

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

TBT/1/Add.13

21 July 1980

Special Distribution

Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

Original: English

## INFORMATION ON IMPLEMENTATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE AGREEMENT

### Addendum

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

#### Legislative and administrative action

The ratification procedure as required by the Netherlands constitution is well under way, but no precise indication can be given at this stage as to the date of its completion. As indicated at the time of signing the Agreement on 17 December 1979, the Agreement is applied provisionally as from the date it entered into force. To ensure this de facto application the necessary practical and administrative measures have been taken. Reference may also be made to action taken by the European Communities (document TBT/1/Add.8).

The Netherlands legislation is consistent with the principles of the Agreement: technical regulations, standards and certification systems comply with the general provisions of Articles 2, 5 and 7; consequently no changes of a legislative nature had to be introduced. Provisions of a procedural character are implemented as follows:

#### Publications

Notice of proposed governmental standards, technical regulations and certification systems will be given in the "Nederlandse Staatscourant". Once they have been adopted the texts are published in the "Staatsbald van het Koninkrijk der Nederlanden".

It is unlikely that local government bodies in the Netherlands will issue technical regulations which may have a significant effect on trade. Nevertheless local government bodies will be informed of the Agreement and requested to comply with the relevant provisions in appropriate cases.

Non-governmental bodies in the field of standardization in the Netherlands are the "Nederlands Normalisatie Instituut" (N.N.I.) and the "Nederlands Electrotechnisch Comité" (N.E.C.). They have been requested to apply the relevant provisions of the Agreement. Any standards adopted by them will be published in the "Normalisatie Magazine" edited by the N.N.I. The private institute which will co-ordinate activities in the field of certification, the establishment of which is under way, will be the "Raad voor de Certificatie" (Council for Certification). This body will have authority to recognize private certification systems on the basis of fixed criteria. In the elaboration of these criteria due account will be taken of the obligations contained in Article 8 of the Agreement.

#### Notifications and time for consultations

Notifications through the GATT secretariat will be made in conformity with the format recommended by the Committee. The delay for comments to be made will be adapted to whatever consensus may emerge in the Committee, but should in the Netherlands view be in general not less than six weeks.

#### Enquiry points

The Service for Economic Information and Export-Promotion (Government Regulations Division) will serve as the enquiry point foreseen in Article 10 paragraph 1. The address is:

Dienst voor Economische Voorlichting en Exportbevordering,  
(Afdeling Overheidsmaatregelen)  
Bezuidenhoutseweg 151,  
2594 AG THE HAGUE  
tel: (070) 81.41.11  
tlx: 31099

Subject to its formal agreement, the "Nederlands Normalisatie Instituut" (N.N.I.) will act as the enquiry point mentioned in Article 10 paragraph 2, at the following address:

N.N.I.  
Postbus 5810  
2280 MV RIJSWIJK  
Polakweg 5  
tel: (070) 90.68.00  
tlx: 32123

Request for consultation under Article 14

Requests should be addressed to:

Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of the Netherlands  
56 rue de Moillebeau  
1211 GENEVA 19

Panel lists

The following expert is available for serving on panels under the Agreement:

Mr. A. Oosterhoff