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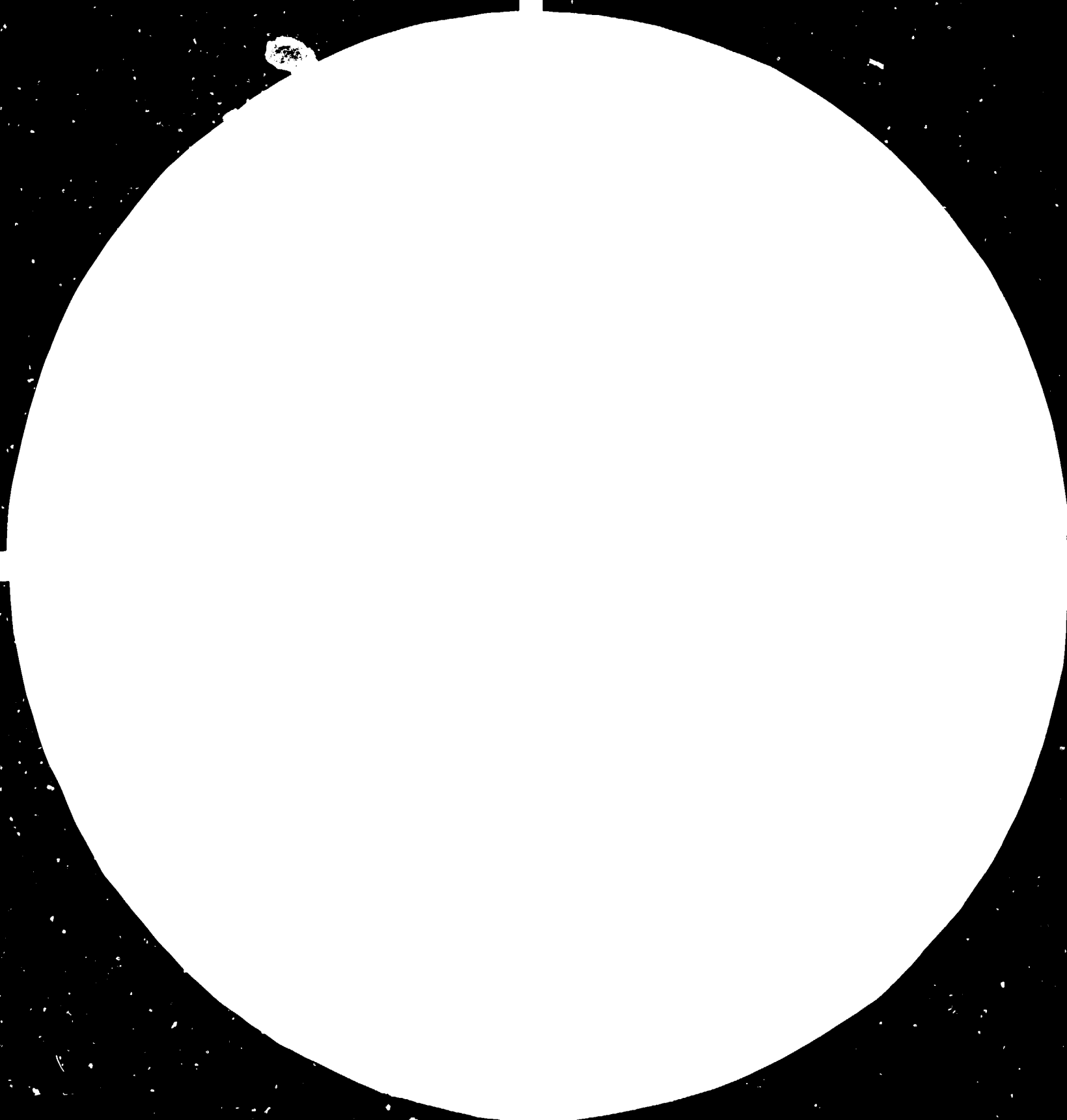
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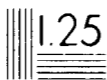
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December, 1983

ENGLISH

UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

Brazil.

DEVELOPMENT OF METROLOGY, STANDARDIZATION
AND INDUSTRIAL QUALITY IN ALL SECTORS OF INDUSTRY

DP/BRA/82/020

FEDERATIVE REPUBLIC OF BRAZIL

Final Report *

Prepared for the Federative Republic of Brazil
by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization,
executing agency for the United Nations Development Programme.

Based on the work of Mary CRAINEY,
UNIDO Expert in Documentation - GATT and ISONET

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ENQUIRY POINT

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ABNT	Brazilian Association of Technical Standards
CEDIN	Centre for Information and Documentation
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
IEC	International Electrotechnical Commission
INMETRO	National Institute of Metrology, Standardization and Industrial Quality
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
ISONET	ISO Information Network
MIC	Ministry of Industry and Commerce
SINORSID	First International Seminar on Standardization in Iron and Steel
STI	Industrial Technology Secretariat
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

DEVELOPMENT OF METROLOGY, STANDARDISATION
AND INDUSTRIAL QUALITY IN ALL SECTORS OF INDUSTRY

1.0 GENERAL

The expert joined the project, on November 5th, 1983 in Rio de Janeiro, for a six week's assignment for the position UNIDO/BRA/82/020 - 11-15/313.K, as a consultant in Documentation for GATT and ISONET.

The project is lead by Dr. B. S. Krishnamachar, Chief Technical Advisor, UNIDO. The counterpart organization is the INMETRO (National Institute of Metrology, Standardization and Industrial Quality), which is part of the MIC (Ministry of Industry and Commerce). The President of the INMETRO is Dr. Walter dos Santos.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

2.1 The objectives of the project are to assist the government of Brazil in the development of metrology, standardization and industrial quality, in all sectors of industry.

2.2 In co-operation with counterpart personnel and under the leadership of the Chief Technical Advisor, the duties of the Documentation Expert were, specifically, to:

- 1) assist in the development of procedures for establishment of the GATT and the ISONET contact points;
- 2) assist in the establishment of the infrastructure for the GATT contact point;
- 3) assist in the identification of priorities;

- 4) give lectures and train counterpart personnel;
- 5) prepare a final report setting out the findings of the assignment and the recommendations to the government, on further actions which may be taken.

3.0 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Contacts and Discussions

Discussions were held with a number of people, including the President of INMETRO, with members of his staff, and with the Chief Technical Advisor of the Project. Annex A provides a list of the persons with whom discussions were held during the assignment. Annex B provides a chronological sequence of the events which took place during the assignment.

3.2 Centre for Documentation and Information - CEDIN

Considerable time was spent, with counterpart personnel of the CEDIN, in discussions and in evaluating the resources, capabilities and actual services presently being provided.

The requirements, responsibilities and obligations of the GATT Enquiry Point and of the ISONET Enquiry Point were discussed with staff of the INMETRO and the ABNT. Resulting from these discussions, technical papers were prepared which examined in detail the requirements, the present status and recommendations for implementation of the enquiry points.

These papers were:

- Obligations of, the Present Status and Recommendations for Implementing in Brazil, of the GATT Enquiry Point (Annex I);

- Obligations and Present Status in Brazil of the ISONET Enquiry Point (Annex III);
- Operating Procedures for the GATT Enquiry Point of Brazil (Annex II);

3.3 Training

A great part of the work has been carried out in close co-operation with counterpart personnel of the CEDIN in providing on the job-training.

Advice and instruction was given to staff of CEDIN, at Rio de Janeiro and at Xerem, on special problems associated with indexing for ISONET and indexing for regulations. Lengthy discussions were held on the operation of the Enquiry Point for GATT and for ISONET.

4.0 SEMINAR

The First International Seminar on Standardization in Iron and Steel was held in Rio de Janeiro, November 21 to 25, 1983.

The following technical paper was prepared and presented at this seminar:

- The GATT Standards Code and the Operation of the Canadian Enquiry Point (Annex IV);

Discussions were held with a number of the delegates on the mechanisms of establishing, and benefits resulting from, a national GATT and ISONET Enquiry Point.

5.0 VISITS

A visit was made to the Brazilian Association for Technical Standards (ABNT). Staff of ABNT provided a tour of the facilities, including a visit to the

documentation collection of foreign standards.

Discussions were held on ISONET and GATT responsibilities of the Enquiry Point.

6.0

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to acknowledge the co-operation, the facilities and the assistance which I received from the President of INMETRO and his staff, from the Chief Technical Advisor of the Project and his staff, and from the UNDP office.

The successful completion of the assignment would not have been possible without this help.

7.0

CONCLUSIONS

The Centre for Documentation and Information (CEDIN) has the resources and the capability to fulfill the requirements of the GATT Enquiry Point and the ISONET Enquiry Point.

At present, the CEDIN is responding to enquiries on national standards and regulations from the private and public sector.

The supporting documentation collection of standards, includes a complete collection of Brazil, ISO, IEC and DIN.

As regards information on technical regulations, the CEDIN has on-line access to the data base PRODESAN. Developed by the Senate, this data base includes the full text of most regulations of Brazil. Also, the CEDIN is beginning to develop its own index of technical regulations, using the material published in the Diário Oficial.

LIST OF PERSONS MET DURING
THE ASSIGNMENT

UNIDO

Dr. B. S. Krishnamachar Project Chief Technical Advisor
Mr. T. Rajaraman

INMETRO

Dr. Walter dos Santos President
Dr. José Eduardo Alves Costa
Dr. Adriano Braga de Melo
Sr. Cláudio Loewenstein
Sr. Joseph Brais
Sr. João Carlos A. da Silva

CEDIN

Sr. Dorgival da Silva Brandão Manager
Sr. Adroaldo M. Florido
Sra. Isable M. A. L. Loureiro
Sra. Solange Loureiro Teixeira
Sra. Miriam F. Menezes
Sra. Cláudia Campelo Alves
Sra. Helenade Cássia Fonseca Rego
Sra. Zilene Coelho Vieira
Sra. Clélia Marina Martins Lyra
Sra. Joana dos Santos Luz
Sr. José Agostinho
Sr. Carlos Henrique Alves da Silva
Sra. Lélia C. dos Santos
Sra. Ester Barros Gomes
Sra. Maria de Lourdes dos Santos Cruz

ABNT

Sr. Ary Marques Jones	Executive Director
Sr. Accácio F. dos Santos	Executive Secretary
Arq. Bernardo Scheinkman	Director
Engº Luis Alberto de S. Cavalcanti	Director

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

07 November 1983 to 11 November 1983

- Dr. B. S. Krishnamachar, Project Chief Technical Advisor.
- Briefing on the project and the assignment.
- José Eduardo Alves Costa, Cláudio Loewenstein and Adroaldo M. Florido.
- Discussions with INMETRO staff on the operation of GATT Enquiry Point.

10 November 1983

- Dr. Walter dos Santos, President, José Eduardo Alves Costa, Adroaldo M. Florido.
- Discussions on GATT, on Enquiry Point and on ISONET.

11 November 1983 to 17 November 1983

- Documentation Centre at Praça Mauá.
- Discussions on ISONET indexing, and on responsibilities and services to be provided by the GATT Enquiry Point.
- Meeting with Adriano Braga de Melo.
- Discussions on GATT and on GATT Enquiry Point.
- Meeting with Adroaldo M. Florido and staff of the CEDIN.
- Discussions on ISONET.

21 November 1983, 22 November 1983 and 24 November 1983

- Participation in First International Seminar on Standardization in Iron and Steel, Rio de Janeiro.
- Discussions with participants and presentation of technical paper.

23 November 1983

- Co-ordinating Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade - GATT
- Provided an overview of the operation of the GATT and ISONET Enquiry Point in Canada.
- Responded to various questions.

25 November 1983

- Visited the documentation centre at Xerem
- Discussions with staff on GATT and indexing of technical regulations.

30 November 1983

- Staff of INMETRO
- Discussions on GATT
- Visit to ABNT
- Discussions on ISONET, GATT and development of Enquiry Point.

05 December 1983

- Mr. Dorgival da Silva Brandão and staff of the CEDIN.
- Operation of GATT and ISONET Enquiry Point.

07 December 1983

- Meeting with staff of INMETRO and ABNT.
- Discussions on co-operation between these two organizations to utilise existing documentation resources.

08 December 1983 and 09 December 1983

- Staff of CEDIN.
- Discussions and training on handling of notifications from the GATT Secretariat.

12 December 1983 to 14 December 1983

- Staff of INMETRO and CEDIN.
- Training on handling of enquiries from other countries to meet GATT Enquiry Point and ISONET Enquiry Point responsibilities.

15 December 1983

- Return to Canada.

REPORT ON
OBLIGATIONS OF THE PRESENT STATUS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTING IN BRAZIL

THE GATT ENQUIRY POINT

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REPORT ON
OBLIGATIONS OF, THE PRESENT STATUS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTING IN BRAZIL

THE GATT ENQUIRY POINT

1.0 GATT ENQUIRY POINT

1.1 Background

The Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade, came into force on January 1, 1980. Brazil is one of the signatories, or countries, which signed the Agreement. The Agreement has fifteen Articles and three Annexes, which detail the responsibilities and the services which must be provided by each signatory. As a signatory, Brazil must comply with the provisions of the Agreement.

2.0 PRESENT STATUS IN IMPLEMENTING THE AGREEMENT

2.1 Co-ordinating and Implementation Committee

On May 16, 1983, CONMETRO published a resolution in the Diário Oficial establishing the Co-ordinating Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade - GATT. This extract from the Diário Oficial is reprinted as Annex I. The INMETRO was assigned responsibility for implementing and co-ordinating the activities of this committee. The INMETRO also provides the President and the Secretariat for this committee. A list of ministries and organizations who participate in this committee can be found in Annex I. Since its establishment, this committee has held four meetings. The fourth, was held on November 23, 1983 and members agreed that the INMETRO/CEDIN would act as the GATT Enquiry Point.

3.0 TECHNICAL REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS

3.1 Obligations

Article 2 of the Agreement establishes the procedures which must be followed by signatories, in the preparation, adoption and application of technical regulations and standards by the central government body.

The Agreement obligates Brazil when proposing to introduce technical regulations or standards which are not substantially the same as the technical context of the relevant international standards and which are likely to have a significant effect on the trade of other signatories to:

- . publish a notice in a PUBLICATION that Brazil proposes to introduce a technical regulation or standard;
- . prepare a notification, and forward to the GATT Secretariat for dissemination to other signatories, of the products covered, together with a brief indication of the objective and rationale for the proposal;
- . provide copies of the proposed technical regulation or standard, upon request, to other signatories and to other person in that signatory country;
- . allow reasonable time, for other signatories to make comments, in writing;
- . forward these to the appropriate authority so that these comments may be discussed and taken into account.

3.2 Publication of a Notice of Proposed Technical Regulations

At present, there is no mechanism for publishing a notice in a publication to give the details of PROPOSED technical regulations. This means Brazil can not comply with this provision of the Agreement.

3.3 Publication of Notice on Adopted Technical Regulations

The Diário Oficial is published each day. It includes the full text of all regulations. Therefore, Brazil can use this publication to provide details on ADOPTED Technical Regulations.

3.4 Publication of Notice on Proposed Standard

Notices of proposed standards are published in the Diário Oficial. Information, includes the number, title, date, as well as a short abstract of the standard. The notice also includes the date when the standards will be adopted, generally 3 months later. Information is also included on where copies of the draft standard may be obtained Annex II. Copies of the proposed standard can be provided to users in other countries. This established procedure, would allow Brazil to comply with the Agreement, for PROPOSED standards.

3.5 Publication of Notice on Adopted Standards

Information on adopted standards are published in the INMETRO publication INMETRO Information which is published each month. This established procedure would allow Brazil to meet the requirements for ADOPTED standards.

However, the adopted standards are not always published promptly. INMETRO returns the approved (adopted) standards to ABNT who are responsible for publishing the standards. At present there is a backlog of some 1500 standards waiting to be published at ABNT. This means a signatory would be unable to obtain from Brazil a copy of the adopted (approved) standard.

3.6 Notifications

Brazil has not yet made any notification to the GATT Secretariat. Copies of all notifications issued by the GATT Secretariat are received at the Ministry of External Relations, Political and Commercial Division, Brasilia. A complete set is maintained at Brasilia. Copies of the notifications are forwarded by the Ministry of External Relations to INMETRO at Praça Maua, who distribute them to relevant ministries and external organizations.

The INMETRO does not maintain a complete collection of the notifications. There are partial collections throughout the INMETRO. The INMETRO/CEDIN also has a partial collection but these are not filed in specific order.

CEDIN has started to prepare an index of the notifications, commencing with those issued in late 1982 and 1983. There is no listing of those issued in the previous two years.

3.7 Notification Languages

Notifications to the GATT Secretariat shall be made in English, French or Spanish. However, national documents need only be provided in that language. This means that documents from Finland, Denmark, Japan would be in these national languages. Brazil need only provide national documents in Portuguese.

3.8 Provision of Documents

Upon request, the Enquiry Point should provide, or arrange for the appropriate organization to provide, particulars or copies of technical regulations, standards and certification systems ADOPTED or PROPOSED by federal government ministries or by non-governmental organizations. Signatories requesting copies of

documents, and individual persons from a signatory, should be supplied with copies of the documents. Also these should be supplied at the same price (if any) as is charged to someone in Brazil.

3.9 Comments

As Brazil has not made any notifications to the GATT Secretariat, there has been no occasion to receive comments from other signatories.

As regards Brazil making comments to other signatories, I do not believe that this has happened yet.

4.0 INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE - ARTICLE 10

4.1 Obligations

Article 10 paragraphs 10.1 through 10.7, details the information services which must be provided by Brazil about technical regulations, standards and certification systems. Brazil must ensure an enquiry point exists which is able to answer all reasonable enquiries from signatories, and from persons in those countries which are signatories.

4.2 Services to other signatories

In brief, each signatory shall ensure that an enquiry point exists which is able to:

- answer ALL REASONABLE ENQUIRIES regarding the existence and availability of technical regulations, standards and certification systems ADOPTED or PROPOSED by the federal government ministries, by non-governmental organizations in the signatory country including the location of PUBLISHED notices concerning them;

- upon REQUEST, provide, or arrange for the appropriate organization to provide to enquiry points in other signatory countries, particulars or copies of technical regulations, standards and rules of certification systems ADOPTED or PROPOSED by federal government ministries or by non-governmental organizations in the signatory country.

4.3 Present Status

4.3.1 INMETRO/CEDIN - Documentation and Information Centre.

The CEDIN is in two sections, one dealing mainly with standards - ISONET indexing, reference collection and information services - is located within the INMETRO offices at Praça Maua. The other, located at INMETRO Xerem, deals mainly with metrology, national acts and regulations and scientific and technical information. The total number of staff is fifteen. Annex 3 shows the organization chart and responsibilities of the people in the CEDIN.

4.3.2 Documentation Collection (Praça Maua)

The CEDIN collection includes complete sets of standards published by the following organizations:

- NBR
- ABNT
- ISO (microfilm)
- IEC (microfilm)
- DIN.

In addition there are partial collections from other countries, which are not always the up-to-date issue:

- ASTM
- AENOR
- other

Other holdings include ISO publications, Codex Alimentarius, catalogues of standards published by some twenty foreign standards writing organizations, periodicals and few reference directories.

4.3.3 Documentation Collection (Xerem)

At Xerem, there is a complete collection of the Diário Oficial. This publication includes all the Acts Regulations which have been adopted in Brazil. In addition, the collection includes some 4.000 books concerning metrology and a large collection of scientific and technical information.

4.3.4 Information Services

At Praça Maua, there is one person providing information services to staff of the ministries, INMETRO and external users, on national, international and selective foreign standards. There are some statistics available on the number of users of this service, generally about 60 per month.

At Xerem, there is one person who provides to ministries, INMETRO and external users information on regulations, metrology and scientific and technical material. There are no statistics on the number of users. Also written requests for information are handled at Xerem, but there are no statistics available on number of users.

4.3.5 Data Base for Standards

Two staff members are working at Praça Maua, indexing the Brazil standards using the ISONET format and the BSI Root Thesaurus (translated into Portuguese by these staff members). All of the NBR and ABNT standards have now been indexed.

New terminals will be delivered in April 1984, so staff will be able to index directly on-line the new

editions and amendments, estimated at about 100 per month.

Staff will also be able to carry out searches on-line, for information on Brazilian standards.

4.3.6 Data Base for Regulations

At Xerem, one member is presently finalising the input sheet to index regulations. These are the adopted regulations that have been published in the Diário Oficial. Also, a limited number of acts, relevant to metrology and INMETRO have been indexed.

In Brasilia, the PRODASEN system is a project of the Senate. It includes the full text of all acts and regulations in Brazil. The CEDIN intends to access this system, once they receive the new computer terminals in April, 1984. This would give direct access to all adopted acts and regulations of Brazil.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Co-ordinating Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade should arrange for the appropriate authority to issue a directive to government ministries and organizations to comply with the operative provisions of the Agreement which would apply to their activities.

The Co-ordinating Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade should develop a policy requiring that a notice of a proposed standard or technical regulation SHALL be published in a publication.

The Co-ordinating Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade should arrange for the publication of a list of federal ministries engaged in the preparation adoption or use of technical regulations on standards.

The Co-ordinating Committee on Technical Barriers should arrange to have adopted standards published promptly so that interested parties can obtain a copy.

Set policy for preparing notifications in ONE of the following languages:

- English
- French
- Spanish.

Prepare first notification from Brazil to the GATT Secretariat, in the immediate or very near future.

Forward all Brazil notifications to Department of External Relations for transmittal to the GATT Secretariat.

Provide to the CEDIN, simultaneously, a copy of each notification from Brazil.

Ensure that notifications from Brazil allow reasonable time, so that other signatories can make comments, in writing.

INMETRO should act as the point of contact for organizations outside of the federal government for matters concerning the co-ordination and implementation of the Agreement.

Designate INMETRO/CEDIN as the Brazil GATT Enquiry Point.

Arrange for Ministry of External Relations to advise the GATT Secretariat that INMETRO/CEDIN has been appointed as the GATT Enquiry Point, for the purposes of Article 10 of the Agreement.

Advise GATT Secretariat of:

- Name of Enquiry Point
- Address
- Telephone number
- Telex
- Telegram
- Name(s) of person to contact.

Develop publicity campaign to advise users in Brazil of the location of the Enquiry Point and services which it can provide.

Advise GATT Secretariat that comments from other signatories should be sent to the CEDIN.

The CEDIN should forward comments from other signatories to the appropriate authority so that these may be discussed and taken into account.

The CEDIN should acquire and maintain a complete set of all notifications.

All notifications should be indexed by the CEDIN.

The CEDIN should provide copies of proposed technical regulations or standards, upon request, to other signatories, or persons in that signatory country.

The CEDIN staff should participate in meetings of Enquiry point representatives, sponsored by the GATT Secretariat.

RESOLUÇÃO Nº 03/83

O CONSELHO NACIONAL DE METROLOGIA, NORMALIZAÇÃO E QUALIDADE INDUSTRIAL - CONMETRO, usando das atribuições que lhe confere o artigo 3º da Lei 5966, de 11 de dezembro de 1973.

Considerando, que o Brasil é membro original do Acordo sobre Barreiras Técnicas ao Comércio do GATT, cujo Acordo passa a vigorar a partir de 1º de janeiro de 1980;

Considerando, que é de interesse para o País desenvolver mecanismos para evitar as chamadas barreiras técnicas que dificultam o comércio exportador brasileiro;

Considerando, que estas barreiras técnicas são geradas por especificações técnicas de produtos, regulamentos técnicos ou normas técnicas e que dificultam as atividades comerciais de modo injustificado;

RESOLVE:

1. Criar no âmbito do INMETRO o Comitê de Coordenação sobre Barreiras Técnicas ao Comércio/GATT;

2. O Comitê de Coordenação sobre Barreiras Técnicas ao Comércio/GATT terá a seguinte constituição:

- 1 Representante do Ministério das Relações Exteriores
- 1 Representante do Ministério da Indústria e do Comércio (INMETRO)
- 1 Representante do Ministério da Agricultura
- 1 Representante do Ministério da Saúde
- 1 Representante do Ministério da Aeronáutica
- 1 Representante do Ministério da Fazenda
- 1 Representante da Secretaria de Planejamento da Presidência da República
- 1 Representante da Associação Brasileira de Normas Técnicas

3. O Comitê de Coordenação poderá ter como órgãos consultivos a Confederação Nacional do Comércio, a Confederação Nacional da Indústria, a Confederação Nacional da Agricultura, bem como outras entidades envolvidas pelo Comitê.

4. O INMETRO implantará e coordenará as atividades do Comitê de Coordenação sobre Barreiras Técnicas ao Comércio/GATT;

5. Compete ao Comitê:

- a) Coordenar e acompanhar a execução dos Trabalhos sobre Barreiras Técnicas ao Comércio;
- b) Analisar, avaliar, compatibilizar projetos de normas, normas, regulamentos técnicos, sistemas de certificação com vistas a evitar as chamadas barreiras técnicas a produtos brasileiros no comércio internacional;
- c) Manifestar-se sobre a execução do Acordo em geral e em particular quanto ao Artigo 12 no que se refere ao tratamento diferenciado aos países em desenvolvimento;
- d) Fornecer aos representantes brasileiros às reuniões do Comitê sobre Barreiras Técnicas do Comércio do GATT, em Genebra, material técnico destinado à elaboração pelo Ministério das Relações Exteriores das competências instruídas com vistas à promoção e defesa dos interesses nacionais.

Brasília, 14 de abril de 1983

João Carlos Pinna

ANEXO II

PORTARIA Nº 40, DE 17 DE MAIO DE 1983
PUBLICADA NO D.O.U. DE 23/05/83

O Presidente do Instituto Nacional de Metrologia, Normalização e Qualidade Industrial - INMETRO, no uso de suas atribuições, tendo em vista o disposto no Decreto nº 85.645, de 20 de janeiro de 1981, e o que consta dos Processos MIC nº 106.438/82 e INMETRO nº 1.244/83.

R E S O L V E:

Retificar a Portaria nº 006, de 21 de fevereiro de corrente ano, publicada no Diário Oficial da União-Seção II, de 28 seguinte, a fim de posicionar na referência NS-06 e NS-07, respectivamente, os Procuradores Autárquicos, código LT-SJ-1.103.A, EDIMAR RODRIGUES DE PAULA e INALDA CAVALCANTI PITANGUEIRA.

EDITAL 04/83

PUBLICADO NO D.O.U. DE 10/05/83

O INMETRO torna público, para conhecimento dos interessados, que encontram-se em fase de discussão os seguintes projetos de norma ou de revisão de norma da Associação Brasileira de Normas Técnicas - ABNT, com término do prazo de votação até 29 de setembro de 1983.

03-1 - Comitê Brasileiro de Mineração e Metalurgia

<u>NUMERO</u>	<u>TITULO</u>	<u>PRAZO</u>
1.9.7-001	Corrosão por imersão em meios alcoólicos - Método de ensaio	17.06.83
1.9.2-002	Adequação da limpeza de superfície aos sistemas de revestimentos protetores e perfil de ancoragem - Procedimento	17.06.83
1.11.01-001	Minério de ferro beneficiado mecanicamente - Classificação	17.06.83
1.11.01-002	Minério de ferro pelletizado - Pelota - Classificação	17.06.83

ANNEX II

Aos interessados pelo assunto poderão obter cópias dos projetos, a fim de apresentarem sugestões para o aperfeiçoamento dos textos, ou objeções técnicas fundamentadas que desaconselhem sua aprovação como Norma.

As solicitações poderão ser feitas à Sede da ABNT, à Caixa Postal, 1680, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, ou às suas Delegacias a seguir relacionadas:

Delegacia Regional - DR 1

São Paulo

Rua Marques de Itu, 88 - 4º andar

01223 - SÃO PAULO - SP

Delegacia Estadual - DE 1

Paraíba

Av. Aprígio Veloso, 382

53100 - CAMPINA GRANDE - PB

Delegacia Estadual - DE 2

Pernambuco

Rua Napoleão Laureano, 287

Macalena

53000 - RECIFE - PE

Delegacia Estadual - DE 3

Bahia

Av. 7 de Setembro, 608 - 4º andar

Conj. 401

40000 - SALVADOR - BA

Delegacia Estadual - DE 4

Minas Gerais

Rua Bahia, 1148 g/1007/11

30000 - BELO HORIZONTE - MG

Delegacia Estadual - DE 5

Distrito Federal

Edifício Central, s/401 - SCS

70000 - BRASÍLIA - DF

Delegacia Regional - DE 6

Centro Politécnico da U.F.P.R.

Bloco IV - Deptº de Mecânica - s/702

80000 - CURITIBA - PR

Delegacia Regional - DE 7

Rua Albano Schmidt, 3365

89200 - JOINVILLE - SC

Delegacia Estadual - DE 8

Instituto de Química

Rua Luiz Eglert, s/nº

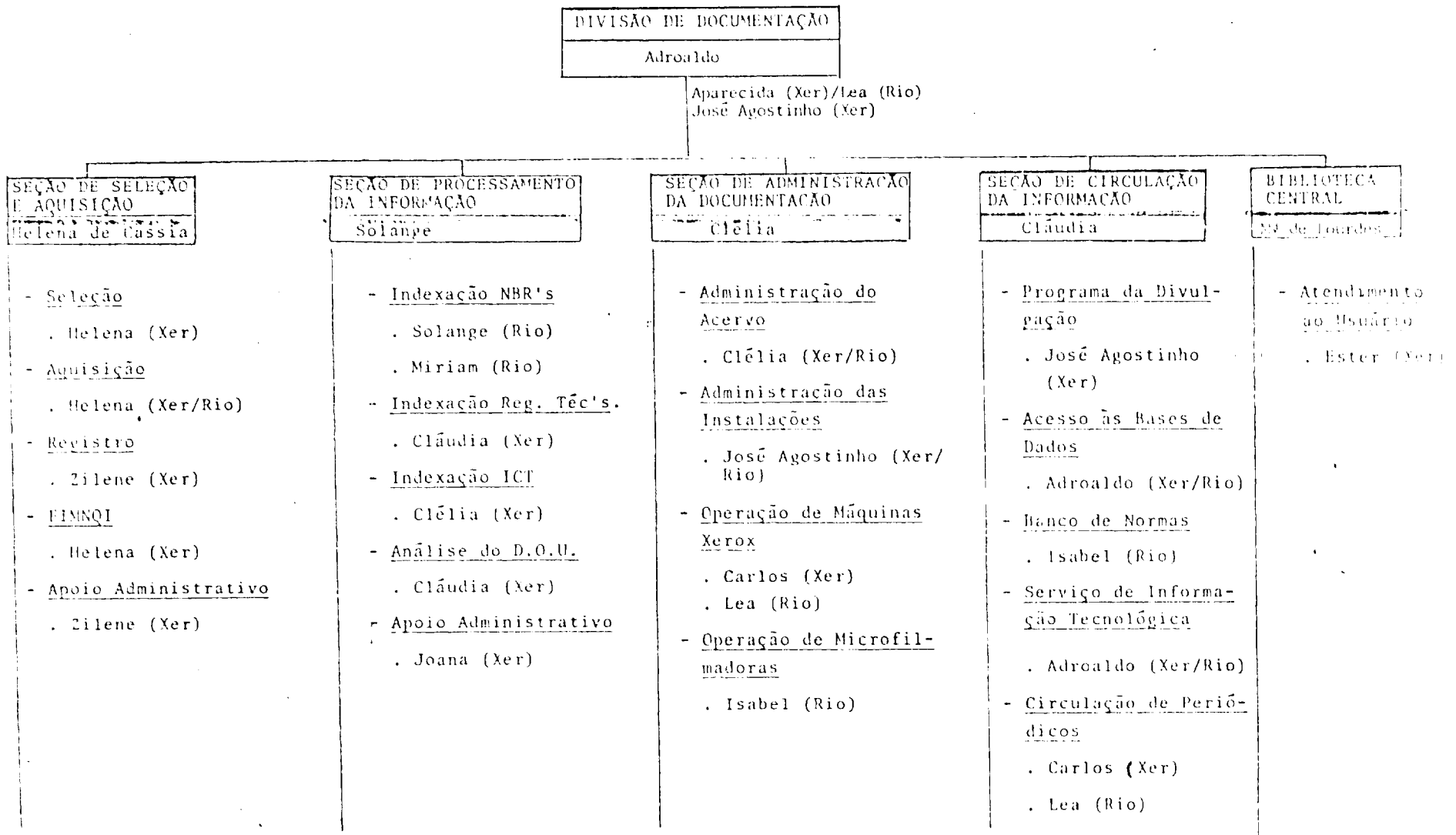
91000 - PORTO ALEGRE - RS

ANNEX III

INMETRO

CENTRO DE DOCUMENTAÇÃO E INFORMAÇÃO

Organograma da Divisão de Documentação



NB₁ - As operações de caráter administrativo em Xerém ficam sob responsabilidade de Cláudia;

NB₂ - As mesmas operações no Rio ficam sob responsabilidade de Solange.

REPORT ON OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR THE GATT
ENQUIRY POINT OF BRAZIL

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ANNEX A

ANNEX B

ANNEX C

REPORT ON OPERATING
PROCEDURES FOR THE GATT ENQUIRY
POINT OF BRAZIL

1.0 NOTIFICATIONS - GENERAL

1. Obtain a copy of all notifications which have been circulated by the GATT Secretariat since January 1st, 1980;
- 2) set up a file for each of the signatories to the Standards Code;
- 3) file each of the notifications by signatory and in numerical sequence;
- 4) file correspondance by signatory;
- 5) maintain a complete collection of all the notifications;
- 6) prepare an index of all the notifications to include the following information:
 - TBT/Notification number
 - Party notifying
 - Product(s) covered
 - Date issued by GATT Secretariat
 - Date received in Brazil
 - Date for final comments
 - Comments made by Brazil Yes/No
 - Date comments forwarded to Ministry of External Relation.

2.0

NOTIFICATIONS FROM THE GATT SECRETARIAT

- 1) Request the Ministry of External Relations (DPC) to forward a copy of ALL notifications to the CEDIN, as received;
- 2) record receipt of the notification at CEDIN, by adding it to the index of notifications;
- 3) make a copy of the notification and file it in the respective signatory file;
- 4) review the notification, make copies as required, and forward one copy of the notification to each appropriate ministry, organization or individual person for comment;
- 5) record who has received copies of each notification;
- 6) any comments should be forwarded to the CEDIN who will forward them to the respective signatory.

3.0

NOTIFICATIONS TO THE GATT SECRETARIAT

- 1) Ensure the CEDIN receives a copy of all notifications prepared by Brazil;
- 2) make a copy of each notification and put it on file at the CEDIN;
- 3) forward a copy of each notification to the Ministry of External Relations (DPC);
- 4) Ministry of External Relations (DPC) should forward the notification to the GATT Secretariat;
- 5) CEDIN should make a note of the number assigned to the notification by the GATT Secretariat.

4.0

DOCUMENTATION COLLECTION - CEDIN

- 1) Acquire and maintain as complete collection of technical regulations, standards and certification systems adopted by federal government in Brazil;
- 2) acquire and maintain a complete collection of technical regulations, standards and certification systems proposed by federal government in Brazil;
- 3) acquire and maintain a collection of NBR and ABNT standards;
- 4) maintain a collection of ISO and IEC standards;
- 5) maintain a collection of DIN standards;
- 6) as resources permit, acquire and maintain a collection of standards published by Brazil's major trading partners.

5.0

ENQUIRIES FROM OTHER SIGNATORIES

- 1) All enquiries from other countries, should be received by the CEDIN;
- 2) wherever possible, CEDIN should respond directly to the enquiry;
- 3) all enquiries must receive a reply, within a reasonable time;
- 4) if unable to respond to the enquiry, CEDIN should forward it to the appropriate source, so that they can respond directly;
- 5) copies of the response should be forwarded to CEDIN, for filing;
- 6) files should be monitored to ensure that each enquiry receives a reply;
- 7) statistics should be kept on the number of enquiries received from each country.

6.0

COMMENTS BY OTHER SIGNATORIES

- 1) Comments should be forwarded to the CEDIN;
- 2) CEDIN should identify, and forward the comments to the appropriate ministry or organization having an interest in the product covered by the notification;
- 3) CEDIN should file a copy of the comments, in the respective signatory file;
- 4) CEDIN should receive a copy of any correspondence relating to comments;
- 5) CEDIN should monitor signatory file, to ensure that the signatory making the comments receives a reply.

7.0

REQUESTS FOR DOCUMENTATION

- 1) Copies of the relevant documents should be provided by the CEDIN, wherever possible;
- 2) copies should be provided at the same price as they are provided to users in Brazil;
- 3) if unable to provide the document, the CEDIN should provide information to the enquirer on the source of document, price if any and details on how to obtain a copy.

8.0

REQUESTS FROM BRAZIL FOR DOCUMENTATION OF OTHER SIGNATORIES

- 1) CEDIN should contact the Enquiry Point in the signatory and request the information;
- 2) file request in signatory file;
- 3) upon receipt, forward a copy to the enquirer in Brazil;
- 4) retain a copy of the information in the signatory file;
- 5) establish follow up procedure to ensure a response is received.

3.0

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Identify CEDIN as the GATT Enquiry Point;
- identify CEDIN as the ISONET Enquiry Point;
- allocate resources to increase the reference collection to include standards published by major trading partners;
- allocate additional human resources to include one information officer;
- encourage co-operation between INMETRO and ABNT to utilise existing national documentation resources;
- encourage ABNT to participate in exchanging copies of ABNT standards with other member bodies of ISO, on a bilateral basis;
- encourage ABNT to keep one copy and provide the other copy of a foreign standard to the CEDIN;
- develop publicity programme to inform users in Brazil of the services available from the CEDIN as the GATT Enquiry Point and ISONET Enquiry Point;
- participate in meetings of Enquiry Point representatives, sponsored by the GATT Secretariat.

FORM LETTER TO
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS (DPC)

Subject: Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade Brazil TBT
Notification.

Dear Sir;

Attached please find a copy of Brazil TBT/Notification.
Would you please arrange to forward this to the GATT Secretariat
for distribution to other signatories, in accordance with Article
10.4 of the Agreement.

Yours sincerely,

GATT Enquiry Point
CEDIN

FORM LETTER TO
COVER DISTRIBUTION OF
NOTIFICATIONS IN BRAZIL

Subject: Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade
TBT/Notification 83.

Dear Sir;

Please find attached a copy of the subject notification, which has been circulated by the GATT Secretariat.

We are forwarding this copy for your information and for any action you may wish to take.

Yours sincerely,

GATT Enquiry Point
CEDIN

ANNEX C

AGREEMENT ON TECHNICAL BARRIERS
TO TRADE (STANDARDS CODE) SIGNATORIES

Argentina	Norway
Austria	Pakistan
Belgium	Philippines
Brazil	Romania
Canada	Rwanda
Chile	Singapore
Czechoslovakia	Spain
Denmark	Sweden
Egypt	Switzerland
European Economic Community	Tunisia
Finland	United Kingdom
France	United States
Federal Republic of Germany	Yugoslavia
Greece	
Hungary	
India	
Ireland	
Italy	
Japan	
Korea	
Luxembourg	
Netherlands	
New Zealand	

A N N E X I I I

REPORT ON THE OBLIGATIONS AND THE PRESENT STATUS
IN BRAZIL OF THE ISONET ENQUIRY POINT

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REPORT ON THE OBLIGATIONS
AND THE PRESENT STATUS IN BRAZIL
OF THE ISONET ENQUIRY POINT

1. ISONET ENQUIRY POINT

1.1 Background

In brief, the ISO Information Network - ISONET - is an agreement between participating members to combine their efforts, in order to make information on standards, technical regulations and related matters readily available whenever it is required. ISONET members agree to exchange information, as required, with similar bodies in other countries.

There are three categories of membership for participating in ISONET:

- national member
- associate member
- international affiliate.

Each member body of ISO can elect to participate in ISONET, as a national member. Alternatively, an ISO member may appoint another organization to act as the national member. It is most important to note, that there can be only one national member of ISONET in each country.

An associate member of ISONET, may be any national body in a given country, which has been nominated by the national member of ISONET.

An international affiliate, is an international organization, which has joined ISONET by invitation of the ISO Secretary General, following the decision of the ISO Council.

The basic condition for participation in ISONET by ALL three types of members are given in the ISONET Constitution. All, members wishing to participate in ISONET must indicate that they will agree to comply with the Constitution.

Copies of the ISONET Constitution are readily available at the CEDIN. As such, this report will not go into detail of this publication.

2. ISONET STATUS

At present, the Brazil member body of ISO is the ABNT. The ABNT has registered with ISO as the national member of ISONET. As such, the ISONET Enquiry Point in Brazil is located at ABNT, at this time.

3. OBLIGATIONS OF ISONET MEMBER

The responsibilities and obligations for participation in ISONET are detailed in the following ISO publications:

- ISONET Constitution, 2nd. ed. 12 p
- ISONET Guide, 1st. ed. 33p.

4. ENQUIRY SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED

The types of enquiry services to be provided by the ISONET Enquiry Point are detailed in the ISONET Constitution and ISONET Guide.

In brief, and without being exclusive, the ISONET Enquiry Point of Brazil is responsible for:

- answering enquiries from all individuals and organizations located in its territory;
- answering enquiries from other ISONET members;
- answering enquiries from international organizations;
- acting as a referral centre, by referring an enquiry to the most appropriate source for the information, when unable to answer a specific enquiry; and
- taking all reasonable steps to answer enquiries.

5. ENQUIRY SERVICES BEING PROVIDED BY THE CEDIN

The CEDIN is presently providing information services on standards and regulations, to staff of the ministries, the INMETRO and some outside users. Some statistics are kept on these enquiries, which are averaging about sixty per month. The majority of the enquiries are from the staff of the ministries and the INMETRO.

Some enquiries from other countries are also being handled by the CEDIN but there are no statistics on the number of such enquiries.

6. ISONET AND GATT ENQUIRY POINT

A comparison of the services to be provided by the ISONET Enquiry Point and by the GATT Enquiry Point, shows that they are essentially the same. In order to respond, the national member must acquire full knowledge of standards, technical regulations certification systems and related matters of Brazil. In order to disseminate this information, the Enquiry

Point must have access to a complete and up to date set of Brazil standards, regulations and information on standardization activities, at the national level.

In order to avoid duplication of resources at the national level, the most practical solution for Brazil would be to have one enquiry point for GATT and ISONET. INMETRO should assign responsibility to the CEDIN for operation of the ISONET and GATT Enquiry Point.

This proposal of having one organization provide the two services is not unique to Brazil. At present, 12 countries including Canada, France, Finland, Norway and the United States have assigned responsibility for ISONET and GATT to a single enquiry point, thus avoiding duplication of resources at the national level.

7. PROCEDURES TO NOMINATE CEDIN AS ISONET ENQUIRY POINT

Discussions should be held between the INMETRO and the ABNT, in the very near future, to have the INMETRO/CEDIN named as the national centre for ISONET. This would not set a precedent, since in the U.S.A. the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) is the member body of ISO, but has nominated the National Bureau of Standards to serve as the ISONET Enquiry Point.

Once the situation with ABNT has been resolved, the next step is to notify the ISO Secretary General. The ABNT should arrange to advise the ISO Central Secretariat that they wish to nominate the INMETRO/CEDIN as national member of ISONET. At the same time, the INMETRO/CEDIN should provide the ISO Central Secretariat with the following information:

- Name of the centre
- Abbreviation

- Postal address
- Telephone
- Telex
- Telegram
- Person to contact.

Information provided to the Central Secretariat, should also include detailed information about the CEDIN. This will be published in the ISO document ISO/INFECO 346 ISONET Directory. The ISO Central Secretariat will then provide this information to all ISONET members.

0
8.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- The ISONET Enquiry Point and the GATT Enquiry Point should be located within the one organization, to avoid duplication of national resources;
 - the CEDIN should be nominated as the GATT and ISONET Enquiry Point;
 - the ABNT should nominate the INMETRO/CEDIN as the national or associate member of ISONET.
- 0

THE GATT STANDARDS CODE AND THE OPERATION OF THE
CANADIAN ENQUIRY POINT

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SYNOPSIS

THE GATT STANDARDS CODE

The Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade, also known as the Standards Code was one of the Agreements resulting from the Tokyo Round of multi-national Trade Negotiations which were concluded in 1979. Signatories to the Code, must ensure that technical regulations, standards, certification systems do not create unnecessary obstacles to trade. Also signatories must establish a central Enquiry Point to respond to all reasonable enquiries concerning standards, technical regulations and certification systems adopted or proposed by national or local governments.

This paper provides an overview of the Agreement and of the operation of the Canadian GATT Enquiry Point, which is also the national centre for information on standards, technical regulations, certification systems and standards related activities and Canadian national member of ISONET.

THE GATT STANDARDS CODE
AND THE OPERATION OF THE
CANADIAN ENQUIRY POINT

1. INTRODUCTION

The GATT Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade, also known as the Standards Code, is the most significant development to date concerning the role of standards and certification activities in international trade.

The Code commits signatories to making sure that when governments or other bodies adopt technical regulations or standards, for reasons of safety, health, consumer or environmental protection, or other purposes, these regulations or standards, and the testing and certification systems related to them, shall not create unnecessary obstacles to trade. It also provides for exchanges of information, and for measures of assistance to developing countries in the application of technical regulations or standards.

The Code states "Each Party shall ensure that an enquiry point exists which is able to answer all reasonable enquiries from interested parties" regarding technical regulations, standards and certification systems.

The purpose of this paper is to provide an overview of the operation of the Canadian GATT Enquiry Point. In addition, I have included a brief summary of the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade and have made some suggestions on points to be considered by developing countries in establishing their Enquiry Point.

2.

GATT

The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) is a multi-lateral treaty, subscribed to by more than 80 governments (contracting Parties) which together account for 80 percent of world trade. The basic aim of GATT is to liberalize world trade, thereby contributing to the economic growth and the welfare and the development of all people.

GATT lays down agreed rules for the fair conduct of international trade, and also provides a forum in which countries can discuss and overcome their trade problems. The success of GATT can be measured by the growth in the volume of international trade. Since 1948, it has increased some nine hundred percent.

GATT entered into force in January 1948. The present membership includes 88 countries, whilst an additional 31 countries apply its rules in their trade. Developing countries account for more than two-thirds of the GATT membership. GATT has a secretariat which is headed by a Director-General and the headquarters are in Geneva, Switzerland.

3.

THE TOKYO ROUND

Since 1948, seven rounds of multi-lateral trade negotiations have been held within GATT. The latest and most comprehensive of these was the "Tokyo round", which was held from 1973 to 1979.

Ninety-nine countries of widely differing levels of economic development were involved in the Tokyo Round. Special attention was given to the trade of developing countries.

The Tokyo Round produced agreements covering not only tariffs but also many types of non-tariff measures,

which had the potential to create obstacles to trade. The Tokyo Round resulted in binding agreements, or codes, aimed at reducing and bringing under more effective international discipline these non-tariff measures.

The agreements are:

- . Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade
- . Agreement on Government Procurement
- . Agreement on Import Licensing Procedures
- . Agreement on Trade in Civil Aircraft
- . Revised GATT Anti-Dumping Code
- . Code on Customs Valuation
- . Code on Subsidies and Countervailing Duties
- . Arrangement on Bovine Meat
- . International Dairy Arrangement.

All of the agreements provide for consultation and dispute settlement. In addition they provide for special and more favourable treatment for developing countries.

4. AGREEMENT ON TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO TRADE

The Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade, also known as the Standards Code, came into force on January 1st, 1980. At present there are 36 countries which are signatories to the Standards Code.

The Code commits signatories to making sure that when governments or other bodies adopt technical regulations or standards, for reasons of safety, health, consumer or environmental protection, or other purposes, these regulations or standards, and the testing and certification schemes related to them, shall not create unnecessary obstacles to trade. The Code covers

standards, technical regulations, test methods, verification procedures for assuring conformity with technical regulations and standards, and certification systems. It includes regulations on packaging, marking and labelling. All products, including industrial and agricultural, are covered by the Code. The Code does not include technical specifications prepared by an individual company for its own use. Purchasing specifications prepared by governmental bodies for their own use are also not included, since these are covered by the GATT Agreement on Government Procurement.

The Code applies to central governments, local governments, non-governmental organizations which have legal power to enforce technical regulations, governmental or non-governmental standardizing bodies, international organizations and regional organizations involved in standardization or certification activities.

The Code has 15 Articles and 3 Annexes.

Article 1 - General Provisions

Article 2 - Preparation, adoption and application of technical regulations and standards by central government bodies.

Article 3 - Preparation, adoption and application of technical regulations and standards by local government bodies.

Article 4 - Preparation, adoption and application of technical regulations and standards by non-governmental bodies.

Article 5 - Determination of conformity with technical regulations or standards by central government bodies.

Article 6 - Determination by local government bodies and non-governmental bodies of conformity with technical regulations or standards.

- Article 7 - Certification systems operated by central government bodies.
- Article 8 - Certification systems operated by local government and non-governmental bodies.
- Article 9 - International and regional certification systems.
- Article 10 - Information about technical regulations, standards and certification systems.
- Article 11 - Technical assistance to other parties.
- Article 12 - Special and differential treatment of developing countries.
- Article 13 - The Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade.
- Article 14 - Consultation and dispute settlement.
- Article 15 - Final provisions.
-
- Annex 1 - Terms and Their Definitions for the Specific Purposes of This Agreement.
- Annex 2 - Technical Expert Groups
- Annex 3 - Panels.

The Code is published by the GATT Information Service, Centre William Rappard, 154 Rue de Lausanne, 1211 Geneve 21, Switzerland. Price SWF5.

In brief, the principles of the code are:

1. Technical regulations standards, test methods and certification systems should not create unnecessary obstacles to trade.
2. Imported products should be treated no less favourably than domestic products or other imported products.

In Canada, the Federal Government has assigned responsibility for the implementation and administration of the Code to the Department of Industry Trade and Commerce. In implementing the Code, the Federal Government agreed that existing organizations and arrangements, in both the public and private sector, would be used wherever feasible and appropriate. Accordingly, the Department of Industry Trade and Commerce arranged to contract with the Standards Council of Canada to establish and operate the Canadian Enquiry Point.

5.

STANDARDS COUNCIL OF CANADA

The Standards Council is a statutory corporation, established by Act of Parliament in 1970. Financed by Parliamentary appropriation, the Council carries out its respective policies, programmes, and activities, independent of the government. Council reports to Parliament, through the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs.

The objective of the Council is to foster and promote voluntary standardization in Canada, as a means of responding to national needs related to the economy, health, safety and welfare of the public, protection of the consumer, and domestic and international trade.

The structure within which the Council carries out its responsibilities is known as the National Standards System. Currently, the system comprises five accredited standards writing organizations, four certification and six testing organizations. Canadian participation in international work is also an integral part of the system. The Council is the Canadian member body of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and sponsors the Canadian Committee of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC).

Given its mandate and its current activities in the field of providing information on standards, regulations and standardization activities, the Standards Council was seen to be the appropriate organization to establish and operate the Canadian Enquiry Point for the purpose of the Code. For the same reasons, the Standards Council was also seen as the appropriate organization to collect and to provide information, to interested governmental and non-governmental organizations in Canada, on existing and proposed international standards and certification systems; Canadian Technical regulations, standards and certification systems; and on selected regional and foreign technical regulations, standards and certification systems, which might have important implications for Canada's trade. In looking at both of these functions being provided by the Standards Council, it was agreed that it would be the logical organization to send to and receive from the GATT Secretariat notifications of proposed technical regulations and certification systems, in accordance with the provisions of the Code, acting as the agent of the Federal Government for this purpose.

6. STANDARDS INFORMATION DIVISION

The Standards Information Division is part of the Education and Information Branch, reporting to this Director. The Information Division is responsible for providing, to publics in Canada and other countries, information on national, international and foreign standards, on technical regulations, on certification systems and standardization activities. The Information Division carries out these activities by providing three interrelated services:

- . Standards Information Service (SIS) -
(Established 1976)
- . Canadian ISONET member (ISO Information Network) -
(Established 1978)
- . GATT Enquiry Point - Canada -
(Established 1980).

First of all I would like to give a brief description of each of these services.

7. STANDARDS INFORMATION SERVICE (SIS)

As the national co-ordinating agency, the Standards Council by its Act has the responsibility:

"...Collect translate and distribute information on standards and standardization activities... in and outside of Canada".

In 1976, Council approved the establishment of a comprehensive national information service on standards, standardization activities and standards related documents. The Service functions as the national reference and referral service for information on standards and standards related documents.

8. ISO INFORMATION NETWORK - ISONET

In 1978, ISONET was created by ISON/INFCO to co-ordinate and provide a system for the exchange of information on standards type documents, both nationally and internationally. ISONET links the information centres of the participating ISO member bodies and of the ISO Central Secretariat into a worldwide network.

ISONET is a de-centralized system. Each information centre participating in the network is responsible for collecting, indexing, and providing information on standards and standards type documents, at the national level. The ISO Central Secretariat is responsible for providing information on standards published at the international level.

ISONET allows member bodies to combine their efforts in order to make information on standards, technical regulations and related matters readily available as required. ISONET works on the principle that in each country there is a body, usually the ISO member body, with a wide knowledge of standards and regulatory activities of the country concerned. Each ISONET member agrees to share its experiences and to exchange information as required with similar bodies in other countries.

In order to aid in co-ordinating and facilitating the exchange of information between ISONET members ISONET has developed useful tools:

- . ISONET Guide
- . ISONET Constitution
- . ISONET Manual
- . ISONET Thesaurus (ROOT and T.I.T.).

Membership in ISONET is open to bodies competent to contribute to the flow of information and who accept to agree to the constitution. A national member of ISONET is either the ISO member body or correspondent member, or another competent body nominated by the ISO member. A country may be represented in ISONET by one national member. National members may nominate as associate member another organization in their own

country to help them achieve the aims of ISONET.

The third type of membership in ISONET is international affiliate; this is an international or regional body with an interest in ISONET, which has joined by invitation of the secretary general of ISO. At present, the European Economic Community is an ISONET international affiliate.

The Standards Council is the national member body of ISO, Council has actively participated in the work of INFCO leading to the establishment of ISONET. In considering the conditions for participation in ISONET Membership type 1, Council noted that the Standards Information Service was already providing all the necessary services and met all the criteria to participate in ISONET. The Service was operating as an enquiry point and publishing a list of national standards each year. Consequently, in 1978 the Standards Council registered as a member of ISONET, Membership type 1.

9. GATT ENQUIRY POINT - CANADA

The Standards Council is contracted by the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce, a federal department, to provide certain services required since Canada is a signatory to the Code. The Standards Information Service provides all the necessary services required to comply with Article 10 of the Code - Information and Assistance.

Notifications

The Code obligates Parties proposing to introduce technical regulations or standards which are not substantially the same as the technical context of the relevant international standards and which are likely to have a significant effect on trade as follows:

Parties shall:

- o publish a notice that they propose to introduce a technical regulation or standard
- o notify other Parties through the GATT Secretariat of the products to be covered, together with a brief indication of the objective and rationale for the proposal.
- o provide copies of the proposed technical regulation or standards, upon request, to other parties
- o allow reasonable time for other parties to make comments, in writing, and arrange to forward these to the appropriate authority so that these may be taken into account.

The Enquiry Point is responsible for notifying the GATT Secretariat of proposed changes in technical regulations or standards which may affect international trade. In Canada, proposed changes in federal technical regulations are published in government publication called Canada Gazette Part I. Staff of the Enquiry Point review the Gazette, identify technical regulations, which would affect trade, and abstract the relevant information. This can vary from 4 to 100 pages.

Staff then complete a notification form which is provided by the GATT Secretariat and used by all Parties to notify. As Canada has two official languages, the notifications are prepared in English and in French.

The completed notifications are forwarded to the GATT Secretariat through the Department of External Affairs. Upon receipt, the GATT Secretariat assigns a code - e.g. TBT/Notif. 83/04. The 83 is the year in which it was issued, the next number is issued sequentially irrespective of which Party is making the notification.

The GATT secretariat then forwards completed notifications to each signatory so that they can be aware of and comment on the proposed change. Signatories may request additional information from the notifying country and the Enquiry Point provides this.

The Canadian Enquiry Point receives copies of notifications, by other signatories from the GATT Secretariat. These are reviewed by staff and forwarded to interested parties in Canada in order that they can be aware of, and comment it required, on proposed changes affecting trade in Canada. The Enquiry Point has developed a list of the subject areas which interest various federal government departments, provincial governments, standards organizations and trade associations.

As an example, if one of the notifications dealt with automobile components, staff would ensure that Transport Canada, the federal department responsible for Motor Vehicle Regulations would receive a copy. Like wise, if the subject being covered was steel, the standards writing organization responsible for writing standards on steel would receive a copy.

The Enquiry Point ensures that any comments from interested parties are forwarded to the Enquiry Point in the country concerned. This point is then responsible for ensuring that the comments are noted and any relevant action is taken.

Translations

Notifications to the GATT Secretariat must be made in one of these three languages - English, French or Spanish. However, the relevant documentation which supports the notifications need only be issued in the language of the signatory. As, a result much of the supporting documentation is available in other

languages and the Enquiry Point is responsible for having these translated by the Secretary of State into either English or French. There is no charge to the Canadian user for this service.

Information and Assistance

In looking at the information requirements of the Code, the Standards Information Division was already providing this service as National Enquiry Point and as ISONET member. Canada, examined the resources required to operate these services and agreed it would be logical, economical and beneficial to the user to have one central Enquiry Point providing information on standards, regulations and codes. An examination of the responsibilities of the ISONET and GATT, Enquiry Points showed they would require access to national collections of standards, regulations and codes, as well as the foreign and international standards. Collections of standards are expensive and cost money to maintain.

Canada was not the only country which decided to make the Information Division fulfill all three services - national centre, ISONET, and GATT. A recent survey by ISO shows that there are 56 ISONET members, 37 of whom are also signatories to the GATT code. Not all these countries have yet established Enquiry Points, but 12 countries have made one point responsible for national centre, ISONET and GATT. Included in this list are: Canada, Denmark, France, Finland, Germany, India, Norway, U.S.A. and others.

Enquiries

At present the Canadian Enquiry Point responds to some 800 enquiries each month. The statistics are not broken down to show which were made by GATT, ISONET or national member. An enquiry is a request for service.

The information service and the reference documentation collection of standards, technical regulations and standards related materials are located within the headquarters of the Standards Council in Ottawa. Users can reach the service by mail, telex, telephone or personal visit. The reference collection is open to the public for reference and review purposes.

The service can be reached from any point in Canada via a toll-free telephone number. This feature is unique to the Canadian service and is extremely well received by the user who does not pay for the call. In addition, in order to cope with the five different time zones, we have coupled a tape recorder to the telephone system. This allows the user to access the service 24 hours every day.

Staff

A brief word about staff. At present, the division has six employees - manager, three trained and qualified information officers, a librarian and one administrative support staff.

10.

SUMMARY

The Standards Information Division is now in its seventh year of operation. Since January 1, 1980, it has been acting as the GATT Enquiry in addition to being the national centre and ISONET centre. The service has responded to some thirty-five thousand enquiries, since its establishment in 1976. At present the service receives about 800 enquiries per month.

Some of the achievements accomplished by the Division during this time include the following:

- . it has provided a central point for providing information on standards, regulations, certification systems and standardization activities to publics in Canada and other countries

- . it has established a reputation for reliability and accuracy in providing standards and standards related information
- . it has simplified the process of obtaining copies of standards by providing details on sales and pricing policies of appropriate sources
- . it has developed a comprehensive national collection of standards and technical regulations.

In closing I would like to offer for consideration by those members of developing countries the following:

Recommendation I

In each country, there should be an information centre capable of developing and maintaining a collection of national standards and technical regulations, adopted or proposed.

Recommendation II

The centre should be able to receive and respond to enquiries from centres in other countries.

Recommendation III

The centre could be located in a governmental or non-governmental body. But should receive recognition and support of the national government.

Recommendation IV

For reasons of economy, better use of resources, consideration should be given to having a single centre operate as national centre, ISONET and GATT concurrently.

Recommendation V

The centre should have adequate communications facilities to ensure access by the user and by other centres.

Recommendation VI

The centre should develop a publicity programme to make national users aware of the services it can provide.

