MEETING OF 9 APRIL 1981

Note by the Chairman

1. The Committee held its second meeting on 9 April 1981 under the chairmanship of Mr. V. Segalla (Austria).

2. A number of delegations made statements of a general policy nature relating to the Agreement on Government Procurement. The hope was expressed that further contracting parties would accede to the Agreement at the earliest possible date.

3. On the basis of the information on implementation and administration of the Agreement on Government Procurement which had been received from delegations since the last meeting, members sought clarifications and exchanged views. The Committee noted that some information was still outstanding and invited Parties concerned to submit this documentation as soon as possible. The Committee agreed to continue its examination of national implementing legislation at its next meeting.

4. The Committee had an exchange of views on the applicability of the Agreement to leasing arrangements and similar practices and agreed to revert to this matter at its next meeting.

5. The Committee also discussed the question of identification of contracts falling under the Agreement, both for the purpose of public notices and the subsequent application of the procedures of the Agreement. It agreed that it would revert to the two questions at its next meeting.

6. The Committee exchanged views on the issue of the treatment of taxes and customs duties in the context of the threshold requirement and in relation to bid comparison, and agreed that it would revert to the matter at its next meeting.

7. The Committee had a preliminary discussion relating to the preparations for the annual review of the implementation and operation of the Agreement and agreed on certain arrangements in this respect.

8. The Committee noted the establishment by the secretariat of a loose-leaf system, which, while having no separate legal status, will contain continuous up-to-date information on Annexes I-IV to the Agreement. Parties which had not yet done so were invited to nominate as soon as possible persons who would be available for serving on panels.

9. The next meeting of the Committee will be held on 8-9 July 1981.