

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

LIC/W/48

18 July 1989

Special Distribution

Committee on Import Licensing

PREPARATIONS FOR THE FIFTH BIENNIAL REVIEW
OF THE IMPLEMENTATION AND OPERATION
OF THE AGREEMENT

Note by the Secretariat

1. The first four biennial reviews of the implementation and operation of the Agreement under Article 5.5 were conducted by the Committee in November 1981, October 1983, October 1985 and October 1987. The results of these reviews were incorporated in the minutes of the meetings (LIC/M/5, 9, 14/Rev.1 and 20) and in the relevant basic documents by the Secretariat (LIC/5, 7, 9 and Corrs.1 and 2, and 13).

2. It is suggested that the fifth biennial review should be held on 6 November 1989 and should follow the pattern of the previous biennial review (LIC/M/23 and Let/1638).

3. The Secretariat will prepare a basic document which will consolidate all relevant information submitted by signatories on their import licensing procedures since the fourth biennial review, as well as any action taken by them under the Agreement, as contained in:

- (a) publications used and texts available for consultation in the Secretariat (listed in the LIC/3 series of documents);
- (b) information regarding public notice (LIC/4/Rev.3);
- (c) notifications made to the Committee under Article 5.4 (LIC/1 and Addenda);
- (d) replies to the GATT Questionnaire on Import Licensing Procedures (listed in L/5640/Rev.5);
- (e) relevant statements made by signatories under item-by-item examinations of the implementation and operation of the Agreement in the course of the Committee's work and as reported in the minutes of the meetings (LIC/M/18 to 23).

4. The proposed basic document will follow the pattern of that prepared for the fourth biennial review (LIC/13).

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5. Signatories are invited to communicate to the Secretariat by 1 September 1989 any additional data they wish to have included in the basic document and to update the list of names of persons available to serve on panels that was contained in Section 7 of LIC/13. The basic document will be issued by 1 October 1989. It will be revised as necessary following the review session to take into account any additional points raised.