

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/3480
11 January 1971
Limited Distribution

Original: French

ITALIAN SPECIAL FISCAL TREATMENT
FOR BANANAS FROM SOMALIA

The Director-General has received the following communication dated 22 December 1970, from the Permanent Representative of Italy.

By a Decision of 21 November 1967, the CONTRACTING PARTIES authorized Italy to depart from the provisions of Article I:1 of the General Agreement to the extent necessary to permit the Italian Government to apply a special fiscal system until 31 December 1969 in respect of bananas (tariff heading 08.01 B2) originating in the Republic of Somalia; thereafter, at the request of Italy, the CONTRACTING PARTIES extended the period of this waiver until 31 December 1970.

In this connexion, I have the honour to inform you that my Government no longer considers it necessary to apply a reduced consumption tax on bananas imported from Somalia, because of the expansion of banana production in that country. Accordingly, by Legislative Decree of 26 October 1970, which has been approved by Parliament, it abolished this preferential fiscal system.

I therefore wish to confirm that my Government does not intend to request any extension beyond 31 December 1970, of the above-mentioned waiver. On behalf of my Government, I should like to thank the CONTRACTING PARTIES for the understanding attitude which they have shown towards the difficulties experienced by Somalia in this sector and for the possibility which was thus given to Italy to contribute to the gradual improvement of banana production in Somalia.

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