

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/1415

1 February 1961

Limited Distribution

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French

ARTICLE XVI - SUBSIDIES

Declaration Giving Effect to the Provisions of Paragraph 4

(Note by the Executive Secretary)

When it was agreed by the CONTRACTING PARTIES at the seventeenth session that the Declaration Giving Effect to the Provisions of Article XVI:4 would be opened for signature, the representative of Austria advised that his Government was willing to be included among the key countries, whose acceptance would be required to bring the Declaration into effect, provided the other signatories would accept a certain reservation on the part of Austria. He said that the text of the reservation would be distributed later.

A communication has now been received from the Government of Austria, dated 19 January, which reads as follows:

"I have the honour to refer to the intervention on subsidies (action under Article XVI:4, I made in the course of the eleventh meeting of the seventeenth session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES (document SR.17/11, page 168): I said then that Austria could only sign Declaration A if the other signatories would accept a reservation on the part of Austria to take into account certain features of Austrian legislation.

"I am transmitting to you herewith the text of this reservation, as drafted in French by the competent Austrian authorities:

'Austria accepts Annex A to Document L/1381, with the reservation that she will, up till 31 December 1962, proceed with a revision of Austrian legislation on the reimbursement, with regard to exported products, of the turnover tax, pursuant to the provisions of sub-paragraph d) of paragraph 5 of the aforesaid Document.'

The Austrian Government has requested that the text of this reservation be brought to the notice of the contracting parties. Unless the secretariat is informed by the end of February 1961 of any objections, the Government of Austria will be advised that its signature with this reservation will be accepted.