

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES

Notification by Australia

Addendum

In a communication dated 30 June 1993, the Permanent Mission of Australia has notified the following changes to the Australian System of Tariff Preferences (ASTP) for developing countries. The changes taking effect in the short term were gazetted on 9 June 1993.*

The Australian Government has decided to modify the ASTP by gradually removing preference margins on certain items where General Tariff rates are being phased down under Australia's wide-ranging tariff reform programme.

The goods covered by the Australian Government's decision are: textiles, clothing and footwear; chemicals; sugar; vegetable and fruit preparations (including fruit juice) and tuna; and dried fruit.

For all ASTP beneficiaries - except the UN designated Least Developed Countries and South Pacific Island Territories - the DC (developing country) preference rate for each item affected will remain at the current level until the General Tariff rate reaches or is reduced below that level, at which time the General Tariff rate will apply.

These changes will start to come into effect as of the next scheduled reduction in General Tariff rates on 1 July 1993. For textiles, clothing and footwear goods, the changes will not come into effect until 1 July 1994.

In addition the tariff rates from 1 July 1995 for textile yarns currently eligible for bounty will be set at 5 per cent for both General and DC purposes.

* A copy of the gazette setting out the changes on a tariff line basis is available for consultation in the Secretariat. (Tel. 739 5088).