

COMMUNICATION FROM THE UNITED STATES

The following communication, dated 10 April 2001, has been received from the Permanent Mission of the United States with the request that it be circulated to the Committee on Government Procurement.

I am writing in response to the recent communications from the Permanent Mission of Korea regarding proposed modifications to Appendix I of the Agreement on Government Procurement. These communications were circulated by the Secretariat on 6 March 2001 (GPA/W/128) and 13 March 2001 (GPA/W/128/Corr.1).

The United States requires additional time to study and seek clarification of these proposed modifications. To facilitate our assessment, we request that Korea provide responses to the following questions and requests for information.

1. In introducing the proposed modifications, Korea states that the changes in the names of a number of covered Annex 1 and Annex 3 entities are “purely formal in nature”. At the same time, Korea notes that those changes are “the outcome of efforts by Korea to re-organize its governmental structure and other bodies”.

For each currently listed entity, does the re-organization of Korea’s governmental structure involve the transfer of procurement functions from that entity to any entity other than the directly corresponding re-named entity listed in GPA/W/128?

If there is any such transfer of procurement functions, please provide a concordance table listing the entity that currently performs such functions and the entity that would be responsible for such functions under the proposed modifications.

2. With respect to the proposed deletion of the First Minister of Political Affairs from Annex 1, please indicate which entity would now conduct the procurement activities previously conducted by the First Minister of Political Affairs. If the procurement activities have not been transferred to another entity, please provide an explanation why.