

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

TN.64/69

16 September 1965

Special Distribution

Trade Negotiations Committee

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## PARTICIPATION IN THE KENNEDY ROUND

### Additional Notification by Ceylon

The following additional notification has been received from the Government of Ceylon.

1. In April this year the Government of Ceylon had notified the CONTRACTING PARTIES of its willingness to participate in the Kennedy Round of trade negotiations (see document TN.64/45 of 26 April 1965). Since then it has received copies of the partial exceptions lists furnished by some of the linear countries. The absence of information on the concessions that would be granted on tropical products has prevented the Government of Ceylon from evaluating the trade benefits that would accrue to Ceylon. Furthermore, it will not be possible at this stage to fully assess the loss of preferential advantages that Ceylon currently enjoys.

2. Participation in the Kennedy Round of trade negotiations would be meaningful to Ceylon only if substantial concessions are obtained on the products of current or potential export interest to us. They include:

| <u>Item No. (BTN)</u> | <u>Item</u>                           |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 08.01                 | Coconuts and desiccated coconut       |
| 09.02                 | Tea                                   |
| 09.06                 | Cinnamon                              |
| 12.01                 | Copra                                 |
| 14.02                 | Kapok                                 |
| 15.07                 | Coconut oil                           |
| 15.11                 | Glycerine                             |
| 18.01                 | Cocoa beans                           |
| 19.08                 | Biscuits                              |
| ex 21.02              | Soluble or crystalline tea (extracts) |
| 20.06                 | Canned fruits (pineapples)            |
| ex 23.04              | Coconut oilcake                       |
| 25.04                 | Graphite                              |
| ex 28.04              | Chlorine                              |
| ex 28.17              | Sodium hydroxide (caustic soda)       |
| ex 29.40              | Papain                                |
| 30.01                 | Cinnamon and citronella oil           |

Item No. (ETN)Item

|          |                |
|----------|----------------|
| 34.01    | Soap           |
| 40.01    | Natural rubber |
| ex 57.04 | Coir fibre     |

The treatment to be accorded to only some of the above-mentioned items is known.

3. It is the hope of the Government of Ceylon that the freest possible entry would be accorded for tropical products. The Government of Ceylon would be in a position to formulate her contributions to the objectives of the trade negotiations only after more precise information is received on the concessions that would be accorded on tropical products, i.e. after 16 September which is the date presently fixed for the tabling of offers on tropical products and agricultural products in general.

4. It is noted that the Plan for the Participation of Less-Developed Countries in the Trade Negotiations (document TN.64/41/Rev.1 of 18 March 1965) provides for the tabling of offers by the less-developed countries thirty days after the date agreed upon for tabling of offers on agricultural products. While the Government of Ceylon had not originally indicated its wish to act in terms of the proviso referred to in document TN.64/41/Rev.1, it does not consider that there would be any objection to its doing so at this stage.