

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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Notification by Norway

Addendum

In a communication dated 12 August 1986, the delegation of Norway has provided the following information on imports of Norway from GSP beneficiary countries and territories in recent years.

In 1985, total imports from GSP beneficiaries increased by 13.9 per cent over 1984, MFN dutiable imports by 18.9 per cent and imports eligible for GSP treatment by a very strong 52.7 per cent. Imports which actually received GSP increased by a solid 28.9 per cent. GSP coverage of dutiable imports increased from 45 per cent to 57.8 per cent, mainly due to a major extension of the scheme to new products which took place on 15 March 1984. The share of MFN dutiable imports which actually received GSP treatment also increased from 23.15 to 25 per cent. The utilization rate, however, went down from 51.3 per cent to 41.3 per cent. This is no doubt mainly due to the fact that both Norwegian importers and GSP exporters need some time before they can draw full benefits from the extension which was put into effect in 1984. It must also be acknowledged that the GSP coverage for 1985 is in fact somewhat overstated in the statistics, whereas the utilization rate is underestimated, since the extension took place from 15 March and not from 1 January.

The extension in the GSP coverage has counteracted a downward trend in the share of MFN duty-free imports, which is due to a structural change in Norwegian trade with GSP beneficiaries. Oil and oil products, which are MFN duty-free, used to constitute a significant element in imports from developing countries. In view of Norway's oil production, these imports have fallen sharply, resulting in a stagnation of total imports from developing countries, a fall in their share of total imports and a fall in the share of MFN duty-free products. At the same time, imports of dutiable manufactures and agricultural products, both with and without GSP, have shown a strong and fairly steady increase.

The GSP extension as from 1984 compensated for the fall in MFN duty-free imports, so that the total share of MFN and GSP duty-free products increased sharply again and is now at the very high level of 86.2 per cent.

As regards imports from the least developed countries, the figures show some very impressive increases, but from a very low starting point, so the figures in absolute terms remain at a much too low level.

With respect to all GSP beneficiaries and the least-developed countries, the attached table shows total imports, MFN dutiable imports, imports eligible for GSP treatment, imports having enjoyed GSP treatment, utilization rate and imports which are not eligible for GSP or MFN duty-free treatment as a percentage of total imports.

¹Detailed statistical data at the country-by-country level are available at the secretariat (ext. 2185) for inspection by interested delegations.

1983-85 Imports of Norway from all GSP beneficiary countries
(NOK 1,000,000)

Year	Total imports	MFN dutiable imports	Dutiable imports eligible for GSP treatment					Dutiable imports NOT eligible for GSP treatment as % of total imports
			Total	As % of dutiable imports	Received GSP	As % of dutiable imports	Utilization rate %	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(3/2)	(4)	(4/2)	(4/3)	((2-3)/1)
1983	7,292	2,105	1,012	48.0	491	23.3	48.5	15.0
1984	8,489	2,653	1,199	45.0	615	23.1	51.3	17.2
1985	9,665	3,167	1,831	57.8	793	25.0	43.3	13.8
Increase 83/84	16.4%	26.5%	18.5%		25.3%			
Increase 84/85	13.9%	18.9%	52.7%		28.9%			

1983-85 Imports of Norway from the least developed countries
(NOK 1,000,000)

(%T = as % of total imports from developing countries)

Year	Total imports (%T)	MFN dutiable imports	Dutiable imports eligible for GSP treatment					Dutiable imports NOT eligible for GSP treatment as % of total imports
			Total (%T)	As % of dutiable imports	Received (%T)	As % of dutiable imports	Utilization rate %	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(3/2)	(4)	(4/2)	(4/3)	((2-3)/1)
1983	41 (0.6)	7	7 (0.7)	100	2 (0.4)	36.6	36.0	0
1984	87 (1.0)	11	11 (0.9)	100	4 (0.7)	34.7	34.9	0
1985	204 (2.1)	14	14 (0.8)	100	5 (0.6)	38.9	38.9	0
Increase 83/84	112.2%	57.1%	57.1%		100%			
Increase 84/85	134.5%	27.3%	27.3%		25%			