

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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DISCRIMINATION IN TRANSPORT INSURANCE

Preparation of Report by the Executive Secretary for Submission to the Ninth Session

At their Eighth Session in October 1953 (SR.8/15) the CONTRACTING PARTIES instructed the Executive Secretary to prepare a report on the issues involved in the question of discrimination in transport insurance which had been referred to the GATT by the Economic and Social Council (L/94). In this connection the Executive Secretary addressed a communication on 11 February 1954 to the Foreign Ministers of the contracting parties asking governments to advise whether their legislation provides for discrimination in transport insurance and whether their trade has suffered as a consequence of discrimination practised by other countries.

A few replies to this enquiry have been received. In the light of the brevity of some of these replies it appears that it might be helpful to governments, and also to the Executive Secretary in preparing his report, if the request for information were given more precision than was done in the communication of 11 February. Accordingly, several questions are submitted overleaf. It would be appreciated if contracting parties which have not yet replied to the earlier enquiry would base their statements on these questions. In addition, contracting parties which have submitted statements in response to the earlier enquiry may wish to amplify their remarks on these lines.

It would be appreciated if governments would submit four copies of their statements. These should reach the Executive Secretary not later than 31 August 1954 in order that a report can be prepared for the Ninth Session.

DISCRIMINATION IN TRANSPORT INSURANCE

Questions addressed to the Contracting Parties to the General Agreement
on Tariffs and Trade

1. (a) Are foreign insurance companies permitted to conduct transport insurance business in your country on equal terms with domestic insurance companies?
(b) Are foreign insurance companies required to be registered in your country before they are permitted to conduct such business, and if so what restrictions or regulations govern their registration?
2. (a) Are residents in your country restricted in their choice of the insurance companies with which to insure the international transportation of goods by sea, land or air? Are they required to insure the transport of goods they have bought or sold abroad in the domestic insurance market?
(b) Can importers and exporters in other countries who buy and sell goods in your country arrange for transport insurance with companies of their own choice?
(c) Are import or export licences subject to any special conditions affecting the insurance of the transport of goods?

Note: In answering questions under 1 and 2 give details of the laws and restrictions in force and the reasons for their application.

3. Has the trade of your country suffered in any way as a consequence of provisions for discrimination in transport insurance in the legislation or regulations of other countries?
4. What international action would you propose for dealing with discrimination in transport insurance?