

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/5969

20 March 1986

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## COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT

Meeting of 27 February 1986

### Note by the Chairman

1. The Committee met on 27 February 1986.
2. It elected Mr. Y. Ikeda (Japan) as Chairman and Mr. E. Contestabile (Switzerland) as Vice-Chairman.
3. The Chairman informed the Committee of statements Parties had made in the Preparatory Committee concerning the Agreement on Government Procurement. The Committee heard a number of statements, including one by an observer, concerning the present status in the Article IX:6(b) negotiations and further work. The relationship between these negotiations and broader GATT negotiations was taken up in this connection. Positions differ on different elements of the Article IX:6(b) negotiations. However, in order for the Committee to take stock of the situation as a whole with a view to concluding the negotiations by mid-1986 (ref. L/5942, paragraph 2(c)), intensified efforts should be made by the next meeting.
4. The Committee started the review of 1984 statistics, to be continued at the next meeting. It also provided an opportunity, as usual, for delegations to take up any matter concerning implementation and administration of the Agreement. Under both these items, a number of questions were raised in respect of individual Parties.
5. The Committee heard brief statements concerning the follow-up on the VAT panel report and agreed to keep this matter on the agenda.
6. The Chairman reiterated the invitation to Parties who had not yet done so, to nominate Panel candidates. Other business taken up included the notification of 1986 thresholds in national currencies. The document emanating from the fifth annual review (GPR/31) was derestricted.
7. The Committee noted that the Informal Working Group would meet on 28 and 30 April 1986, to be continued on 1 May, if necessary. The Committee itself decided to meet on 19 June 1986, to be preceded by a further meeting of the Informal Working Group on 16-18 June.