

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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## SPAIN - IMPORTS OF CODFISH

### Request by Denmark for Consultations Under Article XXII:2

The following communication has been received from the Permanent Representative of Denmark with a request that the matter be referred to the Council of Representatives.

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Acting upon instruction from my Government I have the honour to request that CONTRACTING PARTIES hold consultations with Spain in accordance with paragraph 2 of Article XXII of the General Agreement.

The reason for this request is that the Spanish authorities since November 1968 have refused to allow imports into Spain of codfish from Denmark.

Codfish is the largest single commodity in Denmark's exports to Spain, accounting for about one fifth of the total exports to that country. Codfish has been liberalized by the Government of Spain, and no de-liberalization has taken place. The import duty has been bound in GATT at 15 per cent ad valorem in favour of Denmark and Norway.

Consultations between Spain and Denmark have taken place in December 1968 and in June 1969 with a view to finding a satisfactory solution. These consultations have led to no change in the Spanish position with regard to imports.

The Government of Denmark consider that the possibilities for bilateral consultations as foreseen in paragraph 1 of Article XXII have now been exhausted and request that consultations under paragraph 2 of Article XXII be initiated forthwith.

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