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**Committee on Import Licensing**

**Draft Understanding on Procedures for the Review of Notifications  
Submitted under the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures**

**Note by the Secretariat**

As Members will recall, at its meeting on 8 March 1996, the Committee on Import Licensing discussed a proposal by the Chairman on how to deal with substantive issues arising from notifications submitted under the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures. The purpose of the understanding is to facilitate and speed up the review of notifications and minimize any delays in providing clarifications or responses to any queries concerning such notifications. The Committee agreed to revert to this matter at the next meeting on the basis of a revised draft text for an understanding (G/LIC/M/3, paragraphs 7-9). This matter was further discussed at an informal meeting on 1 October 1996. The following draft, based on recent consultations, is circulated for consideration of the Committee at its next meeting on 23 October 1996.

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The Committee discussed the matter of substantive issues arising from notifications of import licensing procedures which could be raised by Members and reached the following understanding: "On the basis of Article 4 of the Agreement, it was recognized that Members could express views on notifications of import licensing procedures as required under various Articles of the Agreement, and request clarifications, as may be necessary, from other Members on matters related to the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures. It was, however, agreed that such views, and requests for clarification, should be communicated, in writing, to the delegations concerned with copies for information to the Secretariat preferably 21 days, but at least ten working days, in advance of the meeting at which they would be raised. Replies to the questions should also be forwarded to the delegations having raised the questions, in writing, with copies for information to the Secretariat. The questions and replies thus received would be circulated by the Secretariat."