

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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STATE TRADING

Notifications Pursuant to Article XVII:4(a)

SOUTH AFRICA

The Permanent Mission of South Africa has notified the secretariat that the following modifications should be made in its last full notification contained in document L/4140/Add.13 as amended by L/4296/Add.2.

Page 2

Paragraph III.A.1 should read as follows:

"The Banana Board is in practice only concerned with the marketing of bananas in the domestic market. All bananas leaving the demarcated production areas, for sale outside such areas, must be sold through the Board, as well as all bananas imported by persons and destined for consumption outside these production areas. In the northern main markets, viz the Witwatersrand and Pretoria urban areas, the Board has its own ripening facilities and the bulk of the requirements in these areas are sold directly to the wholesale trade at prices determined by the Board from time to time in the light of the existing demand and supply position. In the other marketing areas supplies are mainly sold on municipal markets subsequent to such supplies being ripened for the Board on an agency basis - the most important of these being the Cape Town auction market. Four-weekly pools are operated by the Board for the various grades and sizes of bananas marketed under its control."

Page 3

5. Dairy products: In the second paragraph the reference to the Minister of Agricultural Economics and Marketing should read "Minister of Agriculture".
6. The Deciduous Fruit Board: In the last sentence the word "pears" should be inserted after the word "apples".
7. The Dried Fruit Board: The first sentence should read "The Dried Fruit Board is the sole buyer from producers of prunes and various dried vine fruits."

Page 5

12. The Lucerne Seed Board: This paragraph should be reworded as follows:

"The Lucerne Seed Board conducts a one-channel pool scheme for lucerne seed (alfalfa) and appoints agents to physically handle the crop. The Board's advance prices to producers, its selling prices to lucerne seed cleaners and the latter's selling prices to the trade are fixed annually with ministerial approval. Particular attention is paid to the quality and purity of the seed supplied to the trade. Final payments from the pools are made to producers when net realizations are known."

Page 6

14. The Oilseed Board: The first sentence should read as follows:

"The Oilseed Board is the sole buyer from producers of groundnuts, sunflowerseed and soyabeans and appoints agents to handle these crops."

The second paragraph should be altered as follows:

"Practically all the sunflowerseed is sold in the Republic whilst groundnuts are also exported as selected nuts for the edible trade and should a season's production warrant such action, also as nuts for crushing purposes. When necessary to ensure sufficient supplies of oilcake, groundnut and sunflowerseed oil are produced in excess of domestic requirements whilst the excess oil is exported by the trade. Regarding exports of these three products in question, the Board, although undertaking exports itself, also sells these products for export to the local export trade."

The third paragraph dealing with the floor price scheme for soyabeans should be deleted.

Page 8

21. The South African Wool Board: The first paragraph should be redrafted as follows:

"The South African Wool Board, established in terms of the Marketing Act, regulates the South African wool industry in terms of a one-channel pool scheme. The Board acquires the clip and subsequent to the receipt of wool by the Board, advance payments determined at the beginning of each season for each type and class of wool, are made to producers. At the end of the season when the various pools are finalized and closed, producers receive final payments, the amount of which depends on every pool's average net realization. Through appointed agents the Board sells wool by auction, subject to reserve prices fixed annually. Consignments withheld from sale under the reserve price provision by the Board, are subsequently sold by the Board for the account of its Stabilization Fund should such ultimate sale take place in the following or a subsequent season."

Page 9

22. The Cotton Board: The existing paragraph should be substituted by the following:

"The Cotton Board is empowered to fix a minimum price for seed cotton to the producer, but since the Board's inception it has not yet exercised this power. The price level to producers for seed cotton is indirectly influenced by the fact that the prices paid for cotton lint by spinners are annually negotiated on a voluntary basis by the various interested parties in this agricultural sector."

Page 16

C. Handling of imports

(a) 2. Maize Board: Change the products concerned to "maize (*Zea Mays indentata* and *Zea Mays indurata*) and virtually all maize products".

3. Dairy Board: Delete the word "powder" at the end of the sentence and add the words "milk powder and skim milk powder".

4. Chicory Board: Delete the word "root" at the end of the sentence.

(b) Add the words "dried sultanas, loose raisins" after the words "dried prunes" and also add "and buckwheat" at the end of the sentence.

Page 17

D. Handling of exports

(a) 2. Dried Fruit Board: Delete the word "currants".

4. Winter Cereals Board: This Board should be deleted here and included under paragraph D (c).

5. Oilseed Board: Add "soyabeans" to this Board's products.

Page 18

(c) 1. Maize Board: Add "buckwheat"

3. Oilseed Board: Add "soyabeans"

(d) 2. Chicory Board: Include this Board under D (a) on page 17.

E. Determination of quantities exported or imported

Page 19

In the last sentence of the second paragraph add the word "wheat" after the word "cheese"

