

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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## REQUEST BY THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITIES FOR A WAIVER OF OBLIGATIONS UNDER ARTICLE XXV:5

### Citrus Fruits

The Director-General has received the following communication, dated 23 July 1969, from the Commission of the European Communities.

I have the honour to inform you that EEC proposes to apply a reduction of 40 per cent of the customs duties under the Common Tariff in respect of certain citrus fruits from Israel and Spain. The citrus fruits in question are those listed under tariff headings ex 08.02 A, ex 08.02 B and ex 08.02 C.

During the period of application of a reference price in the Community, the benefit of the tariff reduction is subject to a minimum offer price higher than such reference price.

The motive underlying this arrangement is the need to maintain balanced competitive conditions and to try to stabilize the citrus fruit market in the Mediterranean area; other Community suppliers should benefit indirectly. In view of the purpose intended, namely to stabilize the market, the Community considers it essential that these provisions should come into force simultaneously with the implementation of the Agreements establishing an Association between EEC and Morocco and Tunisia.<sup>1</sup>

I should therefore be grateful if you would kindly inform the CONTRACTING PARTIES of this request by the Community for authorization to waive the most-favoured-nation clause (Article 1) in virtue of Article XXV:5.

This matter will be placed on the agenda of the next meeting of the Council.

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<sup>1</sup>The text of the Association Agreements have been distributed in documents L/3226 and L/3227.