

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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Special Distribution

Sub-Committee on Non-Tariff Barriers

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NON-TARIFF BARRIERS

Note by the Swedish Delegation

1. In GATT/AIR/343 the Executive Secretary suggested that governments should indicate which particular non-tariff barriers they would wish to see brought within the scope of the negotiations. They were also invited to submit specific proposals on how these barriers should be dealt with.

Measures to be negotiated upon

2. Important measures which the Swedish Government at this stage would suggest for inclusion in the multilateral negotiations in the Sub-Committee are listed below. As regards some of these measures it is also desirable that the way of administering them be negotiated upon.

(a) Measures affecting the amount of a tariff

- determination of customs values
- anti-dumping regulations
- escape-clause regulations

(b) Other measures which may hinder trade

- governmental purchasing regulations
- marking rules
- administrative and technical regulations such as certain consular and customs formalities

Procedure

3. A preliminary list of subjects to be brought within the scope of the negotiations might usefully be drawn up. On such a list could primarily figure measures which do not lend themselves easily to bilateral negotiations. It should be understood that the list could at a later stage be extended to include other measures. Thus, it might for instance prove desirable to put certain items on the agenda of the Sub-Committee which have been dealt with unsuccessfully in bilateral negotiations.

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4. Measures on this list might be remitted to special groups open to representatives of countries interested in the non-tariff barrier in question. Experts from technical international bodies could also take part in the work. The special groups should make progress reports to the Sub-Committee.

5. Measures such as anti-dumping regulations which raise more general issues might usefully be discussed in the Sub-Committee before they are remitted to special groups.

6. It seems necessary to negotiate on the application of particular provisions of the General Agreement (in particular Articles XIX and XXVIII) to the results of the negotiations. These problems might be discussed and identified in the Sub-Committee. The question could then be remitted to a special group. Close co-operation should be established between this group and groups set up for dealing with certain other matters such as escape-clause regulations.

7. It seems desirable that the Sub-Committee sets up a time schedule for the negotiations as soon as possible.