

**GENERAL AGREEMENT
ON TARIFFS AND TRADE**

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TRADE POLICY REVIEW MECHANISM

Trade Policy Review of Senegal

Communications from the Discussants

Pursuant to the revised procedures for review meetings^s circulated in the communication from the Chairman of the Council dated 30 April 1993 (L/7208), the following are outlines of the main points to be raised by Mr. Pierre Gosselin (Canada) and Mr. Moncef Baati (Tunisia) at the review of Senegal to be held on 31 January and 1 February 1994.

It is recalled that discussants act in their personal capacity.

(a) **Mr. Pierre Gosselin**

1. Senegal belongs to the West African Monetary Union (WAMU), which links the economies of fourteen African countries to France and indirectly to the European Union because of the convertibility of the CFA franc and the French franc. The review of Senegal's trade policy will give us an opportunity to study the key rôle played by the Monetary Union in economic development, the competitiveness of Senegalese industry, investment and the relations between Senegal and neighbouring countries which are not members of the Union. The review will also allow the Senegalese authorities to explain to us the reasons which incited them to devalue the CFA franc, the measures which they intend to take in order to mitigate the inflationary effects of the devaluation and the expected results of the policy.

2. The other theme to which I will refer concerns Senegal's economic and regional integration with certain West African countries, including those belonging to the Monetary Union. In particular, I consider that it would be helpful to study the impact of monetary policy on economic integration efforts.

(b) **Mr. Moncef Baati**

1. According to the Secretariat's report, Senegal's fiscal system is relatively complex. Do the Senegalese authorities intend to institute a more transparent system so as to facilitate action by economic operators?

2. According to estimates mentioned in the Secretariat's report, illicit foreign trade has reached a figure of CFAF 200 billion, corresponding to one fifth of Senegal's current imports. Could the Senegalese delegation give us an idea of the measures being taken to combat this illicit trade?

3. Following the recent devaluation of the CFA franc, the Senegalese authorities announced measures concerning the prices of products of basic necessity. Could the Senegalese delegation give us some additional information on the mechanisms established and the rôle to be played by the Caisse de péréquation et de stabilisation des prix?
4. The Government of Senegal's report mentions the creation of a national UNCTAD/GATT Committee. Would it be possible to give participants some additional information on the composition and rôle of this mechanism?
5. According to the Secretariat's report, the rôle played by the informal sector in Senegal's economy is extremely important. What measures have been taken to improve integration of this sector in Senegal's economy?