

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON  
TARIFFS AND TRADE

ACTION  
RESTRICTED  
LIMITED B  
GATT/CP/58/Add. 6  
10 August 1950  
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

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CONTRACTING PARTIES

S U B S I D I E S

NOTIFICATIONS REQUIRED BY ARTICLE XVI AND  
BY THE DECISION OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES OF  
2 MARCH 1950

The Government of Czechoslovakia has advised that it "does not grant or maintain any subsidy which operates directly or indirectly either to increase exports or to reduce imports."

The Government of Norway has advised that it "does not grant or maintain any subsidy which is subject to notification under Article XVI."

The Government of Pakistan has advised that it has "no subsidies to report at present."

The following communication, dated 31 July 1950, has been received from the Government of Finland:

"There is a law in Finland authorizing the Government to guarantee minimum prices for seeds of all sorts of grass. The purpose of this law is to secure a sufficient supply of domestic seeds. This is necessary because of the risk which always is connected with using seeds grown on more southern latitudes in a country like Finland where the climate is hard. Already since the twenties a stipulation has been included in Finland's trade agreements giving her the right to forbid the import of such seeds of agricultural plants which, on account of their origin, are not deemed to thrive in Finland.

"The number of sheep in Finland is small. In order to make safe the income of the people who raise sheep the Government pays a subsidy to the industry equal to the difference between the higher price of the domestic wool and the lower price of the wool imported from abroad. The industry is required to buy all domestic wool coming on the market. The aforementioned regulations are of no practical importance to the foreign trade as a whole.

"Before the war Finland exported relatively large quantities of butter, cheese, eggs and meat. At present cheese is the only dairy product which is exported regularly. The cheese price is guaranteed but an exporter who secures a higher price for the cheese on the foreign market than the guaranteed price is under obligation to use the balance to his credit for reimbursing to the Government the subsidies he might have received on an earlier occasion from the Government when the price obtainable on foreign markets was lower than the guaranteed price.

"As regards grain production Finland is not selfsufficient.

"No subsidies are paid for manufactured products. On the contrary, there are fixed maximum prices for many of them."

