

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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Sub-Committee on Trade of
Least Developed Countries
18-19 October, 1984

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. The provisional agenda for this sixth meeting of the Sub-Committee on Trade of Least-Developed Countries includes the following items:

- i) Ad-hoc consultations between individual least-developed countries and their trading partners: consultations between the United Republic of Tanzania, the Central African Republic and their trading partners.

2. It was decided at the Fourth meeting of the Sub-Committee in May 1983 that ad-hoc consultations be organized in the Sub-Committee between interested individual least-developed countries and their trading partners on issues related to their export interests, including the examination of barriers to their trade and any other relevant commercial policy matters. For the purposes of the consultations background notes on the United Republic of Tanzania and the Central African Republic have been prepared by the secretariat (COM.TD/LLDC/W/15 and COM.TD/LLDC/W14 respectively. Submissions by the United Republic of Tanzania and the Central African Republic for the purposes of the consultations have been circulated as COM.TD/LLDC/W/18 and COM.TD/LLDC/W/19 respectively.

- ii) Review of developments in international trade of relevance to the trade interests of least-developed countries

3. The secretariat has prepared a note (COM.TD/LLDC/W/17) on recent developments in the trade and payments situation of least developed countries, in commercial policy, and in the implementation of Tokyo Round tariff and non-tariff measure agreements, together with an outline of relevant activities in other GATT bodies, of relevance to the least developed countries.

- iii) Review of measures taken in favour of least developed countries: Follow up on previous ad-hoc consultations - consultations involving Bangladesh

4. At the end of the ad-hoc consultations between Bangladesh and its trading partners it was concluded inter alia that the Sub-Committee would have an opportunity in the future to revert to the issues raised during the consultations. At the demand of Bangladesh, its requests for improvement in tariff and GSP treatment on particular products, for the removal of certain non-tariff measures, and for improvements in rules of origin as they affect its exports are being re-submitted in document COM.TD/LLDC/W/10/Rev.1. Information on follow-up action taken by one country has been included in COM.TD/LLDC/W/17.

5. Available information on measures taken in favour of least developed countries has been included in document COM.TD/LLDC/W/17. Delegations might wish to inform the Sub-Committee of other general trade or commercial

policy actions they have taken or which are being prepared or contemplated to provide special treatment for least-developed countries.

iv) Export interests of least developed countries: identification of existing barriers to the exports of least developed countries

6. The secretariat has prepared, for consideration under this item, a background note (COM.TD/LLDC/W/16) which provides data on trade flows and tariff and non-tariff treatment on imports from least-developed countries. This note is intended to assist in the identification of existing barriers to the exports of least-developed countries. It updates the previous note COM.TD/LLDC/W/11 circulated at the preceding session of the Sub-Committee. Delegations might wish to comment on the information provided and provide any additional information they consider useful.

v) Secretariat technical assistance to least developed countries

7. The Technical Co-operation Division of the secretariat is available to provide, upon request, technical assistance to developing countries including least-developed countries. Information on recent activities in this area has been included in document COM.TD/LLDC/W/17. Delegations may have comments and suggestions to offer in this regard, taking into account the particular trade interests of least-developed countries.

vi) Other matters

8. The Sub-Committee might wish to take up any other matters falling within its terms of reference.