

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE



RESTRICTED

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## THE PROBLEM FOR COUNTRIES WITH A SPECIAL ECONOMIC OR TRADE STRUCTURE

### Communication from Greece

The secretariat has received the following communication from the permanent representative of Greece.

Further to letter No. 718/C-ED<sup>1</sup> which my predecessor addressed to you on 16 April 1964 concerning Greece's participation in the Kennedy Round, I have the honour to inform you that my country's position in this regard is the following:

By virtue of its association with the European Economic Community, Greece will, under the Athens Agreement, have to align its national tariff with the common customs tariff of the Community, according to the modalities and schedule set forth in that Agreement.

The reductions made by the Community in its tariff as a result of the Kennedy negotiations, under the rule for across-the-board reduction or the disparity rules, will have repercussions on the Greek economy not only in the future - that is to say once the alignment of the Greek tariff with the common customs tariff is completed - but also as from the implementation of the decisions arrived at in the Kennedy negotiations, because of the fact that Greece will have to make larger duty reductions at each stage of alignment towards the common customs tariff of the Community, since the Greek tariff is in general higher than the latter.

This alignment of the Greek tariff with the lower Community tariff therefore constitutes the positive offer of Greece in the Kennedy Round.

By virtue of its participation in the Kennedy negotiations in the above-mentioned sense, my country expects to benefit from the reciprocal advantages resulting from the negotiations as well as from any special advantages which may be granted to developing countries or countries with a special economic or trade structure, in view of the fact that Greece is a developing country and largely depends on exports of a small number of agricultural products.

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<sup>1</sup>See document TN.64/18.