

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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## REPORT (1993) OF THE COMMITTEE ON IMPORT LICENSING

1. This report, submitted under Article 5.5 of the Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures, sets out developments in the implementation and operation of the Agreement since the Committee's last report on 6 November 1992 (L/7109).
2. The Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures entered into force on 1 January 1980. As at 1 November 1993, there were 29 signatories to the Agreement: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Czech Republic, Egypt, the European Communities, Finland, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Singapore, Slovak Republic, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, the United States and Yugoslavia<sup>1</sup>. Argentina and Bolivia have signed the Agreement subject to ratification.
3. The following 30 governments have observer status in the Committee on Import Licensing: Bangladesh, Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Gabon, Ghana, Indonesia, Israel, Jamaica, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Malta, Nicaragua, Peru, the Russian Federation, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Chinese Taipei, Tanzania, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Venezuela and Zaire. Two international organizations, IMF and UNCTAD, attend meetings of the Committee in an observer capacity.

### Developments since the Committee's last report

4. Two meetings of the Committee have been held during 1993, on 27 April (LIC/M/32), and on 19 October (LIC/M/33). The Committee has held 33 regular meetings since the Agreement came into force<sup>2</sup>.
5. During the reporting period, signatories communicated regularly to the Committee, in accordance with Article 5.4 of the Agreement, changes in their laws and regulations and in the administration of such laws and regulations relevant to the Agreement (LIC/1/Add.54 and 55). Copies of publications containing information on new rules concerning import licensing procedures or lists of products subject to licensing requirements were made available to the Secretariat as and when published (LIC/3/Add.38). In addition, twelve signatories have brought up to date the data supplied by them in response to the GATT Questionnaire on Import Licensing Procedures (annexed to L/5640/Rev.9). The current status of replies to the questionnaire by signatories (issued as addenda to L/5640) is annexed.
6. Bolivia, which had observer status in the Committee since March 1991, accepted the Agreement on 27 January 1993 subject to ratification. The Czech Republic (LIC/20) and the Slovak Republic (LIC/21) notified their acceptance of the Agreement on the same terms as those accepted by the Czech

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<sup>1</sup>Refers to the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

<sup>2</sup>A note on a special meeting of the Committee held in April 1985 concerning the implementation of the Agreement with respect to developing countries is contained in document LIC/8.

and Slovak Federal Republic, and the Agreement entered into force for the two Republics on 1 May 1993 under an accelerated procedure.

7. At its thirty-third meeting, the Committee, in accordance with the Council Decision of 16-17 June 1993 (C/M/264, page 3), agreed that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) could not be considered the automatic successor state to the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Chinese Taipei was granted observer status in the Committee (LIC/W/67). At the same meeting the Committee held its seventh biennial review of the implementation and operation of the Agreement.

ANNEXAGREEMENT ON IMPORT LICENSING PROCEDURESStatus of Replies to GATT Questionnaire by Signatories

<u>Signatory</u>	<u>Document no.</u>	<u>Date of most recent reply</u>
Argentina	L/5640/Add.27 and Corr.4	19.03.91
Australia	Add.13/Rev.7	22.09.93
Austria	Add.35/Rev.1 and Corr.1-2	10.05.93
Bolivia	Add.51 and Corr.1	25.10.93
Canada	Add.10/Rev.5	To be issued shortly
Chile	Add.8/Rev.1 and Suppl.4	25.06.91
Czech Republic	Add.38/Rev.1	27.10.92
Egypt	Add.37 and Corr.1	24.10.86
European Communities	Add.21/Rev.1 and Suppl.1-3 and Rev.2 and Suppl.1-2	30.09.91
Finland	Add.6/Rev.3	To be issued shortly
Hong Kong	Add.36/Rev.7	13.10.93
Hungary	Add.12/Rev.1 and Suppl.2	27.04.90
India	Add.7/Rev.5	17.10.91
Japan	Add.28 and Suppl.1 and Corr.1	16.10.89
Mexico	Add.41 and Corr.1	20.10.87
New Zealand	Add.18/Rev.3	16.07.93
Nigeria	...	...
Norway	Add.2/Rev.4	13.10.93
Pakistan	Add.25 and Suppl.1	13.11.86
Philippines	Add.26/Rev.4	19.03.93
Poland	Add.39/Rev.1	23.09.88
Romania	Add.32/Rev.2	30.04.93
Singapore	Add.33/Rev.2	31.10.90
Slovak Republic	Add.38/Rev.1	27.10.92
South Africa	Add.17/Rev.4/Suppl.1	24.09.93
Sweden	Add.14/Rev.5	01.07.92
Switzerland	Add.19/Rev.1 and Suppl.3	25.10.93
United States	Add.40/Rev.3	19.06.92