

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/1059

13 October 1959

Limited Distribution

CONTRACTING PARTIES  
Fifteenth session

Original: English

## UNITED KINGDOM - WAIVER FROM ARTICLE I

### Sixth Annual Report (1959) on the Use of the Waiver by the United Kingdom

1. The Government of the United Kingdom was requested to make an annual report on the use made of the partial waiver from the obligations of Article I of the General Agreement granted to it at the eighth session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES and amended at the ninth session.<sup>1</sup>

2. Since the fifth report (L/850) was submitted, the waiver has been invoked in connexion with changes in the most-favoured-nation rates of duty on the following commodities:

- (i) Certain cut flowers
- (ii) Ornamental pottery
- (iii) Lighter flints

Details of the changes are set out in the annex to this report.

#### (i) Cut flowers

3. The United Kingdom Government decided that it was necessary to increase the protective duty on certain cut flowers. In notifying interested contracting parties and the secretariat, they stated that, as it was at the time the season for imports of a number of the cut flowers in question, they intended to bring the increased duties into effect earlier than full operation of the ~~waiver procedure might normally~~ permit.

4. A request for consultations was received from the Netherlands Government. The United Kingdom Government was unable to agree that the grounds on which consultations were requested satisfied the terms of paragraph (b)(ii) of the Waiver Procedures, and the increased duties were put into effect.

5. The Netherlands Government raised this matter at the fourteenth session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES (SR.14/7). After discussion, the CONTRACTING PARTIES took note that the Governments of the United Kingdom and the Netherlands would discuss the matter further under Article XXII of the General Agreement and would refer back to the CONTRACTING PARTIES if no satisfactory solution were reached.

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<sup>1</sup> See Basic Instruments and Selected Documents, Second and Third Supplements, pages 20 and 25 respectively.

(ii) Ornamental pottery

6. The United Kingdom Government was unable to agree that a request for consultations by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany was made on grounds which satisfied the terms of paragraph (b)(ii) of the Waiver Procedures, and addressed to the CONTRACTING PARTIES a request for a speedy determination under paragraph (d) of the Waiver Procedures.

7. The matter was considered during March 1959 by a panel of experts, appointed by the Intersessional Committee, which concluded that the grounds on which consultations were requested had not been established (document SECRET/105). In accepting the panel's findings, the Federal German Government reserved its right to enter into consultations with the United Kingdom under Article XXII if a substantial diversion of the trade in ornamental pottery resulted from the increase in the rate of duty.

(iii) Lighter flints

8. There were no consultations under the waiver, and the increase in the duty on lighter flints was put into effect.

ANNEX

Item	United Kingdom Tariff Item	Previous rate of duty	Present rate of duty	Date on which duty was revised	Reference number of secretariat notification
I	<p><u>Cut flowers</u></p> <p>ex 06.03 Cut flowers and flower buds of a kind suitable for bouquets or for ornamental purposes, fresh, dried, dyed, bleached, impregnated or otherwise prepared:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Narcissus (polyanthus type)</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Anemones, roses and carnations</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Other, classified under heading 06.03 F of the Brussels Nomenclature</p>	<p>4d. per lb.</p> <p>1s. 8d. per lb.</p> <p>1s. 8d. per lb.</p>	<p>7d. per lb.</p> <p>2s. 6d. per lb.</p> <p>2s. 0d. per lb.</p>	<p>17 March 1959</p>	<p>GATT/AIR/151 (SECRET)</p>
II	<p><u>Ornamental pottery</u></p> <p>ex 69.11) Tableware and other articles of a kind commonly used for domestic or toilet purposes, of porcelain or china (including biscuit porcelain and parian) or of other kinds of pottery:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Other than the following:- articles designed for fixing to a setting in the wall; fireproof non-vitrified earthenware cooking utensils; washstand utensils and chamber pots; articles designed for use primarily in the storage, preparation, serving or consumption of food or drink, the following - cups (including mugs and beakers), saucers and plates, tea-pots and coffee pots; morning sets, dinner sets, hors d'oeuvre sets, tea sets and coffee sets, and articles designed as parts of such sets, cooking utensils and kitchenware</p> <p>ex 69.13 Statuettes and other ornaments</p>	<p>£1. 5s. per cwt.</p> <p>£1. 5s. per cwt.</p>	<p>£4. 10s. per cwt.</p> <p>£4. 10s. per cwt.</p>	<p>25 April 1959</p>	<p>SECRET/103</p>
III	<p><u>Lighter flints</u></p> <p>ex 36.07 Ferro-cerium and other pyrophoric alloys in all forms:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">in pieces weighing not more than 4 ounces</p>	<p>10% ad valorem</p>	<p>20% ad valorem</p>	<p>27 July 1959</p>	<p>SECRET/107</p>