

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

MTN/NTM/58

1 December 1978

Special Distribution

Multilateral Trade Negotiations

Group "Non-Tariff Measures"

Sub-Group "Technical Barriers to Trade"

MEETING OF NOVEMBER 1978

Summing-Up by the Chairman

1. The Sub-Group met on 29 November 1978.
2. It invited the Secretary-General of UNCTAD or his representative to attend this session of the Sub-Group as an observer.
3. In the same way as its last session, it invited the Central Secretariat of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the Central Office of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) to attend this session of the Sub-Group in an expert capacity.
4. The Sub-Group noted the communications received from the Chairmen of other Groups and Sub-Groups (MTN/NTM/W/197).
5. The circulation of MTN/NTM/W/192/Add.2 was welcomed as a major step forward in the work of the Sub-Group. As this document had been circulated only recently delegations would require time to give it further study: there would be a possibility for the Sub-Group to revert to the texts which it contained.
6. A number of points were raised on MTN/NTM/W/192 and Add.2. Delegations expressed a willingness to take up these points, including points related to special and differential treatment and those raised by a number of least developed countries in MTN/W/37, in informal consultations.
7. The hope was expressed that the circulation of MTN/NTM/W/192 and Add.2 would enable Group "Agriculture" to take action on the question of the applicability of the Draft Standards Code to agricultural products.
8. It was noted that all documents and proposals remained on the table, but as a practical matter, the Sub-Group decided to adopt MTN/NTM/W/192 and Add.2 as a basis for its work. The Sub-Group also agreed that the Chairman should put together the texts contained in these two documents, incorporating the results of informal consultations to the extent possible.
9. The Sub-Group agreed that the date of its next meeting should be fixed by the Chairman in consultation with interested delegations.