

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

TNJ/5

6 April 1955

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CONTRACTING PARTIES

Tariff Negotiations Committee

PROCEEDINGS OF THE TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

Fourth Meeting, held on Friday, 1 April 1955

1. Approval of the records of the third meeting (TNJ/4)

The proceedings of the third meeting of the Tariff Negotiations Committee (document TNJ/4) were approved.

2. Progress of negotiations

Up to Friday, 1 April 1955, the following countries had entered into negotiations with Japan:

United States	Denmark
Norway	Canada
Federal Republic of Germany	Peru

The representatives of the following countries, asked when they expected to enter into negotiations with Japan, replied as follows:

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| <u>Dominican Republic</u> | - Complete instructions had not been received but were expected before long. |
| <u>Indonesia</u> | - Entry into negotiations had been scheduled for 6 April 1955. |
| <u>Italy</u> | - Were not yet in a position to fix a date, but were conscious of the need for an early start of the negotiations. |
| <u>Sweden</u> | - Informal talks had been held, and, if possible, offers would be exchanged before Easter. |
| <u>Uruguay</u> | - Certain supplementary information still required from Montevideo. |

Mr. WILLOUGHBY (United States) reiterated the need for a rapid conclusion of the negotiations. His and the Japanese delegations were meeting day and night and on week-ends. The more they examined the situation, the more difficult it seemed to them for the participating governments to meet their target at their present pace. He therefore wished to submit to the Committee a time-table setting out various target dates for the completion of bilateral negotiations, of triangular negotiations involving the United States, Japan and other countries, for the preparation, translation, etc., of schedules and final instruments and for signature of the final instruments by the negotiating governments. He urged the Committee to examine that time-table and, if possible, to agree to conduct the negotiations in accordance with it.

Mr. HAGUIWARA (Japan) expressed his strong support of the proposal.

After a discussion in which several representatives expressed their readiness to do their utmost to keep to the time-table, the Committee agreed to the proposal. The following time-table was therefore adopted as a target for the participating governments:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Not later than 30 April | - Completion of United States-Japanese bilateral negotiation. |
| Not later than 8 May | - Completion of bilateral negotiations between Japan and all other countries negotiating with Japan. |
| Not later than 15 May | - Completion of triangular negotiations involving the United States, Japan and countries which have concluded negotiations with Japan. |
| Not later than 5 June | -- Approval by governments of results of negotiations. Completion of legal and technical procedures, including translation, necessary for preparation of final instruments. |
| 5 June - 11 June | - Signature of final instruments by negotiating governments. |

3. Form of the Protocol of Accession

The essence of the discussion is summarized in document L/352.

In order to allow members to give further consideration to the draft, the Tariff Negotiations Committee decided to meet again on 15 April 1955 when they would endeavour to prepare the final text for circulation to all the contracting parties. However, in order to afford the non-participating contracting parties

as much time as possible to study the draft and, if they so desire, to offer suggestions, the Committee decided to circulate it without delay in its present form. The Committee will consider the draft again at the meeting of 15 April. When the Committee has finalized the draft it will again be circulated to all contracting parties who will then be afforded a further twenty-one days in which to make suggestions or comments. Thereafter the text will be considered as finally established.