

RESTRICTED

L/4978/Add.2

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GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

Original: Spanish

ARTICLE XIX - ACTION TAKEN BY SPAIN

Cheeses

Addendum

The following communication dated 8 January 1981 has been received from the Permanent Delegation of Spain, with the request that it be circulated to the contracting parties.

Further to earlier communications from this delegation, circulated in GATT documents L/4978 and L/4978/Add.1, regarding action taken by the Spanish authorities under Article XIX of the General Agreement in respect of imports of cheese, I have the honour to communicate the following:

On 7 May 1980, Spain had recourse to Article XIX of the General Agreement in order to try to remedy the critical situation of the domestic cheese industry, which was due in particular to the increase in imports. At that time a partial suspension of imports was applied for products falling within heading 04.04 of the Spanish customs tariff (cheese and curd), care being taken to maintain traditional import flows (document L/4978).

At the same time the Spanish authorities expressed their readiness, in accordance with Article XIX, to enter into consultations with the contracting parties concerned.

This recourse to Article XIX was extended for an additional period of ninety days on 11 September 1980, as communicated in document L/4978/Add.1.

The above-mentioned consultations having taken place with the parties which originally negotiated the binding on heading 04.04 of the Spanish tariff, and with the principal suppliers and the parties having a substantial interest in this trade sector, imports of these products into Spain are remaining subject in 1981 to the treatment agreed upon in those consultations.

Being aware of the need to evaluate in the light of experience the impact of the treatment agreed upon in relation to trade exchanges and likewise in relation to equilibrium in the Spanish domestic market for cheese, Spain and the contracting parties with which consultations have taken place are reserving the rights accruing to them under the General Agreement when the consultations were initiated.

I would be glad if you would kindly communicate the foregoing to the contracting parties for the purposes envisaged in Article XIX of the General Agreement.