

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

RESTRICTED

CPC/92

24 March 1988

TARIFFS AND TRADE

Special Distribution

Preferential Arrangements
Among Developing Countries
Negotiated in GATT

COMMITTEE OF PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

Summary of Discussions at Fiftieth Meeting Held on 8 March 1988

1. The Committee of Participating Countries provided for in the Protocol Relating to Trade Negotiations Among Developing Countries held its fiftieth meeting on 8 March 1988 under the Chairmanship of Mr. R. Romero (Peru).
2. The draft agenda circulated in document CPC/W/129/Rev.1 was adopted.

Expansion of trade among developing countries

3. The Chairman said that as indicated in paragraphs 3-6 of the Summary of Discussions at the last meeting (CPC/89), the Committee had taken note of the information provided as well as of the comments and suggestions made by members with respect to the proposal to submit lists of items for which they would intend to liberalize the conditions of access in the framework of the Protocol. Statistical data prepared by the secretariat, at the request of the Committee, concerning both the imports of the items included in the additional lists submitted by some participating countries and the exports of these items by the other participating countries, had been circulated to all members. A communication by Turkey concerning the inclusion of additional items in the schedule of concessions of Turkey had been circulated in document CPC/90, dated 28 January 1988. If no objections were raised by members within a set time limit which might be sixty days from the date of the circulation of document CPC/90, i.e. by 28 March 1988, the additional items submitted by Turkey would be included in a certification of changes to schedules reproducing the consolidated schedule of Turkey. The Chairman added that the Committee of Participating Countries had also agreed to revert to the question of the expansion of trade among developing countries at the current meeting.

4. With reference to the statistical data prepared by the secretariat, a member said that his delegation considered the data useful in determining the prospects for increasing trade exchanges among participating countries with respect to the items which appeared in the lists already submitted. He expressed the hope that, as a result of the review of this data, other participating countries would find it possible to make a contribution in the near future to the current efforts underway in the Committee. The Committee took note of the comments made and agreed that if by 29 March 1988 no objections had been raised by members to the inclusion of additional items in the schedule of concessions of Turkey, the additional items listed in document CPC/90 would be included in a certification of changes to schedules reproducing the consolidated schedule of Turkey. The Committee also agreed to revert to the question of the expansion of trade among developing countries at its next meeting.

Republic of Korea - Schedule of concessions

5. The Chairman said that a communication by the Republic of Korea submitting a schedule of concessions modified in accordance with the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System had been circulated as CPC/91, dated 29 January 1988. In accordance with the agreed procedures which were reproduced in document CPC/4, if no objections were raised by members within sixty days from the date of the document, the revised schedule of the Republic of Korea would be included in a certification of rectifications to schedules. With reference to tariff items ex 94.01 and ex 94.03 of the schedule of concessions of the Republic of Korea, a member said that his delegation had noticed certain discrepancies between the product descriptions which appeared in the original schedule reproduced in Annex I and the product descriptions for the revised schedule which were reproduced in Annex II of document CPC/91. The representative of the Republic of Korea said that consultations would be carried out to clarify this matter. Another member noted that his authorities were still in the process of examining document CPC/91. He reserved the right to make observations to the revised schedule of the Republic of Korea.

6. The Committee took note that, in accordance with the established procedures, the time limit to raise objections concerning the revised schedule of the Republic of Korea which is reproduced in Annex II of document CPC/91 would expire on 29 March 1988. Having regard to the comments made by members, the Committee agreed that the conclusions reached in the consultations to be undertaken between the Republic of Korea and interested participating countries should be communicated to the Committee prior to the inclusion of the revised schedule in a certification of rectifications to schedules. The Committee also agreed to revert to this matter in due course.

Certification of origin

7. The Chairman referred to the additional information concerning certification of origin provided by Turkey and Israel which had been circulated in document CPC/10/Addendum 29 and 30, respectively. The Committee took note of the information provided.

Rotation of officers

8. The Chairman thanked members for their cooperation and assistance in carrying out the activities of the Committee. He said that in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Committee (CPC/47), the Chairmanship for the forthcoming period would be assumed by the representative of the Republic of Korea and the Vice-Chairmanship by the representative of Romania.

Next meeting

9. The Chairman said that the date for the next meeting of the Committee would be fixed in consultation with delegations and the secretariat in accordance with usual practice.