

RESTRICTED
LIMITED B

GATT/CP/4
1 December 1948

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

Contracting Parties

Request of the Netherlands Government
Regarding Consular Taxes Imposed by the Cuban Government

At the Second Session of the Contracting Parties the representative of the Netherlands, referring to GATT/CP.2/9, requested a ruling on the application of the provisions of Article I to the consular taxes imposed by the Government of Cuba. The Chairman stated (reference GATT/CP.2/SR.11) that, in his opinion, the Cuban consular taxes would be governed by the phrase "charges of any kind", and that the application of the most-favoured-nation clause to such taxes would be regulated by Article I. The Contracting Parties agreed with this interpretation and the representative of the Netherlands was asked to discuss the matter again with the representative of Cuba.

The Chairman of the Contracting Parties has received a communication from the Department of State, Havana, under date of 10 November, 1948, advising that the Government of Cuba by Presidential Decree No. 3649 of 30 October, 1948, published in the Official Gazette No. 261 of 8 November, 1948, has agreed to extend most-favoured-nation treatment in respect of the consular taxes to all the present contracting parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and to all countries which subsequently become contracting parties.