

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

CPC/74

28 February 1984

Special Distribution

Preferential Arrangements  
Among Developing Countries  
Negotiated in GATT

COMMITTEE OF PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

Summary of Discussions at Thirty-Seventh Meeting  
held on 14 February 1984

Prepared by the Secretariat

1. The Committee of Participating Countries provided for in the Protocol Relating to Trade Negotiations Among Developing Countries held its thirty-seventh meeting on 14 February 1984 under the Chairmanship of Ms. M. Kljajic (Yugoslavia).

2. The draft agenda circulated in document CPC/W/102 was adopted.

Expansion of trade among developing countries

3. The Chairman referred to paragraphs 4-7 of the Summary of Discussions at the last meeting (CPC/72) and recalled that the Committee had taken note of the comments made by members regarding the review of the schedules of concessions of participating countries and agreed to revert to this matter at the present meeting. The Chairman also recalled that the agreed procedures for the review of the schedules of concessions had been circulated in CPC/69. It was understood that in this respect the secretariat, upon request, had provided technical assistance to a number of delegations. It appeared, however, that the review had been proceeding at a very slow pace. While some members had already submitted requests for information and/or lists of products of export interest, replies were apparently still awaited from the participating countries concerned. Other members had indicated that even though at this stage they were not in a position to submit their own list of products they were willing to consider any requests or lists which might be put to them by other participating countries. The Chairman added that the Committee was expected to review developments on matters relevant to this agenda item and take up any questions which might arise in connection with this exercise.

4. Some members of the Committee noted that with technical assistance provided by the secretariat, the process of preparation of request lists was under way in capitals. One member said that consultations had been carried out with some participating countries and that lists of products of export interest had been exchanged recently. He added that replies were awaited from the participating countries concerned. Another member said that his delegation was ready to receive lists of products or requests and would hold consultations concerning any requests or lists of products of export interest submitted by other participating countries. Another member said that the appreciation in capitals of the possibilities offered by this exercise was perhaps not as adequate as desired. He suggested that the secretariat might help to stimulate the work of the Committee in this respect. The circulation of some information covering similar arrangements in other parts of the world might be useful.

5. The Committee took note of the comments made and agreed to revert to this matter at its next meeting.

Accession of Argentina

6. The Chairman referred to the application by Argentina for accession to the Protocol. She recalled that an additional offer submitted by Argentina had been circulated recently. Participating countries should make every effort to consider the Argentinian offer and indicate their reactions to the Argentinian delegation promptly. In the light of these reactions it would be possible to determine whether or not the Committee should revert to this matter at its next meeting. One member said that the Argentinian offer was under consideration in the capital. Another member said that his delegation had already consulted with Argentina with respect to the additional offer. The Committee agreed to invite members to consider the Argentinian offer and to make their views known to the delegation of Argentina as soon as possible.

Next Meeting

7. The Chairman said that the date for the next meeting of the Committee would be fixed in consultation with delegations and the secretariat in accordance with usual practice.