

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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Special Distribution

Committee on Trade in Agriculture

INFORMATION ON MEASURES AFFECTING TRADE SUBMITTED BY POLAND

Note by the Secretariat

1. This note provides a summary of the information submitted by Poland in respect of measures affecting trade in agricultural products as contained in document AG/FOR/POL/1.

2. The information relates to 164 CCCN positions at the four-digit level in Chapters 1 to 24; no other products or headings are covered. The explanatory note in the beginning of the document AG/FOR/POL/1 discusses briefly the rationale and the manner in which trade measures are applied in order to improve the overall efficiency of the economy. It also gives details of the symbols used in various columns of the notification.

Measures affecting exports

3. Measures affecting Poland's exports of agricultural products include income support (IS), inputs at concessionary prices (ICP) or licensing (L). Income support (IS) is provided to domestic suppliers of at least 24 of the basic agricultural products under GATT Article XVI:3 and is classified under the symbol (a). Of these, at least 18 products also enjoy concessionary prices of certain inputs (ICP) which are necessary for production, such as seeds, fodder-mix, fertilisers, etc. This measure is also justified under the same Article and the same symbol. Exports of practically all agricultural products are subject to a system of authorization or licensing (L) with a view to discouraging excessive outflow of raw and processed products considered to be indispensable for the domestic economy. The Article invoked is XI:2 and the symbol shown for this measure is (a).

Measures affecting imports

(i) Tariffs and preferences

4. Tariffs generally range between 0 and 40 per cent in ad valorem terms. Items like Ethyl alcohol (22.08), spirits and liqueurs (22.09) and manufactured tobacco (24.02) have duty rates ranging between 20 and 100 per cent. No indication has been given of GATT bound rates. On the other hand, a generalized system of preferences is indicated for 103 agricultural products under the "Enabling Clause" with the symbol (f).

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(ii) Other measures

5. The only other measures affecting imports are licensing (L) and sanitary and phyto-sanitary regulations (SN, PSN). To keep overall imports within the limits of foreign exchange availabilities, a system of import authorization is in operation. It is claimed to be liberal and non-discriminatory and, therefore, no GATT Article has been indicated. Sanitary and phyto-sanitary regulations (SN, PSN) are applied to practically all agricultural products, irrespective of their domestic or import origin, under Article XX:b and are shown with symbol (a).

Summary

- 359 measures have been classified under (a)
- none under (b), (c), (d) or (e)
- 102 measures have been indicated under (f)