

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/4140

15 January 1975

Limited Distribution

STATE TRADING

Notifications Pursuant to Article XVII:4(a)

1. In accordance with the Decision of the CONTRACTING PARTIES taken at the twentieth session (BISD, Eleventh Supplement, page 58), new and full notifications on State trading, responsive to the questionnaire on pages 184-5 of the Ninth Supplement (reproduced in the annex to this document), should be submitted in January 1975.
2. Contracting parties are reminded that the reporting obligation for 1975 - which applies to all contracting parties - is for new and full responses to the questionnaire. Subsequent notifications, in 1976 and 1977, will cover changes to the basic notifications for 1975.
3. Responses to the above request will be issued as received in addenda to this document.

ANNEX

Questionnaire on State Trading

I. Enumeration of State-trading enterprises

Does your country maintain enterprises covered by the provisions of Article XVII? If so, list the products or groups of products for which a State enterprise is maintained or for which an enterprise has exclusive or special privileges.

II. Reason and purpose for introducing and maintaining State-trading enterprises

State for each product the reason and purpose for introducing and maintaining the enterprise (it should be indicated, for example, whether the purpose or the effect of the enterprise is to prevent prices to consumers from exceeding certain maximum limits, or to protect domestic producers by the control of imports and/or the purchase of domestic supplies at above world price levels, or to facilitate export sales, or to make it possible to establish or administer a stabilization arrangement). A description of the legal provisions should be included in so far as this has not been submitted in earlier notifications.

III. Description of the functioning of the State-trading enterprises

Describe, item by item, the functioning of such enterprises and state in particular:

Whether the enterprise deals with exports or with imports, or both.

Whether private traders are allowed to import or export and, if so, on what conditions. Whether there is free competition between private traders and the State-trading enterprise.

The criteria used for determining the quantities to be exported and imported.

How export prices are determined. How the mark-up on imported products is determined. How export prices and the re-sale prices of imports compare with domestic prices.

Whether long-term contracts are negotiated by the State-trading enterprise. Whether State-trading methods are used to fulfil contractual obligations entered into by the Government.

IV. Statistical information

Furnish statistics (where possible by quantity and value) of imports, exports and national production on the products notified, on the following lines:

- (a) the figures should cover the last three available years;
- (b) the figures for the three groups (imports, exports and national production) should be given, where possible, in a comparable form;
- (c) the figures should be broken down so as to show:
 - (i) trade by the enterprise;
 - (ii) other trade.

V. Reason why no foreign trade has taken place (if this is the case) in products affected

In cases where no foreign trade has taken place in the products affected, state the reasons.

VI. Additional information

Provide any additional information that may be appropriate.