

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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ITALIAN IMPCRT RESTRICTIONS

Request by Israel for Consultations under Article XXII

In accordance with the procedure adopted by the CONTRACTING PARTIES on 10 November 1958 (Basic Instruments and Selected Documents, Seventh Supplement) the Government of Israel has informed the Executive Secretary that a request has been addressed to the Government of Italy to engage in consultations under paragraph 1 of Article XXII concerning products the importation of which into Italy from Israel is subject to quantitative restrictions. The request addressed to the Government of Italy reads in part as follows:

"Notwithstanding repeated representations to the Italian Government, imports from Israel continue to be included in List 'C imports', as defined in the Ministerial Decree of 22 December 1959.¹ This results in discrimination against Israel exports contrary to the provisions of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. The continued exclusion of Israel in this way from the liberalization measures in Italy, which were notified in GATT document L/1433 of 23 March, is harmful to Israel's trade.

"It is the desire of the Government of Israel to enter into consultations on the matter with the Government of Italy in pursuance of Article XXII:1 of the General Agreement with a view to reaching an early and amicable settlement of the question. It proposes that the consultations be held in Geneva and that they extend to all products to which quantitative restrictions on importation from Israel are applied in Italy."

The Government of Israel has suggested that this consultation should take place "at an early date". Any contracting party wishing to assert a substantial trade interest and desiring to be joined in the consultation should so inform the Governments of Italy and Israel and also the Executive Secretary without delay in accordance with the procedures referred to above.

¹ Published in the Supplement to the "Gazzetta Ufficiale" N° 18 of 23 January 1960.