

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

CONFIDENTIAL

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## Group on Dairy Products

### PROGRAMME OF WORK

The Group on Dairy Products, noting the views of most members that the collection and exchange of information would be useful in the evaluation of offers when made, unanimously invites members of the Group and other countries significant in world production of and/or trade in dairy products to compile the following information. This information should relate to liquid milk, butter, preserved milks, principal cheeses and the principal other dairy products. Where information relates to past performance, it should cover if possible a period of five years or at least the last three seasons. This information should be rendered in United States cents and kilogrammes, or United States dollars and metric tons. The Group further agreed to meet during the second half of March 1966 in order to consider in what respects the information could usefully be added to in anticipation of the future negotiations. The Group will then consider on the basis of these data what technical studies if any, it could usefully carry out in preparation for the future negotiations. Participating countries are requested to supply the information asked for as soon as possible and in any case, not later than 1 February 1966.

#### I. Existing dairy policies:

- (i)
  - (a) the levels and methods of maintaining the guaranteed or supported prices including direct price supports;
  - (b) the average level of returns to milk producers;
  - (c) the system of arriving at returns to milk producers, including pooling total receipts from all milk products, pooling of domestic and export returns from butter, etc.;
  - (d) the level of producer subsidies;
  - (e) other forms of aid;
- (ii) statement on actual levels of butterfat content of butter and milk sold for liquid consumption, any regulations governing or influencing these levels, and any significant changes in the past five years;

- (iii) (a) retail and wholesale prices of milk sold for liquid consumption, butter, cheese, and other milk products; including major seasonal variations;
- (b) retail and wholesale prices of margarine;
- (iv) consumer subsidies;
- (v) use of dairy products in domestic and foreign welfare schemes;
- (vi) other measures to stimulate domestic consumption;
- (vii) measures of protection at the frontier.

II. Information on each country's production, consumption, imports, exports, end-season stocks of dairy products, cow numbers and yield per cow. Members of the Group will submit information on national production, consumption and trade trends over the next five years assuming the continuation of existing national policies.

III. International prices and price stabilization in international markets;

- (i) information on the levels of international prices prevailing in the various markets for the different dairy products (f.o.b., c.i.f., free-at-frontier prices). Information on monthly prices, their evolution, and particularly their main seasonal variations;
- (ii) exchange of data on the conditions of price formation in international markets; price relationships between the various dairy products; comments on the feasibility of establishing prices for these products figuring in international trade and the legal possibilities of maintaining such prices;
- (iii) concrete data on export subsidies and export aids; global values and quantities, and value per unit;
- (iv) stock management policies in relation to export practices.

IV. Exchange of technical information on the various possibilities for using dairy surpluses as international food aid, and particularly ways of disposing of products which include the fat content of milk.