

**GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE**

RESTRICTED

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TARIFF CONFERENCE - 1956

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RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE

NE PAS DECOUPER

The Tariff Negotiations Committee shall be governed by Chapters V (Officers, with the deletion of the second and third sentences of Rule 10), VI (Conduct of Meetings), VII (Voting), VIII (Committees), IX (Languages), of the rules of procedure for sessions of the CONTRACTING PARTIES (BISD, Vol. I, pages 96 to 99) except that references to the CONTRACTING PARTIES shall be replaced by the words "the Committee" and "contracting parties" by the words "member of the Committee".

In addition, the following special rules of procedure shall apply:

Rule A:- Meetings of the Committee

The Chairman of the Committee shall decide for each meeting of the Committee whether it is to be an "ordinary session" or an "executive session". Each meeting at which the offers list of a participant is to be examined or reviewed shall be an executive session.

Any contracting party and any accredited observer shall have the right to attend any ordinary session of the Committee. Attendance at an executive session shall be limited to members of the Committee. The Committee may invite representatives of other governments or of international organizations to attend an executive session. Any representative so invited may participate without vote in the discussions at such meetings. If the offers list of any participant government is to be examined at an executive session an observer may be invited only with the consent of the participating government whose list is under examination.

On request of a participating contracting party which has not received the consolidated offers list of all members of the Committee with whom negotiations are contemplated and whose own offers list is to be examined by the Committee, the Committee may impose such limitations on attendance at the executive session concerned as it considers necessary.

Rule B:- Records

No summary records of meetings shall be kept. For each ordinary session the secretariat shall prepare a brief summary of the conclusions reached and distribute this summary to members of the Committee.

No record shall be prepared of executive sessions unless the Chairman decides that a conclusion reached is sufficiently important to require that it be recorded. In such cases, a text of an agreed conclusion shall be submitted to the Committee for its approval. The record of such agreed conclusions shall be classified "SECRET".