

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON  
TARIFFS AND TRADE

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CONTRACTING PARTIES

INTERNATIONAL TRADE NEWS BULLETIN

Representatives of the Contracting Parties will recollect that it was decided at the Fourth Session to instruct the Secretariat to continue the production and distribution of the Trade News Bulletin and to review the matter at the Fifth Session.

The April issue of the Trade Bulletin has been distributed with a more distinctive cover sheet, and it is hoped to continue to improve both the contents and appearance of the Bulletin. Hitherto, however, the sources of items which are included in the Bulletin as being of possible interest to Contracting Parties have been limited to publications such as governmental periodicals, journals dealing with economic affairs and a few leading newspapers. If the Bulletin is to reflect accurately and as completely as possible the various developments in the field of international trade relating to the operation of the Agreement, it seems essential that contracting parties should themselves be willing to furnish items for publication. Within the limits of the present size of the Secretariat it is scarcely practicable to enlarge much further the scrutiny of periodicals and newspapers in various languages. Nor is it possible to reproduce in complete detail all the changes in tariffs, quotas, exchange controls and other administrative controls which occur each month. This is, perhaps, a task which will have to be considered by the International Trade Organization. What is required is information about major changes of policy and practice from the appropriate government departments of the contracting parties, particularly from those contracting parties which do not themselves publish regularly a comprehensive trade journal. Such information can, of course, be treated as confidential if so desired or can be held over for a specified date of publication.

It need scarcely be added that suggestions from contracting parties as to how the Bulletin could be improved, in their interests, will be most welcome.

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Note: This Bulletin is published only in English.