Committee on Government Procurement

Meeting of 21 November 1986

Note by the Chairman

1. The Committee met on 21 November 1986.

2. The first phase of the Article IX:6(b) negotiations, opened in November 1983, was closed. The result of these negotiations consist of decisions on further work in all areas enumerated in Article IX:6(b), textual amendments to the Agreement and a decision on how to calculate the threshold in national currencies. There was consensus in the Committee to expedite work under Article IX:6(b) and under the decisions taken at this meeting. A number of statements were made prior to, and after, the adoption of the results and will be incorporated in the minutes of the meeting. With respect to the procedures for entry into force of textual amendments to the Agreement, the Parties were given until 9 December 1986 to communicate to the Chairman any further comments on the Draft Protocol, and any rectifications they might wish to see made, of a purely formal nature that do not affect the substance or meaning of the texts in any way. If no indications to the contrary are given by 18 December 1986, they would be considered agreed upon. The Committee authorized the Chairman to communicate, to the Director-General to the GATT, as soon as possible after 18 December 1986, the final text of the Protocol and the amendments to be inserted therein.

3. The Committee noted that only four Parties had so far submitted 1985 statistics. Other Parties were urged to make their submissions as soon as possible.

4. The Chairman reminded the Committee of the agreed procedures for the fixing of thresholds in national currencies and the invitation to Parties to nominate panel candidates. The secretariat was requested to update the 1986 annual review document for final comments before it being issued.

5. The next meeting will be held on 12 February 1987. The Informal Working group on Negotiations will meet on 13 February 1987.

1GPR/M/24, to be issued.