

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/3084

28 October 1968

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CONTRACTING PARTIES
Twenty-Fifth Session
12-29 November 1968

Original: English

IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

New Zealand Proposals

At the twenty-fourth session last year attention was focussed on the urgent problem of the continued existence of import restrictions applied contrary to the General Agreement and not covered by waivers. It was not possible to reach a conclusion on certain proposals which were made. Some delegations considered that insufficient notice had been given to allow for consideration of the matter. It was finally agreed that "all contracting parties would take due note of the understanding that they were to come next year fully prepared to deal with the problem definitively" (SR 24/14 page 178).

To help the contracting parties prepare for the examination of this problem at the twenty-fifth session New Zealand has the following proposals to make:

- I. By 30 June 1969 contracting parties which maintain import restrictions which are contrary to their obligations under the General Agreement and which are not covered by waivers would:
 - (a) notify the CONTRACTING PARTIES that all such restrictions would be removed by 30 June 1969, or
 - (b) submit to the CONTRACTING PARTIES a programme for the removal of the import restrictions, and
 - (c) for import restrictions not covered by (b), at the same time apply for a waiver.
- II. At the twenty-fifth session the CONTRACTING PARTIES would establish a committee, with appropriate terms of reference, to consult with each contracting party which submits a programme for the removal of the import restrictions and/or a waiver application. The committee would report to the twenty-sixth session.
- III. Following the twenty-sixth session the committee would carry out regular consultations with the contracting parties concerned, inter alia, to review the progress in the removal of quantitative restrictions and to consider reports made under the terms of any waivers which may have been granted.
- IV. The committee would establish a plan for its consultations, as the Committee on Balance-of-Payments Restrictions has done, and would determine the information to be provided by the contracting parties concerned as a basis for consultations.

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