

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

COM.TD/W/217/Add.4  
27 November 1974

Limited Distribution

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Committee on Trade and Development  
Twenty-Eighth Session  
6-7 November 1974

Original: French

## ACTION BY GOVERNMENTS RELEVANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF PART IV

### Addendum

The following information has been received from the delegation of Czechoslovakia in connexion with the implementation of Part IV.

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Czechoslovakia's trade relations with developing countries continued to expand in 1973. The trade turnover in 1973 was 18.2 per cent above the level for the preceding year. In the same period the aggregate volume of Czechoslovakia's imports from these countries increased by 20.8 per cent.

The commodity structure and geographical distribution of Czechoslovakia's imports from developing countries was further diversified, in particular imports of manufactures and semi-manufactures which increased by 27 per cent in 1973 in relation to the preceding year.

The generalized scheme of preferences which Czechoslovakia brought into operation in February 1972 in favour of developing countries was extended to additional countries in 1973 and 1974.

During this period Czechoslovakia has not increased import or export duties, revenue duties and internal charges, and has not applied any quantitative restrictions or other non-tariff barriers on products imported from or originating in developing countries.

In order to achieve these results Czechoslovakia has adopted various measures, in particular in the field of long-term bilateral agreements, economic and technical co-operation agreements, multilateralization of payments, and other measures.

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In 1973 and 1974 Czechoslovakia extended payments relations in convertible currency with a number of developing countries including Ghana, Mali, Morocco, Tunisia and some Latin American countries. In principle, in relations with developing countries Czechoslovakia applies the system of trade and payments relations that our partners consider most efficacious within the framework of mutual economic relations.

In recent years Czechoslovakia has been participating actively in the structural adjustment and the establishment of national industries in a number of developing countries. This participation has the character of economic and industrial co-operation, particularly in respect of the metallurgical, engineering, energy, construction and food industries as well as in other sectors of the manufacturing industry. A substantial part of the output of these new industries has found a new outlet in the Czechoslovak market. This fruitful co-operation has created the necessary conditions for participation by these countries in the international division of labour at a higher level.

The rationalization and specialization of Czechoslovakia's industry in recent years is allowing gradual cut-backs to be made in certain labour-intensive and raw-material-consuming production programmes, making it possible for new outlets for developing countries to be found in the Czechoslovak market.

Trade fairs and exhibitions of consumer goods and engineering products, organized in Czechoslovakia with the active participation of developing countries, also contribute to expanding outlets for the products of these countries.