Committee on Customs Valuation

DRAFT REPORT (1981) OF THE COMMITTEE ON CUSTOMS VALUATION

1. The Agreement on Customs Valuation entered into force on 1 January 1981. On 15 October 1981 the following were Parties to the Agreement and members of the Committee established under it: Argentina¹, Austria, Brazil, Canada, European Economic Community, Finland, Hungary, India, Japan, Republic of Korea, Norway, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom for Hong Kong, the United States and Yugoslavia.²

2. Twenty-five contracting parties and three non-contracting parties have observer status. Three international organizations (Customs Co-operation Council, IMF and UNCTAD) have attended meetings of the Committee in an observer capacity.

3. During the reporting period the Committee has held three meetings:

   13 January 1981 - (VAL/M/1 and L/5097)
   5 May 1981    - (VAL/M/2 and L/5139)
   4 November 1981 - (VAL/M/3 and L/5236)

¹Subject to ratification
²Subject to approval
4. The Committee has taken decisions in the following matters:

(a) Procedures for the participation of observers (L/5097, Annex and VAL/M/1, paragraphs 6-10, and Annex 1);

(b) Procedures for reservations (VAL/M/1, Annex 2);

(c) Circulation and derestriction of documents (VAL/M/1, paragraphs 17-18);

(d) Notification and circulation of national legislation (VAL/M/1, paragraph 37). The texts of national legislation submitted in accordance with this decision were reproduced in Addenda and Supplements to VAL/1. A checklist was established in order to determine how certain provisions of the Agreement have been incorporated in the national legislation of the Parties applying the Agreement. Replies to this checklist have been circulated in addenda and a supplement to VAL/2/Rev.1. At the three meetings, the Committee has held detailed discussions on the implementation and administration of the Agreement by the Parties which already apply the Agreement;

(e) Submission of data on the method of valuation applied for all customs entries during a certain period of time (VAL/M/2, paragraph 65-75). A survey of the results of this exercise is annexed to this report.
5. A proposed rectification to the French text of the Agreement (Annex I - Interpretative Note to Article 8:1(c)) was circulated in VAL/W/1. Since no objections were raised within the time-limit provided for, the change became effective on 27 February 1981 (GLI/277).

6. The Committee agreed on certain points for inclusion in the initial work programme of the Technical Committee on Customs Valuation (VAL/M/1, Annex 3). A detailed oral report on the work of the first and second sessions of the Technical Committee was presented by its Chairman (VAL/M/2, paragraph 76 and VAL/M/3, paragraph ..).

7. The dispute settlement procedures laid down in Articles 19 and 20 have not been utilized.

8. The Committee conducted its first annual review of the implementation and operation of the Agreement at its November 1981 meeting (VAL/M/3, paragraphs ..) on the basis of a background document prepared by the secretariat (VAL/W/4).
ANNEX

Use of Various Valuation Methods

(percentage figures)

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