

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

RESTRICTED

LIC/M/31

20 November 1992

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TARIFFS AND TRADE

Committee on Import Licensing

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 OCTOBER 1992

Chairperson: Mrs. L.A. Berrig (Philippines)

1. The Committee on Import Licensing held its thirty-first meeting on 21 October 1992.

2. The agenda contained in GATT/AIR/3355 was adopted.

A. Information available on import licensing procedures

3. The Chairperson reported that since the last meeting new replies to the GATT Questionnaire on Import Licensing Procedures had been received from Austria (L/5640/Add.35/Corr.3 and Rev.1), Canada (L/5640/Add.10/Rev.4), Hong Kong (L/5640/Add.36/Rev.6), Norway (L/5640/Add.2/Rev.3), South Africa (L/5640/Add.17/Rev.4), Sweden (L/5640/Add.14/Rev.5), Switzerland (L/5640/Add.19/Rev.1/Suppl.2) and the United States (L/5640/Add.40/Rev.3). Revised replies from Australia and the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic had also been received and would be circulated as L/5640/Add.13/Rev.6 and Add.38/Rev.1 respectively. The Chairperson also drew attention to documents LIC/1/Add.53 which contained a communication from the European Communities with reference to Denmark, and LIC/3/Add.37 which listed a publication received from Hong Kong.

4. The Committee took note of the information provided.

B. Relationship of the Committee's work to the Uruguay Round

5. The Chairperson informed the Committee that since its last meeting the Legal Drafting Group had discussed rectifications to the import licensing text at an informal meeting held in May and that the import licensing text contained in Informal Note 966 reflected the rectifications agreed in that meeting.

6. The representative of the United States, recalling the origin of this agenda item, said that the subject had been added as a standing item to the Committee's agenda at a time when there had been some dispute as to where the negotiations on import licensing should take place. It seemed that the

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item had outlived its usefulness now. He, therefore, suggested that, unless delegations specifically requested to put it on the agenda, the subject be deleted henceforth from the agenda of regular meetings, in the interest of efficiency of the Group's work.

7. The Committee agreed to the above proposal.

C. Report (1992) to the CONTRACTING PARTIES

8. The Committee agreed on the text of its report (1992) to the CONTRACTING PARTIES (L/7109).

D. Other business

9. The Committee agreed that the Chairperson, with the assistance of the secretariat, would consult with delegations on an appropriate time for the next meeting, taking into consideration developments in the Uruguay Round negotiations. The Committee noted that the next meeting would normally be held at the end of March 1993.