

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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Special Distribution

Multilateral Trade Negotiations

Original: Spanish

Group "Non-Tariff Measures"

Sub-Group "Customs Matters"

## COMMUNICATION FROM THE DELEGATION OF ARGENTINA

The following communication, dated 20 December 1978, has been received from the delegation of Argentina.

The delegation of the Argentine Republic wishes to make the following statement regarding the system in force in Argentina in respect of the "Sworn declaration of import needs".

### I. PURPOSE

The "Sworn declaration of import needs" was established for the purpose of obtaining statistical information on transactions carried out by the import sector. Accordingly:

- (1) It is used to evaluate import performance so that provision may be made sufficiently early for measures of general economic policy tending to secure equilibrium in the external sector; and
- (2) It is likewise used for making available when appropriate detailed information on current import transactions to various sectors that might be affected by unfair business practices.

### II. LEGAL BASIS

The legal framework governing the "Sworn declaration of import needs" system is to be found in Resolution No. 1150/77 of the Ministry for the Economy, dated 21 November 1977, and Resolution No. 99 of the same date of the Secretariat of State for Trade and International Economic Negotiations.

It should be noted that in accordance with Article 1 of Resolution No. 1150/77 of the Ministry for the Economy, importers merely communicate their foreign purchase decisions, in other words they do not request authorization to make those purchases.

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III. OPERATIVE ASPECTS

The relevant certificates are issued by the implementing body (the Secretariat of State for Trade and International Economic Negotiations - National Import Directorate) within not more than 72 hours and, in cases of urgency not more than 48 hours.