

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

CPC/64

4 November 1982

Special Distribution

Preferential Arrangements
Among Developing Countries
Negotiated in GATT

Original: French

COMMUNICATION BY TUNISIA

The following communication has been received from the Permanent Mission of Tunisia in connexion with the statistical data circulated in L/5367/Add.1, pages 6-9.

With respect to the statistical data on imports by Tunisia of products included in its schedule of concessions, the following remarks are relevant:

1. Import trend

After an increase of the order of 69.6 per cent in 1980 in relation to 1979 (from D 6,890,000 to D 11,649,000), the value of Tunisia's imports of products covered by the Protocol of the 16 dropped back appreciably in 1981, by 42.5 per cent in relation to 1980 and by 3 per cent in relation to 1979.

The extent of this decline should be qualified:

- while imports of certain products (such as cotton yarn) dropped back very substantially, those of other products (such as generators) showed a significant increase (see table below);
- this table reflects a more balanced distribution of products imported from participating countries since imports are no longer concentrated on one single product.

SHARE OF PRINCIPAL PRODUCTS IMPORTED BY
TUNISIA IN RELATION TO TOTAL VALUE

| Tariff item number | 1980 | 1981 | Increase |
|--------------------|--------|--------|----------|
| 55.05 | 67.03% | 27.68% | (-) |
| ex 89.01 | - | 22.09% | (+) |
| 87.01 | 7.29% | 16.06% | (+) |
| 51.01 | 5.51% | 13.22% | (+) |
| 30.03 | - | 8.77% | (+) |
| ex 01.02 | 9.07% | 4.20% | (-) |
| TOTAL | 88.90% | 92.02% | |

2. Level of these imports

In the period 1979 to 1981, imports by Tunisia covered by the Protocol of 16 represented respectively 6.8 per cent, 14.8 per cent and 5.6 per cent of our total purchases from all origins.

3. Preponderant rôle of Spain

While in 1981 the structure of imports seems better distributed, Spain continues to be the major supplier, with a share equivalent to 71.28 per cent of the total (with a value of D 4,767,000).

4. Rectification of product descriptions

Attached hereto is a table showing amendments which have been made at the level of tariff sub-headings.

RECTIFICATION OF PRODUCT DESIGNATIONS

| TARIFF ITEM NUMBER | FORMER PRODUCT DESIGNATION | NEW PRODUCT DESIGNATION |
|--------------------|--|---|
| EX 01.02 | EX C - Other - For slaughter | D - Other |
| EX 73.21 | - Towers carrying transmission cables | - Towers and lattice masts, of iron or steel |
| 84.25 | A - Winnowers and similar machines; egg-grading, fruit-grading and other grading machines B - Other | D - Winnowing and similar cleaning machines for seed, grain or leguminous vegetables and egg-grading and other grading machines for agricultural produce A, B, C and E A - Lawn mowers B - Combined harvester-threshers C - Other harvesting or threshing machinery; mowers, other than lawn mowers; straw or fodder presses E - Parts |
| 85.01 | C - Other | C, D, E and F C - Ballasts and supply transformers; distribution transformers of an output of 2,000 KVA or less D - Tri-phase electric motors of an output of 25 metric h.p. or less E - Other F - Parts |