

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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HAITIAN TARIFF REFORM

Request Submitted by Haiti under Article XXVIII

The following communication, dated 23 September, 1961, has been received from the head of the Haitian delegation:

"I have the honour to inform you that the Government of Haiti has decided to revise its customs tariff which dates from 1926. This tariff no longer meets the requirements of national and international trade and the Brussels customs nomenclature has been adopted in accordance with commitments undertaken by Haiti.

"The Government of Haiti has endeavoured to simplify the application of the tariff by unifying the various taxes and surtaxes added to the original tariff duties since 1926. Thus the proposed tariff contains two tax columns: the first, 'Former duties' indicates only the 1926 rates, and the second, 'New duties', shows the original duties of 1926 to which have been added the 20 per cent surtax of 1937 and, as the case may be, the special 3 per cent surtax of January 1949 or the 3 per cent, $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, 4 per cent or $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent surtaxes of 1953.

"It may be seen from the above that, contrary to appearances, there has been no increase in duties but simply a unification in order to facilitate the calculation of duty rates.

"The adoption of this new nomenclature inevitably involves some changes in the wording of tariff items and has resulted in some modifications to Schedule XXVI. For instance, some items have been combined under other headings, while in other cases there has been hardly any change.

"According to the established procedure, the Haitian Government will submit the following documents within the next few days:

- (a) draft new tariff in the Brussels nomenclature;
- (b) draft Schedule XXVI in the Brussels nomenclature;
- (c) table for the concordance of the old Schedule XXVI and the new version.

"As a result of this tariff reform, the Haitian Government is obliged, for technical and economic reasons, to make some modifications in concessions.

"It therefore requests permission from the CONTRACTING PARTIES to re-negotiate the items mentioned in the attached list, in accordance with Article XXVIII.

"The concessions granted by Haiti under the General Agreement are contained in the Ancey Protocol of Terms of Accession dated 10 November 1949, the Torquay Protocol of 21 April 1951 and the Sixth Protocol of Supplementary Concessions dated 23 May 1956.

"The statistical data relating to these products will be submitted at a later date.

"The Haitian Government is anxious to fulfil its contractual obligations and is, therefore, submitting this draft tariff to GATT before applying it. In view of the fact, however, that the budget estimates for the financial year October 1961 - September 1962 have been drawn up on the basis of this new tariff, my Government would be grateful if the permission requested could be granted as soon as possible and the negotiations concluded within a relatively short period so that the national customs administration can acquaint itself with the nomenclature before the latter becomes applicable."

LIST OF ITEMS WHICH THE HAITIAN GOVERNMENT WISHES TO RENEGOTIATE

<u>Former Nomenclature</u>	<u>Brussels Nomenclature</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1415	73.18	Readjustment of text only
1513	73.36, 73.38, 96.06	Withdrawal of concession
1710	76.15	" " "
1719	76.16	" " "
2128-a	29.36, 29.44	" " "
2303	34.01-D	" " "
3001-a	55.01-A	" " "
3002-a	55.01-B	" " "
3101, 3102, 3103, 3104	55.05-A, 55.05-B, 56.06-A, 56.06-B	Readjustment of text and duties
4102-a	54.03-B, 54.04-B, 57.05-B	Readjustment of text only
4103-a	59-04-E	" " " "
6006, 6007, 6008	50.09-A, 50.09-B, 50.09-C	Readjustment of text and duties
6011	No exact equivalent	No equivalent
6041, 6042, 6043, 6044, 6045	Chapter 61	Readjustment of text and duties
6143, 6144	No exact equivalent	Readjustment of text and duties
11033	85.15-A	Withdrawal of concession
11104	87.02-A	Partial withdrawal
11105	87.02-B	" "
11106-a	87.02-D	Withdrawal of concession
11106-b	87.02-E	" " "
11106-c	87.02-F	" " "
12006	02.06, 02.06-A	" " "
12007	02.06-B	" " "
12008	02.06-C	" " "
12011	15.01	" " "
12013-b	03.02-B, 03.03-B, 03.02-C	" " "
12014-a	03.02-A	" " "
12420	04.03	" " "

