

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

COM.TD/LLDC/W/13

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Sub-Committee on Trade of
Least-Developed Countries
15-16 November 1983

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

The fifth meeting of the Sub-Committee on Trade of Least-Developed-Countries, will combine the holding of consultations between Bangladesh and its trading partners with its regular seasonal programme of work. The provisional agenda for this meeting would accordingly include the following items.

1) Ad-hoc consultations between individual least-developed countries and their trading partners: consultation with Bangladesh

It was decided at the Fourth meeting of the Sub-Committee in May 1983 that ad-hoc consultations be organized in the Sub-Committee between interested individual least-developed countries and their trading partners on issues related to their export interests, including the examination of barriers to their trade and any other relevant commercial policy matters. For the purposes of the consultations a background note on Bangladesh has been prepared by the secretariat (COM.TD/LLDC/W/9).

A Submission by Bangladesh has been circulated in documents COM.TD/LLDC/W/10 and COM.TD/LLDC/W/10/Rev.1.

ii) Review of developments in international trade of relevance to the trade interests of least-developed countries

The secretariat has prepared a note (COM.TD/LLDC/W/12) on recent developments in the trade and payments situation of least developed countries, in commercial policy, and in the implementation of Tokyo Round tariff and non-tariff measure agreements, together with an outline of relevant activities in other GATT bodies and in certain other international organizations, of relevance to the least developed countries.

iii) Review of measures taken in favour of least developed countries

Available information on such measures has been included in document COM.TD/LLDC/W/12. Delegations might wish to inform the Sub-Committee of other general trade or commercial policy actions they have taken or which are being prepared or contemplated to provide special treatment for least-developed countries.

iv) Export interests of least developed countries

Consideration of this item could be based on the secretariat background note (COM.TD/LLDC/W/11) which provides data on trade flows and tariff and non-tariff treatment on imports from least-developed countries.

This would assist in the identification of continuing barriers to the exports of least-developed countries and the discussion of possibilities for solving resulting trade problems. This background note replaces the previous note COM.TD/LLDC/W/3 and its addenda employed in previous sessions of the Sub-Committee. Delegations might wish to make specific suggestions on any additional information they might consider useful.

v) Secretariat technical assistance to least developed countries

The Technical Co-operation Division of the secretariat is available to provide, upon request, technical assistance to developing countries including least-developed countries. Information on recent activities in this area has been given in document COM.TD/LLDC/W/12. Delegations may have comments and suggestions to offer in this regard, taking into account the particular trade interests of least-developed countries.

vi) Other matters

The Sub-Committee might wish to take up any other matters falling within its terms of reference and relating to GATT's work relevant to the trade interests of least-developed countries.