

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

## TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

COM.TD/LLDC/W/51/Add.1  
21 April 1993

Limited Distribution

Sub-Committee on Trade of  
Least-Developed Countries  
Fourteenth Meeting  
6 May 1993

### RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE EXTERNAL TRADE AND PAYMENTS SITUATION OF LEAST-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND IN TRADE POLICY MEASURES RELATING TO THEM

Note by the Secretariat

#### Addendum

The following additional information on recent trade policy measures relating to least-developed countries has come to the attention of the Secretariat since the issuance of document COM.TD/LLDC/W/51 which had been prepared for the fourteenth meeting of the Sub-Committee on Trade of Least-Developed Countries initially scheduled on 6 October 1992.

#### Section II: Recent trade policy developments

##### (i) Recent measures in favour of the least-developed countries

With effect from 1 July 1992, Austria has included Madagascar on its list of least-developed countries (L/7122/Add.2). According to information available in the Secretariat, as from 1 January 1993, the EEC has added Cambodia, Liberia, Madagascar, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Zaïre and Zambia to the list of least-developed countries under its GSP scheme. With effect from 1 January 1992, Finland has added Liberia to the list of least-developed countries under the Finnish GSP scheme. As from 1 January 1993, Cambodia, Madagascar, Namibia, Solomon Islands, Zambia and Zaïre have also been included on that list.

##### (iii) Autonomous trade liberalization measures

Bangladesh: The import régime was further liberalized in 1991 with the deletion of 59 headings at a four-digit level from the control list of goods subject to import restrictions (193 headings still remain on the list); all other items can be imported freely. Import procedures have continued to be simplified. The tariff structure has also been made more transparent and imports are now only subject to customs duty and a VAT instead of a variety of different taxes and charges. The maximum rate of duty will be fixed at 100 per cent in the near future, except for luxury goods, and is due to be lowered gradually to 75 per cent.

Mozambique: An open market economy system was adopted in 1991<sup>1</sup>.

Section III: GATT technical cooperation activities in favour of  
least-developed countries

Since document COM.TD/LLDCW/51 was issued, the GATT has organized a technical mission on the Customs Valuation Code in Mali, and a national seminar in Bangladesh on the Tokyo Round Agreements, the Uruguay Round and agriculture.

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<sup>1</sup>Mozambique became a contracting party in 1992 after having applied the General Agreement on a de facto basis since independence in 1975.