

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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ITALIAN SPECIAL CUSTOMS TREATMENT FOR CERTAIN LIBYAN PRODUCTS

Thirteenth Annual Report - 1965

Submitted by the Government of Libya

By a Decision dated 9 October 1952 the CONTRACTING PARTIES to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade granted a waiver to Italy under the provision of Article I, paragraph 1 of the General Agreement so as to authorize that country to apply special customs treatment on certain products originating in and imported from Libya. This Decision has been renewed at three-yearly intervals, the most recent being 25 January 1965 until 31 December 1967.

The Decision also provides that the Libyan Government should submit a report every year in connexion with economic progress in Libya and the development of its external trade within the framework of the special treatment.

In compliance with such obligation a detailed account of the development of the trade in question is given below and tables are attached¹ showing the volume and value of commodities exported from Libya 1962, 1963 and 1964.

1. Commodities subject to special treatment according to the waiver

Table A to all destinations
Table B to Italy
Table C to other destinations

2. Commodities subject to duty when imported into Libya

Table A to all destinations
Table B to Italy
Table C to other destinations

¹ These tables will be circulated in an addendum to this document.

3. Commodities entering into Italy duty free irrespective of their origin

Table A to all destinations

Table B to Italy

Table C to other destinations

The total of domestic exports in 1964 amounted to £1250,165,458 as compared with £1133,535,482 in 1963 and £149,015,961 in 1962.

As it is shown from the table below, the large increase in the volume of export is due to the large quantities of crude oil exported during the year which constitutes 99.16 per cent of the total volume of our export.

Regarding exports of other commodities, these have increased somewhat as compared with the year 1963.

Exports to Italy increased from £119,404,000 in 1963 to £130,655,509 in 1964.

PRINCIPAL EXPORTS

SITC code	Commodity	Value in £L'000		Exports to Italy as %
		To all countries	To Italy	
331 010	Crude petroleum	248,079	29,966	12.07
222 110	Groundnuts (peanuts)	790	332	42.0
211 000	Hides and skins	347	117	35.3
221 700	Castor oil	194	167	86.08
262 000	Wool and other animal hair	229	73	30.2

In the twelfth report reference was made to the efforts exerted in the agricultural sector, since agriculture is the main source of the most essential consumer goods and of employment and income for the majority in our country, the existing development programme therefore logically stresses the need to develop agriculture as rapidly as possible. Indeed, the plan required that agriculture constitute the major development effort. In the five-year plan the various projects included in the agriculture sector are intended to go a long way to carry out the agriculture policy of the Government. This is to raise the level of agriculture productivity; to reclaim lands to prepare settlement, also to tie the exports and

import of agricultural products to economic development as a whole; to provide agricultural primary products required for the development of agricultural industries; to ensure for farmers suitable sources and means of finance; to grant loans and afford education and training facilities for them, also to ensure water and soil reservation and to provide heavy and light machinery.

In conclusion the Government has under active consideration at the moment a large scale report on agriculture planning and its development for the five-year plan 1963-68. An amount of £129 million (this represents one fifth of the development budget), has been diverted for agriculture of which £18 million will be spent in the current year.

In the industrial section, the Government is determined to promote industrial growth by encouraging new industrial enterprises, by paying special attention to the rôle of small-scale industries, by supporting research and training, by the provision of credit and the establishment of industrial estates and by supporting in every possible way the efforts of the private sector.

Finally, special attention is drawn to the fact that although the Government is in possession of the resources to formulate the said programme, it is not expected to obtain results before long.

Therefore the waiver permitting the entry of certain Libyan products to Italy on duty-free basis is an important factor in assisting Libya to promote the agricultural productivity.