

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/498

26 July 1956

Limited Distribution

ADVANCE AGENDA FOR THE ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES TO BE HELD IN GENEVA COMMENCING 11 OCTOBER 1956

The following is an advance list of the items to be included in the Provisional Agenda for the Eleventh Session. This list has been prepared on the basis of records and information available to the secretariat.

This advance agenda, together with any additional items proposed by contracting parties, will be reviewed by the Interesessional Committee which will meet on 11 September to consider what matters are likely to arise at the Eleventh Session and to examine the adequacy of the documentation available. Contracting parties wishing to propose additional items are requested to submit their proposals and supporting documents by 11 September in accordance with rule 2 of the rules of procedure.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND ORDER OF BUSINESS

PROCEDURES FOR ELECTIONS

Proposals for the procedure to be followed when the CONTRACTING PARTIES are required to hold elections have been put forward by the Executive Secretary (L/490).

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN

Under rule 10 of the rules of procedure the terms of office of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen will expire on 27 October. However, the present Chairman has indicated that he thinks the election of Chairman should take place at the opening of the Eleventh Session, so that there will be continuity in the Chair through the Session. Accordingly, the Executive Secretary has invited contracting parties to submit nominations for the Chairmanship (L/490).

Under this item the Executive Secretary wishes to raise the question whether rule 10 should be amended to provide that these terms of office shall expire on the opening of the regular annual session.

PLANS FOR TARIFF REDUCTION

It was agreed at the Tenth Session that an item on further progress in the field of tariff reduction should appear on the agenda (SR.10/5).

COMMODITY PROBLEMS

Developments since the Tenth Session in resolving differences of view concerning certain provisions of the draft agreement on commodity arrangements will be reviewed by the Intersessional Committee on 11 September. A Note by the Executive Secretary has been distributed (L/488).

CHAIRMANSHIP OF ICCICA

On 2 December 1955 Sir Claude Corea was nominated Chairman of ICCICA for one year. Assuming that the arrangements for ICCICA remain unchanged, a nomination for the ensuing period will have to be made.

RESTRICTIVE BUSINESS PRACTICES

At the Tenth Session it was agreed (SR.10/3) that this item should appear on the agenda. There have been no developments since a Note was distributed by the Executive Secretary in August 1955 (L/384).

GATT-FUND RELATIONS

The question of relations between the International Monetary Fund and the CONTRACTING PARTIES was on the agenda for the Tenth Session but substantive discussion was deferred (SR.10/8). A Note will be distributed by the Executive Secretary.

BALANCE-OF-PAYMENT IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

(a) Intensification of restrictions

A Note on changes in the application of restrictions since the Tenth Session will be distributed by the Executive Secretary.

(b) Consultations under Article XIV:1(g)

Australia, Ceylon, New Zealand, Rhodesia and Nyasaland and the United Kingdom have initiated consultations (L/482).

(c) Seventh annual report under Article XIV:1(g)

Contracting parties having recourse to Article XIV, in the application of restrictions which they maintain under the provisions of Article XII, have been asked to submit replies to the questionnaire adopted at the Tenth Session (L/486).

(d) Procedures for consultations and report under Article XIV:1(g) in 1957

REPORTS AND CONSULTATIONS UNDER WAIVERS

(a) Czechoslovakia/Article XV:6 (Basic Instruments and Selected Documents,
Third Supplement, page 43)

Second annual report by Czechoslovakia and consultation.

(b) New Zealand/Article XV:6 (3rd S. p. 42)

Second annual report by New Zealand and consultation.

(c) European Coal and Steel Community (1st S. p. 17)

Fourth annual report by the Member states and Note by the Executive
Secretary.

(d) Australia/Papua-New Guinea (2nd S. p. 18)

Third annual report by Australia.

(e) Belgium/Import Restrictions (3rd S. p. 38 and 4th S. p. 22)

First annual report by Belgium.

(f) Italy/Libya (1st S. p. 14 and 4th S. p. 16)

Fourth annual reports by Italy and Libya.

(g) United Kingdom/Article I (2nd S. p. 20 and 3rd S. p. 25)

Third annual report by the United Kingdom.

(h) United Kingdom/Dependent Overseas Territories (3rd S. p. 21)

Second annual report by the United Kingdom.

(i) United States/Agricultural Adjustment Act (3rd S. p. 32)

Second annual report by the United States.

¹ Further references to the Basic Instruments and Selected Documents will be
abbreviated; e.g. the Third Supplement will be referred to as "3rd S".

VOTES REQUIRED FOR GRANTING WAIVERS

This question was referred to the Intersessional Committee and will be on the Committee's agenda for 11 September.

CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATION

(a) Consular formalities

Under the Decision of 7 November 1952 it was recommended that contracting parties should abolish consular formalities by 31 December 1956. Reports by contracting parties on steps taken towards compliance with this recommendation will be distributed (L/485 & Addenda).

(b) Nationality of imported goods

At the Tenth Session it was agreed that this item should appear again on the agenda (SR.10/11).

(c) Marks of origin

The proposals of the International Chamber of Commerce (L/430) are to be examined in the light of information furnished by contracting parties concerning their legislation and regulations relating to marking requirements (L/478 & Addenda).

(d) Certificates of origin

A proposal by the International Chamber of Commerce is to be considered in the light of comments received from governments (L/481 & Addenda).

(e) Samples Convention

A Note on the status of the Convention will be distributed by the Executive Secretary. (Comments by the parties to the Convention on the points of interpretation discussed at the Tenth Session have been distributed - L/472 & Addenda and L/484 & Add.1).

ANTI-DUMPING AND COUNTERVAILING DUTIES

At the Tenth Session the CONTRACTING PARTIES invited governments to submit extracts from their customs laws and regulations providing for the levy of anti-dumping duties, etc. The extracts received have been distributed in Addenda to L/479.

COMPLAINTS

(a) Brazilian internal taxes

Report by Brazil under the Resolution of 30 November 1955
(4th S. p. 21).

(b) French special temporary compensation tax on imports

The report by the French Government to the Intersessional Committee pursuant to the Decision of 30 November 1955 (4th S. p. 20) has been distributed (L/495).

(c) French stamp tax

The CONTRACTING PARTIES requested the Government of France to submit a report before the opening of the Eleventh Session (SR.10/5).

NICARAGUA - EL SALVADOR FREE-TRADE AREA

Fifth annual report by Nicaragua under Decision of 25 October 1951 (Vol. II p. 30).

FRANCE- TUNISIA CUSTOMS UNION

The Convention of 3 June 1955 and the Protocol of Application of 30 December 1955 have been distributed (L/475). A memorandum by the Government of France is expected.

DISPOSAL OF SURPLUSES

It was agreed at the Tenth Session that this item should appear on the agenda (SR.10/10).

DISCRIMINATION IN TRANSPORT INSURANCE

The report of the Working Party of the Tenth Session, including a recommendation for the elimination of restrictions (L/462), was deferred for consideration at the Eleventh Session (SR.10/18).

ACCESSION OF JAPAN

The situation with respect to recourse to Article XXIV will be examined by the Intersessional Committee on 11 September.

STATUS OF AGREEMENT AND PROTOCOLS

(a) Definitive application of the Agreement

Entry into force of the Resolution of 7 March 1955 (3rd S. p. 48).
The Resolution has been approved by all contracting parties except
Burma.

(b) Protocols of amendment (including rectification of French text)

(c) The Agreement on the Organization for Trade Cooperation

(d) Second, Third, Fourth and Fifth Protocols of Rectifications
and Modifications

(e) Sixth Protocol of Supplementary Concessions

(f) Declaration of 10 March 1955 on the Continued Application of
Schedules (3rd S. p. 30)

SCHEDULES

(a) Rectifications and modifications

A sixth protocol will be prepared in advance of the Session.
Contracting parties have been asked to submit requests by
15 August (L/487).

(b) Consolidation of schedules

Contracting parties have been asked to distribute the drafts of
their new consolidated schedules (L/483 & Addenda).

TRAINING PROGRAMME

The Executive Secretary will submit a report.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND BUDGET

(a) Audited accounts for 1955 and report by auditors

(b) Financing of 1956 budget

(c) Budget estimates for 1957

(d) Scale of contributions

INTERSESSIONAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE AGREEMENT

- (a) Report by the Intersessional Committee on action between the Tenth and Eleventh Sessions
- (b) Renewal of Arrangements

DATE OF THE TWELFTH SESSION

Items proposed by the Executive Secretary

TRADE RESTRICTIONS ON ORTHOPAEDIC EQUIPMENT

Request by the Council of Europe (L/496)

EUROPEAN FREE-TRADE AREA

Request by the Council of Europe (L/500)

