

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

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TARIFFS AND TRADE

Special Distribution

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

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COMMUNICATION FROM THE ISO

The following communication, concerning updated information on ISO/IEC Guides, has been received by the Secretariat.

ISO/IEC Guide 25 - The 1982 edition has been superseded by a revised edition, ISO/IEC Guide 25:1990 "General requirements for the competence of calibration and testing laboratories", in which have been incorporated relevant clauses of ISO/IEC Guides 38 and 45. The title of the guide has been amended accordingly. Furthermore the new edition now explicitly covers calibration laboratories and, as you can see, this is also reflected in the new title.

ISO/IEC Guide 38:1983 - As mentioned above, much of the content of this guide is now covered in ISO/IEC Guide 25:1990. Other clauses are incorporated in a new guide, not directly relevant to Section F of TBT/16/Rev.4, to be published shortly as ISO/IEC Guide 58 "Calibration and testing laboratory accreditation systems - General requirements for operation and recognition". The withdrawal of ISO/IEC Guide 38 will then be submitted to the usual voting procedures.

ISO/IEC Guide 45:1985 - The "Guidelines for the presentation of test results" are now covered in ISO/IEC Guide 25:1990, as a result of which ISO/IEC Guide 45 was formally withdrawn in 1991.

The Committee should note that the changes mentioned above may have implications for its decisions and recommendations. In particular, the Committee might wish to reconsider its recommendations in the area of Testing, Inspection and Type Approval (adopted in October 1986, and contained in TBT/16/Rev.5, page 14) and consider amending the references there to ISO/IEC Guides 25:1982, 38 and 45 and replacing them with a reference to ISO/IEC Guide 25:1990.