COMMITTEE ON IMPORT LICENSING

Meeting of 19 March 1987

Note by the Chairman

1. The Committee met on 19 March 1987. It elected Mr. A.-H. Mamdouh (Egypt) as Chairman and Mr. K. Liefland (Sweden) as Vice-Chairman for 1987.

2. The Committee welcomed communications from Poland, in which it was stated that the Polish Council of Ministers had accepted the Agreement, and from Mexico, announcing its intention to sign the Agreement in May 1987. Poland stated that the Agreement would come into force for it on 27 March 1987. The Committee agreed to grant observer status to the People's Republic of China on the same conditions as those applied to other observers.

3. The Committee took note of information and publications provided by signatories on import licensing procedures, including notifications made in response to the GATT Questionnaire on Import Licensing Procedures annexed to document L/5640/Rev.3. All Parties were urged to keep such notifications up to date.

4. In the context of its work programme, the Committee continued its consideration of draft guidelines for the application of Articles 1.4, 1.6, 3(c), 3(d), 3(e) and 3(g). It concluded that further consultations on these would again be necessary. It also agreed that the question of the definition of "import licencing" (Article 1.1), which had earlier been raised by one delegation, could be further discussed in informal consultations.

5. A number of points were raised concerning the relationship of the Committee's work with the Uruguay Round. It was agreed that this question would remain on the agenda of future meetings.

6. The Committee agreed to hold its next regular meeting in October 1987. It was agreed that the fourth biennial review of the operation of the Agreement would be conducted at this meeting. An earlier meeting could be envisaged to consider the draft guidelines, if desired.