

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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WORKING PARTY ON TRADE WITH ROMANIA

Communication from Romania

The following communication has been received from the Permanent Mission of Romania.

In accordance with Article 5 of the Protocol for the Accession of Romania to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, consultations are to be held in alternate years as from 1973 between Romania and the CONTRACTING PARTIES in a working party to be established for this purpose to review the development of reciprocal trade and measures taken under the terms of the aforementioned Protocol. Furthermore, Article 3(a) of the same Protocol provides that contracting parties still maintaining prohibitions or quantitative restrictions not consistent with Article XIII of the General Agreement "undertake to remove them progressively and shall have as their objective to eliminate them before the end of 1974". It also provides that "for exceptional reasons, should a limited number of restrictions still be in force as of 1 January 1975, the Working Party provided for in paragraph 5 would examine them with a view to their elimination".

Having regard to the above-mentioned provisions, we wish to request you to arrange for inclusion in the agenda for the next meeting of the Council of Representatives of an item concerning the establishment of the Working Party¹ whose task will be:

- (a) To examine, with a view to their elimination, any prohibitions or quantitative restrictions not consistent with Article XIII of the General Agreement and still in force as of 1 January 1975;
- (b) To examine the development of reciprocal trade and measures taken under the terms of the Protocol.

We would further request you to remind the contracting parties concerned of the provisions of Article 3(b) of the said Protocol, requiring contracting parties to notify, before the Working Party undertakes its task, discriminatory prohibitions and quantitative restrictions still applied to imports from Romania, and to that end, to set a time limit allowing the Working Party to meet in April.²

¹The Working Party was established by the Council at its meeting on 3 February 1975

²See GATT/AIR/1142

In order that the Working Party may carry out its task it seems necessary that the notifications should also contain the following indications:

- where partial tariff headings remain under restriction, the products actually affected;
- the type of restrictions applied (import quotas, licensing systems, embargoes, etc.);
- for economic groupings, where restrictions are applied solely by certain member countries, the name of the country affected;
- the exceptional reasons invoked for maintaining each restriction, and measures adopted with a view to eliminating them.