

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

IC/W/19

19 August 1953

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON AGENDA AND INTERSESSIONAL BUSINESS

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE EIGHTH SESSION

French Tax on Imports and Exports

The United States Government proposes that the question of the French 0.4 per cent tax on imports and exports be placed on the Provisional Agenda of the Eighth Session for the purpose of receiving a report from the French Government.

The note distributed by the United States Delegation at the Seventh Session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES (L/64) raised a question with respect to the consistency with the provisions of the General Agreement of the tax of 0.4 per cent imposed by the Government of France on all imports and exports. The United States Government expressed the view that this tax nullifies and impairs the concessions made by France under the General Agreement. In accordance with the provisions of Article XXIII this matter has been raised formally with the French Government. It is believed that it would now be appropriate for the CONTRACTING PARTIES to receive a report from the French Government as to the present status of the tax and the measures which may be taken with respect to its removal.