

GENERAL AGREEMENT
ON TARIFFS AND
TRADE

ACCORD GENERAL SUR
LES TARIFS DOUANIERS
ET LE COMMERCE

LIMITED B
GATT/CP.4/1
28 December 1949
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

CONTRACTING PARTIES
Fourth Session

Advance Agenda
for the Fourth Session of the Contracting Parties
to be held in Geneva commencing 23 February 1950

Contracting Parties which have items to propose for the Agenda for the Fourth Session should submit them and the supporting documents (if any) at the earliest possible date. Rule 1 of the Rules of Procedure provides:

"The provisional agenda for each session shall be drawn up at least three weeks before the date of meeting. It shall be open to any Contracting Party to propose items for inclusion in this provisional agenda up to one month from the date of meeting."

It is hoped, however, that delegations which are in a position to submit proposals before the one month date limit (23 January, 1950) will do so.

The following is an advance draft of the provisional agenda:

ADOPTION OF AGENDA.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN.

1950 TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS

Determination of venue. The Contracting Parties will have before them information relating to Monaco (GATT/CP.4/2 and supporting brochure already distributed), Torquay (GATT/CP.4/2 Add.1 and supporting information to be distributed) and Geneva (paper to be distributed). Consideration of the reply to the enquiry from the Government of Switzerland (See GATT/TN.2/3).

STATUS OF THE AGREEMENT AND PROTOCOLS

A paper on the present status of the various protocols will be distributed.

APPLICATION OF ANNECY SCHEDULE XIV

The Government of Norway has requested an extension of time, until 30 June 1950 within which to give notification of intention to apply the concessions contained in Schedule XIV to the Ancey Protocol of Terms of Accession (See GATT/CP.3/84).

AUSTRALIAN SUBSIDY ON AMMONIUM SULPHATE

At the Third Session the Chilean Delegation requested that this item appear on the agenda for the next session (See GATT/CP.3/61).

RECTIFICATION AND MODIFICATION OF SCHEDULES

- (i) Schedule X - Czechoslovakia (GATT/CP/27 & Corr.1)
- (ii) Schedule XV - Pakistan (GATT/CP/41)
- (iii) Schedule VI - Ceylon - Report on negotiations under paragraph 5 of Article XVIII (See GATT/CP.3/73 Rev.1, paragraph 59) to be distributed.
- (iv) Annex Schedules -

A paper on rectifications proposed by various delegations will be distributed. Delegations which have rectifications to suggest should notify the Secretariat as soon as possible in order that they may be included in papers to be submitted to the Fourth Session. In this way it is hoped to avoid the proliferation of rectification protocols that has occurred in respect of the Geneva Schedules.

INTENSIFICATION OF IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

During the Third Session the United Kingdom Delegation notified its intention to intensify its import restrictions applied under Article XII (GATT/CP.3/68). The details of the new restrictions were not then available but the United Kingdom Government expressed its willingness to consult with the contracting parties at the first opportunity. Although Article XII requires that such consultations should be instituted within 30 days the Chairman has proposed that in this instance consultation should be postponed until the Fourth Session (GATT/AIR/17).

REPORT ON EXCEPTIONS TO THE RULE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION - ARTICLE XIV

Paragraph 1 (g) of Article XIV requires the Contracting Parties to report, not later than March 1, 1950, on action still being taken by contracting parties under paragraphs 1 (b) and 1 (c) or under Annex J. In this connection a questionnaire was issued on 7 October (GATT/CP/39) and a draft report will be distributed.

SPECIAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS

Contracting Parties which are not members of the International Monetary Fund are required to sign a Special Exchange Agreement with the Contracting Parties not later than the opening of the Fourth Session. The Government of New Zealand is not required to enter into an agreement until it has had an opportunity at the Fourth Session to make proposals to meet the special difficulties raised for that Government by the text of the Agreement (See Resolutions of the Second Session in pages 31 to 33 of GATT/CP/32).

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER ARTICLE XVIII

A notification under paragraph 11 by the Government of Haiti was contained in GATT/CP.3/40 and a paper on this notification will be distributed.

BUDGET REPORT FOR 1949/50

A paper on expenditure and income in 1949 and on financial resources for 1950 will be distributed.

MEETING OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES UNDER ARTICLE XXIX

Article XXIX provides that if by September 30, 1949 the Havana Charter has not entered into force the Contracting Parties shall meet to agree whether the Agreement is to be amended, supplemented or maintained.

FIFTH SESSION

Date and place of the Fifth Session of the Contracting Parties.

OTHER BUSINESS.

