

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED  
LIMITED C  
GATT/CPS/5  
2 April 1951

CONTRACTING PARTIES  
Special Session, 1951

## PROBLEM OF THE DISPARITY OF EUROPEAN TARIFFS

### Draft Resolution proposed by the Chairman

In the light of the discussion which has taken place in the Contracting Parties and of informal conversations with interested delegations, I submit the following draft resolution for consideration by the Contracting Parties:

#### THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

HAVING CONSIDERED the letter and memorandum (GATT/CP/103) received from the delegates of Austria, Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the United States of America on the subject of disparities in the level of European tariffs,

INVITE the aforementioned contracting parties and acceding governments to submit considered proposals for multilateral or other procedures designed to achieve on a non-discriminatory basis a reduction of disparities in the tariffs of the European countries concerned, taking into account to the extent necessary the disparities in the economic and social structure of the different countries;

ESTABLISH an inter-sessional working party with the following terms of reference:

- (a) to consider, in the light of their compatibility with the general principles of the G.A.T.T., the proposals submitted in response to the above invitation and to formulate such recommendations as may be necessary to fit the proposals into the framework of the G.A.T.T.
- (b) to consider the problems that may arise in relation to securing adequate compensation from such other countries as may be likely to benefit from the non-discriminatory extension to them of the arrangements proposed.
- (c) to review the continuing efficacy of the negotiating procedures, as tested in the conferences held at Geneva, Annecy and Torquay, and to recommend such adjustments or adaptations as may appear desirable and practical to improve the opportunities of countries with relatively low tariffs to negotiate for the reduction of rates by countries with relatively high tariffs.
- (d) to report not later than 17 August 1951
  - (i) its findings in respect of (a) and (b) above, and
  - (ii) its progress on (c) above.