

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

TBT/1/Add.11
23 June 1980

Special Distribution

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

Original: French

INFORMATION ON IMPLEMENTATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE AGREEMENT

Addendum

The following statement has been received from the delegation of Belgium.

I. Parliamentary approval of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade

The procedure for Parliamentary approval of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade was commenced as soon as the Agreement had been signed, but is not yet completed.

II. With reference to paragraph 4 of document TBT/W/1, Belgium can furnish the following information.

1. With respect to standards:

The Legislative Order of 20 September 1945 is the legal basis of standardization policy in Belgium; it defines the field of action of standardization and the competence in this respect of a national body, the "Institut Belge de Normalisation" (I.B.N.).

- (1) Publication of a Belgian standard which is to be established is to be preceded by a public enquiry procedure on a draft standard. The enquiry is announced in the Moniteur Belge, the I.B.N. Revue and the technical press; establishment of standards is announced in the same publication.

The I.B.N. also publishes Belgian standards which include the texts of international and foreign standards. The texts of draft standards and standards can be obtained from the I.B.N.

- (2) Comments on the draft can generally be presented within a period of three months.

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(3) The enquiry points are:

- Ministère des Affaires Economiques,
Administration du Commerce,
Rue J.A. De Mot 24-46,
1040 Bruxelles.
- Institut Belge de Normalisation,
Avenue de la Brabançonne 29,
1040 Bruxelles.

(4) Requests for consultation should be addressed to:

Ministère des Affaires Etrangères,
Rue Quatre Bras 2,
1000 Bruxelles.

2. With respect to technical regulations and certification systems:

Technical regulations and certification systems are at present under the responsibility of several administrations and bodies. A study has been undertaken with a view to harmonizing the procedure of publication and consultation with that established for standards.

(1) Technical regulations and certification systems are published in full in the Moniteur Belge.

(2) The enquiry points are (provisionally):

- Ministère des Affaires Economiques,
Administration du Commerce,
Rue J.A. De Mot 24-26,
1040 Bruxelles.
- Institut Belge de Normalisation,
Avenue de la Brabançonne 29,
1040 Bruxelles.

(3) Requests for consultation should be addressed to:

Ministère des Affaires Etrangères,
Rue Quatre Bras 2,
1000 Bruxelles.