

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

G/IT/SPEC/Q3/4
30 September 2002

(02-5234)

**Committee of Participants on the Expansion of Trade in
Information Technology Products**

Original: English

EMC/EMI PILOT PROJECT WORKSHOP

Communication from Canada

The following communication, dated 29 September 2002, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Canada.

The ITA Committee has been working at identifying and examining non-tariff measures (NTMs) for ITA products. This workshop would be a forum for regulators responsible for EMC/EMI measures and trade policy representatives to discuss the survey results and consider what could be the next steps in this exercise. This would include where appropriate: identifying next steps, examining ways to harmonize the conformity assessment for ITA products on EMC/EMI, and examining other means to facilitate the market access of ITA products. The pilot project could ultimately contribute to how countries can choose to facilitate market access of ITA products.

Participants

Government regulators responsible for EMC/EMI measures, trade policy representatives, and ITA Committee members (Industry representatives may be invited as observers.)

Objectives

For the participants to understand in depth the regulatory issues, as well as gain a better sense of the trade policy aspect on the EMC/EMI elements of ITA products;

For the participating regulators to have the opportunity for analyzing and determining collectively a set of optimum regulatory approaches for EMC/EMI phenomenon.

Agenda

First day

- (a) The WTO/ITA Committee Secretariat presents the survey results and its analysis on the EMC/EMI elements of ITA products.
- (b) A selective group of participating regulators (by invitation and/or volunteering) makes presentations on their regulatory approach with respect to EMC/EMI.
- (c) Summary of relevant issues and identification of topics for discussion on the second day.

Second day

- (a) Review of topics identified in the first day with a focus on possible steps to facilitate market access of ITA products.
 - (b) A panel discussion session to identify and examine specific measures, (e.g. the role of IEC/CISPR standards; various conformity assessment approaches; options for countries with no requirements; other ways to facilitate market access of ITA products).
 - (c) Determine potential next steps to advance this exercise and facilitate market access of ITA products.
-