

RESTRICTED
GATT/CP3/WP10/2/5. Rev. 1.
27th September, 1949.

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

WORKING PARTY 10

FUTURE TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS

Enquiry concerning the participation of
the Federal Republic of Germany

SECOND DRAFT

To The Allied High Commission for Germany,
Bonn,
Germany.

Sirs,

I have the honour to inform you that the Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade are considering the possibility of holding a third set of tariff negotiations commencing on 28th September, 1950, one of the objects of which would be to afford an opportunity to countries which are not yet parties to the Agreement to accede to it. Accordingly an enquiry is being issued to ascertain which governments would be interested in participating in such negotiations with a view to acceding to the General Agreement as it is necessary that the first formalities should take place before the end of this year in order that the negotiations may be organized.

2. For your information and consideration, I am therefore sending you attached a copy of a memorandum (GATT/CP/) which has been drawn up for approval by the contracting parties as the basis for the negotiations. If the Contracting Parties decide in favour of holding further negotiations in September 1950 an official invitation to participate in the negotiations will be addressed to those governments which, in response to the enquiry now being issued express their interest in taking part.

3. I have been directed to enquire whether the Federal Republic of Germany would be interested in acceding to the General Agreement and would be prepared to enter into the necessary tariff negotiations with the contracting parties thereto. This enquiry is directed to the Government of the Federal Republic in the belief that authority to enter into such negotiations has been delegated to that Government, and that in the event of accession that Government would have the power to make effective the results of the negotiations and to observe the provisions of the General Agreement. This enquiry is communicated, however, through the Allied High Commission in order to facilitate any consultation that may be necessary between the Commission and the Government of the Republic and any further delegation of powers that may be required to enable the Government of the Republic to participate in such negotiations and to undertake any obligations arising therefrom.

4. It would be appreciated if I could have the reply of the Government of the Federal Republic not later than 28th October, and meanwhile I am at your service to provide any further information that may be required.

I have the honour to be, Sirs,

Your obedient servant,

Executive Secretary.

I.C.I.T.O.