COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT

Meeting of 19 June 1986

Note by the Chairman

1. The Committee met on 19 June 1986.

2. The Chairman reported from the Article IX:6(b) negotiations that progress had been made in the Informal Working Group. However, delegations were not in a position to reach agreement at this stage. He would continue his efforts with a view to reaching agreement at the next meeting, to be held in October 1986.

3. The Committee noted that endeavours to find a solution to the VAT problem were continuing. It noted that one delegation considered this to be a matter of extreme urgency and that it was considering asking the Committee to take alternative action if a proposed solution was not put forward before the next meeting. The matter was placed as a separate item on the agenda for the next meeting.

4. Four parties raised questions concerning implementation in one other Party. One Party announced that changes were to be made in its internal ordinance and a minor rectification to be undertaken in respect of one entity. The Committee noted the statements.

5. The Committee had before it a notification from the EC concerning Portugal (GPR/34). It was agreed that the Portuguese entity list would be circulated to the Parties once it had been received in an authentic GATT language; the Agreement would enter into force as between each Party and Portugal by the date of the next meeting, except for such Party or Parties that by that deadline had notified the secretariat to the contrary.

6. The Committee was informed of a further notification of a Panel candidate.

7. The secretariat was invited to prepare an informal draft 1986 Report to the CONTRACTING PARTIES as well as a draft annual review paper, for consideration and updating at the next meeting. Parties were invited to submit a report pursuant to Article III:13 in time for consideration at the next meeting which would also conduct a major review of Article III.

8. The Committee agreed to meet again on 15 October 1986. It noted that the Informal Working Group would meet on 13-14 October 1986.