GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

IN.60/SR.4 DIVISION 28 October 1960 E

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DECOUPER

1960-61 TARIFF CONFERENCE Tariff Negotiations Committee

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOURTH MEETING

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on Wednesday, 19 October 1960 at 3 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. E. WYNDHAM WHITE

Subjects discussed: 1. Review of progress in preliminary steps of Article XXIV:6 negotiations (IN.60/SR.2, IN.60/SR.3, and Spec(60)307)

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- 2. United States request for extension of date for notification under Article XXVIII:1 negotiations (1/1309)
- 1. Review of progress in preliminary steps of Article XXIV: o negotiations (TN.60/SR.2, TN.60/SR.3, Spec(60)307)

The representative of the Commission reported to the Committee the negotiations which had been initiated by his delegation and those which were planned for the next few days. The Committee also heard the delegations which had not yet entered into negotiations with the Community and noted that for most of them a first meeting had either been arranged or was envisaged shortly.

The representative of the Commission indicated that a number of delegations had submitted to him lists as required by the procedures laid down at earlier meetings of the Committee. He appealed to all delegations which had not yet submitted these lists to do so as soon as possible and urged all concerned that they submit not only lists of products to be provisionally set aside, but also "positive" lists, i.e. lists of products which delegations wished to negotiate with the EEC.

In the course of the above review some delegations expressed their disappointment with the offers made by the Community. They laid stress in particular on the inadequacy or absence of offers with respect to their agricultural export products. Some felt that the Community's offers to them on agricultural products did not provide a basis for negotiation and insisted that a balance of concessions with agricultural exporters was only possible if meaningful concessions were made on agricultural products. They hoped that the forthcoming meetings would show that such a balance could be achieved.

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The representative of the Commission said that the latter considered that their offers as a whole provided a reasonable and equitable basis of negotiation which, in their view, would result in a fair balance in accordance with the principles of paragraph 2 of Article XXVIII. He agreed that in certain individual cases amendments to their offers might be necessary in order to reach a bilateral balance. He would report to Brussels the views that had been expressed. In reply to the representative of Denmark he said that every effort should be made to avoid mutual withdrawals of concessions, an outcome which would have very serious consequences.

The representative of Nigeria asked for assurances that the submission of a "negative" list under Article XXIV:6 would in no case prejudice any further discussion when the question of the association of overseas territories had been settled. The representative of the Commission reserved his reply for a later meeting.

2. <u>United States request for extension of date for notifications under</u> <u>Article XXVIII:1 negotiations</u> (L/1309)

The representative of the United States indicated that his Government might submit a notification of items to be renegotiated under Article XXVIII:1 after 1 October 1960 but not later than 30 November 1960.

The other contracting parties concerned signified through their representatives in the Committee that they would agree to receive a notification by the United States 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.