

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

TBT/1/Add.8
16 June 1980

Special Distribution

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

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INFORMATION ON IMPLEMENTATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE AGREEMENT

Addendum

The following statement has been received from the European Economic Community.

In accordance with art 15.7 of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade and the note of the GATT Secretariat relating thereto I have the honour to submit the following information concerning the measures taken by the European Communities in implementing the Agreement (equivalent measures taken by the Member States individually will be communicated separately).

- a) The Council decision of 10/12/1979 is the basic law in accordance with which the European Communities both approved and formally undertook the obligations of the Agreement. This decision is contained in Official Journal No. L 71 of 17/3/1980.

In addition to this basic law the Communities approved on 15/1/80 a decision to establish certain principles for the administration of the Agreement and certain rules and procedures to regulate the resort to actions in the event of non-reciprocity should this arise in the course of application of the Agreement. This decision regulates the important internal question of the role of the individual Member States, the Commission and the Council of the European Communities in taking such action. This Decision is contained in Official Journal No. L 14 of 19/1/1980.

Finally, there is, at the moment, a proposal before the Council of Ministers, for a directive to regulate, internally, the implementation of the provisions of the agreement on access to Community certification systems. The purpose of this Directive is to establish a procedure for the granting of Community certification to third country products.

- b) Notices of preparation of Community Standards or technical regulations in accordance with articles 2.5.1 and 7.3.1 shall be published in the Official Journal of the European Communities. The texts of those Standards or technical regulations when adopted will also be published in the Official Journal in accordance with articles 2.7 and 7.5.

- c) Generally speaking the time we expect to allow for making comments on Community regulations will be two to four months depending on the Community procedures invoked.
- d) The information points for Community regulation and standards shall be (provisionally) :

- for industrial products

Division F 1
Directorate-General for Industrial Affairs
Commission of the European Communities
Fifth floor, Room 23,
Rond-Point Schuman 6,
Brussels 1040

- for agricultural products

Directorate H
Directorate-General for Agriculture
Commission of the European Communities
Batiment Berlaymont
10th floor, Room 44
200, rue de la Loi,
Brussels 1040.

- e) The following is the address of the entity to which requests for consultation under article 14.1 should be made.

Delegation of the Commission of the European Communities
37-39, rue de Vermont
Geneva
Switzerland.

- f) A list of potential panellists has been submitted to you by my letter of April 10th, 1980.