

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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## SUMMARY RECORD OF THE EIGHTH MEETING

Held at the Sankei Kaikan, Tokyo,  
on Friday, 30 October, at 3 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. F. GARCIA OLDINI (Chile)

### Subjects discussed:

1. Franco-German trade with the Saar
2. Australian waiver for products of Papua-New Guinea - Sixth Annual Report
3. Fellowship programme
4. Committee II - Chairmanship

### 1. Franco-German trade with the Saar (L/1033, L/1067)

Mr. ELSON (Germany) said that the second annual report submitted by his Government in accordance with the Decision of 22 November 1957 was contained in document L/1067. He explained that, since 6 July 1959, the Saar had become a part of the tariff and currency area of the Federal Republic of Germany. On that date the tariff quota for the import of French goods into the Saar (List A) and the tariff quota for the export of goods from the Saar into the currency area of the French franc (List B) had come into effect. He stated that it was not yet possible to give particulars regarding the value of imports so far under this special system. In making further reference to the report which his Government had submitted, Mr. Elson explained that the value of the tariff quota under List B, as a consequence of the currency adjustment of the French franc, had been increased from Fr.frs. 84,894 million to Fr. frs. 99,750 million.

Mr. PHILIP (France) referred to the second annual report which his Government had submitted (L/1033). He stated that no difficulties had been experienced in the implementation of the Treaty's provisions, and added that the emergence of the European Economic Community was a contributing factor.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the CONTRACTING PARTIES should take note of the two reports.

This was agreed.

### 2. Australian waiver for products of Papua-New Guinea - Sixth Annual Report (L/1032)

Mr. PHILLIPS (Australia) explained that no action under the waiver granted by the Decision of 24 October 1953 had been taken during the last year. The report submitted by his Government had been circulated in document L/1032 and

contained information on the items to which the waiver had been applied prior to 1958/59. His delegation was ready to provide any further information which might be required. Mr. Phillips suggested that it would be preferable for future reports to be considered at the May/June sessions of the CONTRACTING PARTIES. Trade statistics for Papua and New Guinea were compiled for the year ending 30 June and, consequently, only preliminary figures were available when the report was prepared in August. For that reason, his Government had often had difficulty in submitting its report in sufficient time for consideration. Final trade figures were usually not available until November/December.

Mr. Phillips said that, if this proposal were acceptable to the CONTRACTING PARTIES, he would further suggest that the next report be submitted by his Government at the May/June session in 1961. This meant that the next report would cover a period of approximately eighteen months. If action were to be contemplated under the waiver during that period which would increase duties, the condition providing for advance notification and consultation would, of course, still apply. This ensured that contracting parties would be kept informed of any developments. He hoped, therefore, that the CONTRACTING PARTIES would agree to his suggestion regarding the timing of future reports.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the CONTRACTING PARTIES take note of the report and accept the proposal regarding the timing of the submission of future reports.

This was agreed.

### 3. Fellowship programme (L/1061)

The EXECUTIVE SECRETARY said that the report contained in document L/1061 was complete and detailed and it was hardly necessary for him to make any additional comment. He wished, however, to emphasize the importance which he attached to the programme and to assure delegates that, despite the secretariat's heavy additional burdens, it would continue to give the programme very high priority. Careful attention was paid to the reports of the trainees and of governments and the secretariat would take these into account in connexion with future programmes. He felt that the programme was of considerable importance to the attainment of the objectives of the General Agreement and he hoped that the CONTRACTING PARTIES would endorse the secretariat's attitude in this respect.

Mr. NARASIMHAN (India) said that he had attended one of the GATT courses and could say, without reservation, that the training programme was of great value.

Mr. POPOVIC (Yugoslavia) said that a Yugoslav official had attended one of the courses and he would like to support and endorse the efforts made by the secretariat. He would like to suggest that the courses might be expanded and strengthened.

Mr. THET TUN (Burma) enquired whether the secretariat intended to continue with the set course, which was of a general character, or whether it intended to provide for more specialization such as training in statistics.

Mr. CUHRUK (Turkey) said that his Government attached particular importance to these courses, which four Turkish officials had attended.

Mr. HUGHES (United Kingdom) said that his Government appreciated the value of the fellowship programme. It had nominated candidates from its dependent overseas territories and had also been pleased to welcome trainees visiting Government Departments in London. He was confident that candidates would continue to come forward commensurate with the effort put into the programme by the secretariat.

The DEPUTY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, in reply to the question raised by the representative of Burma, said it was true that the secretariat had generally considered the programme as one of a comprehensive nature. This, however, did not preclude the secretariat, at the request of one or more governments, from considering a different programme of work if the governments concerned so desired. There was more than one way in which arrangements could be made for an official with a United Nations fellowship to follow a special course with the secretariat and, provided the secretariat was advised in advance, the necessary arrangements for such a course could be made. In the past officials holding normal United Nations fellowships had opted to spend some of the time allotted to them with the GATT secretariat, and it had been possible to prepare with the United Nations a composite programme that enabled the officials concerned to have special training.

The general programme had remained more or less unchanged for five years, and it appeared to have given satisfaction. He would like to thank governments which had acted as hosts to trainees visiting their capitals as part of their course.

#### 4. Committee II on Expansion of Trade - Chairmanship

Before closing the meeting, the CHAIRMAN announced that Mr. Campos (Brazil), Chairman of Committee II, had unfortunately not been able to attend the session. He had therefore nominated Mr. Kawasaki (Japan) as Chairman of the Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 3.45 p.m.