

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/1413

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CONTRACTING PARTIES  
Eighteenth Session  
1-20 May 1961

## EIGHTEENTH SESSION OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

### Advance Agenda

According to the records of the secretariat, the following items are to be included in the provisional agenda for the eighteenth session. Contracting parties wishing to propose additional items are requested to submit their proposals and supporting documents by 20 March in accordance with Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure.<sup>1</sup>

#### ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND ORDER OF BUSINESS

#### PROGRAMME FOR EXPANSION OF TRADE

Committee II will meet from 6-17 March and Committee III from 21-29 March. Reports by these Committees will be submitted to the session.

#### BALANCE-OF-PAYMENTS IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

The Committee on Balance-of-Payments Restrictions will meet from 17-26 April to carry out consultations with Austria, Burma, Chile, Indonesia, Turkey and South Africa. The reports on the consultations will be submitted to the session.

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<sup>1</sup>Contracting parties will be informed prior to 20 March whether or not the Member States of the European Economic Community will be submitting a report, pursuant to Article XXIV:7(a) for consideration at the session. This arrangement has been made in order that, in the event that no report is being submitted by the Member States, any contracting party so wishing will have an opportunity to request the inclusion of an item relating to the Rome Treaty on the agenda for the session.

#### PROCEDURES FOR NEW AND RESIDUAL BALANCE-OF-PAYMENTS RESTRICTIONS

The CONTRACTING PARTIES will have before them any recommendations which the Council decides to submit concerning the extent and scope of notifications which contracting parties are expected to communicate to the Executive Secretary, pursuant to paragraph 7 of the procedures adopted by the CONTRACTING PARTIES on 16 November 1960.

#### ACCESSION OF SWITZERLAND

The consultation with the Government of Switzerland, under paragraph 1(c) of the Declaration of 22 November 1958, was initiated at the seventeenth session. This consultation will be continued by the Council and progress will be reported to the session.

#### APPLICATION OF ARTICLE XXXV TO JAPAN

The "scope and timing" of the review of the operation of Article XXXV, proposed by the Government of Japan, will be considered by the Council. The Council's recommendations will be submitted to the session or, if the Council so decides, the review may be initiated by the Council to be continued or completed by the CONTRACTING PARTIES at the session.

#### SUBSIDIES

The Panel on Subsidies will meet from 13-17 February to continue the preparations for the review of the operation of the provisions of Article XVI (as required by paragraph 5 of that Article) and will submit a report and recommendations.

#### ARTICLE XVIII

- (a) Ceylon request for extension of release on ceramic ware  
(see Decision of 18 November 1960)
- (b) Annual review under paragraph 6.

#### INDONESIAN TARIFF REFORM

The question raised by the Government of Indonesia (L/1361 and Add.1-2) will be examined by the Council whose recommendations will be submitted to the CONTRACTING PARTIES.

#### AUSTRALIAN WAIVER FOR PRODUCTS OF PAPUA-NEW GUINEA

The seventh annual report will be submitted by the Government of Australia under the Decision of 24 October 1953.

#### SOUTH AFRICAN WAIVER FOR TREATMENT OF RHODESIAN PRODUCTS

The first annual report will be submitted by the Government of South Africa under the Decision of 4 June 1960.

#### CONSULAR FORMALITIES

It was agreed at the sixteenth session (SR.16/10) to review progress towards compliance with the Recommendation of 30 November 1957 for the abolition of consular formalities. At the seventeenth session (SR.17/10) this review was deferred pending receipt of reports from contracting parties which still maintain such formalities. The review will be conducted in the first instance by the Council and whether the item will be on the agenda for the CONTRACTING PARTIES depends on progress made by the Council.

#### FRENCH STAMP TAX

Report by the Government of France on action since the sixteenth session (L/1412).

#### STATUS OF PROTOCOLS

The Protocol Amending the Preamble and Parts II and III and the Protocol Amending Part I and Article XXIX and XXX are open for signature until 15 May 1961 (see Decision of 18 November 1960). Three contracting parties have not yet accepted these Protocols.

#### DEFINITIVE ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGREEMENT

It was agreed at the sixteenth session (SR.16/11) that the question of acceptance of the GATT under Article XXVI:4 should be reviewed. This was deferred by decision of the Council (C/M/1) until the eighteenth session.

#### ARRANGEMENTS FOR SESSIONS OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

The CONTRACTING PARTIES may have before them recommendations by the Council concerning future sessions of the CONTRACTING PARTIES, particularly with reference to questions of "timing, agendas and arrangements" for meetings at Ministerial level, and concerning the future work of the Council.

#### PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS BETWEEN THE EIGHTEENTH AND NINETEENTH SESSIONS