

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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RENEGOTIATION OF ITEMS IN SCHEDULES IX - CUBA, XIII - NEW ZEALAND AND XX - UNITED STATES

The Committee on Agenda and Intersessional Business, at its meeting on 26 July-3 August 1954, examined and approved requests by Cuba, New Zealand and the United States for authority to renegotiate certain items in their Schedules. The items concerned were notified to contracting parties in GATT/AIR/49, 50 and 51 and supporting statements were distributed in SECRET/12 and 13.

During the consideration of these requests, several representatives claimed that their governments would have a substantial interest in the trade in the items concerned, and the countries requesting the renegotiations agreed to consult with them concerning these claims. Governments thus wishing to be consulted with respect to any of these negotiations should communicate directly with the government concerned.

In granting each of these requests the Committee laid down the following conditions:

- the authority to enter into negotiation is granted on the understanding that the negotiation will be conducted with a view to maintaining a level of concessions no less favourable to the trade of other contracting parties than those at present contained in the schedule;
- failure to reach agreement as to a claim of substantial interest or the adequacy of the compensation offered, and any objection raised by a contracting party to the results of the negotiation, will be referred to the Committee by the governments concerned;

and the following procedures:

- the negotiation will be conducted at such times and places as are agreed upon by the governments concerned;
- in addition to the negotiation with the country to which the concession was initially granted, the government receiving the authorization will consult with countries determined to have a substantial interest in the trade in the item concerned;

- the countries substantially interested will be informed of the offers of compensation, and consultation may take place as to the adequacy of the compensation offered;
- upon completion of a negotiation, the participating governments will submit a joint report to the Executive Secretary who will announce the results to other contracting parties; if no objection is lodged within thirty days the government which was authorized to enter into negotiation will be free to make effective the agreed changes in its schedule.