

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

RESTRICTED

L/6230

23 October 1987

# TARIFFS AND TRADE

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## COMMITTEE ON IMPORT LICENSING

Meeting of 9 October 1987

### Note from the Chairman

1. The Committee held its twentieth meeting on 9 October 1987. Mr. A.-H. Mamdouh (Egypt) was in the Chair.
2. The Committee welcomed Mexico as a signatory to the Agreement.
3. The Committee took note of information on publications concerning import licensing procedures submitted by signatories and of the current status of replies by signatories to the GATT Questionnaire on Import Licensing Procedures (annexed to L/5640/Rev.3).
4. The Committee took note of information provided by signatories on their implementation of the Agreement. Clarification was sought on the status of import licensing procedures in one party and the rôle of the system of issuance of letters of credit regarding imports. The Chairman noted that consultations on the terms of reference and membership for the panel established at the nineteenth meeting (L/6223) were continuing.
5. Clarification was sought from one Party on its agreement to the recommendations on Articles 1.4, 1.6, 3(c), 3(d), 3(e) and 3(g) of the Agreement (Part I of the Committee's Work Programme) adopted in May 1987. The Party concerned stated that it would continue to make every effort to observe the recommendations.
6. It was agreed to continue informal discussions of one Party's proposals concerning the definition of "import licensing" under Article 1.1 of the Agreement. Some other Parties raised a number of other issues which they thought required clarification in future discussions in the Committee. It was agreed also to examine these issues in informal consultations.
7. In response to a request from the Chairman of the Uruguay Round Negotiating Group on MTN Agreements and Arrangements, it was agreed to transmit the Chairman's notes on meetings of the Committee, and the Committee's annual reports to the CONTRACTING PARTIES, to the Negotiating Group. Document LIC/12, giving the text of the recommendations adopted on Part I of the Committee's work programme, would also be forwarded to the

Group. Consultations would be held on the question of providing information on informal meetings. It was stressed that a free flow of information in both directions between the Committee and the Negotiating Group was desirable to ensure transparency.

8. The Committee conducted the fourth biennial review of the Agreement (LIC/13/Rev.1) [and considered a first draft of its 1987 report to the CONTRACTING PARTIES.]

9. It was agreed to hold the next regular meeting of the Committee on 21 April 1988.