

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

COM.TD/W/112/Add.18  
20 February 1970

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Committee on Trade and Development

Original: English

## DEVELOPMENTS RELEVANT TO THE OPERATION OF PART IV

### Note by the Secretariat

#### Addendum

The following communication has been received from the delegation of the United Kingdom.

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The Government of the United Kingdom has the honour to refer to its notification in reply to GATT/AIR/750 circulated in COM.TD/W/112/Add.4 and to the formal reservation thereon notified by the Uruguayan delegation and circulated in COM.TD/W/112/Add.15.

The Government of the United Kingdom does not accept that the reduction of duty on boned and boneless beef, introduced on 1 October 1968, was "neutralized" by an import prohibition on bone-in beef, which in fact preceded the duty reduction. The decision to limit imports of beef to boned and boneless beef from countries where foot-and-mouth disease is endemic was based entirely on animal health considerations, and was therefore within the terms of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. Furthermore, as it applies to all countries where the disease is endemic, it cannot be regarded as discriminatory. The decision was the result of recommendations made by a Committee especially appointed to review the policy and arrangements for dealing with foot-and-mouth disease in Great Britain.

After the decision to limit these imports to boned and boneless beef had been announced in May 1969, the United Kingdom decided that the tariff on boned and boneless beef would be reduced from 20 per cent to 5 per cent. This was done to facilitate the trade in boneless beef.