

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED
LIMITED B

GATT/CP.4/27
18 March 1950

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

CONTRACTING PARTIES

Fourth Session

DECISION ON CERTAIN MEASURES NOTIFIED BY
LEBANON AND SYRIA

(Item 4 (iii) of the Agenda)

Note by the Executive Secretary

1. The statement of considerations submitted by the Governments of Lebanon and Syria in support of the measures notified under Paragraph 11 of Article XVIII was considered by the Contracting Parties at their Third Session. As a result releases were granted with respect to a number of items in the application, but with respect to three items, namely, fabrics of natural and artificial silk and hosiery, the information available was not found sufficient to enable the Contracting Parties to take a decision at that Session.

2. In respect of these items the Contracting Parties, taking into account the abnormal and difficult circumstances in the two countries which had made it impossible to supply adequate information in support of the measures, agreed to defer a decision on them until the Fourth Session and to request the Governments of Lebanon and Syria, if they wished to maintain the measures, to submit a statement in support of them at least two months before the date of the opening of that Session (GATT/CP.3/60/Rev. 1, paragraph 78). A decision to this effect was taken by the Contracting Parties on the basis of paragraph 5(a) of Article XXV of the Agreement (GATT/CP.3/60/Rev.1, page 38).

3. It was noted at the second meeting of this Session that the Governments of Lebanon and Syria had not submitted a statement in support of the measures referred to above, and the Contracting Parties agreed at that meeting to send a telegram to the two Governments to inform them that unless they indicated to the contrary before 17 March 1950 the Contracting Parties would assume that the two Governments no longer wished to maintain the measures in question and that the waiver granted at the Third Session would no longer be valid.

4. As no reply was received from either Government by that date it is suggested that the Contracting Parties now take a final decision under paragraph 12 of Article XVIII in respect of these items:

DECISION UNDER PARAGRAPH 12 OF ARTICLE XVIII
ON CERTAIN MEASURES NOTIFIED BY LEBANON AND SYRIA

WHEREAS the CONTRACTING PARTIES at their Third Session, decided under paragraph 5(a) of Article XXV of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade that the decision under paragraph 12 of Article XVIII of the Agreement in respect of the protective measures relating to the following items notified by the Governments of Lebanon and Syria should be given at the Fourth Session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES and that the measures might be maintained pending that decision:

	<u>Customs tariff item</u>
Fabrics of natural silk, pure or mixed	449-461
Fabrics of artificial silk, pure or mixed	470-492 (except 477 and 486a).
Hosiery	580-583 (except 580A a & b, and 581A),

WHEREAS the Governments of Lebanon and Syria were requested at the time of the decision of the Third Session to submit, if they wished to maintain the said measures, a statement in support of them at least two months before the date of the opening of the Fourth Session,

WHEREAS the Governments of Lebanon and Syria have not indicated their desire to maintain those measures by submitting the required report,

THE CONTRACTING PARTIES,

DECIDE, under paragraph 12 of Article XVIII, that no release be granted under the provisions of the Article for the maintenance of the measures relating to the aforementioned items, and

DECIDE that the decision taken at the Third Session be deemed to have expired on this day.