

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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UNITED STATES QUOTAS ON CONFECTIONERY

The following communication dated 13 January 1975 has been received from the Permanent Mission of the United States.

I have been asked to inform you, for the information of the contracting parties that the United States import quotas for sweetened chocolate, candy and confectioner which became effective 1 January 1972, have been abolished effective 1 January 1975.

Attached is an explanation of the relevant changes in the United States legislation.

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ABOLITION OF PUBLIC LAW 92-138

In the enactment of Public Law 92-138, the Sugar Act Amendments of 1971, which became effective 1 January 1972, a provision was included (Sub-section 2 of Section 7) requiring the Secretary of Agriculture to limit the quantity of sweetened chocolate, candy and confectionery (provided for in items 156.30 and 157.10 of Part 10, Schedule I of the Tariff schedules of the United States) imported into the United States each year to the larger of (1) average annual imports during the immediately preceding three calendar years or (2) 5 per cent of annual sales of United States confectionery manufacturers sales in the most recent calendar year. Sub-section 2 also applied to chocolate crumb, a product subject to quota controls previously imposed under Section 22 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, as amended, to prevent imports from materially interfering with the price support programme for dairy products administered by the Department of Agriculture. Detailed information concerning the establishment of the import control programme for confectionery products under Sub-section 2 in 1972 is contained in the United States notification circulated on 28 January 1972, to the GATT Contracting Parties (L/3660). With the expiration of Public Law 92-138 on 31 December 1974, Sub-section 2 also expired with the result that the import regulations instituted in December 1971 to implement that provision no longer apply.

The expiration of Sub-section 2 does not, however, affect the import control programme for chocolate crumb imposed under Section 22 and it continues in effect without change.