GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED
TN.60/SR.3
DIVISION LIN 29 September 1960

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1960-61 TARIFF CONFERENCE Tariff Negotiations Committee NE PAS DECOUPER

PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRD MEETING

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on Friday, 23 September 1960 at 3 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. E. WYNDHAM WHITE

Subjects discussed:

- 1. Review of progress in preliminary steps of Article XXIV:6 negotiations (TN.60/SR.2)
- 2. Notifications under Article XXVIII Canadian request for extension of date
- 3. Submission of Request Lists for 1961 Tariff
 Negotiations Review of progress (TN.60/W.l and W.2)
- 4. Future work of the Committee:
 - (a) Polish proposal to negotiate at the Tariff
 Conference
 - (b) Negotiations with the EEC and application of Article XXXV to Japan

1. Review of progress in preliminary steps of Article XXIV:6 negotiations (TN.60/SR.2)

Only the Governments of Australia and New Zealand had at the time of the meeting submitted lists of items with respect to which they were provisionally satisfied that "internal compensation" was adequate.

It was agreed that delegations should submit such lists in instalments if they could not cover the whole field within the next few days.

It was also agreed that to gain time delegations could - after having sent the above, or at the same time, and for the same chapters - send to the Commission lists of items with respect to which they had satisfied themselves that they would want to negotiate. When these lists were presented the delegation concerned and the delegation of the Commission would agree to a date for their first meeting.

Since the meeting, lists have been submitted by the Governments of Ceylon, Czechoslovakia and the Union of South Africa.

The representative of Switzerland said he would be ready to start negotiations with the Commission on 13 October. The representative of Austria indicated that his delegation would be ready at about the same time.

The Committee agreed that delegations should notify the Commission and the secretariat of the date on which they would be able to open negotiations, and decided to hold a further stocktaking on 7 October.

2. Notification under Article XXVIII - Canadian request for extension of date

The representative of Canada explained the reasons why his Government would wish to submit their notifications of items to be renegotiated under Article XXVIII:1 after 1 October 1960 but not later than 30 November.

The other contracting parties concerned signified through their representatives in the Committee that they would agree to receive a notification by Canada under Article XXVIII:1 even if this was forthcoming after 1 October, but not later than 30 November. The Committee would report this agreement to the seventeenth session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES who could then make any formal legal decision that might be necessary to give effect to it. There was also agreement that if other contracting parties should have similar problems a similar practical solution could be found.

3. Submission of Request Lists for 1961 Tariff Negotiations - Review of progress (TN.60/W.1 and W.2)

The Chairman referred to the disturbingly small number of request lists which had been submitted up to now although the time-limit had been fixed at 1 August 1960. The hope was expressed that governments would do their utmost to prepare and submit such lists as soon as possible. The secretariat would keep participating governments informed of the progress made in this field.

4. Future work of the Committee

(a) Polish proposal to negotiate at the Tariff Conference

In connexion with its offer to negotiate with contracting parties minimum import commitments against tariff concessions, the Polish Government had been in consultation with several contracting parties, but was not clear about the extent to which negotiations were likely to be held. The Committee decided to meet in <u>Executive Session</u> on 4 October to discuss this matter.

(b) Negotiations with the EEC and application of Article XXXV to Japan

The Chairman announced that the delegations of Japan and of the Commission had found a practical solution to the problem of their negotiations under Article XXIV:6.