STATE-TRADING ENTERPRISES

Notifications pursuant to Article XVII:4(a)

POLAND

1. Enumeration of State-trading enterprises

In Poland there exists a system of State monopoly in foreign trade. Within that system there operate the following foreign trade enterprises:


CENTROZAP, Importers-Exporters of Mining Machinery and Equipment, Katowice, ul. Plebiscytowa 36.

CETEBE, Exporters and Importers of Textiles, Lodz, ul Narutowicza 13.

CIECH, Importers and Exporters of Chemicals, Warszawa, ul Mokotowska 49.


DESA, Exporters and Importers of Arts and Antiques, Warszawa, Al. Jerozolimskie 2.


METALEXPORT, Exporters and Importers of Machines, Equipment, Rolling Stock and Metal Products, Warszawa, ul. Mokotowska 49.


POLIMEX, Exporters and Importers of Building, Chemical and Food Processing Machinery, Warszawa, ul. Czackiego 7/9/11.


ROLIMPEX, Exporters and Importers of Foodstuffs and Agricultural Products, Warszawa, ul. Zurawia 32/34.
2. **Reason and purpose for introducing and maintaining State-trading enterprises**

The State monopoly in the field of foreign trade is one of the basic features of the Polish socialized economy. Its purpose is to assure the planned development of the economy in proportions set out in long-term and annual plans.

The relevant legal provisions have been described in document Spec/239/58. No change has been made in these provisions since then.

3. **Description of the functioning of the State-trading enterprises**

The foreign trade enterprises mentioned in paragraph 1 deal with exports and imports in the field of their delimited commodities. However, in some cases the same product is being handled by more than one foreign trade enterprise. There exists only State-trading system.

The quantities to be exported and imported are fixed by the plan of external trade for each year. On the import side the plan indicates the quantities or value of individual commodities or groups of commodities to satisfy the needs of the whole economy, covering the interests of consumers as well as the requirements of production and investments.

Within the framework of the plan the foreign trade enterprises are required to buy in foreign markets at the most profitable prices and in the quantities required. On the other hand, on the export side, the foreign trade enterprises are free to determine individual export prices according to commercial considerations and to the general rule to sell at world market prices.
Since the domestic prices are fixed by the State as a result of the general structure of production, the requirements of production and investments and the purchasing power of consumers, there is no direct co-relation between export prices and prices for domestic consumption.

Prices for imported goods are determined in accordance with the general level of prices in the country, resulting from the basic proportions in a planned economy. There are no special charges or mark-ups on imported products.

State-trading enterprises are negotiating long-term contracts whenever advisable. As there are no other than State-trading methods to carry out foreign trade, no other methods could be used to fulfil contractual obligations entered into by the government.

4. **Statistical information**

Since State-trading in Poland covers the whole of foreign trade, this section of the questionnaire does not seem to be relevant.

5. **Reason why no foreign trade has taken place/if this is the case/in the products affected**

Does not apply

6. **Additional information**

No additional information seems to be required at this stage.