

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

Restricted

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Special Distribution

INTEGRATED DATA BASE

FORMATS FOR DATA SUBMISSIONS

Revision 1

This is a revised version of document IDB/W/1, taking into account comments and proposals by contracting parties.

Summary of changes

- (1) For both Tariff files and for both Quantitative Restriction files, a language code has been added to the formats of records used to store textual information, to provide the possibility of recording texts in the three GATT official languages.
- (2) For both the Coded Tariff file and the Coded Quantitative Restriction file, the year recorded in the period of validity (start and end) will be recorded using four characters instead of two.

The record lengths and block sizes of these files have been modified accordingly.

Part A : Trade Statistics file.

No change in the format.

Part B (i) : Coded Tariff file.

New codes have been added: one code identifying the method used for calculating ad valorem equivalents of specific duties and another code identifying the method used for calculating average duties in cases where tariff sub-items had to be recorded in the submissions.

A new type of record has been added for recording footnotes attached to the duty rate.

Part B (ii) : Textual Tariff file.

The format of footnote records has been revised.

A new format is also proposed for recording footnotes in a separate file (see **Part B (iii)**).

Part C (i) : Coded QR file.

Changes have been made to allow for coding in the same record respectively, references to several GATT bodies, several GATT documents and several GATT articles.

A new type of record has been added to provide for recording footnotes attached to a quantitative restriction.

The formats of the various files which will be submitted are described in the following parts:

Part A. Format for the import statistics file.

Part B. Format for the Tariff information files.

- (i) coded part of the tariff file.
- (ii) textual part of the tariff file.
- (iii) footnotes to the textual tariff file.

Part C. Format for the Quantitative restrictions files.

- (i) coded part of the QR file.
- (ii) textual part of the QR file.

Part D. Documentation which should accompany data submissions.

Forms 1, 2 and 3.

The codes to be used in the various files are listed in document IDB W/3. Rev.1.

Notations used in the files' formats (Parts A to C):

In the descriptions proposed for the various files to be submitted, each individual data element is followed by a series of symbols:

- (1) Data type : N for numerical and A for alphanumeric data.
- (2) Element length : (n) number of characters. For numeric fields containing decimal places, the following format has been used (nVm) with 'n' giving the number of integer digits, 'V' indicating the place of a virtual decimal point and 'm' giving the number of decimal places. For variable length data elements, the symbol 'VL' is used.
- (3) Field justification : RJ indicates right justification and LJ left justification.
- (4) Padding character : '0' for a zero padding and 'b' for a blank character padding. The 'b' character has also been used in the formats to denote a physical blank character.

FORMAT FOR THE IMPORT STATISTICS FILE.

Field number	Data element name and description	Format
01	Reference year	N(2)
02	Reporting country (or Customs Union) code	A(5)/LJ/b
03	Filler	A(5)
04	Direction of trade (1=imports, 2=exports 3=re-exports)	N(1)
05	Tariff item no. (or statistical item)	A(21)/LJ/b
06	Partner country code	A(5)/LJ/b
07	Tariff treatment	N(1)
08	Type of relation	N(1)
09	CIF value	N(13)/RJ/0
10	Customs value, if not CIF	N(13)/RJ/0
11	Quantity unit code	A(5)/LJ/b
12	Quantity	N(13)/RJ/0
13	Supplementary quantity unit code	A(5)/LJ/b
14	Supplementary quantity	N(13)/RJ/0
15	Duty collected	N(13)/RJ/0
16	Filler, not used	A(4)/b

Dataset characteristics:

Record format: fixed block.

Record length: 120 characters.

Block length: 23400 characters.

File sequence: Statistical item number, partner country code and tariff treatment.

NOTES:

- (1) Field numbers are used only for documentation purpose and should not be recorded.
- (2) At present, the trade statistics file contains imports only (direction of trade = 1).
- (3) The currency unit used for recording import values and duty collected should be indicated in PART D, Form 3 (see last page of this paper). Where the national currency was converted to another unit, the exchange rate used should also be specified in Form 3 of PART D.
- (4) A list of national codes used for countries and quantity units, together with the corresponding names, should be indicated on the forms accompanying the tape (see PART D).
- (5) Import values and duty collected should be expressed in the same currency unit.
- (6) Values, duties and quantities should be unsigned.
- (7) Field number 14, supplementary quantity, would be used in cases where the duty rates contain two specific elements using two different units of quantity e.g. 1 \$ per kg. plus 2 \$ each; in such cases the first quantity, field number 12 could contain import quantities in kilogrammes and the supplementary quantity (field number 14) would contain import quantities in numbers.
- (8) If quantities are not available, the corresponding quantity unit should be left blank.
- (9) No 'total' record, nor aggregated trade record (such as country groups or tariff treatment totals) should be recorded.
- (10) Proposed coding for the type of relation tariff treatment codes.

Tariff treatment this element indicates, for each partner, the customs treatment that is actually applied on the product (it is also a link to the applicable duty rate, in the tariff information file).

Type of relation this code defines the relation between the partners and the type of tariff treatment to which they are entitled. The type of relation code must be unique for an association of reporter and partner countries.

Nine different provenances would be used:

- 0 = most-favoured-nation;
- 1 = intra-area;
- 2 = zone-zone (trade between preferential areas);
- 3 = other preferential agreements;
- 4 = GSP (most-favoured-nation);
- 5 = GSP (other preferences);
- 6 = GSP (general);
- 8 = general;
- 9 = unspecified.

FORMAT FOR THE CODED PART OF THE TARIFF FILE.

The general format of the tariff file is described below and contains the following **key elements**:

Year	N(2), reference year of the tariff.
Reporting country	A(5) LJ b, country (or Customs Union) submitting the information.
Filler	A(5), not used.
Tariff line number	A(25) LJ b, including the tariff item 2-character suffix in positions 24-25. Positions 22-23 should be left blank.
Validity period	A(16), contains start-date and end-date of duty rate applicability; the date format is "yyyymmdd".
Type of measure	N(2) RJ, constant field = 10 indicating that the file contains Customs Tariffs data.
Partner country	A(5) LJ b, see note 4.
Duty type code	A(3) LJ b, see following pages for details; last character should be left blank.
Record number	See proposed coding in following pages
	Record type N(1) RJ.
	Language code A(1) LJ b, applicable to textual elements (1 = English, 2 = French, 3 = Spanish and blank = not applicable).
	Sequence number A(1) LJ b, sequence of records (0-9); blank, if not applicable.
Data part	A(78), see individual record type for layout.

Dataset characteristics:

Record format: fixed block.
Record length: 144 characters.
Block length : 23472 characters.

NOTES:

- (1) Tariff item number suffix : this element could define a group of items when the tariff is expressed in greater detail than the corresponding statistics (partial binding at a ceiling rate or tariff items bound at various levels). Sub-items could be defined to record several duty rates applying to the item , while the group head item would contain an average of duty rates recorded under the sub-items.
- (2) Type of measure : a 2-digit element indicates the type of restriction: code 10 for customs tariffs; a similar code is used in the file for quantitative restrictions.
- (3) Duty type : code to identify the various duty rates per tariff treatment.
- (4) Partner country : contains the partner country code, as recorded in the import statistics file, to which a particular duty type applies within a preferential agreement. This field can also be used if recording of bilateral ad valorem equivalents (AVE's) of specific rates is required. When the duty rate applies to all countries, this field should be left blank.

Tariff file record formats.

Partner code	Duty type	Rec. type	Lang code	Seq. code no.	Element name and definition	Format
ppppp	XXb	1	b	b	Record type '1' for codes : XX indicates the duty type code (see next page for list of codes)	
					- Ad valorem rate or AVE	N(3V3)/RJ/0
					- Nature of the rate	A(1)
					- Estimation code	A(1)
					- AVE calculation method	A(1)
					- Sub-items duties averaging method	A(1)
					- Binding status	A(1)
					- Binding coverage	A(1)
					- Limitation status	A(1)
					- Preference coverage	A(1)
ppppp	XXb	2	b	b	Record type '2' for specific, mixed and compound rates :	
					- Normalized coding of the rate (see page 5 for details)	A(78)/LJ/b
ppppp	XXb	3	L	0-9	Record type '3' for specific, mixed and compound rates which cannot be normalized :	
					- text (10 lines maximum per language using sequence numbers from 0 to 9)	A(70)/LJ/b
ppppp	XXb	4	L	0-9	Record type '4' for footnotes :	
					- text (10 lines maximum per language using sequence numbers from 0 to 9)	A(70)/LJ/b

Proposed coding for the various key elements.

- **Tariff item suffix** : contains 2 blank characters when the tariff is expressed in the same detail as the statistics; for group items, the suffix value is '00' for the head item and '(01-99)' for the sub-items.

- **Partner country code** : if the partner codes (ppppp) represent individual countries, they should be the same as the ones used in the statistics; for groups of countries (e.g. ACP, EFTA ...), codes can be defined as necessary.

- **Period of validity** : start-date and end-date, format : yyyy-mm-dd. Note that if the period of validity is undetermined, then start-date and/or end-date can be left blank.

- **Duty type code (XX)** :

MFN rates (01-09)

01 = MFN GATT bound level of the rate
02 = MFN statutory (legal/autonomous) rate
03 = MFN effectively applied (temporary) rate
.. =
09 = -

Preferential rates: Intra-zone rates (10-19)

10 =
.. = -
19 = -

Preferential rates: Zone-zone rates (20-29)

20 =
.. = -
29 = -

Preferential rates: Other preferences (30-39)

30 =
.. = -
39 = -

GSP rates (40-59)

40 = GSP
41 = LDC
.. = -
59 = -

General tariff rates (80-89)

80 = General tariff (higher than MFN tariff)
.. = -
89 = -

Unspecified rate (90-99)

90 = Other rate
.. = -
99 = -

Note: the first digit of the duty type is directly related to the tariff treatment code recorded in the import statistics file (see PART A page 2, note 10).

- **Record number**, contains 3 elements:

-- Record type: '1' for recording the various codes attached to the rate, '2' for recording the normalized coding of specific rates, '3' for recording any textual information required for the rate and '4' for recording footnotes.

-- Language code: applicable to record types '3' and '4' (texts); if not applicable, the language code should be left blank.

-- Sequence number: allows recording of 10 lines of texts in record types '3' and '4'. If not applicable, the sequence number should be left blank.

Data elements coding per record.

(1) RECORD TYPE 'T' CODES :

Rate in percentage (ad valorem rate or AVE):

FREE rates should be recorded as 000V000
AVE's higher than 999.997 % should be recorded as 999V999
Unavailable rates should be recorded as 999V999

Nature of the rate :

Blank = Ad valorem rate
S = Specific rate
C = Compound rate
M = Mixed rate
V = Variable rate
O = Other rate

Estimation of the ad valorem equivalent :

Blank = Not estimated
E = Estimation supplied by the reporting country
C = Estimation calculated by the Secretariat

Calculation method for AVE's :

Blank = Not applicable or bilateral AVE
1 = Calculation based on imports from GATT members
2 = - based on MFN imports
3 = - based on total imports
9 = Other method

Sub-items duties averaging method :

Blank = Not applicable
S = Simple average
W = Weighted average

Binding status :

Blank = Bound at prevailing rate
C = Bound at one ceiling rate
D = Bound at different duty levels
U = Unbound rate

Binding coverage :

Blank = Binding covering the whole tariff line
X = Partial binding

Limitation status :

Blank = No limitation
C = Ceiling or other limitation
Q = Quota or other quantitative limitation

Preference coverage :

Blank = Preference applied to the whole tariff line
X = Partial application of the preference

(2) RECORD TYPE '2' STRUCTURE (Normalized coding).

This format has been designed to allow computer processing of specific, mixed or compound rates.

Element definition	Format
First ad valorem part of the rate, where applicable	N(3V3)/RJ/0
Operand: R, P, M (see note below)	A(1)
First specific part of the rate:	
- Value (amount of national currency to be charged per quantity unit).	N(8V5)/RJ/0
- Quantity unit code specified in the rate	A(5)/LJ/b
Operand: R, P, M, H, L	A(1)
Second ad valorem part of the rate, where applicable	N(3V3)/RJ/0
Operand: R, P, M, H, L	A(1)
Second specific part of the rate:	
- Value	N(8V5)/RJ/0
- Quantity unit code specified in the rate	A(5)/LJ/b
Operand: R, P, M, H, L	A(1)
Third ad valorem part of the rate, where applicable	N(3V3)/RJ/0
Operand: R, P, M, H, L	A(1)
Third specific part of the rate:	
- Value	N(8V5)/RJ/0
- Quantity unit code specified in the rate	A(5)/LJ/b
Operand: H, L	A(1)
<hr/>	
Total length =	<u>78 charact.</u>
OPERAND VALUES:	
R	for 'or'
P	for 'plus'
M	for 'minus'
H	for 'whichever is higher'
L	for 'whichever is lower'

EXAMPLES OF NORMALIZED CODINGS :

The following examples illustrate the coding system for selected specific, mixed or compound rates.

a. Rate = 1\$ per kg:

.....0000000100000KG.....//.....

b. Rate = 1\$ per kg plus 10 %:

010000P0000000100000KG.....//.....

c. Rate = 10 % or 1\$ per kg whichever is higher:

010000R0000000100000KG...H.....//.....

d. Rate = 10 % plus 1\$ per kg or 3\$ per kg whichever is lower:

010000P0000000100000KG...R.....0000000300000KG...L.....//...

e. Rate = 1\$ per kg plus 2\$ each:

.....0000000100000KG...P.....0000000200000EA.....//...

f. Rate = 30 % subject to a minimum of 29\$ and a maximum of 70\$
per 100 kg (CKG).

030000R00000002900000CKG..H.....R0000007000000CKG..L.....//...

Notes:

- (a) Elements not used should be left blank.
- (b) The unit of currency should be indicated on the form accompanying the tape (see PART D, form 3) and should be the same throughout the file (e.g. in cents instead of dollars if some rates are expressed in cents with 4 decimal places). The list of quantity unit codes used should also be supplied.
- (c) Duty rates which cannot be coded in this format (e.g. duty rates related to unit value of imports, etc.) should be recorded in records type '3' below.

(3) RECORD TYPE '3' INFORMATION.

- This record type can be used to store any textual information relating to the rate, thus complementing record types '1' and '2', where necessary.
- Texts are recorded by language code (1 for English, 2 for French and 3 for Spanish).
- Ten lines of texts can be recorded using the sequence number (0-9).

(4) RECORD TYPE '4' INFORMATION.

- This record type can be used to store footnotes.
- Same format and structure as record type '3'.

FORMAT FOR THE TEXTUAL PART OF THE TARIFF FILE.

The present format has been designed to allow for recording tariff schedule data into precisely defined data elements. The general format is as follows:

Record length	N(5) RJ 0. This field would not be required if the computer used to create the file is IBM or an IBM compatible equipment and in this case should be filled in with zeros. Otherwise, the value contained in this field should be the total number of characters in the record, including the 'Record length' field itself.
Tariff line number	A(25) LJ b. This field contains the tariff line number or, where applicable, the heading number (including the item suffix).
Element number	N(2) RJ 0.
Sub-element number	
	Language code A(1) LJ b, is used, where applicable, to record texts in the three GATT official languages (1 = English, 2 = French and 3 = Spanish). If not applicable, the language code should be left blank.
	Sequence number A(2) LJ b, is used, where applicable, to record information related to the same element. If not applicable, it should be left blank.
Element data	A(VL). Individual field characteristics vary according to the list given in the following pages. All texts submitted in French and Spanish should be recorded using upper case characters, since there is no standard code used to represent accented characters.

Note: This file is organized in such a way that the tariff data can be printed in loose-leaf form in order to satisfy GATT's notification requirement for bound tariffs.

Element number	Sub-element Lang. code	Sequence number	Element definition	Format
01	b	bb	Structuring key (see TAR/W/47, Annex II)	A(25)/LJ/b
02	l	XX	Legal product description: -Language code, L=1-3 -Sequence number, XX=01-99 1.Level 2.Number of blanks for indentation 3.Text	N(2)/RJ/0 N(2)/RJ/0 A(70)/LJ/b
03	b	bb	Information on present concession : 1.Field length 2.Text as printed in column 3 of the loose-leaf schedule	N(4)/RJ/0 A(VL)/LJ/b
04	b	bb	Present concession established: Abbreviation(s) of GATT instru- ment(s) containing the concession 1.Number of occurrences 2.Concession information	N(2)/RJ/0 A(10)/LJ/b
05	b	bb	Initial Negotiating Right on most recent concession: country abbrev. 1.Number of occurrences 2.Country abbreviation	N(2)/RJ/0 A(5)/LJ/b
06	b	bb	Legal instrument(s) through which the concession was first established 1.Number of occurrences 2.Concession information	N(2)/RJ/0 A(10)/LJ/b
07	b	XX	Information on earlier concession(s): one record for each concessional rate identified by a sequence number, (XX=01-99), each record contains up to 3 data fields: 1.Legal instrument 2.Initial Negotiating Rights: -Number of occurrences -Country abbreviation -'X' to indicate that the concession covers only part of the present concession 3.Duty rate -Field length -Duty in text form	A(10)/LJ/b N(2)/RJ/0 A(5)/LJ/b A(1)/LJ/b N(4)/RJ/0 A(VL)/LJ/b

Element number	Sub-element Lang. code	Sequence number	Element definition	Format
08	b	bb	Information on earlier INR's, where indicated only by a reference to earlier schedule(s). -Reference	A(VL)/LJ/b
09	L	XX	Abbreviated product description: -Language code, L=1-3 -Sequence number XX=01-04 1.Filler 2.Text	A(4)/RJ/b A(70)/LJ/b
11	b	XX	Footnote information, by tariff line: XX contains the element number (01-09) to which the footnote refers. 1.Footnote reference number 2.Sequence number of the element 07 (concessional rate) to which the footnote refers; if the footnote does not refer to element 07, this field should be left blank.	N(4)/RJ/0 A(2)/LJ/b

Note that the text of the footnote is recorded in a separate file described in the next page.

Dataset characteristics:

Record format: variable block.

Record length: 5000 characters maximum, including the variable length record count (4 bytes) if IBM equipment is used.

Block length : 10004 characters, including the variable length block count (4 bytes) if IBM equipment is used.

FORMAT FOR THE FOOTNOTE FILE.

The following format contains the texts of footnotes referring to the textual tariff information. It allows for the recording of the footnote text only once in cases where that footnote is applicable to many tariff lines.

Footnote reference no.	N(4) RJ 0. This field contains the footnote reference number recorded in element no. 11 of the Textual Tariff file.
Language code	N(1) RJ 0, is used to identify the GATT official language (1 = English, 2 = French and 3 = Spanish) in which the footnote is recorded.
Line number	N(2) RJ 0, is used to identify the sequence of the lines of text: line number = 01 to 99.
Footnote text	A(70) LJ b,

Dataset characteristics:

Record format: fixed block

Record length: 77 characters.

Block length : 23408 characters.

FORMAT FOR THE CODED PART OF THE QR FILE.

Year	N(2), reference year.
Country (or Customs Union) maintaining the measure.	A(5) LJ b,
Customs Union member country	A(5) LJ b, when applicable, contains the code of a Customs Union member country maintaining the restriction.
Tariff line number	A(25) LJ b, including the non-tariff item 2-character suffix in positions 22-23. Positions 24-25 should be left blank. See note 1 below.
Validity period	A(16), contains start-date and end-date of the measure applicability ; date format is "yyyymmdd".
Type of measure	N(2) RJ, used to group the various measures by type of restriction. See a proposed list of codes on Part C (i), page 3.
Country affected	A(5) LJ b, or group of affected countries. See note 2 below.
Measure code	N(3) RJ 0, used to identify the measure.
Record number	See details on next page.
Record type	N(1) RJ, from 1 to 5.
Language code	A(1) LJ, applicable to textual elements (1 = English, 2 = French, 3 = Spanish and blank = not applicable).
Sequence number	A(1) LJ, blank = not applicable, 0 9 for sequence of records.
Data part	A(70), see individual record type for layout.

Dataset characteristics:

Record format: fixed block.
Record length: 136 characters.
Block length : 23528 characters.

Notes:

- (1) Non-tariff item number suffix : this element is needed to allow the recording of information for measures which are not applicable to whole tariff lines. In this case, the non-tariff item suffix would define up to 99 sub-items. When the restriction applies to a whole tariff line, this suffix should be left blank.
- (2) Affected country : contains the code of the country (or group of countries), as recorded in the import statistics file, to which a particular measure applies. When the measure applies to all countries, this field should be left blank.
- (3) Record type : '1' to '5' to record separately the various data elements attached to the measure.
- (4) The GATT justification for a measure would never appear in an Integrated Data Base document; it is included here only for the convenience of countries which wish their submission to the IDB to also satisfy their GATT notification requirement for QR's.

Record formats for coded part of the Quantitative restriction file.

Detail of records is described by record number.

Record number	Element name and definition	Format
Type Lang. Seq.		
1 b b	Record type '1' contains codes attached to each measure, for example : - GATT body(ies) to which the quantitative restriction was notified : A(2)/LJ/b 5 occurrences - Filler (future use)	A(10) A(60)
2 b 0-9	Record type '2' contains references to GATT document(s) : - GATT document number : A(10)/LJ/b 7 occurrences	A(70)
3 b 0-9	Record type '3' contains references to GATT Article(s) : - GATT Article number : A(10)/LJ/b 7 occurrences	A(70)
4 L 0-9	Record type '4' contains textual information relating to the measure : (10 lines of text per language) - Text	A(70)/LJ/b
5 L 0-9	Record type '5' contains footnote information relating to the measure : (10 lines of text per language) - Text	A(70)/LJ/b

Proposed coding for the various data elements.

The identification of a measure will be done through the association of the two following codes:

- Type of measure :

11 - Quantitative import restrictions

.... the code values from 12 to 59 would possibly be used to record import measures other than QR

61 - Quantitative export restrictions

.... the code values from 62 to 99 would possibly be used to record export measures other than QR

Note: a similar code (type of measure '10') is used in the Tariff file.

- Measure code :

The measure is recorded using a 3-digit code, the first digit defining the type of quantitative restriction :

- 1 - Licensing
- 2 - Quota
- 3 - Prohibition
- 9 - Other QR

The codes used for measures applicable to exports can have the same values as the ones used for imports, but the type of measure is 61 instead of 11.

- Country affected :

If the country codes represent individual countries, they should be the same as the ones used in the statistics and in the coded tariff file; for groups of countries (e.g. ACP, EFTA ...), codes can be defined as necessary.

- Period of validity :

Start-date and end-date, date format = yyyy/month/day

Note that if the period of validity is undetermined, start-date and/or end-date can be left blank.

- Record type '1' codes :

GATT body to which the quantitative restriction was notified :

AG	Trade in Agricultural products
QR	Technical Group on QR's and other NTM's
NT	Non-tariff measures inventory

- Record type '2' :

GATT document number : this is a 10-character field; in addition to the symbol, each GATT document is assigned a document number identifying the year and the chronological sequence of its publication. This number is used in the GATT computerized document index. Record type '2' can contain up to 7 occurrences of document numbers. Examples of document numbers and symbols :

83-2821	AG/DOC/2/ABC/1
88-0771	L/6343

- Record type '3' :

GATT Article numbers : this 10-character field contains a coded form of GATT articles as illustrated below. Record type '3' can contain up to 7 occurrences of article numbers.

18B	Art. XVIII:B
11 02c1	Art. XI:2(c)(i)
08 03	Art. VIII:3
21 00b2	Art. XXI(b)(ii)

- Records types '4' and '5' :

These records contain respectively texts and footnotes relating to the measure. This textual information can be recorded in three languages using a language code '1' for English, '2' for French and '3' for Spanish.

FORMAT FOR THE TEXTUAL PART OF THE QR FILE.

This file contains descriptions of products whenever a quantitative restriction applies to part of a tariff line. The textual part of the QR file contains the following **elements**:

Year	N(2), reference year.
Country (or Customs Union) maintaining the measure.	A(5) LJ b,
Customs Union member country	A(5) LJ b, contains, when applicable, the code of a Customs Union member country maintaining the restriction.
Tariff line number	A(25) LJ b, including 2-character non-tariff suffix in positions 22-23. Positions 24-25 should be blank.
Element number	N(2) RJ, should equal '02' for a full product description and equal '09' for an abbreviated description.
Text line number	This information contains the language and the sequence of print lines for the descriptions.
	Language code A(1) LJ, is used to record descriptions texts in the three GATT official languages (1 = English, 2 = French and 3 = Spanish)
	Sequence number N(2) RJ 0, is used to record and print the texts in the proper sequence.
Description text	A(74) LJ b, a 4-character filler followed by a product description. The filler is used in these layouts to keep consistent the formats for product descriptions in the tariff file and in the QR file.

Element number	Text line no. Lang.	Seq.	Element definition	Format
02	L	XX	Full-text product description: -language code, L=1-3 -sequence number, XX=01-99 1.Filler (blank) 2.Text	A(4)/LJ/b A(70)/LJ/b
09	L	XX	Abbreviated product description: -language code, L=1-3 -sequence number, XX=01-04 1.Filler (blank) 2.Text	A(4)/LJ/b A(70)/LJ/b

Dataset characteristics:

Record format: fixed block.
Record length: 116 characters.
Block length : 23432 characters.

GATT INTEGRATED DATA BASE

Technical information requested when sending magnetic tapes.

FORM 1. Volume characteristics.

1.1. External identification:

Reporting country name _____

Volume serial number _____
(6 characters, a 'T' in position 1
should not be used; please do not use
GATT1, GATT2, etc. nor country name
as we receive many tapes labelled
as such and it leads to confusion)

1.2. Number of tracks:

Nine, possibly seven _____

1.3. Tape density:

6250/1600 bpi, possibly 800 bpi
Odd parity only _____

1.4. Recording mode:

EBCDIC character set,
possibly ASCII. _____

1.5. Volume label:

No label (state 'none') _____
If the tape is labelled, the type of
standard should be specified:
e.g. IBM, ANSI, etc..

1.6. Computer used to create the tape:

Manufacturer and model _____

FORM 2. Data set characteristics

- 2.1. File number: _____
- 2.2. Data file (duty rate, imports...) _____
- 2.3. Data set name (recorded in Header Label, if applicable) _____
- 2.4. Record format (fixed, variable): _____
- 2.5. Record length, including variable length record count for variable records _____
- 2.6. Block length, including variable length block count for variable blocks _____
- 2.7. Total number of records in the data set: _____
- 2.8. Printout of first and last blocks in hexadecimal and character modes.

NOTE: If several datasets are recorded on the tape, the information requested under 2.1 through 2.8. should be given for each dataset.

FORM 3. Supplementary information

The following information should be provided :

3.1. Year to which refer:

- the tariff nomenclature : 19__ (fiscal / calendar)
- the import statistics : 19__ (fiscal / calendar)

3.2. Total import value(s):

3.3. Lists of codes used for:

- countries of origin (with country names)
- partner codes used in the tariff file (e.g. group of countries)
- partner codes used in the QR file (e.g. group of countries)
- currency units used in:
 - import statistics
 - normalized coding of specific, mixed or compound rates
- exchange rate used : (to be specified if national currency was converted to another unit)
- quantity units used in:
 - import statistics
 - are there any supplementary units recorded ? Yes / No
 - normalized coding

3.4. Geographic coverage of preferential agreements, where applicable (GSP, LDC's, free-trade arrangement...)

3.5. Any other information which could be used for the definition of the data.

- system of trade (special, general ...):
- valuation basis (fob, cif ...):
- duty assessment on specific rates (net weight, gross weight ...)
- other :
 - for instance, description of special methods used in the calculation of AVE's of specific rates (method code 4 in record type '1' of the coded tariff file).