

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

AIR/TSC/W/60  
23 October 1984

Special Distribution

---

## Agreement on Trade in Civil Aircraft

### TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE

#### Note by the Chairman

(Mr. J. Schraven - Federal Republic of Germany)

The Technical Sub-Committee met on 8 and 9 October 1984 to continue work related with the Harmonized System, as requested by the Committee (AIR/M/12, page 2).

#### 1. Consolidation of Aircraft Annex in Harmonized System

The Sub-Committee continued its examination of a proposed transposition of the Aircraft Annex into the Harmonized System Nomenclature, on the basis of an informal paper dated 5 October 1984 prepared by the secretariat; it also had two informal papers submitted by Canada and Japan. It was understood that the Sub-Committee's work was exploratory, and did not commit Signatories' respective governments as to the final outcome.

As work progressed, it became increasingly apparent that there were differences of product coverage between current CCCN, TSUS and CTS lists in the Annex. The Technical Sub-Committee would not attempt to settle the question of whether to aim at maximum or minimum coverage, but was working to establish a list, in Harmonized System, which should indicate minimum common coverage and maximum partial coverage.

Some general problems of interpretation of Harmonized System classification emerged, for which some members of the Technical Sub-Committee suggested that clarification might be sought from the Interim Harmonized System Committee of the Customs Co-operation Council in Brussels.

The Sub-Committee focussed mainly on the 6-digit items and their coverage; it made no attempt at this stage to consider draft language. For its next meeting, the Technical Sub-Committee would have a further draft informal paper, consolidating the results of the first and second examinations, which should help it to further identify those areas that needed closer consideration.

#### 2. Methods of Incorporating Aircraft Concessions (in Harmonized System) in GATT Schedules and National Tariffs

The Technical Sub-Committee heard the views presented by Japan at the previous meeting (document AIR/TSC/W/58), on the different approaches of reflecting aircraft concessions in GATT Schedules and national tariffs.

./.

Views were expressed to the effect that the method of incorporating aircraft concessions in GATT Schedules involved legal matters beyond the jurisdiction of the Aircraft Committee such as the status of loose-leaf Schedules and obligations under the Convention on the Harmonized System. Concerning incorporation of aircraft concessions in national tariffs, the Sub-Committee felt that there were a number of valid methods to do so and that Signatories were free to choose whatever method suited them provided it ensured full transparency and was able to provide the comparable and compatible aircraft trade statistics requested by the Committee.

3. Progress reports and dates of next meeting

The Technical Sub-Committee requested its Chairman to make an oral progress report to the Committee. The dates for the next meeting were set for 14 and 15 January 1985; a further progress report would be made to the Committee at its first meeting in 1985.