

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

VAL/W/49/Add.1

30 June 1989

Special Distribution

Committee on Customs Valuation

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PROPOSED RECTIFICATION OF THE TEXT OF THE AGREEMENT

Communication from Canada

As agreed at the last meeting (VAL/M/24, paragraph 61) the proposed rectification of the French text of the Agreement was circulated to Parties for comments in document VAL/W/49.

The following communication from Canada was received by the secretariat on 2 June 1989.

We wish to communicate to members of the Committee on Customs Valuation our concerns with the proposed amendment to the French text of the Note to Article 2 and the Note to Article 3, as circulated in document VAL/W/49 of 3 May 1989.

It has been proposed that the words "la vente" in paragraph 1 of these Notes be replaced with the word "celle". We are concerned that the proposed replacement word "celle" could be interpreted as referring to either the word "vente" (in line 2 of paragraph 1 of each of the Notes to Articles 2 and 3) or the word "quantité" and thus perpetuate ambiguity. It is our view that a more appropriate word to replace la vente is the word "ceux", which would refer both to "niveau commercial" and "quantité". This, in our opinion, would provide greater certainty and would ensure that Articles 2 and 3 would apply to situations where goods must be valued but have not been sold, which has been the stated purpose of the change.

In view of the concerns we have raised on this matter, it would be appreciated if this item could be placed on the agenda of the next meeting of the Committee on Customs Valuation for further discussion before a final decision is taken.