GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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Preferential Arrangements Among Developing Countries Negotiated in GATT

ENLARGEMENT OF THE PROTOCOL - ROMANIA

Note by the Secretariat

1. By Note Verbale dated October 1974 which was reproduced as document CPC/11, the Permanent Mission of Romania indicated the desire of Romania to explore the possibilities for accession to the Protocol Relating to Trade Negotiations Among Developing Countries. The Romanian delegation also listed those products included in the schedule of concessions¹ annowed to the Protocol which are of export interest to Romania. Lists of additional products of export interest to Romania in the markets of Yugoslavia, Spain. Turkey, Egypt, Pakistan, Brazil, Peru, Uruguay, Chile, Mexico, Greece, Israel, India, the Philippines and Tunisia were circulated in documents CPC/23 and Add.1 dated July and August 1975. The delegation of Romania stated that these products could be the subject of an exploratory discussion with the countries concerned on the occasion of the consultations that are to take place on the basis of the initial list of products communicated in document CPC/11.

2. It will be recalled that when discussing the enlargement of the Protocol at its April 1975 meeting in the light of developments, the Committee of Participating Countries agreed on a broad programme relating to the exploratory process (CPC/22 paragraph 10). In particular, it was agreed that:

(i) Participating countries which had not submitted lists of products for which they would like to explore possibilities for an exchange of concessions with Romania and Sri Lanka should do so at the carliest possible date and preferably no later than 16 May 1975.

¹The concessions were granted by Egypt, Greece, India, Israel, Pakistan, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey and Yugoslavia.

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(ii) Participating countries which had not provided information on tariffs, trade data and trade regulations applicable to the products contained in the Romanian and Sri Lankan lists are invited to provide such information by 16 May 1975.

(iii) The delegations of Romania and Sri Lanka are invited to provide information on commercial policy and trade flows with respect to the products already identified by participating countries no later than 16 May 1975 and for additional products identified by other participating countries, within a month therefrom.

(iv) Provision of the information mentioned above should encourage delegations actively to pursue consultations with a view to exploring the possibilities for exchanging concessions.

3. Ine delegation of Romania has now informed the secretariat that Romania expects to be in a position to enter into exploratory consultations with the countries indicated in its communications in the near future, possibly in the second half of October. In this respect, Romania expects shortly to be able to provide information on domestic commercial policy and imports in relation to products identified by participating countries (paragraph 2(iii), above).

4. In connexion with paragraph 2(i) above, the following participating countries have submitted lists of products with respect to which they would be interested in exploring the possibilities of negotiating concessions with Romania - Brazil, Chile, Greece, India, Israel, Mexico, Pakistan, Tunisia, Turkey and Yugoslavia. In connexion with the products identified by Romania in CPC/11, the following participating countries have supplied trade data and other relevant information (paragraph 2(ii) above) - Chile, India, Israel, Tunisia and Turkey.

5. Other participating countries mentioned in the Romanian communications (CPC/11 and CPC/23 and Add.1) which are interested in exploring the possibilities for an exchange of concessions with Romania are invited to submit lists of their export products at the earliest possible date and not later than the end of September so that consultations may proceed between interested participating countries and Romania according to a mutually agreed time-table in the near future. Participating countries which have not already done so, are also invited to provide information on commercial policy and trade flows in respect of the products identified by Romania in document CPC/11.