

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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TRAINING ACTIVITIES

Note by the Director-General

I. THE GATT COURSES IN GENEVA

1. Two courses in commercial policy are held in Geneva each year; one for English-speaking participants from February to June, and the second for French-speaking participants from August to December. The courses are open to officials who have responsibilities, or may in future have responsibilities, in the formulation and conduct of foreign trade policy mainly in developing countries, GATT and non-GATT alike, and who are granted fellowships under the United Nations Development Programme. The twenty-seventh course, beginning in February 1969, was attended by twenty officials and the twenty-eighth course, which began in August is being attended by sixteen officials. Lists of participants in these two courses appear in Annex A. The value attached to these courses by governments is manifested in the growing number of applications. Since 1955, 287 officials from seventy-eight countries have attended the twenty-eight courses in Geneva (see Annex B). For the twenty-ninth course, beginning in February 1970 twenty candidates have been accepted from a total of fifty-one submitted by governments.

2. The practical orientation of these GATT training courses has been further stressed during 1969. The first weeks are devoted to lectures and discussions on the principles of commercial policy and their relation to the problems of developing countries, the major problems of international trade, the provisions of the General Agreement and the work of the CONTRACTING PARTIES and of their various committees. Thereafter, participants are encouraged to undertake special studies which they themselves select on the basis of their own particular main interests. An increasing number of guest lecturers participate in these courses: invitations are addressed to senior members of delegations engaged in the work of the international organizations in Geneva, university professors, high-ranking officials of international organizations etc. The participants in the course are also given the opportunity to consult with members of the secretariat on matters of particular interest to them. More seminars and round table discussions are provided for.

As in the past the trainees attended selected plenary and committee meetings which allowed them to gain direct knowledge of the methods followed by the CONTRACTING PARTIES in dealing with specific problems.

3. Besides short visits to the Swiss authorities, trade fairs and industrial and commercial centres in the host country, each course makes a study tour abroad. The twenty-seventh course visited Vienna, Belgrade and Zagreb. The host governments

organized interesting and highly informative visits to the sectors of their administration dealing with foreign trade policy and export promotion, factories, commercial organizations etc. Visits have been arranged to Brussels, Antwerp, Madrid and Barcelona for the participants of the current twenty-eighth course.

4. The efforts devoted to the improvement of the training activities have been rewarded by the increasing interest shown by Governments in submitting more candidates with higher qualifications. The selection of participants thus becomes tighter and the secretariat had consequently to reject candidates who did not meet the requirements or could not pass a language proficiency test by the UNDP Resident Representative's office in their countries.

5. The Director-General wishes to express his gratitude to the Office of Technical Co-operation of the United Nations for providing fellowships for the courses and to the Governments mentioned above for the interesting and varied programmes they prepared for visits during study tours and for the hospitality they extended to the officials concerned.

II. JOINT ECA/GATT COURSES ON COMMERCIAL POLICY AND TRADE PROMOTION

The first course during 1969 on Commercial Policy and Trade Promotion, for French-speaking African officials, was held in Tunis between 22 September and 24 October 1969. It was attended by nineteen participants from the Central African Republic, Ivory Coast, Algeria, Chad, Gabon, Madagascar, Togo, Mali, Upper Volta, Burundi, Senegal, Cameroon and Tunisia.

The second 1969 course, for English-speaking African officials, will be held in Nairobi, Kenya between 3 November and 5 December 1969. It will be attended by nineteen officials from Ethiopia, Ghana, Liberia, Malawi, Nigeria, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, United Arab Republic and Kenya.

A list of participants in the above courses is included in Annex C. Including these officials, a total of 253 participants from member countries of the Economic Commission for Africa have attended these courses, which have been arranged annually since 1962.

At the request of the African Governments and after consultation with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, some amendments were introduced in the trade policy section of the syllabus and a section on trade promotion was introduced. Tuition on the latter is carried out by officials of the ECA according to a programme mutually agreed upon.

The Director of the course is Mr. Jean Royer, Special Consultant and former Deputy Executive Secretary of GATT, assisted by one official of the GATT secretariat and another from ECA who lectures on trade promotion matters. The

practical orientation of the programme and of the lectures by Mr. Royer and his assistants is complemented by lectures delivered by government officials and business executives concerned with commercial policy of the host government and with foreign trade activities. Visits to government departments, industrial and commercial enterprises, marketing boards etc., are also organized as regular features. The participants are requested to submit brief papers on specific trade policy problems affecting their respective countries.

These courses were arranged as in the past with the financial support of the United Nations technical assistance funds. The Director-General wishes to record his appreciation both to the ECA and the UNDP for their contributions and expresses his thanks to the host governments and the resident UNDP representatives for their assistance in the organization of the courses. He is also indebted to the numerous officials and heads of private business enterprises and organizations whose co-operation was invaluable in carrying out the practical part of the programme.

Arrangements are already under way to hold further courses in 1970 following the same orientation.

III. OTHER ACTIVITIES

The GATT secretariat made available one of its officials as a lecturer for the Fourth Regional Course on Trade Policy run by the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America in Santiago between 30 June and 14 August 1969.

Another officer of the GATT secretariat participated in the ECAFE Regional Training Course organized by the United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East which took place in Bangkok between 5 and 25 September 1969.

Similar collaboration was extended to other international and national organizations, institutes and universities.

ANNEX A

PARTICIPANTS IN THE TWENTY-SEVENTH AND TWENTY-EIGHTH GENEVA COURSES

I. Twenty-Seventh (English-speaking) Course - February-June 1969

| Country | Name | Title |
|------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Chile | Mr. Eduardo ARAYA ALEMPARTE | Counsellor, Ministry of External Relations |
| Costa Rica | Mr. Jorge A. GRAU CANALIAS | Director, Foreign Trade Department, Central Bank of Costa Rica |
| Ethiopia | Mr. Regassa KEBEDE | Statistician, Ministry of Commerce and Industry |
| Ghana | Mr. James E.B. HAIZEL | Commercial Officer, Ministry of Trade |
| Hong Kong | Mr. Robert YAU Ming-kim | Trade Officer, Hong Kong Government, Commerce and Industry Department |
| Hungary | Mr. Karoly NYIRI | Assistant Head of Section, Ministry of Foreign Trade, Department of Customs Policy and International Organizations |
| India | Mr. Prem P. VOHRA | Section Officer (Foreign Trade), Ministry of Commerce |
| Israel | Mr. Abraham YEHOSHAFAT | Senior Economist, Division of Foreign Exchange, Ministry of Finance |
| Korea | Mr. Jae Rok SUNG | Staff Officer, International Economy Section, Ministry of Foreign Affairs |
| Malawi | Mr. Weddington C. SALIMA | Trade Officer, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Division of Trade and Industry |
| Mexico | Mr. Edmundo ZAVALA LOPEZ | Chief of Section, Department of Import Taxes, Ministry of Treasury and Public Finance |

| Country | Name | Title |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Nigeria | Mr. Christopher AGIDI | Administrative Officer, Foreign Trade Division, Federal Ministry of Trade |
| Romania | Mr. Constantin FOTA | Head of Office, Institute of International Market Research |
| Sierra Leone | Mr. Daniel O. COLE | Trade Attaché, Sierra Leone High Commission, London |
| Thailand | Mr. Seri SUKESAT | Economist, Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Economic Affairs |
| United Arab Republic | Mr. Ismail A. KAMEL | Commercial Secretary, Commercial Representation Department, Ministry of Economy and Foreign Trade |
| Venezuela | Mr. Alfredo VARGAS | Economist, Department of External Trade, Ministry of Foreign Affairs |
| <u>Free auditors</u> | | |
| Cuba | Mr. Eduardo MIRANDA CHELALA | Specialist in Commercial Policy, Ministry of External Trade |
| Mexico | Mr. Morelos GONZALEZ FERNANDEZ | Adviser, Department of Commercial Policy, Ministry of Treasury and Public Finance |
| Poland | Mrs. Urszula PLOWIEC | Senior Counsellor, Research Centre, Ministry of Foreign Trade |

II. Twenty-Eighth (French-speaking) Course - August-December 1969

| Country | Name | Title |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Brazil | Mr. Adhémar Gabriel BAHADIAN | Third Secretary, Commercial Policy Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Rio de Janeiro |
| Bulgaria | Mr. Peter Andreev AVRAMOV | Assistant Chief of the GATT Section, Department of Economics, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sofia |
| Chile | Mr. Eduardo RODRIGUEZ GUARACHI | Third Secretary of Embassy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Santiago de Chile |
| Congo (Brazzaville) | Mr. Mamadou Baba DIOP | Economic Counsellor, Ministry of Trade and Economic Affairs, Brazzaville |
| Cuba | Mrs. Gladys GARCIA GARCIA | Specialist in Commercial Policy, Ministry of Foreign Trade, Havana |
| Dominican Republic | Mr. Diogenes LORA RODRIGUEZ | Co-ordinator of the Working Group on Integration, Technical Secretariat of the President's Office, Santo Domingo |
| Gabon | Mr. Samuel MVE'NDONG | Administrator, External Economic Relations, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Libreville |
| Honduras | Mr. Carlos RAMIREZ ZAPATA | Economic Analyst, General Department of Economic Affairs and Trade, Tegucigalpa |
| Lebanon | Mr. Ramez NAHAS | Controller, Supreme Customs Council, Beirut |
| Poland | Mr. Olgierd SIWICKI | Chief of Section in the Treaties Department, Ministry of Foreign Trade, Warsaw |
| Romania | Mr. Iosif PATAN | Chief of Section, Institute for the Study of International Trade, Bucharest |
| Syrian Arab Republic | Mr. Salah JOM'A | Chief of Section, Ministry of Economics and Foreign Trade, Damascus |

| Country | Name | Title |
|----------------------|--|--|
| Uruguay | Mr. Ramiro RODRIGUEZ-VILLAMIL RIVIERE | Counsellor, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Montevideo |
| Venezuela | Mr. Daniel RAGOT | Planning Analyst, Chief of the Department of Foreign Trade, Cordiplan, Caracas |
| <u>Free auditors</u> | | |
| Uruguay | Mr. Humberto GOYEN ALVEZ | First Secretary in the Foreign Service, District Consul in Geneva |
| Venezuela | Mr. Fernando GERBASI | Economist, Ministry of Foreign Relations, Economic Attaché in the Permanent Delegation of Venezuela in Geneva |

ANNEX B

AREA DISTRIBUTION OF PARTICIPANTS IN THE GENEVA COURSES
FROM DECEMBER 1955 TO END 1969

| | United Nations fellowship holders | Non-fellowship participants |
|--|---|--------------------------------|
| <u>Africa</u> (twenty-seven countries) | <u>82</u> | <u>1</u> |
| Burundi | 3 | |
| Cameroon | 2 | |
| Central African Republic | 1 | |
| Chad | 1 | |
| Congo (Brazzaville) | 4 | |
| Congo (Leopoldville) | 4 | |
| Dahomey | 3 | |
| Ethiopia | 2 | |
| Gabon | 3 | |
| Gambia | 1 | |
| Ghana | 6 | |
| Kenya | 2 | |
| Libya | 1 | |
| Madagascar | 6 | |
| Malawi | 3 | |
| Mali | 4 | |
| Niger | 1 | |
| Nigeria | 8 | |
| Rhodesia and Nyasaland (ex Federation of) | 4 | |
| Senegal | 1 | |
| Sierra Leone | 3 | |
| Tanzania | 4 | |
| Togo | 3 | |
| Tunisia | 3 | |
| Uganda | 1 | |
| United Arab Republic | 7 | 1 |
| Upper Volta | 1 | |
| <u>Asia</u> (excluding Middle East) (fifteen countries) | <u>60</u> | <u>4</u> |
| Burma | 4 | |
| Cambodia | 2 | |
| Ceylon | 3 | |
| China | 1 | |
| Hong Kong | 5 | |
| India | 13 | |
| Indonesia | 7 | |

| | United Nations fellowship holders | Non-fellowship participants |
|--|---|--------------------------------|
| <u>Asia</u> (cont'd) | | |
| Iran | 3 | |
| Japan | | 3 |
| Korea | 4 | |
| Laos | 1 | |
| Malaysia | 3 | |
| Pakistan | 6 | |
| Philippines | 5 | |
| Thailand | 3 | 1 |
| <u>Middle East</u> (six countries) | <u>23</u> | <u>1</u> |
| Iraq | 1 | |
| Israel | 4 | 1 |
| Jordan | 1 | |
| Lebanon | 1 | |
| Turkey | 10 | |
| Syria | 6 | |
| <u>Latin American and Caribbean area</u> (eighteen countries) | <u>53</u> | <u>14</u> |
| Argentina | 6 | |
| Brazil | 3 | |
| Chile | 9 | 1 |
| Colombia | 1 | |
| Costa Rica | 1 | |
| Cuba | 6 | 4 |
| Dominican Republic | 2 | |
| Ecuador | 2 | |
| Haiti | 3 | |
| Honduras | 1 | |
| Jamaica | 1 | |
| Mexico | 3 | 3 |
| Nicaragua | 2 | 1 |
| Paraguay | | 1 |
| Peru | 6 | |
| Trinidad | 3 | |
| Uruguay | 2 | 1 |
| Venezuela | 2 | 3 |

| | United Nations fellowship holders | Non-fellowship participants |
|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| <u>Europe</u> (twelve countries) | <u>40</u> | <u>9</u> |
| Bulgaria | 4 | |
| Czechoslovakia | 1 | 2 |
| Finland | 3 | |
| Fed. Rep. of Germany | | 2 |
| Greece | 10 | |
| Hungary | 2 | |
| Malta | 2 | |
| Poland | 8 | 3 |
| Portugal | | 1 |
| Romania | 3 | |
| Spain | 1 | 1 |
| Yugoslavia | 6 | |
| TOTAL (seventy-eight countries) | 258 | 29 |

ANNEX C

PARTICIPANTS IN THE 1969 GATT/ECA COURSES
ON COMMERCIAL POLICY AND TRADE PROMOTION

1. Tunis, Tunisia, 22 September-25 October 1969

| <u>Country</u> | <u>Name and title</u> |
|--------------------------|---|
| ALGERIA | Mr. Mostefa BENMANSOUR, Administrator, Foreign Trade Service, Ministry of Trade |
| BURUNDI | Mr. Léonce MAGABANYA, Assistant Director of Treaties and Co-operation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs |
| CAMEROONS | Mr. Jean Bosco MBENG, Government Agent, Ministry of Commerce and Industry |
| IVORY COAST | Mr. Paul GUI DIRO, Assistant Director of Foreign Trade Permits and Regulations, Department of Economic Affairs and Foreign Economic Relations |
| CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC | Mr. Camille TOROMO, Director of Foreign Trade |
| GABON | Mr. Joseph NDJOGAS, Second Counsellor to the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Gabon in Geneva |
| UPPER VOLTA | Mr. Justin Lazare ZEBA, Commercial Attaché, Chief of the Internal Trade Service, Development of Trade, Ministry of Finance and Trade |
| MALI | Mr. Aldiouma KAYA, Customs Inspector, Department of Customs |

| <u>Country</u> | <u>Name and title</u> |
|-------------------|--|
| MALAGASY REPUBLIC | Mr. Jean RAKOTO, Commissioner for Prices and Economic Research, Department of Trade, Ministry of Finance and Trade |
| | Mr. Victor RANDRIAMANGA, Manager of the Industrial Development and Promotion Office, Ministry of Industry and Mines |
| SENEGAL | Mr. Mame DIOUF, Chief of the Economic Co-operation and Integration Office, Department of International Economic and Technical Co-operation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs |
| CHAD | Mr. Ndiaye ABDERAHIM, Civil Administrator, Assistant Director of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Economy, Finance and Transport |
| TOGO | Mr. Thomas AKUESON, Inspector of Internal Trade and Prices, Division of Commerce, Industry, Tourism and Planning |
| | Mr. Francis DOGBE, Assistant Chief, Foreign Trade Service, Ministry of Commerce, Industry, Tourism and Planning |
| TUNISIA | Mr. Abderrazak ATTIA, Secretary of Embassy, Department of Foreign Affairs |
| | Mr. Béchir FATHALLAH, Trade Division, Department of Industry and Commerce |
| | Mr. Brahim TURKI, Trade Division, Department of Industry and Commerce |

2. Nairobi, Kenya - 3 November-5 December 1969

| <u>Country</u> | <u>Name and title</u> |
|----------------|--|
| ETHIOPIA | Samuel ASFAW, Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism, Addis Ababa |
| GHANA | Mrs. Eleanor AMOO, Commercial Officer, Ministry of Trade, Accra |
| LIBERIA | John SHERMAN, Director, Bureau of Industrial and Resource Development, Monrovia |
| MALAWI | Augustine THOLE, Senior Trade Officer, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Blantyre |
| NIGERIA | Yinka OLAGBAMI, Nigerian Produce Marketing Company, Lagos |
| SOMALIA | Mohamed YUSUF, Senior Trade Officer, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Mogadiscio |
| SUDAN | Atta el Manan HAMZA, Inspector, Foreign Trade, Ministry of Foreign Trade, Khartoum Faisal MAHYOUB, Inspector in Quality Control, Ministry of Foreign Trade, Khartoum |

| <u>Country</u> | <u>Name and title</u> |
|----------------------|--|
| TANZANIA | Miss Farida SHIVJI, Assistant Commercial Officer, Ministry of Commerce and Industries, Dar es Salaam |
| | Mr. Daniel MSHAMBA, Commercial/Industrial Officer, Ministry of Commerce and Industries, Dar es Salaam |
| UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC | Mohamed Abdelhamid ELSHOUBAGHI, Cairo |
| | Ahmed Shafik MOUSTAFA, Cairo |
| UGANDA | Jehoaphat BYEKWASO, Executive Uganda Development Corporation, Kampala |
| | Robert Sebunya MADHVANI, Group Public Relations Officer (Export Marketing), Kampala |
| KENYA | J. MUTERE, Co-operative Officer, Ministry of Co-operatives and Social Services, Nairobi |
| | W. Mafunga, Sales Manager, Maize and Produce Board, Nairobi |
| | J. MUNGAI, Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Nairobi |
| | P.K. MUIRURI, Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife, Nairobi |
| | T.N. WAITARA, Commercial Assistant, Kenya National Trading Corporation Ltd., Nairobi |