,59,000	1,078,000	11,816	49,637,000	8,496,816	1,843,330	Page 11

(Signed)
Arthur Dunke:
Director-General

(Signed)

E. von Holzen
Director
Administrative and Financial Division

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STATEMENT 2

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

Income and Expenditure Account for the Year ended 31 December 1983 (in Swiss francs)

INCOME

EXPENDITURE

1983 Budget Expenditure (Statement 1)	47,793,670	Contributions assessed on contracting parties		48,538,000
expenditure (Statement 3)	1,859,223	Contributions assessed on two contracting parties subsequent to the adoption of the scale of contributions	ties	116,500
		Miscellaneous:		
		Interest on investments	128,535	
		Sale of publications	82,411	٠
		Loss on exchange	(70,437)	
		Savings on previous year's outstanding obligations	141,682	
		Refund of the Organization's contribution to the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund in respect of participants' withdrawals	5,179	
		Refund of staff costs for staff employed at Centre William Rappard on behalf of other occupants	528,309	
		Rental of meeting rooms and office space at Centre William Rappard to others	19,250	
		Other income	163,464	000
	49,652,893			49,652,893
			(Signed)	
Arthur Dunkel Director-General		Adm	E. von Holzen Director Administrative and Financial Division	al Division

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

Surplus account for the year ended 31 December 1983 (in Swiss francs)

CREDITS

DEBITS

1,859,223	1,116	1,226,058	3,086,397
Excess of income over expenditure in 1983 (Statement 2)	Revaluation of outstanding contributions assessed in US dollars	Accumulated deficit carried forward	
	7/2,026,1	1,529,825	3,086,397
Balance at 1 January 1983:	Accumulated deficit brought forward increase of provision for all	contributions in arrears	

(Signed)

E. von Holzen
Director
Administrative and Financial Division

Arthur Dunkel Director-General (Signed)

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 December 1983 (in Swiss francs)

GENERAL FUND

LIABILITIES	Miscellaneous accounts payable	Contributions paid in advance	Reserve for 1983 obligations outstanding as at 31 December 1983	Provision for losses or returns in respect	or publication sales	Provision for contributions in arrears	Trainees accommodation fund	Due to Working Capital Fund	
	2,000	1,486,945	7,971,931	1,217,307	1,226,058				11,907,241
ASSETS	Cash in hand	Cash at bank and postal cheque accounts	Contributions receivable from contracting parties (Schedule B)	Miscellaneous accounts receivable	Deficit on surplus account (Statement 3)				

15,000

7,971,931

93,022

1,226,058

11,907,241

204,200

1,161,094

1,235,936

NOTES: 1) Furniture, equipment and vehicles are charged to the budget at time of purchase; the value at cost of items still held at 31 December 1983 was Sw F 5,571,169

2) Stocks of publications, for sale and free distribution, and of other expendable stores were also held.

(Signed)

Arthur Dunkel Director-General

Administrative and Financial Division E. von Holzen Director

(Signed)

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

							2,831,003		54,546	2,885,549
						1,435,884	1,395,119			
83					1,309,298	126,586			(2482)	
Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 December 1983 (in Swiss francs)	WORKING CAPITAL FUND	LIABILITIES	Principal of Fund:	Sums held to the credit of GATT:	Balance at 1 January 1983	Interest on investments in 1983	Advances made by contracting parties	Accounts payable:	The to contracting parties (document ${ m L/2482})$	
Statement of			214,483	36,926	1,408,082	1,226,058				2,885,549
		ASSETS	Cash at banks	Receivable from contracting parties	Investments (Schedule A)	Advance to cover accumulated deficit				

(Signed)
Arthur Dunkel
Director-General

(Signed)

E. von Holzen
Director
Administrative and Financial Division

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

TRUST FUND FOR SEMINAR ON TRADE POLICY IN THE ESCAP REGION

Statement of Account as at 31 December 1983 (in Swiss francs)

	229,000	1,104	(161,725)	68,379		11,630	
GERKANY	Funds received	Interest on investments	Less: Payments made	Balance available as at 31 December 1983	Represented by:	Accounts receivable	

56,749

(Signed)
Arthur Dunkel
Director-General

(Signed)

E. von Holzen
Director
Administrative and Financial Division

Schedule A

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

Investments held on 31 December 1983

Swiss francs

Deposit accounts with Scandinavian Bank in Switzerland, Geneva:

300,000 8% due 5 January 1984

1,104,849 4 3/8% due 16 January 1984

Call account with Scandinavian Bank in Switzerland, Geneva:

3,233 2% 48-hour call

1,408,0821/

(Signed)

Arthur Dunkel
Director-General

(Signed)

E. von Holzen
Director
Administrative and Financial Division

 $[\]frac{1}{}$ of which entire amount against Working Capital Fund

SCHEDULE B/ETAT B/CUADRO B

STATERENT OF OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS AS AT 31 DECEMBER 1983/ETAT DES ARRIERES DE CONTRIBUTIONS AU 31 DECEMBRE 1983 CONTRIBUCIONES PENDIENTES AL 31 DE DICIEMBRE DE 1983

Country/Pays/País	US dollars/Dollars des Etats-Unis/Dólares EEUU		Swiss fra	ncs/Francs su	Swiss francs/Francs suisses/Francos suizos	sozins	
	1969/1972	1973/1979		1981	1982	1983	Total 1973/1983
Argentina/Argentine		•	•	•		4,850	4,850
Belize/Belice	• • •	• •	• •		51.738	58,250	58,250
Burundi	•	116,495	46,800	48,480	53,170	58,250	323,195
centrafricaine/República Centroafricana	•	144,422	46,800	48,480	53,170	58,250	351,122
Congo, People's Republic/	1969/1972 15,815	258,700	46,800	48,480	53,170	58,250	465,400
Congo, República Popular		686,45	46,800	48,480	53,170	58,250	251,689
Dominican Renublic/Rénublique Dominicatos/		•	•	•		07/1/	07/1/
República Dominicana	1971/1972 6,497	258,700	46,800	48,480	53,170	58,250	465,400
Gambia/Gambie		112.273	46.800	. 48.480	53,170	18,367	18,367
Ghana			•	27,507	52,170	58,250	138,927
Greece/Grèce/Grecia	•	•	•	•	•	22,296	22,296
Guyana/Guyane Haiti/Haiti/Haiti	• • •	75,425		. 48,480	53,170	58,250 58,250	58,250
	•	•	•	•	•	5,930	5,930
Lvory coast/cote d Ivoire/Costa de Marili Kampuchea, Democratic/Kampuchea	•	•	•	•	•	70,844	26,844
démocratique/Kampuchea Democrática	•	245,306	46,800	48,480	53,170	58,250	452,006
Madagascar	• •	• • •	• •	•	33,713	58,250 58,250	58,250 91,963
Malaysia/Malaisie/Malasia	•	•	•	•	•	330,050	330,050
Maldives/Maldivas	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	158,719	. 46,800	. 48,480	53,170	58,250 58,250	58,250 365,419

	Total 1973/1983	431,038 70,038 381,250 49,897	519,350 172,628 412,100	17,030 165,859 98,911 1,940	9,217 301,370 273,709 58,250	354,320 159,700 111,420	7,923,291	48,640		L/5 Pag
os suízos	1983	58,250 58,250 92,220 49,897	519,350 58,250 58,250	17,030 58,250 58,250 1,940	9,217 58,250 58,250 58,250	354,320 58,250 58,250	3,102,781	•		
sulsses/Francos sulzos	1982	53,170 11,788 66,470	. 53,170 53,170	53,170 40,661	53,170	53,170	1,161,430	nt à/		Division
francs/Francs s	1881	48,480	48,480	48,480	48,480	48,280	879,747	EU, équivalant	(Signed)	von Holzen Director nd Financial
Swiss fr	1980	46,800	12,728	5,959	46,800	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	697,287	par dollar EU,	(Si	E. von Holzen Director Administrative and Financial Division
	1973/1979	224,338	205,400		94,670	• • • •	2,082,046	EU à 2,18 FS		Admin
US dollars/Dollars des Etats-Unis/Dolares EEUU	1969/1972						22,312	itvalent to / 22.312 dollars EU lolar, que equivalen a		
Country/Pays/País		Nicaragua Niger/Niger Peru/Pérou/Perú	Poland/Pologne/Polonia	Spain/Espagne/España Tanzania/Tanzania Togo Tunisia/Tunisie/Túnez	Turkey/Turquie/Turquia	Yugosiavia/Yougoslavie	TOTAL	US\$22,312 at Sw F 2.18 to US\$1 equivalent to / 22.3 22.312 dólares EE.UU a 2,18 FS por dolar, que equival	(Signed)	Arthur Dunkel Director-General

ANNEX

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- 1. Following decisions by the CONTRACTING PARTIES, the accounts of GATT are, as far as appropriate and for the time being, maintained in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, as supplemented or modified by financial Resolutions and Decisions of the CONTRACTING PARTIES.
- 2. The accounts are maintained on a fund basis. A General Fund and Working Capital Fund, supplemented when appropriate by Trust Funds, have been established in accordance with Article VI of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations.
- 3. The financial period consists of one calendar year.
- 4. The accounts are maintained and contributions are assessed in Swiss francs. Assets or liabilities in other currencies are converted to Swiss francs at the official United Nations internal accounting rate of exchange.
- 5. Gains or losses on exchange are added to or deducted from miscellaneous income.
- 6. Income, including contributions assessed on contracting parties, and expenditure are accounted for on an accrual basis.
- 7. The surplus for the financial year is at the disposal of the CONTRACTING PARTIES.
- 8. Provisions are made for the entire amount of contributions receivable from contracting parties and for losses and returns in respect of publications sales. A reserve is maintained for all outstanding obligations at the end of the financial year.
- 9. Fixed assets purchased during the financial year are charged to the budget at the time of purchase. The value at cost of items still held in inventory is recorded in a note on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

(Signed)

Arthur Dunkel
Director-General

(Signed)

E. von Holzen
Director
Administrative and Financial Division