

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

Ad Hoc Committee on Agenda
and Intersessional Business

SUMMARY RECORD

of the Meetings held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on 30 and 31 July 1954

Corrigendum

Page 9 : Replace the second paragraph with the following :

"Mr. HADJI VASSILIOU (Greece) said that in the view of the Greek delegation the French Plan was really a step forward in the direction of progress to which world commercial policy should be orientated. He paid tribute to the initiative of the French Government and congratulated the representatives of the contracting parties and the GATT experts who, working through numerous problems of extreme complexity, had been able to crystallize the original plan. He stated, however, that for the reasons expressed in the course of a previous informal meeting, the Greek Government, for its part, unfortunately could not view this plan as an immediate possibility. It did not believe that this attitude would add any further difficulty to the implementation of the Plan, especially as the attitude of the United States Government was particularly reserved and as the French Government itself was rather reticent under the present circumstances. The Greek delegation, however, would be pleased if it should become possible to put the Plan into application in a progressive manner, starting on a restricted regional basis. In this case it was highly probable that, if the Plan could accommodate the interests of under-developed countries, Greece would also adhere to it at a later stage.

As regards the prolongation of schedules, he wished to repeat what he had said in the course of an informal meeting: that the Greek Government, having to pursue its efforts at economic development and having prepared for a general reform of its customs tariff, wished to recover a certain measure of freedom in tariffs. The Greek delegation had the feeling that this could not be achieved unless Article XXVIII were modified to some extent. If that were feasible within the framework of Article XXVIII, so much the better. What mattered to the Greek delegation was the objective to be achieved, and it would be happy to hear of any expedient method for its achievement. If there were such a way the Greek delegation would accede to the desire expressed by many delegations, in particular that of the United States, that the tariff stability achieved through GATT should be disturbed as little as possible."