

**GENERAL AGREEMENT  
ON TARIFFS AND TRADE**

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Committee on Customs Valuation

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LEGISLATION OF MEXICO<sup>1</sup>

Mexican Responses to Questions Submitted by Hong Kong at the  
Committee Meeting of 12 October 1993

The following communication has been received from the Permanent Mission of Mexico.

**1. What is the basis on which the reference prices are compiled?**

Estimated prices are compiled on the basis of a customs data bank, containing average international market prices, price lists, average import prices and weighted average prices. At the moment, improvements are being made, to include accepted customs values for imported goods in the data bank.

Estimated prices are designed to ensure, through the provision of a guarantee, the correct payment of duties which may be due on the imported goods because of the difference between the value declared by the importer and the actual value of the goods.

In order to prevent this measure from causing difficulties or impeding trade in goods, the Government of Mexico has issued various instructions that this guarantee be used only in cases where a high incidence of underbilling has been observed, while exempting from the requirement those importers who do not represent a risk of non-payment of import duties, and who respect and comply with the Code.

**2. Are the reference prices applied selectively to imports from the South East Asian Region, and if so, which countries are being affected?**

It should be pointed out that estimated prices are not aimed at specific regions or countries and therefore could not be applied selectively to imports from the South East Asian Region. As shown since the meeting of 12 October 1993, they are applied to certain products regardless of the country or region of origin.

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<sup>1</sup>VAL/1/Add.25/Suppl.1/Rev.1