

**GENERAL AGREEMENT ON  
TARIFFS AND TRADE**

RESTRICTED

LIC/W/33  
2 March 1987

Special Distribution

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Committee on Import Licensing

PART I OF WORK PROGRAMME

Note by the Chairperson

At its eleventh meeting in October 1984, the Committee on Import Licensing adopted procedures regarding the first stage of its work programme concerning "simplification" of the agreement (LIC/M/11, paragraph 34). At its thirteenth meeting in June 1985, the Committee agreed to hold informal consultations on this matter.

..... The text annexed for the consideration of the Committee is the outcome of a series of informal consultations on the application of Articles 1.4, 1.6, 3(c), 3(d), 3(e) and 3(g) of the Agreement, to which all signatories to the Agreement were invited.

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Draft [Recommendations] [Guidelines] for the application of Articles 1.4, 1.6, 3(c), 3(d), 3(e) and 3(g)

The Committee recommends that Parties should observe the time periods set out below in applying the provisions of Article 1.4 in relation to 3(e), 3(c) and 3(d), and the provisions of Articles 1.6 and 3(g) of the Agreement:

- Ad Article 1.4 and 3(e) (i) The rules and all information concerning procedures for the submission of applications referred to in Article 1.4 and the lists of products subject to the licensing requirement, as well as any changes in either the rules or the lists of products should, where there is a specific opening date for the submission of applications, normally be published at least 21 days prior to that date. Information on shares in a quota currently allocated, by quantity or value, among supplying countries, referred to in Article 3(d), should be published within the same time period.
- Ad Article 3(d) Where situations arise which make it necessary to provide for an early opening date of quotas, the information referred to in Articles 1.4 and 3(e) should be published no later than 7 days after the announcement of the quota or other measure involving an import licensing requirement;
- Ad Article 3(e) (ii) The elements of information referred to in Articles 3(c) should also be published in such a manner as to enable governments and traders to become acquainted with them.
- Ad. Article 1.4 and Article 3(c) (iii) Where there is a closing date for the submission of licensing applications, applicants should be allowed at least 21 days for making such submissions, taking into account that if a quota is not filled by the closing date, it may be desirable to provide for a further period during which applications could be considered.
- Ad Article 1.6 (iv) The period for processing applications should normally not be longer than 21 days when applications are considered [as and when received, i.e. on a first-come first-served basis], and normally no longer than 60 days when all applications are considered simultaneously;
- Ad Article 3(g) (v) In cases where it is strictly indispensable that more than one administrative body is to be approached in connection with an application, applicants should not need to approach more than two administrative bodies.
- Ad Article 1.6