

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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Limited Distribution

Committee on Trade and Development

EXPANSION OF TRADE BETWEEN LESS-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

Note submitted by the Secretariat

1. At its meeting on 9 and 10 February 1965, the Committee on Trade and Development decided that the secretariat should prepare a **brief** outline of the questions which need to be studied in examining the problem of trade expansion between less-developed countries.
2. The secretariat considers that the most satisfactory way of arriving at some practical conclusions within a reasonable period of time would be for the Committee to carry out what could be described as a pilot study of trade flows between less-developed countries in respect of some selected items. The study would examine the level and composition of imports of these items into a representative number of less-developed countries including the relative share of supplying less-developed countries in the imports and would take up the tariff quota and payments arrangements as well as other significant factors affecting the level and direction of trade. It is hoped that this examination would yield some concrete conclusions on the possibilities of removing or reducing trade barriers or taking other action for the primary benefit of trade between less-developed countries.
3. The secretariat proposes that in the first instance such a study might be carried out in respect of the annexed list of eighteen items selected from a list of products examined in Committee III. If the Committee accepts the suggestion made in the above paragraph, the secretariat will compile with such assistance from the countries concerned as may be needed the necessary data on trade flows in these items and the import regulations in a broad group of less-developed countries as indicated. While the secretariat would be in a position to supply information concerning tariff and quota policies as well as to the extent practicable, payments, monetary and credit arrangements influencing the volume and pattern of trade, it would, of course, be open to the Committee also to discuss other factors such as freight rates, banking and insurance facilities, market intelligence, etc. which might be relevant in this context.
4. The secretariat considers that necessary data in respect of at least some of these items could be made available in a period of five or six weeks and that the Committee or a group appointed by it, could commence a detailed examination on the basis of this data, thereafter.

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ANNEX

LIST OF PRODUCTS FOR STUDY

<u>SITC</u> <u>REV.</u>	<u>BTN</u> <u>No.</u>	
061.2	17.01B	Refined sugar
061.5	17.03	Molasses
ex 081.4	23.01	Fish meal, unfit for human consumption
121	24.01	Tobacco, unmanufactured
122	24.02	Tobacco manufactures
271.3	25.10	Natural phosphates
421.4	15.07C	Groundnut (peanut) oil
554.1	34.01	Soaps
561.29	31.03B	Phosphatic fertilizers (superphosphates)
ex 629.1	ex 40.11	Rubber tyres and tubes for vehicles
631.2	44.15,44.16	Plywood including veneered panels
652.13)	55.09	Cotton fabrics other than gauze and
652.29)		Terry, unbleached and bleached, dyed etc.
653.2	53.11,58.04C	Woollen fabrics, woven
ex 656.1	ex 62.03	Bags and sacks of jute
ex 717.3	ex 84.41	Sewing machines, household
ex 733.11	ex 87.10	Bicycles, not motorized
851.01 - .04	64.01 - .04	Footwear excluding gaiters, leggings