

**GENERAL AGREEMENT
ON TARIFFS AND TRADE**

RESTRICTED
COM.TD/W/513/Add.1
14 November 1994
Limited Distribution

(94-2396)

**Committee on Trade and Development
Seventy-Seventh Session
21 and 25 November 1994**

**NOTES ON THE PARTICIPATION OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
IN THE WORLD TRADING SYSTEM**

Note by the Secretariat

Addendum

Generalized System of Preferences

This Annex summarizes changes in GSP schemes notified to the Secretariat during the last twelve months.

Australia notified that for specified products, tariff preferences for developing countries other than for the UN designated Least-Developed Countries and the South Pacific Island Territories, would be gradually removed. For such products, the general rate would apply when it reached the present preferential rate or was reduced below it. Until such time, preferential rates would remain at current levels (five per cent below general rates). Where general rates were already five per cent or less, existing preferential rates would continue. Preference rates already below five per cent would be frozen at the present level. Where no general tariff reductions were being undertaken (sugar, tobacco, PMV replacement parts) the existing preferential rate would continue. No existing preference rate was to increase as a result of these changes.

Austria made available a brochure on the GSP scheme of Austria (for reference), and a statistical overview of preferential imports of handicrafts in 1992. As a consequence of the free trade agreements between the EFTA States and Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary and Poland, these countries ceased to be beneficiaries under Austria's GSP scheme. Austria fully aligned the GSP rules of origin for petroleum products with those introduced by the EEC.

The EEC extended generalized tariff preferences in respect of certain industrial products, of textile products and of certain agricultural products to Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, Russia, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan.

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Estonia, Georgia, Greenland, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan were designated as countries to whom preferences were not to be granted for designated agricultural products.

Albania, Latvia, Lithuania and Mongolia were added to the list of countries subject to Community tariff quotas and ceilings within the generalized tariff preferences for textile products.

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Liberia, Zaire, Madagascar, Zambia and Cambodia were added to the list of least-developed countries eligible for generalized tariff preferences for certain industrial products. Liberia, Zaire, Madagascar, Zambia, Kampuchea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu were added to the list of least-developed countries eligible for generalized tariff preferences in respect of certain steel products.

Japan notified ceilings for fiscal year 1994, and transmitted a recent up-date of imports under the GSP for fiscal year 1993.

New Zealand notified that Chinese Taipei ceased to qualify for preferential tariff treatment from 1 January 1994 and Cyprus from 1 January 1995. From 1 July 1994 New Zealand increased the GSP Product graduation value benchmark from NZ\$ 117,000 to NZ\$ 120,000.

Norway notified the extension of the GSP scheme to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, to Mongolia and to South Africa. From 1 January 1994, the tariff position HS 61.15 was withdrawn from Norway's GSP general exemption list.

The U.S. notified the extension of their GSP to the Russian Federation and Ukraine.