

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

RESTRICTED

L/6402

11 November 1988

## TARIFFS AND TRADE

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### COMMITTEE ON TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO TRADE

Meeting of 13 September 1988

Note by the Chairman

1. The Committee held its twenty-ninth meeting on 13 September 1988.
2. The Committee pursued its discussion of the proposals under agenda items on "Testing, Inspection and Approval Procedures" (TBT/W/107); "Processes and Production Methods" (TBT/W/108); "Improved Transparency in Bilateral Standards-Related Agreements" (TBT/W/111); "Improved Transparency in Regional Standards Activities" (TBT/W/112); "Code of Good Practice for Non-Governmental Standardizing Bodies" (TBT/W/110); "Extension of Major Obligations to Local Government Bodies" (TBT/W/113); "Transparency in the Operation of Certification Systems (TBT/W/115); Transparency in the Drafting Process of Technical Regulations, Standards and Certification Systems" (TBT/W/116). As regards the first two items, it noted that there was a need for agreed definitions on the coverage, respectively, of the terms "inspection" and "processes and production methods". The Committee also held a brief discussion of the proposals that had been submitted by the delegation of India to the Negotiating Group on MTN Agreements and Arrangements (MTN.GNG/NG8/W/9).
3. The Committee took note of a request by Mexico, pursuant to the terms of Article 12.8, for a time-limited exception from certain obligations under the Agreement. It agreed to revert to this matter at its next meeting in the light of consultations to be held between Mexico and interested Parties.
4. The Committee was informed of a seminar organized in Mexico, on the Agreement and its implementation, with the participation of officials from two Parties and the secretariat.
5. The Committee heard a presentation by the observer from FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius, concerning a discussion paper on the "Relationship between Codex Alimentarius Commission and the Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade". In connection with its discussion under the agenda item on Code of Good Practice for Non-Governmental Bodies, the Committee took note of a presentation by the observer from the ISO, on the activities of ISO Information Network on standards.
6. The Committee concluded its third three-year review of the operation and implementation of the Agreement under Article 15.9, on the understanding that it would revert to the issues raised in this context by certain delegations at its future meetings.

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7. The Committee completed its ninth annual review of the implementation and operation of the Agreement under Article 15.8 on the basis of background documentation contained in TBT/29 and Suppl.1, TBT/W/62/Rev.1 and Corrs.1-3, TBT/W/31/Rev.6 and Corrs.1 and 2, and TBT/W/25/Rev.11.