

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

RESTRICTED

TBT/W/120/Rev.2
21 December 1989

TARIFFS AND TRADE

Special Distribution

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

Original: English

IMPROVING TRANSPARENCY

Proposal by the Nordic Delegations

Revision

In this second revised version comments received to the first revision have been taken into account.

The proposal by the European Economic Commission on a Code of Good Practice for Non-governmental Standardizing Bodies (TBT/W/124) contains several provisions on publication (letters F, G, J and M). These provisions should also be covered by paragraph 10.7 and the Nordic countries will revert to this question when the discussion on the Code proposal is more advanced.

Timing of notifications

Add to the end of paragraph 2.5.2:

Such notifications shall take place at an early appropriate stage, when amendments can still be introduced and comments taken into account.

Add to the end of paragraph 7.3.2:

Such notifications shall take place at an early appropriate stage, when amendments can still be introduced and comments taken into account.

Functions of the enquiry points

Amend the lead-in of paragraph 10.1 to read:

Each Party shall ensure that one enquiry point exists which is able to answer all reasonable questions from interested parties in other Parties as well as to provide the relevant documents regarding:

Add new paragraph 10.1 bis:

If, however, for legal or administrative reasons more than one enquiry point is established by a Party, that Party shall provide to the other Parties complete and unambiguous information on the scope of each of these enquiry points. In addition that Party shall ensure that any enquiries addressed to an incorrect enquiry point shall promptly be conveyed to the correct enquiry point.

./.

Add a new sub-paragraph 10.1.3 bis:

The membership and participation of the Party, or of relevant central or local government bodies within its territory, in international and regional standardizing bodies and certification systems, as well as in bilateral and multilateral arrangements within the scope of the Agreement, and reasonable information on the provisions of such systems and arrangements.

Add to the lead-in of paragraph 10.2 (before the last word "regarding"):

as well as to provide the relevant documents or information as to where they can be obtained

Add a new sub-paragraph 10.2.3:

The membership and participation of relevant non-governmental bodies within its territory in international and regional standardizing bodies and certification systems, as well as in bilateral and multilateral arrangements within the scope of the Agreement, and reasonable information on the provisions of such systems and arrangements.

Responsibility for the notification procedures

Replace paragraph 10.7 by:

Parties shall designate one single central government authority that is responsible for the implementation on the national level of the provisions concerning notification procedures according to Article 2, paragraphs 5 and 6, Articles 3 and 4, Article 7, paragraphs 3 and 4, and Article 8, and Article 9, paragraph 2.

Add a new paragraph 10.8:

If, however, for legal or administrative reasons the responsibility for notification procedures is divided among two or more central government authorities, the Party concerned shall provide to the other Parties complete and unambiguous information on the scope of responsibility of each of these authorities.