

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

C/76

23 February 1968

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COUNCIL

CONSULTATIONS ON BALANCE-OF-PAYMENTS
IMPORT RESTRICTIONS IN 1968

Note by the Secretariat

1. It is proposed that the following contracting parties and countries having acceded provisionally, all of which have previously invoked Article XII or Article XVIII:B, should consult in 1968 (the year of the last consultation with each country is given in parenthesis):

Brazil (1966)	Israel (1966)
Burma (1963)	New Zealand (1967)
Ceylon (1966)	South Africa (1967)
Finland (1967)	Spain (1967)
Ghana (1966)	United Arab Republic (1965)
Greece (1966)	Uruguay (1965)
	Yugoslavia (1965)

2. Of the foregoing, five are countries which should have consulted in 1967, but with which it has not yet been possible to hold a consultation; these are Burma, Israel, United Arab Republic, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

3. In addition, Korea should be invited to consult at a mutually convenient date in 1968, presumably during the latter part of the year; in the discussion relating to Korea's accession, the representative of Korea stated that his Government would invoke Article XVIII:B upon becoming a contracting party.

4. The consultation held with Iceland in January 1968 and the forthcoming consultation with Israel form part of the 1967 series, so that technically both countries should be consulted again in 1968. The secretariat suggests, however, that it would be preferable and more meaningful not to hold a second consultation with each country in 1968 and instead to plan consultations as early as is feasible in 1969.

5. At their twenty-fourth session, the CONTRACTING PARTIES agreed that the consultations on the balance of payments and other trade and development problems of developing countries provided for in the General Agreement should give particular attention to the possibilities for alleviating and correcting these problems through measures contracting parties might take to facilitate an expansion of the export earnings of these countries. Background material for

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such expanded consultations will need to be especially carefully prepared for the first pilot consultations on that basis and it is therefore planned, to avoid further delay, that Article XVIII:B consultations held over from 1967 be carried forward on the old basis. The new type of consultation will begin with the Article XVIII:B countries whose consultations fall due in 1968: that is, Brazil, Ceylon, Ghana, Greece and Korea.

6. It is accordingly proposed:

(a) that provision be made for three series of balance-of-payments consultations during 1968, one beginning toward the end of April at which an effort would be made to carry out as many of the consultations held over from 1967 as feasible, and two others later in the year;

(b) that, within this framework, the secretariat should arrange, in consultation with the International Monetary Fund and the individual countries concerned, a time-table for consultations with the countries mentioned in paragraphs 1 and 3.