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Committee on Customs Valuation

FOURTH REVIEW OF THE AGREEMENT ON PRESHIPMENT INSPECTION

REPORT BY THE CHAIRPERSON

1. Article 6 of the WTO Agreement on Preshipment Inspection (PSI Agreement) states that:

"At the end of the second year from the date of entry into force of the WTO Agreement and every three years thereafter, the Ministerial Conference shall review the provisions, implementation and operation of this Agreement, taking into account the objectives thereof and experience gained in its operation. As a result of such review, the Ministerial Conference may amend the provisions of the Agreement".

2. The First Review of the PSI Agreement was concluded in March 1999 (G/L/300). One of the recommendations adopted in this review was that "future monitoring of the Agreement should be undertaken initially by the Committee on Customs Valuation (the Committee), and that PSI should be a standing agenda item." The Second Review of the PSI Agreement was carried out at the Committee meeting of 6 October 2006 (G/L/809) and the Third Review of the PSI Agreement was carried out at the Committee meeting of 24 October 2014 (G/L/1081).
3. At its meeting of 15 May 2017, the Committee agreed to conduct the Fourth Review of the PSI Agreement at the autumn meeting of the Committee. No submissions were received from any Member in advance of the Review.
4. The Review was suspended at the Committee's meeting of 6 November 2017 in order to consider a proposal made by Thailand at that meeting. At the meeting of 23 April 2018, the Chair informed the Committee that the proposal had been withdrawn. In the absence of further contributions, the Review was concluded at the April meeting.
5. Oral statements made at the Committee meetings of 6 November 2017 and 23 April 2018 are reflected in the minutes of the meetings (G/VAL/M/65 and G/VAL/M/66).