

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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## UNITED KINGDOM - WAIVER FROM ARTICLE I

### First Annual Report (1954) on the use of the Waiver by the United Kingdom

1. At the Eighth Session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES, the Government of the United Kingdom was granted a partial waiver of its obligations under Article I of the Agreement. At the same time, the Government of the United Kingdom was requested to submit annually a report of the use it had made of the waiver.
2. To date, the waiver has been invoked in connection with increases which have been made by the Government of the United Kingdom in the unbound, most-favoured-nation rates of duty on certain fresh and preserved fruit and vegetables and on certain flowers, foliage and nursery stock. The table which accompanies this report<sup>1</sup> sets out, *inter alia*, the various items concerned; the rates of duty before and after the changes; the period for which the waiver was invoked; and the countries which were notified direct of the intention of the Government of the United Kingdom to invoke the waiver.
3. The countries listed in the last column of the said table requested consultations, or made approaches, concerning the items specified. In all cases, the Government of the United Kingdom gave to these countries explanations or additional information about its intentions and, following informal discussions, it was agreed with the contracting parties concerned that the waiver should apply.
4. Certain governments, whilst agreeing that the waiver should apply, reserved the right, in respect of particular items, to re-open the matter at a later date if, after a reasonable time, it appeared to them that the increase in the margin of preference had resulted, or seemed likely to result, in a substantial diversion of trade. The Governments and the items concerned were:-

The Netherlands	- Dried peas and nursery stock.
France	- Certain fresh and preserved fruit and vegetables.
Italy	- Certain fresh and preserved fruit and vegetables.
United States	- Plums.

<sup>1</sup> Note by the Executive Secretary: One copy of the table (in English) will be issued to each delegation attending the Ninth Session.