

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON  
TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED  
LIMITED C

GATT/CP.4/B/8  
14 March, 1950.

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Contracting Parties  
Fourth Session

Draft Report on Revalidation of Schedules

- (GATT/CP.4/B/7) -

1. Amendments suggested by the U.K. Delegation

Para.4: amend to read:-

"After considering various alternatives, the Working Party came to the conclusion that some action should be taken by the Contracting Parties before the end of the present session; it therefore recommends that the Contracting Parties should adopt a Resolution (the text of which is contained in Annex I) by which they would indicate to all governments participating in the Torquay tariff negotiations their firm intention of prolonging the assured life of the Geneva and Annecy Schedules for a further period beyond January 1, 1951, and of securing the full validity of the body of concessions resulting from the Geneva, Annecy and Torquay negotiations until January 1, 1954. It is accordingly suggested that (a) those governments which are not contracting parties at the present time but which propose to accede to the General Agreement under the Annecy Protocol of Terms of Accession should be invited to associate themselves with the Resolution, and (b) inasmuch as the contemplated prolongation would involve that the new concessions negotiated at Torquay would also remain fully valid until January 1, 1954, those governments which will be negotiating at Torquay for the first time with a view to acceding to the General Agreement should be appraised of the proposals, so that they may have the opportunity of expressing views upon them, if they so desire, and may make their preparations for the Torquay negotiations on the basis that the concessions which they there negotiate will remain fully valid until January 1, 1954."

Para.9: first sub-para, third line, for "paragraph 6 (c) above" read "paragraph 4 above".

Para.9: second sub-para, sixth line: for "when the Protocol enters into force" read "after the Protocol has entered into force".

Para.10: fourth line, for "in fact" read "in effect".

Present para.12: renumber as para.11, and make the opening sentence read:-

"The Working Party was of the opinion that it would be desirable to lay down certain rules for the guidance of the contracting parties involved in such negotiations in order to ensure that the discussions relating to the adjustments under Article XXVIII, while being duly co-ordinated with the third round of tariff negotiations, do not unduly interfere with them, and that all the necessary modifications are agreed upon before the close of the Torquay conference".

In sub-para (ii) of the same paragraph, third line, delete the dash at the end of the line.

Sub-para. (iv), second line, after "be given an opportunity" insert "at as early a stage as possible in the course of the Torquay conference".

Annex II: draft Protocol

First paragraph, third and fourth lines, delete the words "and the governments undertaking to accede to the General Agreement". (These words appear ambiguous, since no country can "undertake to accede" in advance, this being a matter partly contingent upon circumstances outside its control. Moreover, the words appear superfluous, since there is no reason to suppose that any of the "Annecy acceding countries" will not have become contracting parties by the conclusion of the Torquay conference; while the "Torquay acceding countries" will of course have no status to amend the General Agreement; moreover they will not be in a position to invoke Article XXVIII during the initial period of assured life of their accessions, which will be fixed by the Torquay Protocol of Terms of Accession).

Para.6: it is proposed that this be retained, in square brackets.

Annex III:

Third paragraph, third and fourth lines, read:-

"in certain items of the said Schedules, which modifications are listed in the Annex to this Declaration".

2. Amendment proposed by the Netherlands Delegation.

Page 2. Add at the end of para 5 the following wording:

"The Netherlands and Belgian delegations stated in particular that the decision of their Governments would depend to a large extent on a considerable reduction - especially in Europe - of the disequilibrium that in their view exists in general levels of tariffs.