

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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Committee on Trade and Development
Fifty-Fifth Session
22-23 April 1985

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

The following items are proposed for the fifty-fifth session of the Committee on Trade and Development.

1. Consultations and appropriate negotiations on tropical products

Following the decision taken by Ministers at the thirty-eighth session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES in regard to consultations and appropriate negotiations aimed at further liberalization of trade in tropical products, to be carried out in the Committee on Trade and Development, the Committee held consultations in November 1983 and May 1984. Secretariat notes on the proceedings of these consultations were made available to participating contracting parties in documents Spec(83)55/Rev.1 and Spec(84)27/Rev.1 and Corr.1 respectively. In addition, the Committee had before it at its fifty-fourth session in document COM.TD/W/409 a summary of the situation current at that time (November 1984) in regard to tariff and non-tariff measures affecting tropical products, and also in regard to requests for trade liberalization and measures adopted since 1979. For this session, the Committee has before it in document COM.TD/W/424 an overview of the post-Tokyo Round work of the Committee on tropical products, as well as a summary of the Committee's discussions on this matter at its last session.

2. Prospects for increasing trade between developed and developing countries

At the thirty-eighth session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES Ministers instructed the Committee on Trade and Development to carry out "an examination of the prospects for increasing trade between developed and developing countries and the possibilities in GATT for facilitating this objective". The Committee had an exchange of views on this subject at its fifty-second and fifty-fourth sessions (June 1984 and November 1984), based on background material prepared by the secretariat in document COM.TD/W/412 and Add.1. This document will remain before the Committee at this session.

3. Tariff escalation

At their fortieth session, in November 1984, the CONTRACTING PARTIES agreed to ask the Committee on Trade and Development to examine questions relating to tariff escalation and the trade of developing countries (L/5755/Rev.1). The Committee is expected to consider the manner in which it will respond to this request. As background information, the Committee will have before it in document COM.TD/W/425 a factual account of work undertaken in the GATT on tariff escalation since the Tokyo Round.

4. Any other matters