

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

C/M/40

1 February 1967

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COUNCIL
26 January 1967

MINUTES OF MEETING

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva
on 26 January 1967

Chairman: Mr. E. Wyndham White (Director-General)¹

Subject discussed: Brazilian tariff reform

Brazilian tariff reform (L/2739)

Mr. Homewood (New Zealand), the Chairman of the Working Party established at the last Council meeting of 10 January, presented the Working Party's report on its examination of the request of the Government of Brazil for a waiver of obligations under Article II to permit the application of a new customs tariff on 1 March, and thereafter to carry out the negotiations and consultations for the modification of concessions in the Brazilian Schedule as required by Article XXVIII. The discussion had shown a general recognition of the liberalization trend that prevailed in Brazil's foreign trade policy and of which the tariff reform was a part. In the light of the discussions at its three meetings the Working Party had decided to recommend that a waiver be granted to Brazil under paragraph 5 of Article XXV, for which a draft text had been annexed to the report.

Several representatives recorded their governments' support of the request.

The Council adopted the report, approved the text of the draft Decision, and requested the secretariat to distribute ballot papers. Representatives who had authority to vote on behalf of their governments were invited to do so at the close of the meeting, while ballot papers would be sent by post to contracting parties not represented. The Chairman drew the Council's attention to the fact that the voting should be completed before the end of February as the new customs tariff was to be applied from 1 March.

¹The Director-General presided in the absence of the Chairman, Mr. R. Rothschild (Belgium).