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**1 ARTICLE IX OF THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TRADE IN SERVICES**

**1.1 Text of Article IX**

**Article IX**

*Business Practices*

- 1. Members recognize that certain business practices of service suppliers, other than those falling under Article VIII, may restrain competition and thereby restrict trade in services.
- 2. Each Member shall, at the request of any other Member, enter into consultations with a view to eliminating practices referred to in paragraph 1. The Member addressed shall accord full and sympathetic consideration to such a request and shall cooperate through the supply of publicly available non-confidential information of relevance to the matter in question. The Member addressed shall also provide other information available to the requesting Member, subject to its domestic law and to the conclusion of satisfactory agreement concerning the safeguarding of its confidentiality by the requesting Member.

**1.2 General**

**1.2.1 Electronic commerce**

- 1. With respect to the application of Article IX to electronic commerce, see the Progress Report adopted by the Council for Trade in Services in the context of the Work Programme on Electronic Commerce on 19 July 1999.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> [S/L/74](#), paras. 12-13.