

ACCESSION OF ESTONIA TO THE AGREEMENT ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT

Questions from the United States Regarding Estonia's Replies to U.S. Questions in GPA/W/190/Rev.1

The United States continues to appreciate the diligent efforts that Estonia is making to meet the requirements for accession to the Agreement. As Estonia completes its governmental organization, the United States looks forward to the finalization of the list of entities in Estonia's offer. In addition, the United States would appreciate responses to the following questions:

1. The United States appreciates that Estonia has listed the "public authorities under supervision and control of the ministries" in Section 9 of its Annex 1. Could Estonia provide a list that indicates which ministry listed in Section 8 of its Annex 1 has responsibility for each of the public authorities?
2. In its response in GPA/W/190/Rev.1 to U.S. Question 4 regarding modifications of coverage, Estonia states that "if the majority of shares of the entities mentioned are privatized or transferred to another entity, this entity will no longer be subject to GPA."
 - (a) Please explain how Estonia's plans to remove entities from GPA coverage will be consistent with the standard in GPA Article XXIV:6(b) for withdrawal of entities "on the grounds that government control or influence over it has been effectively eliminated"?
 - (b) If a majority of shares of an entity are transferred to an entity that is covered by the GPA, will the transferred entity's procurement continue to be covered by the GPA?
