

**GENERAL AGREEMENT ON  
TARIFFS AND TRADE**

RESTRICTED

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Preferential Arrangements  
Among Developing Countries  
Negotiated in GATT

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COMMUNICATION BY TUNISIA

The following communication has been received from the Permanent Mission of Tunisia in connection with the statistical data circulated in L/5540/Add.2.

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STATISTICS AND REMARKS CONCERNING TUNISIA'S IMPORTS  
WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE PROTOCOL OF 16

With respect to the attached table showing the value of imports by Tunisia in 1980, 1981 and 1982 of products included in that country's schedule of concessions annexed to the Protocol, certain remarks are relevant.

After having progressed in 1980, imports covered by concessions granted by Tunisia to countries which have signed the Protocol have been dropping back since 1981 (-42.5 per cent in 1981 and -28.9 per cent in 1982).

This decline is mainly due to a pronounced fall in our imports of bovine animals for slaughter (ex 01.02\*) and cotton yarn (55.01\*) from Yugoslavia and Spain in the period considered.

Notwithstanding the decline in our imports of cotton yarn, the textile articles eligible for preferential treatment (55.01 and 55.05\*) still account for the major part of our purchases within the framework of the Protocol.

The table below reflects a certain tendency toward more balanced distribution of imports from participating countries under tariff preferences, since imports are no longer concentrated on just one or two products.

SHARE OF PRINCIPAL PRODUCTS IMPORTED BY TUNISIA UNDER  
THE PROTOCOL OF 16 IN RELATION TO TOTAL VALUE

Tariff heading No.	1980	1981	1982
ex 01.02	9.07%	4.20%	-
30.03	-	9.77%	9.27%
51.01	5.51%	13.22%	15.05%
55.05	67.03%	27.68%	38.40%
84.24	0.39%	2.87%	9.31%
87.01	7.29%	16.06%	9.74%
ex 89.01	-	22.09%	6.67%
TOTAL	89.29%	94.89%	88.44%

\* Tariff heading number of the product concerned

At the level of supplying countries, as may be seen from the table below, Spain continues to be in a privileged position, well ahead of Egypt and Yugoslavia. Brazil, Pakistan and South Korea are strengthening their position on the Tunisian market.

SHARE OF TUNISIA'S IMPORTS FROM COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING  
IN THE PROTOCOL OF 16 (IN 1982)

Participating countries	Total per country	Percentage
Spain	2,836.028	59.66
Egypt	1,153.619	24.27
Yugoslavia	251.488	5.29
Brazil	205.282	4.32
Pakistan	144.857	3.05
South Korea	109.499	2.30
Turkey	51.845	1.09
India	1.273	0.03
TOTAL	4,753.892	100%

Total imports from all sources of the products included in Tunisia's schedule of concessions annexed to the Protocol reached a value of D 80,167 million in 1980, of which D 11,699 for member countries; approximately D 118,678 million in 1981, of which D 6,687 for member countries; and D 159,053 million in 1982, of which D 4,754 for member countries.

As may be seen from the foregoing, in contrast with our purchases from all sources which have shown a significant increase, the share of participating countries in relation to those purchases has declined. In the years 1980, 1981 and 1982, deliveries of products covered by the tariff preferences accounted for 14.6 per cent, 5.6 per cent and 3 per cent respectively of the total.

It should furthermore be noted that products covered by concessions under the Protocol are often imported from participating countries other than the initial negotiator, as in the case of products originally negotiated with Greece, which are mainly traded by Spain.

Lastly, it should be noted that during the period considered, no shipments of products included in the schedule of concessions annexed to Protocol were recorded in respect of the following participating countries: Bangladesh, Chile, Mexico, Peru, Romania and Uruguay, to which should be added the fact that Tunisia does not maintain relations with Israel which is a party to the Protocol.