

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

Committee on Trade and Development
Forty-Eighth Session
25 and 28 October 1982

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ACTION BY GOVERNMENTS RELEVANT TO THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF PART IV AND THE OPERATION
OF THE ENABLING CLAUSE

Addendum

The following communication has been received from the delegation of the Commission of the European Communities.

GSP 1982

On the basis of proposals by the Commission, the Council of the European Communities adopted on 7 December the regulations and decisions governing the Community's generalized tariff preferences for 1982. These form part of the new scheme for 1981-1985 adopted by the Council in December 1980.

On agriculture, in view of the various constraints to which the Community is subject, efforts were concentrated on improving preferential margins, but the Community also extended the list of products covered and broadened the scope of the special measures benefiting the least-developed countries.

For industrial manufactures and semi-manufactures the Community retained - with a few adjustments to fit in with current trade trends - the list of sensitive products drawn up in 1980. Except where very sensitive products were concerned, preferential volumes were generally increased by between 5% and 15%. For the least-developed beneficiaries there have been no preferential limitations whatsoever to duty-free entry since 1980. Also, the Community extended preferential treatment to China and Romania for a number of products where they had previously had no cover.

For textiles the scheme remained the same as in 1980.

MTM Agreements - Government Procurement

Procedures are under way to enable the European Community to extend the benefits of the agreement on government procurement to the least developed countries.