

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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Limited Distribution

TURKISH STAMP DUTY

Communication from the Government of Turkey

The following communication, dated 11 September 1968, has been received from the Permanent Delegation of Turkey.

With reference to the provisions of the decision of 11 November 1967 (L/2937) requiring a report to be submitted to the CONTRACTING PARTIES on the operation of the stamp duty in relation to the implementation of the Five-Year Plans, I have the honour to communicate to you the following:

1. The Turkish Government, keeping the economic situation of the country under continuous review, considers that the situation has not so far changed or improved as to permit the Government to remove or reduce it without endangering the successful implementation of the Second Five-Year Development Plan.
2. The stamp duty has no adverse and restrictive effect on imports. Imports continued to rise (LT 3,167 million in the first six months of 1967 and LT 3,638 million within the same period of 1968) while the pattern of trade remained unchanged.
3. The stamp duty, having vital importance at present in view of the accomplishment of economic development, is nevertheless regarded by the Turkish Government as an entirely temporary measure to be eliminated in due course.